

ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a virtual Parish Council Meeting held on the 2 September 2020 at 20:00hrs

Present: Cllr. Mrs P. Garrett – Chairman, Cllrs. Mrs. A. Adams, Mrs. L, Chalk, Mr. P. Robinson, Mrs. C. Short
County Councillor Sarah Hohler and Borough Piers Montague
1 member of the public

56/20] APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Borough Councillor Ann Kemp and Cllr. Mr. S. MacDonald-Gay

57/20] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were none.

58/20] 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 1 July 2020 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 5 August 2020.

59/20] REPORTS

a) County Councillor – County Councillor Sarah Hohler reported that the Cabinet has not met for a few weeks as busy working hard on trying to reconcile the budget. A Cabinet meeting is to be held next Thursday to discuss the budget. There is currently a £40-50m shortfall which needs to be found from cost savings as there is a reluctance to use reserves. KCC in conjunction with Medway are able to offer loans to businesses with very low interest rates. KCC is still struggling with accommodating the number of asylum seeking children arriving in Kent and are still trying to get other Counties to help with this crisis situation. County Councillor Sarah Hohler discussed the planned closures for the M20 in connection with the reinstatement of the footbridge at East Street. County County Sarah Hohler has written to Kent Police about the speed of traffic on the A20 in Addington and Wrotham having received a number of complaints from residents. Kent Police has agreed to make the carrying out of speed checks a priority on this section of the A20. County Councillor Sarah Hohler advised Members that KCC are monitoring the activities at Wrotham Quarry to ensure that road sweepers are used daily to clean Addington Lane and that the 31 December 2020 deadline is met for the tunnel to be fully operational. Members raised the issue of lorries parking in lay-bys in and around Addington overnight and the problems associated with this such as the dumping of litter and lack of toilets. County Councillor Sarah Hohler agreed that this is a problem in all villages across Kent and needs to be addressed.

20:28hrs County Councillor Sarah Hohler left the meeting

b) Borough Councillor – Borough Councillor Piers Montague discussed the ongoing problems still being experienced by residents with the new waste collection service. Borough Councillor Piers Montague explained that Urbaser has appointed a new manager to oversee the contract who lives in the Borough. It is hoped that there will now be some real improvements in the service. Cllr. Short suggested that residents should be compensated for the poor service. Borough Councillor Piers Montague explained that Urbaser could face financial penalties and ultimately could lose the contract if the service is not improved. Members advised Borough Councillor Piers Montague of the issue of gangs of motorbikes speeding through the village on certain evenings of the week. Borough Councillor Piers Montague agreed to investigate. More information on the Boundary Commission Review is expected soon and it is looking likely that the number of Borough Councillors is to be reduced.

20:36hrs Borough Councillor Piers Montague left the meeting

c) Kent Police – There has been no crime in Addington or the surrounding areas during August 2020. Members noted that the Clerk has not received any crime reports again for a couple of months which is disappointing.

