

ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7 March 2018 at 20:00hrs
in the Pavilion, Park Road.

Present: Cllr. Mr. S. Macdonald-Gay – Chairman Cllrs. Mrs. A. Adams, Mr. P. Annis, Mrs. M-F. Bailey, Mrs. P. Garrett, Mr. P. Robinson, Mrs. C. Short
Borough Councillor Matthew Balfour, 1 member of the public

166/17] APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

County Councillor Sarah Hohler and Borough Councillor Ann Kemp.

167/17] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Cllr. Garrett disclosed a pecuniary interest in item 173/17 (c) (1).

168/17] MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

It was proposed that the Chairman signed the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7 February 2018 as a correct record. Agreed.

169/17] REPORTS

a) County Councillor – There was no report.

b) Borough Councillor – Borough Councillor Matthew Balfour advised that the Master Plan Framework for all Local Plans has been issued and that the Government's proposed new methodology for calculating the number of new homes to be built will not be brought in for several months. This gives T&MBC an opportunity to get the current draft Local Plan, which has been drafted using the current methodology for calculating the number of new homes required, approved by the Planning & Transportation Committee in June with a view to consult the public in October 2018. The aim is to then get the final document to the Secretary of State in December 2018. The budget has been approved but T&MBC are mindful the Borough Council is due to see a further reduction in its Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA) cumulating into a decrease by 2018/19 of some 23% since the start of the 4 year settlement. Fortunately, the New Homes Bonus allocation for the year is better than expected due to the exceptional delivery of new homes and T&MBC are looking at further income generating projects rather than considering having to cut services.

20.18hrs Borough Councillor Matthew Balfour left the meeting

c) Kent Police – Cllr. Macdonald-Gay reported that there on the 8 February 2018 the quarry was broken into and several trucks were damaged, tools were stolen and a van was stolen. It was also noted that West Malling golf club suffered another break in on the 26 February 2018. A window and wall were smashed to remove the safe but the gang were disturbed by the Police and escaped leaving the safe outside.

170/17] MATTERS ARISING:

1] Monthly check of the defibrillator and any other update - The Clerk advised Members that both of the defibrillators in the village had been checked this month and an update provided on WebNos. The Clerk has put up 2 new 'Defibrillator' signs on the BT Box at the Jet Garage.

2] Speedwatch – No sessions took place during February. The Clerk will look to re-start the sessions when the weather improves.

3] Play equipment at the recreation ground – The Recreation Ground Committee are assessing the project.

4] T&MBC Local Plan Development – No update from T&MBC but see 169/17 (b) above.

5] Reinstatement of the footbridge over the M20 – Hedleys have received a revised transfer and licence for works from the new solicitor Mark Watson who is acting for Highways England. Hedleys have reviewed the documents but they still do not have the section 38 consent required to conduct the works on village green land. They also understood that the licence would be for a fixed period of time rather than for an indefinite period of time, There is no indemnity covenant in the licence in respect of the village green land or for any injury occurring and no covenant not to cause any nuisance or damage. Members agreed

that Hedleys should go back to the solicitor for Highways England requesting these observations to be included in the transfer and for sight of the section 38 consent. In addition Members would like confirmation that the green will be reinstated when the works are complete; that the planting discussed will take place; that the area will properly be screened off from neighbouring properties and walkers during the works and finally that Highways England will clear the access from East Street North. Members would also like more information on the timing of the project. At the last meeting representatives from Highways England confirmed that the project will now be tied in with the works planned for a Smart Motorway between junctions 3 and 5. This decision was taken following a letter sent by Tom Tugendhat, MP for Tonbridge and Malling, and Tracey Crouch, MP for Chatham and Aylesford, to Highways England. The MPs requested that the roadworks and installation of the replacement footbridge are combined so as to limit the amount of delays and problems in the area. Members remain disappointed that neither MP thought to consult the Parish Council for their views on this suggestion.

6) Dark Skies Policies – CPRE are waiting for the consultation documents on the new Local Plan to see what policies are to be put in place with respect to external lighting particularly in rural areas.

7) Smart Motorway Junction 3-5 – Members noted the consultation on new signage for the proposed regulations to introduce variable mandatory speed limits between junctions 3 and 5 on the M20. Members were informed that Highways England will be carrying out vegetation clearance works throughout March as part of the scheme. Members were disappointed to learn that some of the clearance will need to take place at night which may generate some noise for nearby residential properties. Affected residents have received a letter from Highways England apologising in advance for any disturbance. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways England to express Members disappointment about this and to ask why the Parish Council were not made aware of these planned works. The Clerk was also asked to contact T&MBC to find out if they have undertaken any monitoring of the current air quality on this section of the motorway and whether they will be monitoring the air quality after the works are completed. If possible the Parish Council would like to receive copies of this data.

8) Kent Mineral Sites Plan Options – Consultation Early Partial Review of Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan – Members approved a response to object to the proposals which had been prepared by the Clerk and circulated between meetings. The Clerk was asked to find out from Planning at KCC what percentage breakdown of the different types of sand is required for the County.

