

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF YALDING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2013 AT 7.30 P.M. IN YALDING VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT

Geraldine Brown Chairman (Chair)
Ken Gough (KG)
Andy Sanders (AJS)
Michael Stewart (MS)

Jason Bryant (JB)
Vivienne Robinson (VR)
Angela Seckleman (AS)
Nick Thomson (NT)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Symon Wilson sent his apologies due to illness, which was accepted. Maidstone Borough Councillor Rodd Nelson-Gracie sent his apologies.

2. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCILLORS IN ANY ITEM

3.1. DECLARATION OF CHANGES TO THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS

None were declared.

3.2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None were declared.

3.3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None were requested.

4. DECISION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS UNDER CLOSED SESSION

It was agreed to take items 23, and 24 in Closed Session.

5. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Nicola Morris sent her apologies; she had nothing exceptional to report. It was agreed that NM's presence in the village is excellent and Councillors were not concerned if she could not always attend meetings. It was agreed that the police contact centres that have been set up on a fortnightly basis are a waste of police time. The Chairman has asked for this to be discussed at the Maidstone police forum.

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 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 OCTOBER 2103

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

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

8.1. LIGHTING JUNCTION BENOVER ROAD AND TOWN BRIDGE

Due to the bad state of the wall, this light will need to be put on a post. However, it will need to be a shaped post and KG is trying to source. The finger post currently at this location can be removed and the signs moved to the new post.

8.2. REMEMBRANCE DAY

Volunteers are in place for putting out the advance notice signs but more may be required to man the barriers. Authorisation for the road closure has been received from Maidstone Borough Council (MBC).

8.3. WAR MEMORIAL WATER SATURATION

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

8.4. CHANGES TO BUS ROUTES

Kent County Council (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.

8.5. THE KINTONS

8.5.1. 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.

8.5.2. MEETING WITH DIOCESAN AGENT

No further contact has been made by The Diocese . The Chairman to chase the agent and for the contribution towards the repairs to the track.

8.5.3. THE TRACK

Work is complete.

8.5.4. KINTONS FOOTPATH TO THE HIGH STREET

As the track has now been completed this project can now progress; KG will obtain quotes.

8.6. WAR MEMORIAL - BRONZE PLAQUE

Collier Street will be asked to contribute. The war memorial will be cleaned, weeded and the plaque erected on 4 November 2013.

8.7. QUARTERLY FINANCE/BUDGET REVIEW

The Clerk reported that there has been no unbudgeted or unapproved spending. A summary will be circulated.

8.8. TRAFFIC AND OTHER ISSUES IN LADDINGFORD

A speed counter has been in place in the centre of the village for a few weeks. This action has been added to the highways project list.

8.9. LOCK UP

The Clerk to chase DH for his report.

The Chairman to chase quotations for the door.

8.10. MOTION TO CHANGE THE SIGNS ON THE LEES PONY FIELD TO EXCLUDE USE BY HORSES PRIOR TO HAY BEING CUT.

A cattle grid and a height restriction to be fitted at the entrance/exit to the car park as well as a grid at the village end of The Lees. It was agreed to a budget of up to £5000.

It was agreed that the signs on The Lees should be changed to read "No Horses" and the sign on The Pony Field be changed to "No Horses without prior written permission of Yalding Parish Council". This can now be looked at as the car park is closed.

8.11. WEBSITE

Photographs of Councillors will be put on the website.

8.12. LITTER BIN AT THE ANCHOR

Awaiting the exact size of new bin from MBC.

Chris Morris has been thanked for removing a wasp nest from behind this bin.

8.13. 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORLD WAR 1

The owner of Hatchgate Farm is proposing to do something to commemorate it becoming a WW1 Aerodrome. Tony Kremer has agreed to email the names and other details that he

has to hand. Once this is received, we can see what schools/scouts might still need to find out. Grants are available.

8.14. THE LEES

Work is ongoing with Community Payback and progressing well.

8.15. LEES CAR PARK

It was agreed that at the end of the season a letter will be sent to the tenants reiterating their responsibilities.

8.16. CONSULTATIONS

One consultation has been received in September, Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Area Application - deadline 11.10.13. MS will review the application. As MS was on holiday The Chair and The Clerk reviewed.

8.17. HOUSEKEEPING LIST

The housekeeping list was reviewed, the updated list will be circulated.

8.18. SUMMER PLAYScheme

The Clerk has written thank you letters to all the staff and has written to neighbouring parishes requesting an appropriate donation towards next year's scheme.

