

**MINUTES OF a Virtual ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2020 at 7.45pm**

PRESENT:

Mr. Richard Wallis (RW- Chairman), Sue Byrom (SB), David Gaunt (DG),
David Goodworth (DGG), Louise Leyden (LL), Ian Mills (IM), Oliver Shaw (OS)

IN ATTENDANCE:

County Councillor Sarah Hohler
Borough Councillor Ann Kemp, Mrs. Louise Goldsmith (Clerk)

49/20 Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from Borough Councillor Piers Montague

50/20 Declarations of interest:

None

51/20 Minutes

It was resolved that the Clerk should, on behalf of the Chairman, sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3 September 2020

38/20 Reports

a) County Councillor – County Councillor Sarah Hohler advised Members that KCC has objected strongly to the proposals in the Planning White Paper stating that the algorithms used to predict the future housing requirements for Kent are incorrect. KCC is also concerned that the current infrastructure cannot support the proposed number of new dwellings. County Councillor Sarah Hohler has noted that the Parish Council has submitted a Highways Improvement Plan to KCC and suggested that funds may be available from her Member Grant to assist with one of these schemes. County Councillor Sarah Hohler discussed the issues with parking at the village hall and believes an ‘in’ and ‘out’ system would be beneficial. County Councillor Sarah Hohler is also pleased to see that The Plough is doing so well.

7.52pm County Councillor Sarah Hohler left the meeting

b) Borough Councillor – Borough Councillor Ann Kemp reported that T&MBC is, subject to a Health and Safety assessment, restarting the bulky Saturday freighter service again soon. It seems the first two days of the Hearing for the Local Plan went well. Borough Councillor Ann Kemp advised Members that it is possible to listen into the Hearing virtually. T&MBC has also objected strongly to the proposals in the Planning White Paper for more housing in the Borough. The Leader and Officers have objected and are encouraging all Members to do the same as the proposal for the number of houses in the Borough is much more than in the draft Local Plan. Borough Councillor Ann Kemp is hopeful that the new manager for Urbaser will bring further much needed improvements to the waste collection service and that a decision should be made soon about compensating residents who did not receive their garden waste bins for many weeks. DGG thanked Borough Councillor Ann Kemp for her help in getting fly-tipping removed from Wrotham Water Lane and was pleased to report that there have been no further incidents.

7.54pm Borough Councillor Ann Kemp left the meeting

c) Kent Police – There has been no crime in Trottiscliffe or the surrounding areas during September but Members noted that there has been an increasing number of thefts from sheds and outbuildings in the West Malling area

- d) KALC Area Committee – Members noted that the next meeting will be held on the 10 December 2020 and that IM will attend.
- e) JPCTCG – DG attended the virtual meeting held on the 24 September 2020. DG reported that there has been no progress with J5 slip roads and that the group feels this needs to be brought back on the agenda. A discussion on particulate testing in villages and in particular on main A roads concluded that such testing could help with arguments against development.
- f) Parish Partnership Panel – Minutes of the last meeting have been circulated. SB agreed to attend the next meeting due to be held on the 12 November 2020.
- g) Trosley Liaison Group – There has been no meeting.
- h) Village Hall Committee – IM reported that the Village Hall Committee has re-opened the village hall for activities that can comply with social distancing rules. The Committee is busy getting quotes for some maintenance works. IM was pleased to report that new village hall sign is going up soon. The annual dinner is being cancelled as the event cannot be held in the hall and comply with social distancing rules. The plan is to hold a similar event at The Plough with a set menu and over two sessions to include one evening and a lunch. RW reminded Members that the Village Hall Committee used to submit requests to the Parish Council for the funding of such projects as the resurfacing and the extension of the car park. The Parish Council has taken the lead on this particular project but RW asked Members to be mindful of the parish council responsibilities. It was noted that the availability of grants to fund such projects is limited. The steps at the back of the village hall need repairing which will need to be addressed by the Village Hall Committee.
- i) Tree Warden – There was no report.
- j) Courts Committee Meeting – no meeting

39/20 Matters arising

- a) T&MBC Call for Sites/Development of the Local Plan – Members noted that the next update will be after the Hearing. The first stage of the Hearing started on the 6 October 2020. Stage two will take place on the 3 and 4 November 2020 with the final stage expected to take place virtually between the 10 and 15 November 2020.
- b) Monthly Check of the Defibrillator – The Clerk has carried out the monthly check.
- c) Proposal to create parking spaces at the village hall car park – It is hoped that the works to resurface the car park and create more parking spaces will be complete by the end of October 2020. AG Driveways Ltd. has quoted £1070.00 plus VAT to white line both the village hall car park and the tennis club car park. How the spaces will be marked will be discussed when the resurfacing works are complete. Members were in agreement that an entrance and exit needs to be created to help with movements around the car park at peak times. It was **resolved** that signs should be erected with the 'IN' entrance being adjacent to the school and the 'OUT' adjacent to the tennis club. The Clerk will report back to Members on a quote for this work. OS agreed to suggest that the school puts information on the new parking arrangements in their newsletter when the works are complete which should advise parents to not park in the road.

