

WEST KINGSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning and Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 27th October 2021 at the Old School Hall, School Lane West Kingsdown

Members of the Public and Councillors who wish to raise matters.

Accident A20:

Reported that an accident happened on the A20 and police had attended.

Brands Hatch:

Mr Birley advised that a new circuit manager had been appointed to replace Mike Groves. Brands Hatch has confirmed that they would be doing an Act of Remembrance on Sunday 14th November, Royal British Legion had been informed, There would be silence from the track at 11am.

Dog Fouling signs ;

Clerk to chase dog warden for more signage around the village.

Foliage at Paddock entrance, Scratchers Lane.

Overgrown vegetation to the right of the exit to Paddock entrance, the land is believed to be KCC so this would be reported to KCC for cutting back.

Neal Road:

Encroachment of pavement from residential house: this would be reported to KCC

School Lane:

Reported mud on the road from the machinery using exiting the field and Cllr Brazier would look at drainage and the flooding at the junction of A20.

GP Agenda

Cllr Watchorn asked for Item for GP Agenda to discuss memorial for David Diboll – Agreed

Planning Committee

Members of the Parish Council:

Cllr J Watchorn (Chairman), Cllr I Bosley (Vice-chairman), Cllr Mrs P Bosley, Cllr S Gray, Cllr D King, Cllr Mrs M Richards, & Cllr R Spiller .

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Land Cllr Holdstock, Cllr Christie, Cllr Spencer

Declarations of Interest: None

Plans:

SE/21/02657/FUL Rajdani London Road:

Proposal Outdoor seating area with a retractable canopy. No objection

SE/21/02753/HOUSE TyroSt Clere Hill Road

Proposal Demolition of old storage buildings and the erection of a double garage and attached car ports. Objection and comment

SE/21/03272/HOUSE:Woodlands Manor Tinkerpot Lane

Proposal Conversion of garage into games room ancillary to the main dwelling No objection

SE/21/03396/HOUSE 2 Hailwood Place School Lane

Erection of new gym/sauna outhouse in garden. Objection and comment

SE/21/03446/HOUSE: Conistone London Road:

Formation of vehicle access and hardstanding. No objection

SE/21/03306/FUL Land West Of Terrys Lodge Farm Terrys Lodge Road

Proposal Conversion of agricultural barn to a 3-bed dwelling with associated parking , private garden and landscaping. Objection ad comment

SE/21/03361/MMA:Land East Of 136 Hever Avenue

Minor material amendment to 20/02025/FUL. No objection

Trees:**SE/21/03423/WTPO 9 Pound Bank Close**

Proposal Two Oak trees: Reduce the overhang to approx the previous reduction (i.e reduce by approx 2m). Hawthorn:reduce back away to give approx 1m clearance from the boundary. Noted

Appeals**APP/G2245/D/21/3276403. SE/21/00533/HOUSE Shiraz Eden Tinkerpot Lane:**

The proposal to demolish the existing double garage and part demolition of a newly built garage with rooms in loft space. This is to be an annex and ancillary to the host house. Noted

App/G2245/W/21/3275218 SE/20/03597/FUL: 101 Scratchers Lane:

Erection of 3 bedroom chalet bungalow. Noted

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 27th October 2021 Old School hall, School Lane**Members of the Parish Council:**

Cllr Mrs P Bosley (Chairman), Cllr I Bosley, Cllr S Gray, Cllr D King, Cllr Mrs M Richards, Cllr R Spiller, Cllr Mrs J Watchorn,

Apologies for absence: Cllr Spencer, Cllr Land, Cllr Holdstock and Cllr Christie

Declaration of Interests relating to items on the Agenda

Cllr I Bosley and Cllr P Bosley for item relating to finance.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The MINUTES of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 22nd September 2021 were submitted.

It was moved from the Chair that they be signed as a true record.

ALL IN FAVOUR

The MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd September 2021 were submitted.

It was moved from the Chair that they be signed as a true record.

ALL IN FAVOUR

The MINUTES of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 11th October 2021 were submitted.

It was moved from the Chair that they be signed as a true record.

ALL IN FAVOUR

The MINUTES of the General Purpose Committee held on Monday 11th October 2021 were submitted.

It was moved from the Chair that they be signed as a true record.

ALL IN FAVOUR

Any Urgent Business

The Chairman ruled that any business received since the despatch of the Agenda, by reason of special circumstances, be considered, in order to avoid any undue delay and have up to date information

Diary Item: No diary items

Footpaths:**SD271**

A site meeting with Councillors would be arranged at the end of the meeting and then Members would discuss their findings and Mr Munns report from KCC at the Pavilion.