60/20] 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. Both BT boxes were cleaned in July 2020 but the Clerk advised that a further clean is required. Members agreed for the Clerk to arrange a further clean and that these should now take place bi-monthly. Members noted that the pads on both defibrillators expire at the end of the month and agreed that the Clerk should order some more through WebNos and some more signs. Cllr. Garrett asked if the Clerk could request that the car wash operator does not store their bin next to the defibrillator.
- 2) Speedwatch – A lack of volunteers means the scheme is unable to continue at the moment. Kent Police has advised the Clerk that as a result of the pandemic all volunteers must be aged 70 or under which does restrict the possibility of finding new volunteers.
- 3) T&MBC Local Plan Development – Members noted that the next update will be after the hearing which has been set for the 6-8 October, 3-4 and 10-15 November 2020.
- 4) Reinstatement of the footbridge over the M20 – Sarah Ashworth from Aone has advised the Clerk that Highways England started putting traffic management onto the network from Saturday 8 August 2020 and aim to complete the works by January 2021. Works on site at East Street started on the 3 August 2020. Highways England will be closing lane one on both sides of the M20 for the duration of the project with reduced lane widths and a 50mph speed limit in place at all times. There will be a small number of carriageway closures to put traffic management in place and one weekend full closure in both directions to install the new bridge. The Clerk has placed this information on the website and Aone has distributed newsletters to all residents. Cllr. Garrett reminded Members that it is a requirement that Highways England should have a Notice of Exemption displayed for the works taking place on both the registered common land and village green at East Street. The Clerk and Cllr. Garrett will check to see that this Notice is being correctly displayed. Cllr. Chalk advised Members that the contractors are parking on the hammerhead and that the temporary hammerhead is not obvious. A portakabin has also been placed in this area. The Clerk will report these issues to Aone.
- 5) M20 updates – Essential works have started on the M20 Motorway between Junctions 8 and 9 to install a new Moveable Barrier System which will be deployed on the M20 when required as part of a contraflow to permit the motorway and junctions to remain open during Channel ports disruption. The system will allow port-bound lorries to be held on the motorway while all other traffic continues to have access to the motorway in both directions. The work consists of the installation of temporary barriers, pavement repairs, gully and manhole ironworks repairs, roadmarkings and studs works, and the installation of the new Moveable Barriers at the back of the M20 London bound hard-shoulder. Where full closures of the M20 are required, these will be overnight during the hours of 9pm to 6am. The motorway will remain open during the day, operating with narrow lanes at 50mph past the 7.5mile stretch where temporary barriers are installed and works are in progress. Works are expected to be completed by mid-November.
- 6) KALC Community Award – Members were disappointed to hear that a social distancing compliant event to congratulate Mrs. Joan Scott on the award was not able to take place as Mrs. Scott is extremely unwell. Cllr. Garrett will liaise with the family and if necessary present them with the certificate in her honour.
- 7) Waste Collection – review of new arrangements - Members discussed correspondence received from T&MBC on the new waste collection service. T&MBC has advised that an increase in home working which has resulted in more domestic waste and the temporary closure of the Household Waste Collection depots has put further pressure on the new contractor, Urbaser. T&MBC acknowledge that work does need to be done with Urbaser to improve areas such as repeated missed bins but accept that these external issues have had and are still having a negative impact on Urbaser's ability to deliver the service. T&MBC has reassured Members that improvements on service delivery are being raised with Urbaser at the highest level with the respective Partnership Chief Executives meeting the CEO from Urbaser in the coming weeks. Cllr. Short asked the Clerk to find out if T&MBC are going to be financially compensating residents that paid for a brown bin collection but did not receive the bin for several months.
- 8) Assessment of the trees on the A20 - Cllr. Garrett reported that south of the A20 crossroads to the Jet Garage the footpath is overgrown with nettles and branches and is impassable. There are also another number of hot spots of trees overhanging the footpath and bus stops along the A20. The Clerk was asked to find out whose responsibility it is to ensure the footpaths are kept clear of overhanging branches and also monitor the general condition of the trees.

9] Use of lay-bys by lorry drivers – see item 59/20 (b).

10] Website Accessibility Regulations – Members noted that the Clerk attended a virtual KALC training event on the 12 August 2020 about the new regulations which come into play on the 23 September 2020. The Clerk had circulated a draft Website Accessibility Statement which is now a requirement and will incorporate the comments made by Members and place this on the website. The website administrator has also made some changes to the layout and look of the website to make it more user friendly for people with disabilities.

61/20] FINANCE

a) A statement as at 1 July 2020 was circulated:

Balances as at 2 September 2020:

Business Reserve Account	£ 21,152.06
Current Account	£ 773.95
National Savings Account:	£ 25,364.38

Receipts: None

<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cheque Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Salary - August)	2104	£ 561.10
HMRC	(Tax – August)	2105	£ 140.40
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Expenses – August)	2106	£ 183.23
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Ink reimbursement)	2107	£ 14.99
Fours Seasons Gardens	(Grounds maintenance)	2108	£ 366.92
KALC	(1/3 training course)	2109	£ 20.00
Total			£1,286.64

Transfer from Business Reserve Account to Current Account: £1,300.00

b) Other matters:

NALC Pay Award 2020/2021 - Members noted that the Clerk is entitled to a national pay rise and the hourly rate has increased from £14.03 to £14.42.

c) Cheques for Signature - Approved

62/20 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: A member of the public mentioned that she was aware of three recent motor accidents on the A20 which were associated with speeding.

63/20] PLANNING

a) Applications:

1] 20/01699/FL – Little Oaks, Sandy Lane, Addington, ME19 5BX

Side garage extension and a replacement single storey extension. *Resolved: No objection*

2] 20/01637/FL – Woodgate Farm, Woodgate Road, Addington,

Demolition of two existing storage buildings (Class B8) and the erection of a terrace of three dwelling houses. *Resolved: Object. Members were happy to approve a previous proposal in 2018 for the erection of one replacement dwelling but feel that three dwellings represents an over development of the site and is not in keeping with the area.*

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

c) Approvals

1] TM/20/01244/FL – Ivanhay, Sandy Lane, Addington, TN15 7SB

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

2] TM/20/01334/FL - 5 Greenways, London, Road, Addington, ME19 5A

Garage Conversion

3] TM/20/001271/FL – Offham Service Station, London Road, Addington

Existing canopy to be raised from 4.0m to 5.0m

d) Refusals

1] TM/20/01323/FL - Southfields, St. Vincents Lane, Addington, ME19 5BW

Removal of Condition 4 (Permitted Development Rights) submitted pursuant to planning application TM/06/1606/FL (Demolition of existing buildings and outbuildings and construction of new dwelling)

e) Withdrawn applications

f) Planning Appeals

c) Other Matters

1] 16/00337/USEH - Jet Garage – The Clerk was asked to report that the car operators continue to operate outside the curtilage of the area they can work in. The Clerk was asked to report to Environmental Health at T&MBC Members concerns about the fact that there are no toilet facilities for the workers and that they are having to use the adjacent wood. The wood is also full of litter.

