

**MINUTES OF a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER 2022 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall**

PRESENT:

Mr. David Gaunt (DG), Louise Leyden (LL), Ian Mills (IM), Alison Prountzos, Oliver Shaw (OS), Richard Vallance (RV)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Louise Goldsmith (Clerk),
County Councillor Sarah Hohler, Borough Councillor Ann Kemp
10 members of the public

61/22 TWO MINUTE SILENCE IN MEMORY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

A two minute silence was observed as a mark of respect and in memory of Queen Elizabeth II.

62/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

63/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RV declared a pecuniary interest in 68/22 (a) (i) and (ii).

64/22 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was resolved that DG sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1 September 2022 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

65/22 OPEN SESSION

The landowner of the land behind the tennis courts asked for it to be minuted that a refusal had not been given for the area to be potentially used for a MUGA. The landowner explained that she had offered to meet with the Parish Council to understand the implications before making a decision.

A query was raised about whether planning permission is needed for a MUGA on the recreation ground. The Clerk shared the letter from a Senior Planning Officer at T&MBC confirming the content of the minute recorded on this subject at the last meeting,

In response to a query about the minutes of the last meeting the Clerk explained that comments made when Standing Orders are lowered to allow members of the public to speak during an agenda item are not minuted.

Several members of the public asked for information on how a MUGA on the recreation ground would be managed in terms of user groups, hours of opening, landscaping, long term maintenance and any issues in terms of noise and anti-social behaviour. DG explained that this detail would be considered by Full Council at a Parish Council meeting if and when the grant funding is awarded.

Concern was expressed about the MUGA having floodlights. DG explained that there is currently no funding for floodlighting. DG also explained that planning permission would also be needed for any proposal for floodlighting and that neighbouring properties would be consulted by T&MBC.

Several members of the public expressed their disappointment with the current public hire charge for a court at the tennis club.

A query was raised about the layby in Ford Lane being regularly coned off.

A query was raised about the damaged 'School' sign in School Lane.

A request for the vegetation/remains of a tree to be removed near to the entrance of the village from Addington Lane was made.

A Governor at the School advised that a vacancy exists for a co-opted governor and suggested that it would be beneficial to formalise the external liaison with the Parish Council and for a Member to be co-opted as a School Governor.

8.45pm 8 members of the public left the meeting

66/22 REPORTS

- a) County Councillor – County Councillor Sarah Hohler was pleased to report that KCC has finally appointed a new Enforcement Officer who will be investigating the alleged breaches of planning at the quarry. County Councillor Sarah Hohler is meeting the Enforcement Officer next week to run through all the alleged breaches and the concerns raised by residents. KCC is delighted that 18,357 children took part in the KCC reading challenge over the summer holidays. Four of Kent County Council's Country Parks have been awarded Gold in the 'South East In Bloom' awards. Trosley County Park has been awarded a gold star and was commended for holding interesting activities for the children over the summer. County Councillor Sarah Hohler has been attending meetings and has been actively involved with the Chalk Downland Project to safeguard habitats in endangered chalk downland. The Officers in the Transport Team at KCC have been working hard to make sure there are school buses in place. The 58 service is back in operation with a different route number. KCC is aware that there has been an excessive number of roadworks recently. The recent hot weather caused a number of burst water pipes which coupled with a large programme of road resurfacing has led to a number of road closures. 'Kent Together' was an initiative adopted by KCC during the pandemic which involved organisations such as the District and Borough Councils, community groups, parishes and agencies working in partnership. A similar approach is being adopted to support initiatives for financial hardship. Haroona Chughati has been appointed as the new Director of Highways and Transportation. County Councillor Sarah Hohler has been nominated as a Rural Champion for Kent, a role which looks to support rural communities in improving their facilities.
- b) Borough Councillor: Borough Councillor Ann Kemp urged Members to respond to the Regulation 18 Local Plan Consultation. Matt Boughton, The Leader of T&MBC, is offering to organise some public meetings to discuss the Local Plan. T&MBC has removed the Saturday Freighter service completely following a temporary suspension. Alternative opportunities for the disposal of bulky items exist and data collected suggests that there is no correlation between increased fly tipping and the suspension of the service. T&MBC has stated that the service did not promote or incentivise residents to recycle and did not support the Borough Council's Climate Change Strategy.

8.55pm County Councillor Sarah Hohler and Borough Councillor Ann Kemp left the meeting

- c) Crime Report: PCSO James Robinson has advised that there was an attempted theft of a motorbike from a property in Pinesfield Lane on the 1 September 2022. Local knowledge suggests that a stolen quad bike was used to gain access by smashing through a gate.

67/22] CLERKS REPORT/PAST MATTERS (Information purposes only)

1] The Clerk reported that the defibrillator outside the village hall has been checked and is now fully operational.

2] The Clerk reminded Members of the procedure regarding resolutions as set out in the Standing Orders and referred to during the Open Session.

68/22 PLANNING

RV declared a pecuniary interest and left the meeting

a) Applications:

1] 22/01922/LDP – Rosel, Pilgrims Way, Trottiscliffe

Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Proposed single storey rear extension.