Bridle path :**London Golf Club**

Permissive bridle way entrances at Crowhurst Lane, Stansted Lane and South Ash Road, provides a clear 3 mile flat walk and this would be published more for people to enjoy.

Correspondence**10/01 Traffic survey results:**

Below is a full response from KCC Highways regarding recent traffic e survey and concerns raised regarding the road accidents and safety at the Junction of Fawkham Road and School Lane:

“We receive many requests for the implementation of improvements on the highway, and all requests are reviewed and prioritised. We use an evidence-based approach to prioritise investment in our highway improvement projects to achieve safer roads and streets. Our first priority is to check if there is any pattern of personal injury crash records for the past three years that could be addressed by engineering methods.

Having reviewed the personal injury collision data for the last available three-year period (currently up to 31st March 2021) there is no pattern of personal injury collisions at this location, however taking into account the wider area around the junction there are four recorded incidents.

I am unable to comment on this most recent incident (an accident reported to KCC via the Parish Office 9th September) as it occurred outside of our latest data cut-off period. Having assessed the site and given the concerns that have been raised here we do feel that this location could warrant further investigation and as such we will undertake a feasibility study here in the first instance to help identify what potential improvement measures could be practically implemented (subject to any funding being approved). We have also recently commissioned traffic surveys around West Kingsdown to ascertain average vehicle speeds.

For your information a copy of the summarised results is attached for Members.

KCC do currently have a consultant reviewing this traffic speed data with a view to assessing whether there are any suitable engineering measures which may help to reduce vehicle speeds through West Kingsdown.

KCC will be in touch with the results of this assessment and the feasibility study mentioned above in due course.

As you will be aware we have recently established a process with local Parish Councils and County Members to ensure that a community voice helps to prioritise our efforts and, in many cases, help support funding for improvements that do not achieve sufficient priority through our countywide assessments. We are keen to work with the parish council to see what measures may be suitable here.

We have also recently developed and published a new approach to casualty reduction in Kent and this is called ‘Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy (see link below).

This new approach is designed to build a more complete picture which understands that people make mistakes and aims to ensure these mistakes do not cause a death or a life-changing injury. This is called 'The Safe System Approach' and consists of looking at safe roads and streets, safe speed, safe behaviour, safe vehicles and post collision response.

We are therefore reviewing how we evaluate and prioritise road safety schemes to reflect the principles of the Vision Zero Strategy. Once we have finished this review, we aim to publish the way that communities and residents can report their concerns to us and how we engage with them to deliver our new approach.

There also schemes such as Speed Watch that allows the local community to record speeding vehicles on roads in their area, by using portable speed devices. The owners of vehicles seen repeatedly speeding anywhere in Kent over a 12-month period are then sent a warning letter and advice by the police. I would encourage anyone concerned about speeding to contact Kent Police Speed Watch Team at:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/wsi/watch-schemes-initiatives/kent/community-speedwatch/>

who can provide training on community led speed action.

As you can see from the information above our new approach recognises that everyone plays a part in helping to reduce casualties on our roads, whether it is our highway team to improve the road layout, communities to encourage those who use local roads to do so appropriately or our local Police colleagues to enforce speed limits. Community engagement is at the heart of this strategy; if Vision Zero is to succeed it will depend on Kent's public and all road users sharing our ambition.

I would like to reassure you that reducing the number of people injured on our roads is one our top priorities."

Members welcomed the fact that KCC were now carrying out feasibility studies and commented that the 9 stops lines were confusing for people using this complex junction and would await the results of the next stage.

RECEIVED

10/02 Sevenoaks Character Study

Sevenoaks Character study: The District Council are running a 3 week survey to find out what residents think about where they live, it runs from 18th October - 8th November www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/sdcs to complete the surveyor this can be done by telephone or email 01732 227000

RECEIVED

10/03 Pop in

A letter had been received and was read out thanking the Parish Council for the replacing of the cooker and fridge in the pop in area at the Pavilion for the pop in and others to enjoy.