2] 20/00032/USEH The Vineyard Restaurant, London Road, Addington – unauthorised change of use to car wash at these premises. An Enforcement Notice was served on the car wash on the 25 June 2020 to cease the use and remove any paraphernalia from the site which was due to take effect on 22nd July 2020. However, the owners exercised their right of appeal and lodged an enforcement notice appeal to the Planning Inspectorate on 21st July 2020. The activity is continuing and Enforcement have visited the site twice and have sent letters to the owners requiring the use to cease however they appear to be extremely uncooperative and all communications come via the planning agent. T&MBC is still continuing to explore what other powers they have available, however the submission of an enforcement notice appeal will complicate matters slightly as the Planning Inspectorate may dismiss the council's enforcement notice and allow the appeal. Members noted that the restaurant is due to open again soon and expressed concern about where the restaurant users will park. The Clerk was asked to contact the Borough Councillors about this and the fact there is still water pouring down Sandy Lane and St Vincents Lane from the car washing activities which is eroding the banks and roads.

3] 20/00030/USEH – Mayhill House, London Road, Addington – alleged unauthorised hardstanding and caravans – Enforcement has received the PCN which they are due to discuss with officers next week with a view to arranging a site meeting asap to determine to information provided in the PCN

4] 20/00081/USEM – land in Teston Road, Offham (adjacent to Mount Cottage) – regarding alleged unauthorised change of use to motorcycle track. Enforcement has visited the site and identified the presence of a motorcross/speedway style track on land located off Teston road, Offham between the railway tracks to the northwest and Mount Cottage to the south east. The land is located within the green belt where development is restricted and no relevant planning records have been identified. As such, a letter was sent to the registered landowner to request a cessation of the activities on the land and to return the land it to its former condition, or the submission of a retrospective planning application to attempt to regularise the works. Further examination of site aerials show the presence of a track on the land in excess of 10 years which means the use has become lawful and is now immune from further enforcement action. Enforcement has advised that any ongoing concerns in relation to noise should be raised with the Environmental Protection team who may be able to assess whether a statutory nuisance is occurring. Members agreed to support residents still affected by noise and asked the Clerk to contact the Environmental Protection team about constant noise of motorbikes. The Clerk was also asked to inform Enforcement that local knowledge would suggest that equipment was brought in recently to re-dig the track and that it has not been in use for over 10 years.

64/20] HIGHWAYS:

a) Highways & PROW enquiries Outstanding:- (as at 2 September 2020)

1] Enquiry 425724 – the standing light at the junction of the A20 and Trottscliffe Road is working

2] Enquiry 484292 – verges in St Vincents Lane are being eroded. *Enquiry attended to but more works required. The Clerk was asked to find out when these works will be taking place*

3] Enquiry 506566 - Breaking up of the road and trench appearing in vicinity of the Angel Inn and Park Road. *KCC has advised that works are programmed to take place to resurface the area*

- 4] Enquiry 506564 - A20 – broken drain cover end of the slip road on the A20 close to the junction with Ford Lane. *The enquiry has been passed to the Water Board to fix.*
- 5] Enquiry 522610 - A20 – 2 large potholes west of the entrance to Endeavour Park. – *The Clerk has re-reported these as KCC claimed works were complete*
- 6] Repairs to the noticeboard on Addington Green – Members thanked Cllr. Chalk for repairing the noticeboard. It was noted that both noticeboards need to be replaced next year and that an allowance for this should be put in the budget.
- 7] PROW 7145550 – footpath to the church gate, the wooden railing is also now down as well as the sign
- 8] Enquiry 522616 - Sign near to Seven Mile Lane roundabout – the Clerk has re-reported that this is still facing the wrong way and suggest it could actually be removed.
- 9] Enquiry 522611 - Endeavour Park – 3 heavy duty posts missing on the western corner of the A20/Endeavour Park verge – now replaced

b) New requiring attention

- 1] Enquiry 522629 – Drain cover on slip road from A20 to Ford Lane – the Clerk has reported
- 2] Blue container on the verge and rubbish – west of Endeavour Park – the Clerk to report
- 3] Enquiry 521765 St Vincents Lane – a spring has appeared on St Vincents Lane near to Brookfield House which needs attending to before the icy weather commences
- 4] East Street – the Clerk to report that the hedges as you enter East Street are very overgrown and full of brambles.
- 5] East Street - Dead trees near to the golf course need to be removed. Cllr. Robinson agreed to mention to the golf course owners.

