

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF YALDING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2012 AT 7.30 P.M. IN YALDING VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT

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

ACTION

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

County Councillor Paulina Stockell and Maidstone Borough Councillors Steve McLoughlin and Annabelle Blackmore sent their apologies.

2. PUBLIC SESSION

Steve Faulkner attended to give an update on the football club.

They now have three teams which are doing really well and have won their first trophy. They have had another problem with an attempted break in of the pavilion. They are very supportive of a playing field association and are keen to push for grants to improve the pavilion.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCILLORS IN ANY ITEM

AS declared an interest in agenda item 17.4.

4. DECISION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS UNDER CLOSED SESSION

It was agreed to take items 20, 21, 22 and 23 in Closed Session.

5. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Nicola Morris attended the meeting.

Fifteen boats have been broken into on Hampstead Marina with several items stolen, three men have been arrested. There have been four house burglaries one of which has led to the arrest of a fifteen year old male who admitted to further offences. Theft from heating oil tanks has become a problem; alarms etc are available from NM. The Cheveney fruit pickers have been causing quite a bit of nuisance in the village, it is believed that they have all now left. The problems at the station continue therefore police presence will be increased. The Chair asked NM to clamp down on cars parking on the pavement.

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.

6.2. TEISESIDE NURSERY

A meeting between the owners of Teiseside Nursery and The Parish Council to discuss possible uses for the site will be held on 7 November 2012 at 7.30 pm in the library.

6.3. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

Sarah Anderton from Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) planning department gave a presentation before this Meeting. It was agreed that Councillors would at some stage get together to have a session to look at this further in advance of potentially getting professional involvement. However all felt that this was not a high priority for Yalding at this time and it would be sensible to wait until some of the larger parishes had completed the process so that lessons could be learned from them.

7. TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETING 2 OCTOBER 2102

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

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

8.1. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

The application pack for the entry level scheme has been submitted.

8.2. BROADBAND

Callflow now have landowners' permission for running the cable at Hunton. Power to the cabinet is awaited from UK Power. It will still be some weeks before it is "live" but looking very positive.

8.3. LIGHTING JUNCTION BENOVER ROAD AND TOWN BRIDGE

The contractor is awaiting delivery of the lantern.

8.4. 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.

8.5. VIABILITY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

The Clerk has drafted a letter, which AS is reviewing, asking MBC for the guidelines they use when making decisions.

8.6. GLEBE LAND – VICARAGE ROAD TRACK TO THE KINTONS

The Chairman is trying to arrange a meeting.

8.7. FOWLE HALL GREEN

The Clerk and AS met with Mark Pritchard of Medway Valley Countryside Partnership (MVCP) on 17 October. The MVCP actions will be scheduled and The Clerk will add costs to the budget. Several YPC actions need to be carried out in the New Year. Darren Sutton has informed AS that he does not wish to cut the land anymore. AS will try to find an alternative contractor to do this year's cut.

The Queen's Jubilee grant is only available for recreation grounds.

8.8. COMMEMORATIVE COIN

All coins have now been distributed

8.9. LOCK UP

Fitting of new lock up shelves is in hand.

8.10. CODE OF CONDUCT

All notification of disclosable pecuniary interests' forms and declaration of acceptance of office forms have been completed and sent to MBC.

8.11. CCTV CAMERA

The CCTV camera has now been delivered and will be erected in the High Street for testing once the grant has been agreed.

8.12. BROADBAND FOR THE VILLAGE HALL

The finance working party has asked the meeting to consider the installation of broadband to the village hall subject to quotes, all agreed.

8.13. SPEEDWATCH

It was agreed to get the speedwatch volunteers together to share out the tasks currently completed by MS.

8.14. THE BEE KEEPERS ASSOCIATION

The cheque for the grant has been written.

8.15. PLAYScheme

The Chairman has asked Cllr Steve McLoughlin for an update.

The Clerk has written to thank those parishes that made a grant and has asked neighbouring parishes to consider a grant for next year.

8.16. TREE INSPECTION REPORT

The contractors have been appointed.

8.17. YULETIDE MARKET –ROAD CLUSURE

The Clerk reported that the cost to employ a contractor to manage the diversion for the Yuletide market had gone up by 42% to £754.06 over the last 2 years. The Yuletide Working Party has been asked and has agreed to contribute towards any cost over £500.

8.18. STRIMMER

The Chairman asked the meeting to consider purchasing another new strimmer to support the work to maintain the parishes open spaces as the current bushcutter is unreliable. A budget of up to £400 was proposed VS, seconded AS and agreed by all.

8.19. INSURANCE RENEWALS

SW reported that several people had approached him regarding their large insurance renewal; he agreed to talk to the Environment Agency.

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Paulina Stockell sent her apologies and had nothing to report.

10. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Maidstone Borough Councillor Steve McLoughlin sent his apologies and had nothing to report.

11. WAR MEMORIAL

The Clerk will chase the Stone Shop with regard to the bronze plaque and the cleaning. KG will ask the odd job man to be on standby for 10 November just in case it's not cleaned in time for the Remembrance Day service.

12. PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

The Cricket Club have responded positively to the idea of a Playing Field Association and will put forward two members. The football Club is also very supportive. NT will represent the Parish Council.