9) Welcome pack for new residents – Cllr. Garrett offered to circulate a copy of the Village Information Sheet which used to be given out to new residents. Members were asked to send any corrections, comments and suggestions to the Clerk.

10) General Data Protection Regulation – The Clerk will circulate the NALC toolkit which gives useful guidance on how to tackle the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation which will take effect in the UK from the 25 May 2018. The Clerk will be the Data Controller and must maintain a record of processing activities and consent must be obtained when holding personal data. A Data Protection Officer will need to be appointed. Cllr. Short kindly volunteered to do this role. Members were asked to look at the toolkit for further discussions at the next meeting.

171/17] FINANCE

a) A statement as at 7 March was circulated:

Balances as at 1 March 2018:

Business Reserve Account	£ 34,817.21
Current Account	£ <u>130.34</u>
Less cheques 1915	£ <u>50.00</u>
	80.34
Consuls Account	£ 100.00
National Savings Account:	£ 24,981.90

Receipts: There were none

b) Other matters

1] Bank Mandate – It was **resolved** that a banking relationship will be maintained with National Westminster Bank Plc and that authorised signatories in the current mandate be changed in accordance with the instructions in sections 5 and 6 of the new mandate.

2] Community Budget – Members reviewed the expenditure on Community Projects for the year and agreed that the St. Margaret's PCC, the Village Hall Committee and the Recreation Ground Committee had all received sufficient funding from the Parish Council.

c) Cheques for signature:

<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cheque Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Salary- January)	1923	£ 377.00
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Expenses -January)	1924	£ 100.74
HMRC	(Clerk's Tax)	1925	£ 251.20
Total			£728.94

Transfer from Business Reserve Account to Current Account - £750.00

The Chairman proposed that the cheques listed above be signed. Agreed.

20:48hrs Cllr. Adams left the meeting

172/17] MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

One member of public expressed their concerns about a proposal for a quarry at Ryarsh and were pleased to hear that the Parish Council will be objecting. Concern was also expressed about lorries from Wrotham quarry driving through the village.

20:50hrs Cllr. Adams returned to the meeting

20:54hrs 1 member of public left the meeting

173/17] PLANNING**a) Applications:**

1] TM/18/00137/LB – 2 Old Carolcot, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DG

Listed Building Application: Replacement of 2 windows to the front of the property like for like.

Resolved: No objection

2] TM/19/00260/FL – 8 The Chestnuts, Addington, ME19 5BH

Proposed single storey extensions and loft extension. *Resolved: No objection*

3] TM/18/00268/FL – The Seekers Trust, The Close, Addington

Single storey building for the keeping/rearing of fish relating to The Seekers Trust and for commercial purposes (Retrospective). *Resolved: Object. Members do not feel that this retrospective proposal for a single storey building and the materials used are in keeping with the area or appropriate for a conservation area. We do not agree with the statement that the structure is 'hidden'. The building is visible from the road used by many local people to access the church and the walks in the area and therefore has a harmful effect. The statements in the Planning Statement about whether the fish reared in this building are to be sold for commercial purposes are conflicting and we do not feel satisfied that this is not a commercial operation.*

b) Decisions:

1] TM/17/02402/FL – Offham Service Station, London Road, Addington, ME19 5AL

Provision of portable cabin and portaloo for staff facilities associated with existing hand car wash (Retrospective) *Refused*. Members noted that Enforcement will be looking to seek endorsement from the Area 2 Planning Committee to serve an enforcement notice. It is anticipated that a report will be taken to the next committee which is scheduled to take place on 11 April 2018.

2] TM/17/03507/FL – The Warren, Trottscliffe Road, Addington, ME19 5AZ

Erection of single storey rear and side extensions; insertion of replacement first floor window and groundworks to provide new patio. *Approved*

c) Other Matters

21:12 Cllr. Garrett declared a pecuniary interest and left the meeting

1] Big Motoring World, London Road/Bonheure, Addington – The Clerk was asked to find out from the Highways Steward how effective the process of placing notices on and taking photos of vehicles causing damage to the verges on London Road has been. The verges and footpath outside Bonheure remain impassable and very muddy.

21:15hrs Cllr. Garrett returned to the meeting

2] Stubblesdown, London Road – unauthorised selling of cars – Members noted that the Clerk has reported that the tenant continues to display cars for sale but on the highways verge and not on the curtilage of the property and has advised Enforcement that the business address for the car sales is still listed as operating from Stubblesdown. Enforcement are liaising with colleagues in legal services and KCC to establish what action could be taken.

3] Fly-tipping Members were pleased to note that there have been fewer instances of fly-tipping this month in the village.

4] Clarification on Parish Council land ownership – The Clerk has written to a local landowner to see if he would be willing to share with the Parish Council a list of the pockets of land he owns in the village.

174/17] HIGHWAYS:

a) Highways & PROW enquiries Outstanding:- (as at 7 March 2018)

1] Footpath from the recreation ground to the golf club needs a PROW marker by the bridge on the recreation ground to direct walkers in the right direction. The Clerk was asked to find out if Michelle Snodling at PROW could provide a marker as a post is already in place.

b) New requiring attention

1] Village Sign in Ford Lane near to the Vineyard restaurant is damaged

2] Park Road near to junction with Trottiscliffe Road is very uneven

3] A20 – tractors cutting hedges have made footpaths which were recently cleared very muddy. Query why this has happened.