8.19. PARISH TIDY

This went well.

8.20. THE TATT

The Chairman will write up the proposal for car parking, which will be circulated for comment. she will also get an estimate of the costs to draw up a legal agreement.

The Clerk will attempt to establish who is currently parking there and who has legal access and the ownership of the land in front of one and two The Tatt needs to be established.

8.21. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

A new contractor has been appointed to finish the season. The Clerk has written to the old contractor requesting the return of our trees.

8.22. SALE OF CATTLE

The cattle will be taken to market when the weather changes.

8.23. REMOVAL OF TOILETS

The toilet has been removed.

8.24. POST OFFICE

Residents have received a letter about changes to Royal Mail Delivery services. The bicycles have been taken away and the postmen now have two vans and a trolley. The trolley is damaging the cobbles and the postmen are not happy with the changes and there is also some complaints from residents. It was agreed to write to the delivery sector manager express Yalding Parish Councils (YPC) concerns.

8.25. SIGNS

A discussion took place on signs and banners that were required around the parish. The Clerk will get a quote from RBLI for all the signs for the next meeting. It was agreed to go ahead and purchase two moveable banners advertising "pick up your dog waste".

8.26. FRUIT TREES FOR THE FEN

It is proposed that 24 trees will be planted by the scouts on 7/8 December 2013.

8.27. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

An email has been sent to confirm that YPC will remain in the scheme.

8.28. CHURCH CLOCK

There is a broken chime mechanism on the church clock; a quote to repair has been received for £429. As the clock is still working, the church have been offered a contribution of 50% of the cost.

8.29. SCHOOL VISITS

The Chairman and Clerk have met the staff and children of Yalding School. Visits to The Pre-School and Laddingford school are being arranged. Contact has been made with the pre-school.

8.30. CONTRACTS 2014/15

YPC have advertised in the Parish Magazine asking for quotations.

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Paulina Stockell wasn't present and didn't send a report.

10. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No Borough Councillors were present a report has been circulated. Concern was expressed that Borough Councillors have not been present for several months. The Clerk will write and ask for a rota of attendance.

11. CONSULTATIONS

One consultation has been received this month: Electoral Commission Consultation - Standing for Election in the UK, due 18 December. MS has reviewed and it was agreed that no action was required.

12. MONITOR LIST

The monitor list was reviewed and updated accordingly.

13. BOUNDARY WALK

It was agreed to defer the walk until Spring.

14. WEIGHT RESTRICTION

A letter asking residents to support the weight restriction has been delivered to almost every household in the parish and some houses in Collier Street. The Children from Yalding Primary School are composing letters or preparing drawings. Letters and emails representing almost 450 residents have been received and hard copies will be delivered to KCC on 7 November. The Chairman will send a formal response from YPC. The decision will be made at The Joint Transport Board (JTB) on 24 January.

15. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The New power supply in the High Street has been fitted. The lights will go up on 24 November at 10 am. KG will check the need for scaffolding for bridge house and check that the tree lights are working. KG will also collect the spare lights from The Chequers and replaces them with festoon lighting.

16. YULTIDE MARKET

It was agreed that, as YPC have now lost their concurrent functions' grant and The Yuletide Working Party has a healthy reserve, the market should now be self sufficient and as such pay the road closure costs.

17. NEIGHTBOURHOOD PLANS

No action was taken as the output of the SHLAA has now been deferred until April 2014.

18. CIG PLANS

VR gave an update on Catchment Improvement Group (CIG) plans for River Beult and River Teise which has been circulated.

19. HIGHWAYS

19.1. HIGHWAY PROJECTS

19.1.1. SPEEDING IN LADDINGFORD

KCC have put a speed monitor in place and appear to be moving it around, we await feedback.

19.1.2. SAFETY LEES ROAD/HAMPSTEAD LANE

Andy Padgham from KCC has asked for a meeting to discuss as they have lost the original plan.

19.1.3. 20 mph TOWN BRIDGE

It was agreed that most of the speeding is a perception and that as a 20mph limit is not enforceable by police this project should not be pursued at this time.

19.1.4. TRAFFIC LIGHTS, HAMPSTEAD BRIDGE

The temporary lights that were up for a short of time were a huge success and several residents have asked if permanent lights can be fitted to improve the safety on this bridge. Everyone felt this was a really good idea and should be pursued.

19.2. KENWARD ROAD FLOODING

A new pipe is going to be fitted at the bend in a few weeks.

