

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF YALDING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 7 MAY 2013 AT 7.30 P.M. IN YALDING VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT

Geraldine Brown Chairman (Chair)	Ken Gough (KG)
Debbie Hollingdale (DH)	Mike Newman (MN)
Andy Sanders (AS)	Michael Stewart (MS)
Nick Thomson (NT)	Symon Wilson (SW)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Vivienne Robinson due to holiday; it was agreed to accept her apologies.
Maidstone Borough Councillor Steve McLoughlin sent his apologies.

2. PUBLIC SESSION

11 residents of Laddingford attended to discuss the effect of the weight restrict on Laddingford, Mrs B Reader spoke on their behalf.

Mr T Reader attended but did not wish to speak.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCILLORS IN ANY ITEM

3.1. DECLARATION OF CHANGES TO THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS

There was none declared.

3.2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There was none declared.

3.3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There was none requested.

4. DECISION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS UNDER CLOSED SESSION

It was agreed to take items 26, 27, 28 and 29 in Closed Session.

5. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Nicola Morris attended the meeting and gave a brief report on incidents since the last meeting.

6. PLANNING.

6.1. New planning applications are recorded at the end of the minutes.

Planning decisions are recorded at the end of the minutes.

7. TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETING 2 APRIL 2103

Proposed MS, seconded MN and all agreed that the minutes be signed as a correct record.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

8.1. BROADBAND

An update is awaited.

8.2. LIGHTING JUNCTION BENOVER ROAD AND TOWN BRIDGE

Due to illness and the weather, the work has not yet been undertaken.

8.3. COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING

Yalding Parish Council (YPC) has an emergency plan already but it was agreed to put this onto the Kent County Council (KCC) template. The template has been forwarded to The Chairman and SW for consideration. The Chairman has received further information to consider.

8.4. SPEEDWATCH

A note has been sent to speedwatch volunteers to look to share out the tasks currently completed by MS.

8.5. INSURANCE RENEWALS

No information has been received from the Environment Agency (EA) with respect to expensive renewals.

8.6. REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Chairman has spoken with the parochial Church Council (PCC) Secretary who was in hospital when the matter was discussed. However, from the minutes it appears all were happy but the Vicar was supposed to formally report to YPC. A representative will be asked to report at the APM.

8.7. THE KENT MEN OF THE TREES

The trees are being planted in May.

8.8. BOUNDARY STONES

A letter of thanks has been sent and a cheque for £25 to cover expenses has been raised. A pack of CD's will be provided to AC so that the document can be distributed electronically.

8.9. RAILWAY PARTNERSHIP

AS reported that there is now a community engagement officer for the rail partnership and showed councillors a leaflet. The leaflet will be put on the website

8.10. LIBRARY CHANGE OF OPENING TIMES

VR has spoken to James Pearson at KCC and he is going to speak to the library team administering Yalding. He feels YPC should conduct a small public consultation as back up.

8.11. KENT MINERAL SAFEGUARDING CONSULTATION

SW has reviewed and discussed.

8.12. WAR MEMORIAL WATER SATURATION

The proposal needs to be shown to Highways before work is done as the water could overflow onto the road.

8.13. REQUEST FROM MVCP TO SUPPORT APPLICATION FOR FRUIT TREES FOR THE FEN.

St Modwen have agreed funding, the grant application has been lodged.

8.14. DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD CAMPING

Due to the weather and staff shortages, they did not stay overnight.

8.15. WAR MEMORIAL - CLEANING AND RE-POINTING

The contractor has been appointed and will carry out the re-pointing in the next couple of months, the cleaning will take place a couple of weeks before Remembrance Day.

8.16. LOCK UP

Derek Hudson has been asked to prepare a schedule of works/specification.

The Chairman will obtain a quote for a like for like door.

8.17. CHANGES TO BUS ROUTES

KCC have again refused to consider any changes to the routes. However they have provided details of grants for a community service which has been circulated. PS suggested that she may be able to provide a top up grant. There are numerous problems associated with a community scheme and it was felt that the original request should be pursued further. PS agreed to help if further details and maps were forwarded to her.

8.18. WEBSITE

It was noted that it was best practise to have photographs of all Councillors on the website.

8.19. THE FEN - TOILETS

The toilet is now in place.

8.20. CONCURRENT FUNCTIONS

The Chairman (KALC position) has at last received replies from the Leader of the Council. Her review team will now progress matters with a view to lobbying for differential rating (now called Special Expenses).

