

ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a virtual Parish Council Meeting held on the 3 June 2020 at 20:00hrs

Present: Cllr. Mrs P. Garrett – Chairman, Cllrs. Mrs. A. Adams, Mrs. L. Chalk,
Mr. S. MacDonald-Gay, Mr. P. Robinson
Borough Councillor Ann Kemp
Sarah Ashworth, Chris Carter, Alistair Oliver, David James (Aone+)
Richard Bowling (Osborne), Hermes Luli (Highways England)

22/20] APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

County Councillor Sarah Hohler, Borough Councillor Piers Montague, and Cllr. C. Short

23/20 CO-OPTION – Deferred.

24/20] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION - There were none.

25/20] MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

It was proposed that the Clerk, on behalf of the Chairman, sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 6 May 2020.

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to take item 27/20 (5) next

27/20 Matters Arising

5] Reinstatement of the footbridge over the M20 – Members had prepared a number of questions ahead of the meeting for the representatives from Highways England and Aone+ to discuss. The questions and answers are as follows:

Timing of the proposed reinstatement of the bridge?

Unfortunately the timing for the proposed works has been put back again because contractors for the Smart Motorways are still working on the network. It is likely that works will not commence until August/September 2020 and are estimated to finish in March/April 2021. However, Aone+ are looking at the feasibility of work space sharing. Lane 1 will be closed and there will be lane width restrictions across the other lanes when the works are taking place.

What equipment is to be used – will a crane be required and where will this be situated?

Members were advised that a crane is not required until the end of the works. It will be necessary to close the motorway in both directions for one weekend and two cranes will be used to lift the ramp and bridge into place

Protection for the neighbouring properties from noise, pollution and lighting during the required works

It is proposed that all works will take place between 7.30am and 5pm on week days so there will be little light pollution. If any weekend work or noisy work is required neighbouring properties will be notified. A section of the acoustic fence at the end of East Street will need to be removed to allow access for vehicles. A temporary metal fence, which is sound proofed, but not to the same degree, will be used to close the area when needed. Members reminded Highways England to be mindful of the footpath near to this site.

Information on possible lorry movements on East Street, along with the facilities to include parking and toilets that will need to be provided and delivery of materials

Highways England assured Members that there will be very few vehicle movements on East Street. An effluent tank will need to be emptied regularly but all the construction works will be off the motorway. Workers will be taken down the motorway to the site and will not need to park in East Street. Highways England intend to create a temporary hammerhead at the end of East Street to allow vehicles to turn as material will be stored in the current turning area. They will need to use part of the green to do this but will reinstate afterwards.

Plans to protect the Common Land and Village Green

Both sides of the M20 have legal protection under the Countryside Act for Common Land and Village Green Registrations. Highways England reassured Members that they are aware of the legalities and will

be undertaking condition surveys, to include photographs, to assess the area before and after the works to ensure it is all put back as found.

Works needed to clear North Street East

Members advised Highways England that North East Street has become overgrown and requires clearing to allow vehicular access to the motorway for emergencies and to the Parish Council village green areas. During previous meetings it was agreed that Highways England would clear this area to enable access for all parties. Highways England advised that if the land falls into their area they will clear it. They agreed to visit the area and establish whether this should and can be reinstated as a vehicular access.

Planning restoration works

Highways England advised that an Environmental expert will assess the area and in particular the trees. Their aim will be re-seed the area with the same grass. They will replace any trees that are damaged and are putting in place measures to protect the three large oaks on the green. Trees are to be planted around the new spiral ramp. A further 8 trees are to be planted (2 ornamental, 2 common oak 2 sweet chestnut and 2 field maple) as mitigation for smaller trees that were removed a couple of years ago.

Communication

Highways England will have a designated website for these works which will give up to date information and would like this same information to be placed on the Parish Council website. There will be a letter drop to all the properties in East Street and the surrounding area as well as properties located on the diversion routes giving information on the works.

Damage to the A20

Highways England is aware of the damage that has happened to the A20 following many months of overnight closures on the motorway and will be working closely with KCC to restore the road when all the works are complete. It was accepted that the overnight closures planned for these works will cause further damage to the A20.