40/20 Finance & Policies

a) Statement of payments to be made and income received	
National Savings Account:	£ 1,718.56
Nat West TPC TCC Account:	£ 14,030.26
Nat West TPC Reserve Account:	£ 18,658.05
Nat West TPC Current Account	£ 8,584.16

Receipts: T&MBC Precept 2nd instalment - £8,250.00

Payment of electricity bills – Trottscliffe Tennis Club - £1,974.30

Supplier	Description	Cheque Number	Amount
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Salary 4 weeks) (03/09- 08/10)	000467	£ 231.98
HMRC	(Clerk's Tax)	000468	£ 150.40
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Clerks Expenses)	000469	£ 180.09
Castle Water	(Allotment water supply)	000470	£ 191.38
Four Seasons Gardens Ltd	(Grounds Maintenance)	000471	£ 415.27
Total			£1094.16

Transfer from Current Account to TPC Reserve Account: £7,100.00

Cheques for signature TPC TCC Account: None

a) Cheques for signature: It was **resolved** that IM and RW could sign the above cheques.

41/20 Members of public: None present

42/20 Planning

a) Applications from T&MBC:

1] TM/20/01804/FL Land South of Hillview known as Basset Park, Taylors Lane

Erection of a building to be used as a stable and barn *Resolved: No objection*

2] TM/20/2059/LDP - Garth Down, Church Lane, Trottiscliffe, ME19 5EB

Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Construction of porous tarmac hardstanding area to front of dwelling *Resolved: Noted*

b) Applications received after distribution of the agenda There were none

c) Approvals

1] TM/01716/TNCA - Trottiscliffe Primary School

Oak T1 to reduce crown by 20%

2] TM/01629/TNCA - The Oast House, Taylors Lane, Trottiscliffe, ME19 5DS

Mature Yew - T1 - Reduce entire canopy by up to 2.5 metres and carefully shape all round to suitable growing points and T2 Large Grafted Cherry - Carefully reduce by up to 2 metres off top of canopy and canopy closest to the house. Reduce canopy which is spreading towards garage by up to 3 metres only to secondary growth points

d) Refusals

3] TM/01590/FL - Elpatos, Pilgrims Way, Trottiscliffe, ME19 5EP

Proposed single walkway connection and conversion of garage to residential accommodation

e) Withdrawn applications

1] TM/20/01764 - 1 Green Lane, Trottiscliffe, ME19 5DX

Demolition of existing one storey bungalow to enable erection of a semi-detached five bedroom dwelling

2] TM/20/00384/FL - Bramble Park, Church Lane, ME19 5EB

Change of use from residential (Class 3) to a school (Class D1)

e) Planning Appeals

f) Other Planning Issues

1] Planning White Paper (KALC seminar) - DG attended the virtual seminar held on the 11 September 2020. DG reported that it was an interesting seminar and that most Members are concerned about the proposed changes to planning. Of most concern is the perceived reduction in local democracy and the ability of Parish Councils and the Borough Council to influence planning decisions. Concern was also expressed about the algorithms used to calculate the number of new

dwellings needed in Kent and in particular Tonbridge and Malling which is much higher than previously estimated. Concern was expressed about the effect this will have on the infrastructure

43/20 Highways, Footways and Footpaths

1] Reported Faults

- i) Traffic calming – Jez Massy from KCC Highways has advised the Clerk that they are looking to reinstate a number of the speed humps in the village. Works are due to start early part of next year.
- ii) Enquiry 524254 Pinesfield Lane – cars are grounding on the camber of the road between Larling and the church on the downward slope. The Clerk reported that the enquiry is under investigation
- iii) Enquiry 524249 - Pilgrims Way adjacent with slope down to the lower access road (The Shack and other houses) - the road is getting dangerous due to the drop and eating into the tarmac on Pilgrims way. The Clerk reported that KCC has advised that they are only responsible for the main drag of Pilgrims Way, any access roads from Pilgrims Way down to properties are classified as privately owned roads.
- iv) Enquiry 524242 - Footpath from The George to the noticeboard is blocked with vegetation. KCC has assessed the area but has advised no works are required. The Clerk will see if Four Seasons are able to help with cutting back the vegetation

2) New faults to be reported

- i) Taylors Lane – number of potholes to be reported
- ii) Diversion signs – it was noted that the village has a number of confusing diversion signs in place. The Clerk offered to discuss this situation with the Highways Steward

3] Highways Improvement Plan – The Clerk is waiting for a further update from KCC on a request for trief kerbs on Taylors Lane.

44/20 Open Spaces, Recreation Ground and Allotments

1] Recreation Ground and playground – A RoSPA inspection is expected soon. The Clerk will find out when the school intend to seed the area on the recreation ground that was used on bonfire night last year.

2] Allotments – The Clerk and RW will assess the water supply and the number of standpipes at the allotments and the water usage of the Community Farm.

3] Trottscliffe School Update – There was no update

4] Community Farm – It was noted that the Clerk has not been receiving any formal updates. The Clerk will contact the main trustees for an update. It was mentioned that the nursery school had a day trip there. It is not clear whether the school are still involved with the farm which was the main reason why it was set up. DGG offered to find out if the school are still using the facilities at the farm to support their curriculum.

45/20] Correspondence

a) For Information

- 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 4 November 2020
- 2] Joint Transportation Board – 23 November 2020
- 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 12 November 2020
- 4] Standards Committee – 12 October 2020
- 5] KALC Area Committee Meeting – 10 December 2020

b) On Circulation (email only)

- 1] Parish News – September 2020

c) Requiring Attention:

1] T&MBC consultation of the draft Economic Recovery Strategy 2020-2023 – The Clerk to forward the consultation to DG to respond

46/20 Any Other Business:

DGG offered to source and install the Christmas tree for the village again this year. The Clerk will obtain a temporary licence to run cables across the road from KCC.

47/20 Date of the Next Meeting

The next Parish Meeting will be held virtually on Thursday 5 November 2020 at 7.45pm

48/20 Any Confidential Matters There were none

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Chairman

Date.....