8.21. DARMAN LOCK

The rubbish around the sluice has been cleared. Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) will look at the graffiti on the bridge.

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Paulina Stockell attended the meeting and had nothing to report.

10. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No Borough Councillors attended.

11. CONSULTATIONS

No consultations have been received.

12. THE KINTONS

12.1. CONTAINER FOR STORAGE

The location at The Kintons has been agreed. It is understood that there may be a container supplier in Hunton. It was agreed that they should be asked for a complete quote to include transport and installation.

Short term storage facilities have become available at a cost of £37 pcm. It was agreed to take these up until a container can be sited at The Kintons.

12.2. MEETING WITH DIOCESAN AGENT

The Chairman and The Clerk meet with the Diocesan agent on 3 May. The Diocese currently has registered ownership of the track but the agent may be open to recommend this be passed over to YPC in time. They will not maintain it as use is almost solely for access to The Kintons. They will however ask the Diocese for a one off contribution towards repair. It was agreed that YPC would supply two keys to the gate at their cost.

They also suggested that they may wish to pass over ownership of the woodland.

12.3. WORK TO TRACK, CAR PARK AND DITCH

Work needs to be done to the track urgently, the ambulance service have suggested that they would not be able to get an injured person from The Kintons via the track.

The Football club have a contact a Tarmac who may be able to supply materials and one of the players may be able to provide volunteers.

It was also suggested that Gallagher's be asked for a cost for 25 cubic metres of Type 1 road stone.

It may also be possible to use river dredging for the EA

A quote will be obtained to dig out the ditch.

Once total costs are known The Diocese will be asked for financial support.

12.4. WORK TO PATH TO HIGH STREET

A site meeting has been held to look at the path from the back entrance of the school to The Kintons with a view to making improvements to allow parents to use it as an alternative route to school. The cost to do this properly is estimated at £5000. It was agreed to do this once the track has been repaired and budget permitting.

13. BROADBAND VILLAGE HALL

It will cost £45 per month to install broadband into the village hall. Broadband will support council meetings when data is needed from the internet. It may also enable computer courses which will be benefit to many of our elderly residents. It was suggested that YPC pay half and Pre-school be asked to pay half. A new phone would need to be purchased that enables some calls to be barred. MS proposed, MN seconded and all agreed.

14. WEIGHT RESTRICTION

The Chairman answered the questions raised by the Laddingford residents and assured them that Laddingford was never intended not to be included in the scheme and that YPC are committed to getting them included. The route must be protected and this was foremost in the Chairman's mind when the scheme was designed. KCC have assured the Chairman that traffic surveys will be undertaken on this and other routes and if there is an increase in HGV traffic, those routes will be included in the scheme. The sign at Lees Road junction has been removed and there is currently no evidence of heavy usage by HGVs anywhere along the route. It is likely that some HGVs will have tried this route, and some may have got lost.

15. WAR MEMORIAL - BRONZE PLAQUE

The Chairman proposed wording similar to that in the church, amended to take into account WW11:

1914 to 1918

1939 to 1945

*To the Glory of God and in proud memory of the Yalding men and women who gave their lives.
Greater love has no man than this.*

All agreed.

Collier Street will be asked to contribute.

16. FINANCE REGULATIONS

MS proposed, DH seconded and all agreed that The Finance Regulations be adopted.

17. THE FEN - CATTLE

The Chairman has spoken with Terry Shead at Brookside who has Sussex but he generally does not sell his cattle but puts them out to graze. AS has suggested a farm at Sissinghurst. AS and The Chairman will continue to search for a supplier.

18. ALLINGTON RECYCLING CENTRE

The recycling centre can take a group of up to 5 people, midweek office hours; the tour will take about an hour. A date will be booked for Councillors who expressed an interest.

19. YALDING RECYCLING CENTRE

MBC has asked YPC to take over the management of the Yalding Recycling Site. MBC has an arrangement with the service providers to ensure that there is no cost for the provision and emptying of the banks to the landowners. However, YPC would be responsible for ensuring the site is kept clean. It was agreed unanimously that YPC did not wish to take on this responsibility.

20. YULETIDE MARKET

The Yuletide market accounts for 2012 were reviewed. YPC passed on their thanks to the working party for all their work.