20:38hrs representatives from Aone+, Highways England and Osborne left the meeting

26/20] REPORTS

a) County Councillor – County Councillor Sarah Hohler sent the following report. KCC has contributed £200,000 to KCF to add to the large amount raised by KCF to help charities needing loans during this period. KCC is working hard on reviewing the current budget in view of the situation and the amount it is costing, including loss of revenue. KCC is also working with the government on support for care homes in Kent. KCC is facing a crisis with asylum seekers arriving in Kent. KCC is responsible for the wellbeing of unaccompanied asylum seekers arriving in Kent and who are aged 18 or under. The younger ones go to foster homes and those aged 16 to 18 are looked after by KCC. KCC is fast running out of suitable accommodation and foster homes. In May alone the number of new arrivals has been over 60, the highest monthly total since 2015. Talks with government about this issue are ongoing.

b) Borough Councillor – Borough Councillor Ann Kemp advised Members that the Cabinet were due to consider increasing car parking charges in the area but have decided that now is not a good time to put them up. Borough Councillor Ann Kemp also advised that a report is due to go to Cabinet with a proposal to postpone the collection of the annual garden waste charge as many residents did not receive a bin for many weeks. Borough Councillor Ann Kemp reported that Waste Services has been advised that a refuse lorry hit and damaged a telegraph pole in East Street.

c) Kent Police – There has been no crime in Addington or the surrounding areas during May 2020. However, Kent Police has reported an increase in the burglaries since Lockdown measures have been lifted and are advising residents to be extra vigilant.

27/20] MATTERS ARISING:

1] Coronavirus Act 2020 and implications for Parish Councils – Virtual Parish Council meetings are expected to continue throughout the rest of the year to comply with social distancing measures. Guidance has been issued by NALC on how to hold virtual meetings. The Model Standing Orders for all Parish Councils have not been amended as the ability to hold virtual meetings and how they are conducted has been sanctioned in the Coronavirus Act 2020. The Clerk has contacted the Emergency Planning Officers at KCC to ask if they will be providing guidance on Emergency Planning for future pandemics. They

have responded that the Local Authority Emergency Planning Group met yesterday and would welcome any comments from Members. Members agreed to bring any suggestions to the next meeting.

2) 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 suggested that the Parish Council engages a cleaning company to keep the BT boxes free of debris and vegetation and then arrange for a local electrician to check the electrics annually. The Clerk has approached a local electrician to carry out monthly checks which he was not willing to commit to but hopefully an annual check would be possible.

3) Speedwatch – A lack of volunteers means the scheme is unable to continue at the moment.

4) T&MBC Local Plan Development – T&MBC has advised that the Policy Team has been busy preparing statements in response to 70 questions which required further clarification by the Inspectors. T&MBC is yet to receive confirmation from the Inspectors of when the postponed Local Plan Hearings may take place. The Policy Team has been working closely with the Inspectors, the Programme Officer, colleagues in IT and the Hearing venue to explore how the Local Plan Hearing could be conducted either as previously planned with social distancing measures in place or as a virtual hearing. Arrangements will be confirmed by the Inspectors in due course.

6) Smart Motorway Junction 3-5 – Pressure will need to be placed on KCC to rectify all the damage done to the road surface of the A20 as a result of the night time closures on the M20.

7) Village event & Community Spirit – There has been no further update on whether the AngelSpace community event will still be taking place in July 2020.

28/20] FINANCE

a) A statement as at 3 June 2020 was circulated:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Business Reserve Account | £ 18,749.09 |
| Current Account | £ 9,622.96 |
| National Savings Account: | £ 25,364.38 |

Receipts: HMRC VAT Refund: £8,999.66

b) Cheques for signature:

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|------|------------------|
| Mrs L S Goldsmith | (Salary-May) | 2087 | £ 561.30 |
| HMRC | (Tax – April) | 2088 | £ 140.20 |
| Mrs L S Goldsmith | (Expenses – April) | 2089 | £ 155.30 |
| Mrs L S Goldsmith | (50% Norton Renewal) | 2090 | £ 40.00 |
| Satswana Ltd | (DPO services) | 2091 | £ 180.00 |
| Total | | | £1,076.80 |

Transfer from Current Account to Business Reserve Account: £7,500.00

c) Other matters:

1) Annual Internal Audit 2019/20 – The Clerk reported that the internal auditor had attended on the 2 June 2020 and had found no issues but will be providing a full report and had signed and approved the Annual Governance Statement.

2) Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 – Each statement was read out and approved by full Council. Cllr. Garrett and the Clerk had met the day before, observing social distancing, so that Cllr. Garrett could sign the AGAR. The arrangement was endorsed by Members. Despite the pandemic the external auditor is still insisting on wet signatures on the AGAR.

3) Accounting Statements 2019/20 – these were approved by full Council and signed as above by Cllr. Garrett and the Responsible Finance Officer.

4) Renewal of DPO Services – Members **resolved** to renew the contract with Satswana as Data Protection Office.

29/20 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None present

30/20] PLANNING**a) Applications:**1] TM/20/00885/FL – Bumblebee Barn, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DG

Demolition of existing buildings; erection of detached dwelling with parking, associated hard and soft landscaping. Erection of detached garages; relocation of existing access gates within the site and creation of second driveway to proposed house.