RECEIVED

Finance

The Finance papers were circulated to Members prior to the meeting and it was noted that an income of £56,183.64 had been received. It was proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr King that payments totalling £15,660.74 be paid

**5 in Favour
2 Abstentions**

Meadowbank:

Wild Damson Partially failed tree. Fell to hedge level and clear stacked debris £112.50

Total Value: £112.50 Vat(20%): £22.50 Total Inc Vat: £135.00

It was proposed by Cllr I Bosley and seconded by Cllr Gray to accept this quote

ALL IN FAVOUR

Tree works 99 - 95 , Millfield Road,

Black Poplar and Lombardy

TPO Trees

Three Black Poplar trees, Previously reduced,

Reduce to the previous reduction (ie by approx 4m), Remove epicormic (trunk) growth.

Lombardy, Reduce the height by approx 10m to bring it in line approx with the Black Poplars

£2,250.00

TPO /Conservation Area. To carry out works that require permission or notify works that are exempt please apply to the Council (for free) or SL TreeCare Ltd can apply on your behalf for a fee of £50+Vat to be payable in advance. Please contact the office for further information
£50.00

Total Value: £2,300.00 Vat(20%): £460.00 Total Inc Vat: £2,760.00

Two further quotes have been requested but no response from one and the second has said they cannot quote till 2022 due to volume of work they currently have.

It was proposed by Cllr Bosley and seconded by Cllr Richards to accept this quote and although the Clerk had tried to obtain further quotes this was a known contractor and there were no alternatives

ALL IN FAVOUR

Recreation Ground leylandi tree works

SL Treecare have quoted

Hedges Vegetation overhanging and growing through the fence around the allotment gardens. Cut back to boundary full height. (not the tree in the south corner) £900.00

Leylandii Leylandii to left of entrance and round the play area. Reduce height only to approx 3m £900.00

Total Value: £1,800.00 Vat (20%): £360.00 Total Inc Vat: £2,160.00

A second quote has been received from Kent Grasslands as follows

Reduce Height of Fir Trees To 10 Feet Cut Side Of Hedge In Allotments Back To The Fence

SUBTOTAL £1,600.00 VAT (20%) £320.00 TOTAL GBP £1,920.00 work can be completed late this year:

It was proposed by Cllr I Bosley to accept Kent Grasslands quote and seconded by Cllr Richards

ALL IN FAVOUR

Affordable housing – English Rural

The option agreement had been finalised and English Rural had signed the final version. English Rural are trying to exchange the agreement with the Landowner's solicitor but he is being a little elusive at present. English Rural were continuing to chase and let you know if there is any further update before the Parish Council meeting next week.

RECEIVED

Church Woods Committee report

Major thinning operation in Church Wood. This work was essential for the long term health of the wood and is being undertaken in order to fulfil the Committee's obligations under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme. In fact the Management Committee was set up in 1989 for the purpose of removing the conifers and returning the land to a native broadleaf woodland. Church Wood is a PAWS (Planted Ancient Woodland Site). This means that when the conifers are removed, many varieties of seeds that have been dormant for years, burst into life as they are exposed to light.

Broadleaved trees, struggling for light amongst the conifers will suddenly develop new branches following thinning. The downside is that the first plants to re-colonise will be brambles and to a lesser extent foxgloves which are biennial. The Committee have been carrying out thinning operations for more than thirty years now and if you look carefully you will see wild flowers such as bluebells, violets, wood sorrel, wood anemones and, if you are lucky, the odd primrose in the areas that have been free of conifers for the longest time. The conifers that were planted as a crop by the Forestry Commission in the 1960s are now post-mature and many of the Corsican pines are suffering from a virus. Thinning them now will make space for natural regeneration that will improve the biodiversity of Church Wood.

There had been an issue whilst contractors were on site with threatening notes left daily on gates and machinery and the contractor had vacated the site a little earlier than planned due to safety reasons. The police had been notified and were looking into the matter as a criminal act.

Matters Arising

Path outside library and Office

Cllr Richards asked about the uneven path and poor state of the concrete works carried previously could be

looked at, the Clerk confirmed she was waiting for a quote for the uneven slabs and would ask about the breaking up of the concrete and report back to members

Queens canopy

Cllr Watchorn to advise on which tree to be planted at the Gamecock to mark the occasion of the Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations and it was thought best to plant this winter /spring

Newsletter Items

Queens canopy
Traffic survey

November Meetings

Planning and General Purpose Committee Meeting followed by Finance Committee meeting for

Grants : Monday 8th November 2021 Main Hall, Old School, School Lane 7.30pm

Footpath Kingsingfield Road Site meeting: Tuesday 9th November 2pm and back to Pavilion

Planning and Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 24th November 2021 : Main Hall, Old School, School Lane 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.17pm