21. SHLAA - SITE INFORMATION SESSION 21 MAY

MBC Officers are interested in hearing the views of Parish Councils on the Strategic Housing, Employment and Gypsy and Traveller sites that have come forward in their areas during the recent call for sites. Individual sites can be discussed at an open meeting in Room B in the Town Hall from 9:30am - 5pm on Tuesday 21st May. The Chairman will attend with Collier Street; all councillors are welcome to attend.

22. HIGHWAYS

22.1. LEES CORNER/HAMPSTEAD LANE

The Chairman will again try and progress the safety issues of this site on 8 March.

22.2. VEGETATION LEES CORNER

MN reported that he felt that the reflectors could be improved as you leave the village and approach the bridge, KG will look at it.

22.3. KENWARD ROAD

22.3.1. FLOODING

A new pipe is going to be fitted at the bend.

22.3.2. POT HOLES

The source of the water needs to be determined before the pot holes can be fixed.

22.4. DARMEN LANE

It is believed that there is a culvert that needs to be exposed.

22.5. VICARAGE ROAD DRAIN COVER

A drain cover in Vicarage Road is in danger of braking; KG will look at it.

23. FINANCE

23.1. PAY BILLS

A list of bills (as attached) totalling £5,183.85, exclusive of VAT was circulated and proposed KG seconded DH and all agreed that they be paid.

23.2. CONFIRM RECEIPTS

A list of receipts (as attached) totalling £53,549.33, was circulated.

23.3. INSURANCE

The Chairman proposed, MN seconded and all agreed to accept a renewal quote of £1248.01 from the current suppliers at a saving of almost £500. It is noted that this quote is comparable to two other quotes received.

23.4. KINTONS BABY SWINGS

It was agreed to accept a quote of £60 to change the chains.

23.5. PLAYScheme

It was agreed that in order to prepare for a potential loss of grant the charges for the playscheme should be put up to £5 per child per day with a sibling discount of £4 per child per day.

23.6. CLARKS CONFERENCE

It was agreed to pay £72 for the Clerk to attend the conference.

24. CORRESPONDENCE

24.1. APPLICATION TO AMEND REGISTER OF COMMON LAND

It was noted that an application has been lodged by a previous employee of DEFRA to register parts of The Lees that are currently not registered.

25. PARISH MATTERS

25.1. MVCp/EA RIVER BEULT/TEISE RESTORATION PROJECT

A report will be prepared for The Annual Parish Meeting.

COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- MA/13/0499 St Peter and St Paul's Church, High Street, Yalding.
Retrospective planning permission for the installation of broadband receiver/transmitter on tower roof.
NO COMMENT
- MA/13/0498 Wolverley, Vicarage Road, Yalding.
Alterations to existing garage and driveway (Resubmission of MA/12/0190)
NO COMMENT
- TA/0047/13 Downs Farm House, Kenward Road Yalding.
Yalding Conservation Area notification of intention to fell 3 (no) Cypress trees and 1 (no) Plum Tree.
NO COMMENT
- MA/13/0104 Pearview, Symonds Lane.
An application to vary conditions 1, 2 and 5 attached to appeal decision APP/U2235/A/09/2114476 to allow permanent non-personal occupation of the site and an additional touring caravan on the site. **-AMENDMENT**
ORIGINAL OBJECTION STANDS
- MA/12/1855 Green Acres, Wagon Lane, Paddock Wood
Retrospective application for change of use of the land from agricultural to residential for gypsy and traveller accommodation, with stationing of 6 static caravans, 6 touring caravans and associated hardsurfacing and access track. **-APPEAL**
ORIGINAL OBJECTION STANDS
MBC PLANNING DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING
- MA/13/0246 Little Addlestead, Benover Road
Erection of a detached garage and biomass boiler room.
REFUSED
- MA/13/0330 Woodlands, Darman Lane, Laddingford
Erection of hay/implement and livestock building
GRANTED
- MA/12/2295 Downs Farm, Yalding Hill
Erection of single rural workers dwelling, change of use of land for keeping of horses, extension of existing stable block with three additional stables and associated works.
WITHDRAWN
- MA/12/1583 Well Cottage, Benover Road
Listed Building Consent for a single-storey rear extension
WITHDRAWN
- MA/12/2293 The Old Inn, Darman Lane, Paddock Wood
Conversion of existing single garage, corridor and utility into double garage, with new pitched roof with two dormers and including changing of flat roof to pitch roof over dining room; single storey extension at rear to create utility room, reduction in depth of games room along rear boundary to create pathway from yard to garden and general alterations.
GRANTED