Resolved: No objection

2] 22/01914/FL – Rosel, Pilgrims Way, Trottiscliffe

Juliet balcony to first floor bedroom and new timber detailing and render to first floor.

Resolved: No objection

RV returned to the meeting

3] 22/01884/FL – Handra, Pilgrims Way, Trottiscliffe

Removal of existing dog kennels to be replaced with studio annexe.

Resolved: No objections subject to a condition that the proposed annexe remains within the residential curtilage of the main property.

b) Approvals

1] TM/22/01734/FL – Clarion Cottage, Church Lane, Trottiscliffe

Replacement cladding and windows, 4 new rooflights, new front door canopy, new side gate and fence.

2] TM/22/01675/FL – Tuscan, Ford Lane, Trottiscliffe

Single storey rear extension and garage conversion

c) Refusals

1] 22/01502/PL – The Nursery, Taylors Lane, Trottiscliffe

Variation of condition 4 (plans) submitted pursuant to planning permissions TM/20/01140/FL and TM/18/00357/OA)

d) Withdrawn applications: None to consider

e) Planning Appeals: None to consider.

f) Other Planning Issues:

Darrens Meadow – The Clerk was asked to obtain an update on the enforcement case opened earlier in the year.

69/22 RESOLUTIONS

1. Policies:

RESOLVED: To adopt a Flag Policy and a Communications Engagement Policy and to add the Parish Council email addresses and photographs of Members to the website.

2. Proposal to plant a commemorative tree – Members considered possible locations for a commemorative tree and agreed instead to gift 10 trees to the Queen's Canopy Project at a total cost of £100.00 in memory of Queen Elizabeth II.

3. Financial

a) To approve the Financial Statement and make arrangements for authorisation:

RESOLVED: IM and DG to authorise the payments overlead online.

The accounts summary and bank reconciliation were also noted.

b) Notification of Exempt Status: Members noted that the external auditor has received and logged the notification of exempt status for the year ended 31

March 2022. The external auditor has confirmed that there is no review to be performed and consequently no auditor certificate and report, or any other closure documentation, will be issued for the reporting year.

Balances as at the 1 September 2022

National Savings Account	£10,000.44
Unity Trust Account:	£25,793.91

Receipts: T&MBC second half of Precept £11,000.00

Electronic Payments

<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Louise Goldsmith	Salary September	£328.36
Louise Goldsmith	Expenses August	£125.87
MI Payroll	Quarterly payroll fee	£ 45.00
Gel Creative	Website maintenance	£ 75.00
Castle Water	Green Lane Water Supply	£219.11
Andy Payne Electrical	Defibrillator electrics	£ 42.00
Four Seasons	Grounds Maintenance	£565.27
Unity Bank	Quarterly Charge	£ 18.00
Google	Email Accounts DD	£ 66.24

70/22] PARISH MATTERS:

1. Highways:

a) Outstanding Faults:

- 1] Vigo Hill – Clerk has report the silt on the road and humps and that the drain are blocked.
- 2] Damaged School Sign – needs to be reinstated in School Lane. The Clerk has reported.

b) New Faults to be reported:

- 1] Pilgrims Way – LL advised that KCC contractors had used soil from the badgers sett to backfill potholes before resurfacing and as a result the area of road has subsided. The Clerk was asked to send a complaint to KCC
- 2] Vigo Hill – the manhole frames are protruding.
- 3] Ford Lane – raise issue that the layby is regularly coned off
- 4] Entrance of village from Addington Lane – vegetation to be removed

c) Highways Improvement Plan:

The Clerk advised Members that Claire Venner has left KCC and the role has not yet been filled. The Clerk is trying to get an update on the issue with the bollards around the green and the signage for the village gates.

2. **Multi Use Games Area** – The Clerk advised Members that the FCC Communities Foundation requested some further information to support the grant application which has been sent. The FCC Communities Foundation also requested a copy of the letter from T&MBC regarding planning permission following receipt of an email from a member of the public. A copy of this letter has also been sent and accepted by the FCC Communities Foundation.

3. **Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation:**

The T&MBC new Local Plan will shape the community until 2040 and the requirement from Government is for T&MBC to plan for 15,941 homes for the Borough. No sites have yet been committed and T&MBC is consulting residents on where these new homes should be located. Members considered each of the sites which have been nominated in Trottiscliffe and the surrounding area in the 'call for sites' stage. Concern was expressed in general that the requirement for more homes will urbanise areas and will have a negative impact on air quality, the environment and the infrastructure. Members considered all of the sites nominated in the area in the recent 'call for sites' exercise and agreed for the Clerk to respond to the consultation using the comments listed below for each site.

Site 59610 Residential: Park Road Addington – The Parish Council would have no objection to the development of this site.

Site 59628 Residential: Millhouse Lane Addington – The Parish Council do not support the inclusion of this site as we feel it would represent overdevelopment.

Site 59725 Residential: Ford Lane – The Parish Council support the inclusion of this site. Although we would be concerned about the loss of this site as a leisure facility and the tourism it brings to the area we feel it would be a good site for affordable homes given its proximity to the road network and bus service.