Resolved: Object. Members would like it noted that the outbuildings to be demolished were a piggery. There is an active golf course to the east of the property and the proposed new dwelling would be on the edge of the course. There is also a footpath beside the northern edge of the property. The proposal does not discuss how either of these will be protected. We are very concerned about the stream that runs under East Street into a small pond to the south west of this property. This stream then goes underground to the golf course and there have been many floods and blockages over the years and we do not feel the proposal addresses this water course. We note that the Ecological Survey was not done on site and only gives lip service to the presence of badgers which have been known to be prevalent in the area for many years. The name of the property in this statement is also incorrect as it is referred to as Bumblebee Cottage. We do not feel that the Heritage Statement is robust enough and we object as we feel that the proposed dwelling will impact the openness of the green belt and be harmful to the residential amenity.

2] TM/20/00941 – Field South of London Road and East of Aldon Lane

Construction of two new 3 bedroom dwellings.

Resolved: No objection

3] TM/20/00821.FL – Southfields and adjoining Land St. Vincents Lane, Addington

Demolition of disused stables and erection of open sided pool house to an outdoor swimming pool (pool granted planning permission and is under construction)

Resolved: No objection

4] TM/20/00819/FL – Ivanhay, Sandy Lane, Wrotham Heath, TN15 7SB

Demolition of existing house/garage; construction of new house/garage and associated hard/soft landscaping.

Resolved: No objection subject to assurances that the woodland will not be disturbed.

5] TM/20/00807/FL – Woodgate Farm, Woodgate Road, Addington

Demolition of two existing storage buildings (Class B8) and the erection of three dwelling houses (Class C3).

Resolved: Object. Members were happy to approve a previous proposal in 2018 for the erection of one replacement dwelling but feel that three dwellings is an over development of the site and is not in keeping with the area. We also feel that as there could be Roman remains in the area an archaeology report is required.

6] TM/20/00814/PDVLR – Ivanhay, Sandy Lane, Wrotham Heath, TN15 7SB

Prior Notification for Residential Extension: single storey rear extension to provide open plan kitchen dining room.

Resolved: No objection

7] TM/20/00887 – Overlea Cottage, Addington Green, Addington, ME19 5BE

Addition to application TM/18.02378/FL (new dwelling house with detached garage within the curtilage of Overlea Cottage. Demolition of existing triple garage, workshop and playhouse. Construction of single gage to serve existing Overlea Cottage) – Addition of orangery and front porch.

Resolved: No objection

b) Decisions:

1] TM/20/00614/PDVLR - 6 The Chestnuts Addington, ME19 5BH Prior Notification for Residential Extension (Part 1 Class A): single storey flat roof rear extension with the inclusion of two rooflights. *Prior approval not required*

c) Other Matters

1] 16/00337/USEH - Jet Garage portakabin/portaloos for car wash – The Clerk and Members have been monitoring the site and the Clerk has reported several breaches. Promotional flags are still been placed out on the forecourt which is not permitted and equipment has been placed in the adjacent wood.

2] 20/00030/USEH - Mayhill House, London Road, Addington - regarding alleged unauthorised hardstanding and caravans. Enforcement has advised that they have been contacted by a planning agent in regard to the proposed stables and hardstanding who has requested a slight extension in time due to Covid-19. In regard to the chalet building, due to the restrictions around site meetings etc. Enforcement have been instructed to serve a Planning Contravention Notice in order to gather evidence on the use of the building. The Notice is due to be served imminently and the owners will have 21 days to respond or face potential prosecution. In regard to the static caravan within Mayhill Barn, investigations would appear to indicate that it is situated outside of the residential curtilage of the site therefore it is likely that enforcement will seek its removal.

3] 20/00032/USEH The Vineyard Restaurant, London Road, Addington – unauthorised change of use to car wash at these premises. As a result of the pandemic T&MBC has had to hold all enforcement action in abeyance however now that things are starting to get back to a degree of normality they can start initiating formal enforcement action again. Enforcement has advised today that they will be serving an enforcement notice on the car wash to cease the use and remove all arising's and associated equipment.

4] 20/00081/USEM – land near Regents Court/Park View, London Road, Addington – regarding alleged unauthorised change of use to motorcycle track. Enforcement has opened up a file and has advised today that the restrictions placed on-site inspections due to the coronavirus situation has been eased so they intend to inspect the site this week. The Clerk has notified Offham Parish Council as this land falls within this parish. The Clerk for Offham has not received any complaints.

5] Truck blocking East Street – the Clerk has reported that a truck parked in East Street is regularly blocking the road and preventing access for emergency vehicles and the waste collection lorries.