13. REMEMBRANCE DAY

The application for closure of High Street and Vicarage Road for the duration of the parade to the War Memorial and the service has been approved by MBC. The Chairman briefed the process. A review will take place at the December meeting.

14. THE LIBRARY

The Chairman, MS and Brenda Stewart met with KCC libraries. There are currently no plans to close any libraries in Kent. Other uses for the Yalding library seem to be limited due to the size of the facility and the fact that the village already has other venues offering the suggested services, cafe, shop etc. Some other ideas were discussed including changing the opening times on a Saturday, which KCC agreed to look at, however there is no budget available for these changes.

15. YULETIDE MARKET

The Chairman and the Vice Chairman will escort the Mayor.

SW showed the potential new lights for the tree, it was agreed that the ones currently used by Harrods were the better option and were slightly cheaper. The Chairman proposed that a string is purchased for the Laddingford tree; this is within budget, all agreed.

KG suggested The Yuletide Working Party is asked to contribute £2000 towards these new lights.

KG will arranged for the odd job man to clean out the holes for the poles for the erection of the lights.

16. HIGHWAYS

16.1. HEDGES

KCC have requested that parishes write to the landowners initially and they will then follow up if necessary. The Chairman will circulate a letter for agreement.

16.2. LEES CORNER/HAMPSTEAD LANE

The Chair will again try and progress the safety issues of this site.

16.3. MUD ON KENWARD ROAD

A local farmer is depositing a large amount of mud on Kenward Road which The Chairman considered to be very dangerous. The Chairman is chasing KCC to establish the legal position.

16.4. VEGETATION LEES CORNER

The reflectors are now in place on Lees Corner but the vegetation is causing a visibility issue, KG will ask the odd job man to clear them.

17. FINANCE

17.1. PAY BILLS

A list of bills (as attached) totalling £12806.10 exclusive of VAT was circulated and proposed NT seconded VR and all agreed that they be paid.

17.2. CONFIRM RECEIPTS

A list of receipts (as attached) totalling £6515.55 was circulated.

17.3. CONCURRENT FUNCTIONS

The petition is going well and over the Borough more names than required, almost 3500 have been collected. A letter has been drafted and will be circulated to MBC Councillors. The petition will be presented to MBC on 12 December 2012. The Chairman asked everyone to attend.

17.4. SALE OF CATTLE

The cattle were advertised for sale during October, by the deadline of 31 October only one offer was received from Councillor Andy Sanders for £1950 which equates to a £200 profit. The Clerk has checked the Hobbs Parker auctioneers web site and this does not seem to be an unreasonable offer. If the cattle went to auction there would be transport costs and fees to consider. MN proposed, VR Seconded and all agreed that the YPC accept this offer.

17.5. GRANT FOR THE MEDWAY VALLEY LINE

The Medway Valley Community Rail Partnership has asked for a grant to support their work. The Clerk reported that £250 was in the budget. AS nominated, DH seconded and all agreed that the grant be paid.

17.6. OAK TREES

It was previously agreed that the bottom branches of the self seeded Oak trees on The Lees should be removed. Two quotes from Aspen and Chippings have been received for, £280 and £220 respectively. It was agreed to appoint Chippings

17.7. FINANCE MEETING

It was agreed to hold a finance meeting in November, The Chairman will arrange a date.

CHAIR

17.8. KINTONS SWINGS

A quote for £120 has been received to replace the chains and bushes on the Kintons swings; all agreed that this be accepted.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

18.1. CHURCH YARD GRANT

A grant to support the maintenance of the cemetery had previously been approved by councillors, however the the Working Party has requested a strimmer in lieu of this

grant. The Clerk reminded Councillors that any such stammer whilst being for the use of the Working Party would remain the property of YPC. All agreed.

18.2. YOUNG PERSONS READING GROUP

A teenager from Laddingford has written to the Chairman asking for advice about setting up a local reading group. She would like to get a group of teenagers to help young children or people in the community who have challenges with reading to help support their learning. She is keen to get advice from the schools. Councillors were supportive and VR is happy to meet with her to help her get started and put her in contact with the right people.

19. PARISH MATTERS

There were no parish matters not previously minuted.

COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- | | |
|------------|--|
| MA/12/1672 | 33 Mount Avenue, Yalding.
Erection of fence to property boundary
NO OBJECTION
However the planning officer will be made aware that there are no other fences on this development. |
| MA/12/1780 | Land Adjacent Environment Agency Depot
Provision of new boater's sanitary facility comprising WCs and showers
NO COMMENT
MBC PLANNING DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING |
| MA/12/1278 | The Elms Lodge, High Street
Erection of a single storey rear extension.
GRANTED |
| TA/0042/12 | Church House, High street
Tree Preservation Order Application: TPO No 11 of 1997: An application for consent to fell 2 Lime Trees
REFUSED |
| MA/12/1407 | Little Addlestead, Benover Road
Erection of detached garage and biomass boiler room.
REFUSED |
| MA/12/1602 | Orchard Oast, Yalding Hill
Installation of an array of ground- mounted solar panels
GRANTED |
| MA/12/1642 | 79, Lyngs Close
Erection of single storey rear extension
GRANTED |