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. Clerk to chase.
- 3] Electrical Charging Points – Members noted that KCC is inviting Parish Councils to take part in a project to increase the number of publicly accessible Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points in Kent to help more people make the switch to these cleaner and quieter vehicles. This is a scheme that has been designed by KCC together with KALC to install EV chargers on Parish/Town Council owned land such as village halls and community hubs. Members discussed possible locations for a EV charging point but agreed that the Parish Council does not own any suitable land or building where installing a charging point would be beneficial.

65/20] REPORTS OF MEETINGS:

- a) Village Hall Committee – Cllr. Robinson and Short reported that the AGM took place on the 27 August 2020. Members noted that Audrey Roberts has resigned as Chairman. The committee has suggested that Audrey Roberts should be nominated for the next KALC Community Award for all her services to the village. The Treasurer and Brian Taylor will also leave the committee in May which leaves a huge void and volunteers for the committee are urgently needed. Members noted that there has been an issue with young people kicking balls at the windows and leaving litter in the car park. CCTV would be helpful to prevent these issues but deemed by the committee to be too expensive to install. Income is generally down but the Nursery school is starting back soon, though be it with reduced numbers, which will help with revenue. Cllr. Robinson recalled that the Parish Council gave £1000 to the Village Hall Committee for CCTV to be installed. Cllr. Chalk offered to find out if these funds are still available. Members expressed their concern about the future of the village hall committee if new volunteers do not come forward.
- b) Recreation Ground Committee – Cllr. Robinson reported that the sports pavilion has suffered some plastic pipework and cable damage from mice or rats. There has also been a significant fluid leak into one of the changing rooms and there have been occasional power trips of unknown

origin. The committee may need some financial support from the Parish Council to fix these items.

- c) Parish Partnership Panel – Members noted that the next meeting is due to be held tomorrow. Cllr. Adams is hoping to attend this meeting.
- d) Standards Committee – There has been no meeting
- e) KALC Area Committee – Cllr. Garrett attended the virtual meeting held on the 2020 and had circulated some notes. Cllr. Garrett reported that most Parish Councils seem to be losing faith in whether planning officers listen to the Parish Council's views on planning proposals. It was felt that The Parish Charter should be rejected. There was a general feeling that S106 money is not being used in the area of development and there is no mechanism in place to consult with parishes. Concern was expressed that climate change has not been addressed in the Local Plan. There is a consultation document on Shipbourne Parish Council's website and they are reaching out for support. It is believed that 19 Councillors will be lost in the boundary reviews and it was noted that the future aim will be to merge Borough into large unitaries, each with their own elected mayor. It was noted and discussed that the government's directive to improve motor and cycle access could prove difficult to achieve in rural locations. The AGM is due to be held, probably virtually, on the 28 November 2020. Motions must be submitted by the 2 October 2020.

66/20] OPEN SPACES:

1] Addington Green – The Clerk has received a request from a resident on the green to install new water pipes under the village green to improve the water pressure for them and other residents. Cllr. Garrett reminded Members that the village green is protected by ancient statutes and that it must not be interfered with. Cllr. Robinson suggested that the applicant considers sourcing the water from another supply feed in the area and offered to try and locate a map of the utilities under the village green and in the area. The Clerk was asked to advise the applicant that they would need to put in a formal request for permission to 'mole' beneath the village green through the Parish Council's solicitor who will be able to advise whether this will be possible. Concern was also expressed about the vulnerability of the old oak tree and whether the proposed tunnelling could damage the roots.

67/20] CORRESPONDENCE:

a) For information:-

- 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 23 September 2020
- 2] Joint Transportation Board – 21 September 2020
- 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 3 September 2020
- 4] Standards Committee – 12 October 2020
- 5] KALC Area Meeting – 1 October 2020

b) On circulation (electronically): -

- 1] Parish News – August 2020

c) New requiring attention:

1] Government Consultations on reforming the planning system

- Changes to the current planning system
- Planning for the future - the planning white paper
- Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data on land control

Members agreed to respond to the consultation after the KALC seminar on this subject.

2] KALC Clerks Conference – Members noted that the conference will be virtual this year and agreed that the Clerk could decide whether to attend or not. The Clerk attends most of the KALC seminars during the year and finds the main benefit of the conference to be the networking with other Clerks for ideas and support which will not be possible this year.

68/20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Evidence of moles on the village green again – Cllr. Robinson offered to contact the mole catcher

69/20] ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

Nothing additional

70/20] DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 7 October 2020 at 8pm.

71/20 ANY CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS: There was none.

The meeting was closed at 21:47hrs

SignedChairman Date