

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF YALDING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.30 P.M. IN LADDINGFORD CHURCH HALL**

PRESENT

Geraldine Brown (Chairman)
Ken Gough (KG)
Patricia Robbins (PR)
Nick Thomson (NT)

Sophie Cooper (SC)
Trish Oylar (TO)
Michael Stewart (MS) Vice Chairman

ACTIONS

1. DECLARATION OF INTENSION TO RECORD PROCEEDINGS

There were none declared.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor William Bird (WB) offered his apology due to sickness, which was accepted.

Councillor Andy Sanders (AS) offered his apology due to work commitments, which was accepted.

3. PUBLIC SESSION

There was one members of the public present who did not wish to speak

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCILLORS IN ANY ITEM

4.1. DECLARATION OF CHANGES TO THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS

None were declared.

4.2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None were declared.

4.3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There was none requested

5. DECISION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS UNDER CLOSED SESSION

It was agreed to take items 32, 33, 34 and 35 in Closed Session.

6. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Nicola Morris sent her apologies. She is dealing with motorists that park on the pavement individually.

7. PLANNING

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

7.2. Planning decisions are recorded at the end of the minutes.

8. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 JULY 2015

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

9. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND FINANCE MEETING ON 4 AUGUST 2015

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

10. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

10.1. WEBSITE

The website needs a complete update which The Chairman will undertake.

10.2. FOUL WATER - SYMONDS LANE

The Chairman will chase this up.

10.3. NEW LITTER BIN AT THE ANCHOR

The blue bin has been painted green.

10.4. LITTER AT THE KINTONS

Community Payback will be asked to do a joint litter picking day with Yalding Parish Council (YPC).

10.5. FENCE - THE PONY FIELD

The work has not yet been undertaken to extend the fence.

10.6. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Clerk to obtain new dates to meet with Richard Eastham.

10.7. ENFORCEMENT OF WEIGHT RESTRICTION

The Chairman will speak to PCSO Nicola Morris.

10.8. POST TO PROTECT THE VERGE BY OAST COURT/THE HIGH STREET

A site meeting will be arranged.

10.9. THE PONY FIELD

The Pony Field on The Lees needs a litter pick, KG will organise with Community Payback.

10.10. TO AGREE THE STYLE OF THE YALDING SIGN AND WHETHER TO PURCHASE

Heritage Signs have sent a photo of a potential sign. They have been asked to review the font in order that the sign is more in keeping.

10.11. PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATORS

The defibrillators and cabinets have arrived. Approval has been given by Golding Homes to fit one to the wall by the noticeboard in Laddingford. The defibrillators will be on display at The Parish Picnic and will be taken into the local schools to show the children.

10.12. BROADBAND

Callflow has reported that the planned broadband upgrade work has been completed and that Customers should no longer be experiencing a significant drop of broadband speeds at busy times. The issue of 'very small outages' has been virtually eliminated.

10.13. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT LADDINFORD

The Christmas lights at Laddingford need to be taken down.

10.14. RIVER BEULT

The EA has confirmed that further tree work is planned on the River Beult.

10.15. PCSO

The Clerk has written to Sgt Stevens expressing that Yalding Parish Councillors agree that NM is an excellent PCSO

10.16. BANK MANDATE

NT and KG are now signatories to the account.

10.17. IDENTIFICATION BADGES

Councillors who requested a badge have received them.

10.18. ILLEGAL FISHING/ILLEGAL FIRES ON THE LEES

The Lees is common land and no one owns the fishing rights. There are Environment Agency bylaws to control fishing. Whilst it's accepted that there are some illegal fires, they are not thought to be a major problem. Councillors may point out if people are not complying with bylaws but should never attempt to enforce them and put themselves at risk.

11. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Paulina Stockell did not attend the meeting.

12. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Maidstone Borough Councillor Steve McLoughlin did not attend the meeting.

13. CONSULTATIONS

No consultations have been received this month.

14. HOUSEKEEPING LIST

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

15. VISUAL INSPECTIONS OF COUNCIL LAND

Laddingford, Jubilee Field and Verges - NTR

The Lees - NTR

The Kintons – The bin is damaged and getting worse, a price for a metal bin will be sought.

Fowle Hall Green – NTR

Yalding, Village Green and Verges - NTR

The Tatt – NTR

16. WELCOME PACK

YPCC have agreed to a loose-leaf version. Packs will now be made up for approval by both YPC and YPCC.

17. JUBILEE FIELD – COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVE TO WORK WITH FRIENDS OF LADDINGFORD SCHOOL (FLS)

NT agreed to be the representative and will attend a meeting with FLS.

18. CATTLE GRID AND HEIGHT RESTRICTION ON THE LEES

The Car park tenants have confirmed receipt of the letter but have not responded to the concerns raised. They have, however, verbally confirmed that they are not prepared to remove any gypsy caravan. This means that a height barrier is the only form of restriction as it seems most of the caravans come on the back of vehicles and the horses arrive in horse boxes. KG has looked at various restrictors and pictures of them were shown. All agreed to go ahead as soon as possible.

19. GYPSY CARAVANS ON THE LEES CAR PARK

The Lees car park has been closed until Monday 14 September.

20. TREE INSPECTION

The Tree safety inspection has been completed and the report circulated. The work will be divided between Community payback and our tree surgeons. The Kent Men of Trees inspection took place on 3rd September.

21. COLLECTING THE HORSE CHESTNUT LEAVES ON VILLAGE GREEN

Volunteers are needed to pick up the leaves on The Village Green; a request will be sent via Parish News.