19.3. DARMAN LANE

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

19.4. VICARAGE ROAD DRAIN COVER

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

19.5. DRAINAGE

It was agreed that KG should set up a meeting with John Burr to discuss drainage issues.

20. FINANCE

20.1. PAY BILLS

A list of bills (as attached) totalling £9,112.84 exclusive of VAT, was circulated and proposed VR seconded MS and all agreed that they be paid.

20.2. CONFIRM RECEIPTS

A list of receipts (as attached) totalling £ 1,110.62, was circulated.

20.3. ROAD CLOSURE YULETIDE MARKET

The Clerk attempted to get quotes from three companies to put out the signage, only two have quoted. Enterprise have agreed to maintain last year's cost at £706.06, Amber Langis have quoted £695. It was agreed to appoint Enterprise as they have previous experience.

20.4. PARISH SERVICES SCHEME

The Chairman reported that the wording for the funding agreement with MBC is now in place and it should be signed, all agreed.

20.5. PARISH MAGAZINE GRANT

It was agreed that the parish magazine grant for 2013/14 of £300 be released.

20.6. CHURCHYARD GRANT

It was agreed to purchase a brushcutter at a cost of £384 inclusive of VAT in lieu of the grant for 2013/14 however, it would remain as a YPC asset.

20.7. YALSA

It was agreed to a loan of up to £400 until the bank account was operational to enable the pavilion insurance to be paid.

20.8. BANK MANDATE

A new mandate was signed, new signatories to be:

Michael Stewart, Vivienne Robinson, Andy Sanders and Angela Gent.

To be removed:

Margaret Prett, Stephen Lancaster, Edward Raikes, Derek Hudson and Ann Lloyd.

Two Councillors to sign for unlimited amounts.

21. CORRESPONDANCE

21.1. FISHING CLUB PARKING

CALPAC Fishing club have asked for keys for all their members to The Lees in order for them to park on their land. Councillors did not feel this was warranted.

21.2. THE KENT MEN OF THE TREES COMPETITION

The Parish has again been judged to be in the top ten in the county. A £20 tree is the prize. It was agreed to purchase a fruit tree for The Fen.

21.3. TEISESIDE NURSERY

Proposals for the development of the site had been received from the agent for comment. It was agreed not to comment until a formal planning application was received or a public meeting held.

22. PARISH MATTERS

22.1. REMEMBRANCE DAY

Concern was expressed about the lack of understanding of the responsibilities of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the Remembrance Day Parade. It was agreed that after this year's service a checklist would be sent to the PCC for future use.

COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

MA/13/1619	Lilac Cottage, Benover Road Erection of a single storey rear extension, alterations to drive and new fencing. NO COMMENT
MA/13/1701	Yew Cottage, Laddingford 2 Storey side extension. NO COMMENT
MA/13/1689	Reverview, Hamstead Lane Certificate of Lawful Development COMMENT YPC strongly believe that seasonal is defined as 1 April to 31 October and this was originally put in place due to flooding.
MA/13/1049	Old Fowle Hall, Queen Street - amended plan Alterations to three existing oast kilns, including the reinstatement of timber cowls and the insertion of new openings, and the reinstatement of a stowage barn, all ancillary to the enjoyment of the main dwelling. NO COMMENT
	MBC PLANNING DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING
MA/13/0676	Well Cottage, Benover Road Erection of a single storey rear extension. GRANTED
MA/13/0677	Well Cottage, Benover Road

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

GRANTED

MA/13/0575

The George, Benover Road

Development and conversion of outbuildings to create one new family dwelling, amendment to MA/11/1538

GRANTED

MA/13/1414

Blue Hills, Yalding Hill

Installation of tennis court

GRANTED

MA/13/1444

7, Vicarage Road, Yalding

An application for construction of access and driveway

GRANTED

MA/13/0636

Well Cottage, Benover Road

Retrospective application for the erection of a garden shed.

GRANTED

MA/13/0636

Little Fowle Hall Cottage, Queen Street

Erection of two storey side and rear extensions

GRANTED

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 the stationing of 4 caravans on the land, of which no more than 2 shall be static caravans or mobile homes. - Amended plans - 19.04 .13

GRANTED - only for names residents and their resident dependents for a maximum period of three years.

MA/13/0103

Pear Paddock, Symonds Lane

An application to vary conditions 1, 2 and 5 attached to appeal decision APP/U2235/A/09/2114473 (MA/09/0731) to allow permanent non-personal occupation of the site and an additional touring caravan on the site

GRANTED - only for names residents and their resident dependents for a maximum period of three years.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.45 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....