

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF YALDING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.30 P.M. IN YALDING VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT

Geraldine Brown Chairman (Chair)
Vivienne Robinson (VR)
Michael Stewart (MS)

Ken Gough (KG)
Nick Thomson (NT)
Symon Wilson (SW)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Andy Sanders sent his apologies due to work commitments which were accepted. Maidstone Borough Councillor Rodd Nelson-Gracie sent his apologies.

2. PUBLIC SESSION

There were three members of the public present who 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 24, 25, 26, and 27 in Closed Session.

5. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Nicola Morris sent her apologies. It was reported that there was no crime in The Parish in August; however there was an incident at The Kintons on the 2 September where the new junior goal posts were damaged.

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. HATCHGATE

The owner would like to replace the dilapidated mobile caravan currently used as a tea room with a log cabin; he does not require planning permission for this but out of courtesy has provided Councillors with details. All agreed that this would improve the appearance of the site and had no objection.

6.3. RIVERVIEW PARK

The Appeal regarding the issue of a Lawful Development Certificate without conditions or limitations was dismissed. However, the issue outstanding is the definition of "Seasonal". A letter to be sent to the Enforcement Officer that the inspector's decision was based on the evidence given by the previous tenants and YPC regarding dates of permitted occupation and that this evidence should also form the basis for the agreed definition of "Seasonal".

7. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF:

7.1. THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 JULY 2103

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

7.2. THE PLANNING AND FINANCE MEETING HELD ON 6 AUGUST 2013

Proposed KG, seconded GB 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

It was agreed at the Annual Parish Meeting that the 2012 process would be repeated in 2013. A request for volunteers will be sent out. The application for the road closure has been submitted.

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

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

The Diocese will not maintain the track as it is used almost solely for access to The Kintons. The Agent 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. It was suggested that The Diocese may wish to pass over ownership of the woodland. YPC will write officially requesting financial support.

8.6. WAR MEMORIAL - BRONZE PLAQUE

The new wording has been sent to the supplier. Collier Street will be asked to contribute.

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. LITTER

A resident has reported an increase in litter in the verges, NT will find out exactly where the problem is.

8.9. TRAFFIC AND OTHER ISSUES IN LADDINGFORD

The Chairman hosted a site meeting with Andy Padgham and Paulina Stockell; advice from KCC was that the site lines were not adequate for CCTV and physical traffic calming was not possible but they agreed to look at signage and road marking and make a recommendation.

8.10. LOCK UP

Derek Hudson's initial report has been received and circulated. All agreed that it was acceptable and that DH will be asked to finalise it. It will then be given to several contractors to quote against. Awaiting the final report from DH.

The Chairman is awaiting quotations for the door.

8.11. GIANT HOGWEED SPRAYING

MVCP were informed of untreated plants.

8.12. RIVER BANK EROSION ON THE LEES CAR PARK

A quote of £9,000 has been received to carry out part of the work.

8.13. 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".

8.14. WEBSITE

Photographs of Councillors will be put on the website.

8.15. BENCHES ON THE LEES CAR PARK

MVCP has been instructed to carry out the work. However, there is now a section of handrail that has been sawn off from the bridge across the ditch on the car park. MVCP have been asked to repair this as a matter of urgency.

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Paulina Stockell was not present.

10. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No Borough Councillors were present.

11. CONSULTATIONS

Five consultations have been received this month:

- Kent Downs AONB Management Plan Public Consultation Launched - 27.09.13
- KCC Consultation on Children's Centres in Kent - 04.10.13
- Greater Flexibilities for change of use - 15.10.13
- Choosing Direction Open Spaces Society - 15.11.13
- Updated national waste planning policy: Planning for sustainable waste management - 23.09.13

MS will review all of these before the deadline.

Three guidelines have also been received:

- DCLG Guidance on Illegal and unauthorised traveller sites
- New CCTV Code of Practice
- DCLG Planning Guidance on the siting of wind turbines and solar farms and on shale gas

It was agreed that it is important to understand these guidelines and MS agreed to provide a summary.

12. PRESS AND PUBLICITY

12.1. PARISH MAGAZINE

The Chairman reported that Rachel Curley (RC) is the new editor of The Parish Magazine and has agreed that she will have the ability to send the whole document as a pdf so that it can be put directly onto the parish website. RC attended the meeting and reported that the layout will change over the coming months.

12.2. WEBSITE

It was agreed that a process should be established with the parish magazine so that the entire village diary can be put on the website on a regular basis. Posters advertising events will be picked up from the pdf.

12.3. DOWNS MAIL

Jane Shotcliff (JS) from The Downs Mail was at the meeting, a discussion took place as to the best way to share information with JS. It was agreed that the extracts of minutes used for the parish magazine would be sent to her every month.