22. REPLANTING OF TREE ON THE HIGH STREET

It was agreed to go with Malus Floribunda. The residents will be shown a picture, however they have already indicated their agreement to a Crab Apple.

23. REQUEST FOR A MEMORIAL BENCH

A request has been received for a memorial bench from a family that regularly visit The Lees. It was felt that the number of requests is getting out of hand and it was agreed that the Council should adopt a policy of no memorial benches and this will be built into the Standing Orders.

24. LOCAL PLAN

24.1. UPDATE

Nothing to report.

24.2. PETITION AGAINST YALDING BEING DESIGNATED A LARGER VILLAGE

The Chairman will circulate the words for the petition and will set up an online version of the petition.

24.3. MONITOR TOWN BRIDGE TRAFFIC IN SUPPORT

KCC will be asked to share the results of their recent traffic strips. Banners are now in place asking traffic to give way on the bridge. It was agreed that before the manual traffic survey is undertaken advice will be sought from a traffic consultant.

25. FLOODING

25.1. UPDATE

The HR Wallingford report has not yet been issued but is imminent

The Chairman is still working with the Deputy Monitoring Officer with regard to the delegated power to spend.

Places to store sand bags have been established and these will be sent to MBC.

25.2. VISIT TO THE LEIGH FLOOD STORAGE AREA

Another visit to The Leigh Flood Storage Area is to be arranged for Saturday 10 October at 10am, 25 places are available.

26. PLAYScheme

The playscheme was again very successful. Feedback from parents was positive. Numbers were up, with 73% of all places taken. Overall spend was well below budget, the accounts were circulated. The playscheme was Ofsted inspected and given an overall good rating.

27. THE VICARS PICNIC (VP)

The festival was received very well despite the weather and some technical difficulties.

There were less than a handful of issues and lessons have been learnt for the future.

The VP Committee would like to run the festival again next year, but probably moving it to July. All councillors agreed that they would support this providing that the numbers were maintained at this year's level. The Chairman has been in dialogue with CALPAC and they had only one minor issue. A request will be sent to them in respect of next year.

28. HIGHWAY PROJECTS

28.1. THE VERGES ALONG VICARAGE ROAD

KG will take photos of the verges and the one in Kenward Road.

28.2. CUTTING OF KCC VERGES

The verges have been cut.

29. FINANCE

29.1. PAY BILLS

A list of bills (as attached) totalling £4,861.47 exclusive of VAT, was circulated; proposed MS seconded TO and all agreed that they be paid.

29.2. CONFIRM RECEIPTS

A list of receipts (as attached) totalling £2,627.67 was circulated.

29.3. TO AGREE TO PART FUND A NEW BIN ON THE KINTONS TRACK

The neighbours have asked if the bin can be moved as it is really close to their property and have offered to pay for this. The bin has been repaired so many times it will not move without breaking. It was suggested that a new bin should be purchased and the residents be asked to pay half. A plastic bin would be approximately £200. All agreed

30. CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence has been received this month.

31. PARISH MATTERS

31.1. SCHOOL CROSSING ON THE HIGH STREET AND VICARAGE ROAD

Residents have again been asking for school road crossing. It was explained that any such projects have to be initiated by the school.

31.2. PLAY EQUIPMENT

It was agreed that any fund raising for new play equipment should not be undertaken until MBC's policy on funding play areas has been challenged.

31.3. THE WILD FLOWER MEADOW AT THE ELMS

There was a suggestion that a letter of thanks be sent to the owners of The Elms for the beautiful wild meadow they planted under Town Bridge. It was agreed to put a thank you in the YPC section of the parish magazine.

CLOSED SESSION

COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

15/506617/FULL	Former Syngenta Works, Hampstead Lane, Yalding Variation of condition 8 of 10/2159 (Erection of residential development with both outline and full details comprising: Outline up to 19 no. residential dwellings) - raise the maximum eaves level by 400mm to 16.4m AOD - Condition 8 iii. NO COMMENT
15/504252/FULL	The Old Barn, Queen Street, Paddock Wood Conversion of outbuilding to ancillary accommodation, including external alterations NO COMMENT
15/504263/LBC	The Old Barn, Queen Street, Paddock Wood

Listed Building Consent for the conversion of outbuilding to ancillary accommodation, including external alterations.

NO COMMENT

15/504270/FULL

Old Fowle Hall, Queen Street, Paddock Wood

Erection of a new meter cupboard and low railings to the side of Old Fowle Hall. (Retrospective).

NO COMMENT

15/504277/LBC

Old Fowle Hall, Queen Street, Paddock Wood

Listed Building Consent for the erection of a new meter cupboard and low railings to the side of Old Fowle Hall. (work is completed).

NO COMMENT

15/504367/FULL

Stocks, Claygate Road, Laddingford

Erection of L-shape garage block to accommodate 2 cars, tractor, lawnmower, workshop and shelter for animals in winter

NO COMMENT

No comment to this application however a caravan was permitted on this site during the demolition of the barn and building of the house, despite constant reminders to enforcement this caravan remains on site. YPC request that immediate enforcement action is taken to remove the caravan.

MBC PLANNING DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING

15/503908/FULL

The Old Barn, Queen Street, Paddock Wood.

Timber clad two bay garage plus storage

GRANTED

15/501653/FULL

Wardes Moat, Vicarage Road, Yalding.

Erection of garage.

GRANTED

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.35 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....