31/20] HIGHWAYS:a) Highways & PROW enquiries Outstanding:- (as at 3 June 2020)

1] Enquiry 425724 – the standing light at the junction of the A20 and Trottscliffe Road. A job order has been raised for a replacement “Centre Island Post”.

2] Enquiry 484292 – verges in St Vincents Lane are being eroded. Enquiry under investigation

3] Enquiry 506566 - Breaking up of the road and trench appearing in vicinity of the Angel Inn and Park Road. Enquiry under investigation

4] Enquiry 506564 - A20 – broken drain cover end of the slip road on the A20 close to the junction with Ford Lane. Enquiry under investigation.

5] Enquiry 506565 - A20 – 2 large potholes west of the entrance to Endeavour Park.

6] Repairs to the noticeboard on Addington Green – Cllr. Chalk offered to find out if her husband would be willing to help with the repairs.

7] Addington Lane – flooding on road requires major works. Works have taken place but not in the area near to Addington. The Clerk to report that the road surface near to Addington still has ruts.

8] PROW 7145550 – footpath to the church gate, the wooden railing is also now down as well as the sign

9] Enquiry 495574 the flashing ‘slow down’ light approaching the junction with Trottscliffe Road needs attention as the lights are not all the same intensity Enquiry under investigation.

10] Seven Mile Lane/A20 roundabout – the Clerk has reported again that a sign is pointing in the wrong direction.

- b) New requiring attention
- 1] Telegraph pole in East Street – a telegraph pole was knocked down by a refuse lorry. The pole has now been re-instated.
 - 2] Footpath clearance on Trottiscliffe Road – Members were pleased to see that KCC has cleared a lot of vegetation from the footpath on Trottiscliffe Road to make the footpath wider. Cllr. MacDonald Gay spoke to the contractors doing the work who had explained that similar works are taking place across the County so that pedestrians can observe social distancing on the footpaths.
 - 3] Broken drain cover on corner of Aldon Lane to be reported.
 - 4] A20 – a water leak has been reported by Cllr. Adams
- c) Other matters:
- 1] Big Conversation Update – No update.
 - 2] School bus issues with children crossing the A20 – County Councillor Sarah Hohler is still trying to set up a meeting with the bus companies.

32/20] REPORTS OF MEETINGS:

- a) Village Hall Committee – Members were pleased to hear that the Village Hall Committee has received a grant of £10,000 from T&MBC towards the roof. The Committee has kept Gill Wilson on as salaried member and she has been busy helping with maintenance works. Due to the pandemic there have been no events and as a result no income.
- b) Recreation Ground Committee – There has been no meeting. The playground is to remain locked.
- c) Parish Partnership Panel – There has been no meeting.
- d) Standards Committee – There has been no meeting
- e) KALC Area Committee – Sarah Barker, KALC Chairman, contacted all the parishes for their views on T&MBC’s proposal for a significant restriction on planning consultations with parishes which comes before Cabinet for a decision today. T&MBC announced at the Parish Partnership Panel meeting on the 6 February proposals to restrict the time parishes had to make representations on planning applications to a strict 21-Days from the date of List ‘B’. T&MBC also intend to stop issuing paper copies of applications from September 2020. Members asked the Clerk to respond to express their views that Parish Councils have continually battled with getting their voice heard regarding planning applications and that this proposal will almost make them invisible as a consultee. Members feel this will only be a ‘nod’ to being consulted and does not offer the opportunity for T&MBC to listen or accommodate comment and would question whether this is democracy. Members are also concerned that developers and planning consultants will quickly learn how to 'play the game' and submit proposals at times of the month when the ability of the Parish Council to give a local viewpoint will be diminished. Therefore the likelihood of unsuitable applications being approved will increase. Members also feel that given the current pandemic consultation periods should be lengthened not shortened.

33/20] OPEN SPACES:

- 1] 3 year review of the old Oak Tree on Addington Green – Bartlett Consulting has carried out a Resistance Micro Drill on the old oak tree on Addington Green to establish the internal structural integrity of the tree. A full report is expected this week.

34/20] CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) For information:-
 - 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 1 July 2020
 - 2] Joint Transportation Board – 8 June 2020
 - 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 11 June 2020
 - 4] Standards Committee – 10 June 2020 - CANCELLED
 - 5] KALC Area Meeting – TBC

b) On circulation (electronically): -

- 1] Parish News – May 2020
- 2] Kent Police Newsletter

c) New requiring attention: Nothing to report

35/20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1] If the old oak tree is to be condemned to consider a project to use the wood

36/20] ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

- 1] Emergency planning – suggestions for planning for a pandemic

37/20] DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 1 July 2020.

38/20 ANY CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS: There was none.

The meeting was closed 21:32

SignedChairman Date