13. WEIGHT RESTRICTION

There have been a lot of miscommunication about the scheme the facts are that the scheme is not about to be scrapped. The Consultation Period ends on 7 November 2013, this was extended due to the delay in signs being erected. KCC will be undertaking follow-up surveys in November, one year on from the original surveys. Roads that may have been affected by the Scheme will also be surveyed. It has been suggested that Claygate Road/Spenny Lane be included in the Scheme. The matter will be reported to the Joint Transportation Board (JTB) in January 2014 and it is for the JTB to either endorse or remove the Scheme. Agricultural vehicles are exempt from the Scheme. It has come to light that a few businesses are suffering the consequences of the restriction for specific journeys. Following the meeting with KCC on 3 July, it has been agreed to amend The Road Traffic Order (RTO) to allow specific journeys for specific HGV vehicles to pass through the restricted area to perform collections/deliveries close to the edge of the restricted area. This will not give carte blanche for exempted businesses to send all of their vehicles through. We will be undertaking further lorry surveys in conjunction with Collier Street and Marden Parish Councils in the autumn.

14. SUMMER PLAYScheme

The Clerk gave an update on this year's playscheme which was again deemed very successful. Both KCC and MBC visited and gave very good feedback. 89 children attended over the 3 weeks and the parents have given very positive feedback. A more detailed summary of costs and attendance will be sent before the next meeting.

15. THE KINTONS TRACK

KG is chasing Robert Body to schedule in the work as soon as possible.

16. PARISH PICNIC

The Parish Picnic is on Sunday 15 September 3 to 7 pm

The Chairman suggested we purchase tarpaulins to collect the apples all agreed.

The area will be set up at 11 am.

The chairman and VR will get the supplies; The Clerk will prepare the risk assessment.

17. PARISH TIDY

The parish tidy is on 6 October. The clerk will try and book community payback for the day.

It was agreed to purchase two banners to advertise this annual event.

18. THE TATT

The Tatt could not be cut as usual this year as cars were parked in the way. Therefore KG has arranged for it to be cut.

Car parking at The Tatt is becoming a problem it was agreed to hold a site meeting there at 10 am on Saturday 21 September.

19. LITTER BIN AT THE ANCHOR

The litter bin at The Anchor is constantly overflowing. The Chairman will take a photograph and send to MBC asking for a new bin. Chris Morris removed a wasp nest from behind this bin it was agreed to send a thank you to him.

20. HIGHWAYS

20.1. LEES CORNER/HAMPSTEAD LANE

There has been another accident. Continue to chase Highways.

20.2. KENWARD ROAD FLOODING

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

20.3. DARMAN LANE

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

20.4. VICARAGE ROAD DRAIN COVER

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

20.5. DRANAGE

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

20.6. HEDGES

Letters have been issued to landowners.

21. FINANCE

21.1. PAY BILLS

A list of bills (as attached) totalling £4,653.03, exclusive of VAT was circulated and proposed VR seconded NT and all agreed that they be paid.

21.2. CONFIRM RECEIPTS

A list of receipts (as attached) totalling £6254.31, was circulated

21.3. CONFIRM CLERK'S NEW COMPUTER

It was agreed by all that The Clerk's Computer needed to be replaced.

21.4. THE LEES

The Lees needs some work cutting back trees and digging the ditch, KG reported that community Payback will be able to do most of the work however a digger would be needed. There is money budgeted for open spaces therefore it was agreed to budget £300 to carry out the work.

21.5. YALSA

The inaugural AGM of YALSA will take place on 17 September. It was agreed that as this was a Parish Council driven initiative and there is money in the budget for parish activities we should fund a small buffet, VR nominated, NT seconded and all agreed. .

22. CORRESPONDANCE

22.1. 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF WW1

The owner of Hatchgate Farm is proposing to do something to commemorate it becoming a WW1 Aerodrome. One thing he would like to do is obtain the original address and units of the parish's fallen servicemen and was wondering if the school children could carry out this project. It was suggested that if the schools couldn't fit this into the curriculum than the scouts should be asked. Further information is awaited from Mr Laker.

22.2. BOUNDARY STONES

The YOBS walking Group will be doing a Boundary Stone walk on Tuesday 17th September taking in as many of the readily accessible boundary stones as possible. If this proves successful, they are willing to host the walk for The Parish Council.

22.3. JOINT PARISH INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

The Joint Parish Independent Remuneration Panel ("JPIRP") will meet to consider the annual the Members' Allowances Scheme on October 2013. To enable the Panel to give consideration to all issues relating to Members' Allowances, issues should be reported to them in writing by Friday 6 September 2013.

23. PARISH MATTERS

There were no parish matters.

COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- MA/13/1414 Blue Hills, Yalding Hill
Installation of a tennis court
NO COMMENT
Providing any light pollution issues are addressed
- MA/13/1351 Little Fowle Hall Cottage, Queen Street, Paddock Wood,
Erection of two storey side and rear extensions
NO COMMENT
- MA/13/1159 Land adj. to 4 Lughorse Lane, Yalding
Erection of a two storey detached house.
NO COMMENT
- MA/13/1444 7 Vicarage Road, Yalding
An application for construction of access and driveway
NO COMMENT

MBC PLANNING DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING

- PN/13/0008 Spindlebush Farm, Yalding Hill, ME18 6AL
Prior notification of change of use.
REFUSED

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.01 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....