4] Bus Stop in Trottiscliffe Road – buses continue to arrive very early and are blocking sight lines for turning out and into the junction with Park Road.

5] Request for a dog bin by the St. Vincents gate at Clearway

c) Other matters:

1] Litter Heroes –The Clerk has placed an article in The Pilgrims and has put posters on the noticeboards calling for volunteers to help with a litter pick on Saturday 14 April 2018. So far just one resident has volunteered to help. Timings and roads to be covered will be decided when the number of volunteers available to help is known. The Clerk will need to prepare a full risk assessment.

175/17] REPORTS OF MEETINGS:

a) Village Hall – There has been no meeting. Members noted that Downsmail included an article and photograph on the recent opening ceremony following the recent works to the village hall.

b) Recreation Ground Committee – Cllr. Robinson reported that new heaters are in the process of being installed in the pavilion as funding becomes available.

c) Parish Partnership Panel – Cllr. Adams attended the meeting held on the 15 February 2018. The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, (Mr Matthew Scott), set out future aspirations and priorities for Kent Police and advised of a number of new initiatives planned to recruit additional officers. Mr Scott confirmed that an investment in 200 extra officers would mean more would be allocated to community policing. Particular reference was made to initiatives supporting vulnerable people and one of Mr Scott's priorities is to make sure that those with mental health issues who come into contact with the police have access to the right support. A briefing paper on Public Space Protection Orders was discussed which attempted to answer further questions raised on the protection of public spaces. The current PSPO will end in April 2020 and in order to ensure continuity the process of reviewing its operation has already begun.

d) Standards Committee meeting – Cllr. Garrett attended the meeting held on 5 March 2018. A presentation on the Code of Conduct was given by Adrian Stanfield, Director of Central Services at T&MBC. A copy of the presentation slides which explains the complexities of the different versions of the Code of Conduct is to be circulated.

e) KALC Area Committee – There has been no meeting.

176/17] OPEN SPACES:

1] Addington Green – request for additional signage. At the request of the Management Company this item was postponed to the next meeting.

2] Oak Tree on village green – the Clerk has received a quote from Bartletts Tree for some treatments they suggest would benefit the old oak tree on the village green. It was suggested that the Clerk consults Neil Moulton, Tree Warden for Trottisccliffe, for some advice on whether the suggested treatments would be beneficial.

177/17] CORRESPONDENCE:

a) For information:-

- 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 11 April 2018
- 2] Joint Transportation Board – 12 March 2018
- 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 14 June 2017
- 4] Standards Committee – 5 March 2018
- 5] KALC Area Committee Meeting – 10 May 2018

b) On circulation: -

- 1] KALC – Parish News – February 2018
- 2] Invitation to Kent's Speedwatch Conference
- 3] Clerk & Councils Direct – March 2018
- 4] Joint Transportation Board – Agenda for meeting due to be held on 12 March 2018
- 5] Parish Partnership Panel – Minutes of meeting held on 15 February 2018
- 6] Downs Mail – February 2018
- 7] A Guide to the Public Spaces Protection Order
- 8] Code of Conduct – Refresher – slides from presentation given at Standard Committee meeting

c) New requiring attention:

- 1] Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan Consultation – The Clerk will place an article in The Pilgrims encouraging residents to respond to the consultation.

178/17] ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1] Dog bin required for The Clearway
- 2] KALC Community Award – The Clerk will need to get the certificate from KALC so that it can be presented to Brian Fissenden at the Annual Parish Meeting

179/17] ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING: Nothing additional.

180/17] DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 4 April 2018 after the Annual Parish Meeting which will commence at 7.30pm in the Pavilion

The meeting was closed to the public at 21:48hrs

SignedChairman Date

181/17] ANY CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS:

Cllr. Short expressed her disappointment with the reaction and language used by Borough Councillor Matthew Balfour following a presentation at the last meeting from representatives from Highways England on the Smart Motorway between junctions 3 and 5 on the M20. Borough Councillor Matthew Balfour attended this meeting as did several members of the public. The representatives from Highways England left the meeting after their presentation but there were still members of public present left when the Parish Council meeting continued. When asked to provide a Borough Councillor report Members agreed that Borough Councillor Matthew Balfour made a number of disparaging comments about the representatives from Highways England. The Clerk was asked not to minute his words but the comments made have been deemed as possibly racist and inappropriate given this was a public meeting. Members agreed that Borough Councillor Matthew Balfour said 'they can't even speak English' and made other inappropriate comments about the delivery of their presentation and performance generally. He also announced that he had been 'sacked' by Kent County Council from his Highways role and it was very obvious that he was very disappointed. Members **resolved** that the Clerk should contact Adrian, Stanfield, Monitoring Officer at T&MBC, for his thoughts on this situation and also whether he could offer some advice and guidance on what the Parish Council should do should a similar situation occur in the future.

(Cllr. Garrett abstained from this discussion as she was not present at the last meeting).

The meeting was closed at 21:54hrs

SignedChairman Date