Site 59730 Residential: Addington Lane Trottiscliffe – The Parish Council do not support the inclusion of this site. We have concerns about more vehicles accessing the road which regularly floods in this area.

Site 59736 Mixed Use: Addington Lane, Trottiscliffe – comments as above.

Site 59850 Mixed Use: East of Addington Village – The Parish Council do not support the inclusion of this site. We feel that any further development would destroy the openness of this area

Site 59812 Mixed Use: A20 Clearways Addington – The Parish Council support the inclusion of this site and feel it could work as a mixed-use site.

Site 59830 Mixed Use: Borough Green Garden City, Borough Green, Wrotham & Platt – The Parish Council is concerned about the fact that Borough Green will lose its identity and be swamped by this development. We are concerned about the effect on the infrastructure and the impact this will have on our village. The proposal would undoubtedly result in an unwelcome increase in traffic and pollution in Trottiscliffe which is already used as a rat-run. We recognise that this site could provide some housing but feel it should be on a smaller scale.

4. **Addington Quarry:**

The Principal Planning Officer at KCC has advised the Clerk that there are a number of planning issues associated with the site that are already being investigated, including days / hours of use, but that an investigation has been delayed due to the departure of the Enforcement Officer. However, the Officer has confirmed that KCC is keen to ensure that these breaches are fully investigated now that a new Enforcement Officer is in post.

5. **Allotments:** The Clerk has requested for an engineer from Castle Water to attend and check that the water meter is working properly.

6. **Recreation and Playground:** The Clerk is waiting for the grounds maintenance contractor to provide a quote for the remedial works outlined in the report from the recent RoSPA inspection.

7. **Community Farm:** AP attended a meeting of the Trustees held on the 14 September 2022 and reported that two lambs in the field by the Coldrum Stones car park have died from worms but is not clear why as they had recently received

been wormed. Two of the donkeys have also received veterinary care for mites. The ducks have been moved to a larger pen with separate dry and wet areas and the pigs will soon have a new pen to move across to in order to allow their current pen to rest and regrow. Volunteer numbers are up to 18 with several living in the village. Grange Park School attend the farm twice a week and contribute £312.00 per term. The Trustees are looking at alternative ways of raising much needed funds by holding events. The farm is keeping 10 hebridean lambs on 9 acres at Leybourne Chase. These are destined for slaughter once they are 2 years old which should raise further funds. The Leybourne Chase Committee have purchased a couple of Highland cattle as they want to replicate the Trottiscliffe Farm and David Urmston has kindly agreed to advise them. Kate O'Shea, the Leybourne Chase Community Development Officer has asked to become a Trustee for the Trottiscliffe Community Farm which is being considered. The rear paddock now has 2 hives and a local bee keeper is going to be asked if they would like to add to the hives.

8. **Trottiscliffe School:** Proposal to hold a Fireworks Event on the recreation ground on the 5 November 2022. **Resolved: To allow Trottiscliffe School to hold a Fireworks Event on the recreation ground on the 5 November 2022 subject to sight of their public liability insurance and a copy of the risk assessment.** DG has reminded the organisers to ensure that all the rubbish is collected and that an entrance charge cannot be printed on the tickets.

71/22] REPRESENTATION AT MEETINGS:

- a) Courts Working Group: The Clerk reported that the Tennis Club Committee has sent the Parish Council the funds for their contribution towards the replacement floodlights and that an order has now been raised with the preferred contractor. The next meeting of the Courts Working Group is due to be held on the 19 October 2022.
- b) Village Hall Committee - IM advised Members that a Quiz night is to be held in the village hall on the 22 October 2022 and that the date for the Christmas event has been changed to the 2 December 2022.
- c) Parish Partnership Panel – There has been no meeting.
- d) Standards Committee – There has been no meeting.
- e) KALC Area Committee – There has been no meeting.
- f) JPCTCG – There has been no meeting.
- g) Trosley Liaison Group – LL reported that she has a new contact at the Trosley Park, Amanda Hedges, who is the Visitor Services Officer. An open day is being held at the park offering a chance for people to meet the rangers on Sunday 23 October 2022. LL offered to place some of the promotional material for the park provided by Amanda Hedges on the noticeboards.

*10pm – In accordance with Standing Orders the Chairman proposed and it was **resolved** to continue with the meeting.*

72/22] CORRESPONDENCE/CONSULTATIONS

- a) For Information
 - 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 2 November 2022
 - 2] Joint Transportation Board – 10 October 2022
 - 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 3 November 2022
 - 4] Standards Committee – 23 January 2023
 - 5] KALC – 13 October 2022

b) New Requiring Attention

1] KCC Great Big Green Week and Climate Change

73/22] ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Proposal for a Parish Councillor to be co-opted as a School Governor

To consider installing Electric Vehicle Charging points in the village hall car park.

74/22] ANY CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

None to consider.

75/22] DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held in the village hall on Thursday 3 November 2022 at 7.45pm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.03pm

Chairman

Date.....