

ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a virtual Parish Council Meeting held on the 7 April 2021 at 19:45hrs
(commenced after the Annual Parish Meeting)

Present: Cllr. Mrs P. Garrett – Chairman, Cllrs. Mrs. A. Adams, Mrs. L. Chalk,
Mr. S. Macdonald-Gay, Mr. P. Robinson, Mrs. C. Short
County Councillor Sarah Hohler and Borough Councillor Piers Montague

01/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Borough Councillor Ann Kemp

02/21] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were none.

03/21] MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

It was proposed and agreed that the Chairman, sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 4 March 2021.

04/21] REPORTS

a) County Councillor - County Councillor Sarah Hohler is currently in purdah in the run up to the elections. County Councillor Sarah Hohler had given a comprehensive report at the Annual Parish Meeting. In her report County Councillor Sarah Hohler had mentioned that she remains committed to getting speed limits reduced. Cllr. Garrett advised Borough County Councillor Sarah Hohler that it was disappointing that the Parish Council could not take part in the Great British Spring Clean 2021 as there are no roads in Addington with a 30mph or less speed limit. T&MBC can only insure volunteers on roads with a 30mph or less speed limit. Members thanked County Councillor Sarah for all her support in recent years.

19:56hrs County Councillor Sarah Hohler left the meeting

b) Borough Councillor –Borough Councillor Piers Montague advised Members that he had obtained some advice from Andy Edwards, Head of Technical Services at T&MBC about installing CCTV on public property. Public bodies need to register CCTV systems with the Information Commissioners Office. Borough Councillor Piers Montague has also asked the Planning Department for advice on whether planning permission is required for CCTV on public property. Borough Councillor Piers Montague agreed to forward this advice to the Clerk and to find out if, and when Addington will be considered by T&MBC for CCTV to be installed on known fly-tipping hotspots. At the previous meeting Cllr. MacDonald-Gay had asked if Borough Councillor Ann Kemp could find out if the Replanting Order issued by Enforcement for The Birches, Sandy Lane would specify the type and size of trees to be re-planted. Unfortunately, Borough Councillor Piers Montague was not aware of this query and was unable to provide an answer. Cllr. Short suggested that it would be helpful if the Borough Councillors could communicate with each other in between meetings to ensure continuity. Cllr. Garrett advised Borough Councillor Piers Montague that two large trees have been cut down at a property called Ivanhay in Sandy Lane but has been unable to find any planning documents on the T&MBC portal to support this. A Planning Notice spotted in the area has been issued by Sevenoaks District Council. Borough Councillor Piers Montague kindly agreed to investigate this issue and report back.

20:12hrs Borough Councillor Piers Montague left the meeting

c) Kent Police – The Kent Police website shows there has been no reported crime in Addington in March 2021. However, Cllr, Garrett reported that there has been some shed break ins in East Street and in The Links. In Trottsicliffe four BMW wheels were taken from inside a van parked in Church Lane on the 12 March 2021. Between the 14 and 15 March a vehicle was stolen from Church Road in Offham.

05/21] 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.

- 2] T&MBC Local Plan Development – The Local Hearing is still suspended.
- 3] East Street Footbridge, planting, light and noise issues – Cllr. Garrett reported that the local residents are not happy with the size of the trees planted by Highways England to screen the footbridge. A row of Cypress trees of around 6-7 metres in height have been planted and the residents were expecting trees over 9 metres in height. Members noted that the residents are in discussions with Highways England over the size of the trees. Members noted that a line of native trees has also been planted behind the Cypress trees which in time will take over and will also fill in the gaps. Members were in agreement that the screening of the bridge is still an issue for the residents but accepted that the Cypress trees planted are probably more suited to the sandy soil that say Leylandii trees and should grow up to 1 metre per year. The Clerk was asked to find out how Highways England propose to irrigate the new trees and planting. The Clerk was also asked to find out what remedial planting works are going to take place where the equipment and portakabins have damaged the green. The matting has been taken up and the whole area is just mud. Two signs and various cones also need to be removed. A plastic barrier which was dumped on the other side of the bridge has been removed. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways England, copying in MP Tom Tugendhat, to ask when they propose to complete the reinstatement of the green. The Clerk was also asked to write to the Highways England SMART motorway team, copying in MP Tom Tugendhat, to remind them that the tree screening in front of the acoustic fence which was removed as part of the SMART motorwork works needs to be replaced.
- 4] Broadband in the village – Cllr. Garrett reported that the residents in Aldon Lane have formed a cluster group and working with Openreach to obtain fibre. Having a community fibre partnership with Openreach means a community will be connected to the national fibre network. This brings many benefits including choice of internet service provider, value for money and sustainability. Members were in agreement that the Parish Council's role would be to facilitate cluster groups to consider this route and not to recommend any specific fibre provider. The Parish Council will also explore whether households could take advantage of the new voucher scheme due to be launched this month from the Building Digital UK. The co-ordinator for the community group in Aldon Lane has advised the Parish Council that he is happy to share his knowledge and experience with any other group thinking of also applying for the scheme. Cllr. Garrett advised Members that Trooli and Callflow could also support local community groups obtain better internet.
- 5] Vacancy on the Parish Council – Cllr. Garrett encouraged Members to discuss the vacancy with local residents.

06/21] FINANCE

a) A statement as at 7 April 2021 was circulated:

Balances as at 7 April 2021:

Business Reserve Account	£ 24,403.33
Current Account	£ 368.74
National Savings Account:	£ 25,364.38

Receipts: None

Payments:

<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cheque</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Number</u>
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Salary - March)	2147	£ 580.00
HMRC	(Tax – March)	2148	£ 145.00
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Expenses – March)	2149	£ 153.41
The East Malling Trust	(Tree Warden Course)	2150	£ 195.00
Community Hearbeat Trust	(Replacement Battery)	2151	£ 282.00
Addington Parochial CC	(Donation to PCC)	2152	£1,000.00
Total			£2,355.41

Transfer from Business Review Account to Current Account: £2,200.00

b) Other matters:

1] Request for a donation from the PCC – Members **resolved** to make a donation of £1000.00 to the PCC to assist with the costs of maintaining the churchyard.

c) Cheques for Signature – Approved

07/21 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None present

08/21] PLANNING

a) Applications:

1] 20/00738/FL – Wyndamere, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DE

Resolved: Object. We note that the proposed extension extends over the building line of the dwelling and we believe that covenants are in place to prevent this happening. We object to the fact the proposal extends over the building line and the effect this will have on the street scene.

b) Applications received after distribution of the agenda: None received

c) Approvals

1] TM/21/00038/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.

2] Woodpeckers, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DE

Pine T1. The raising of the crown to approx. 18m

d) Refusal: None to consider

e) Withdrawn applications

1] TM/21/00111/FL – The Jays, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DE

Building of free standing timber garage to the rear of the property

f) Planning Appeals: No new appeals

g) Other Matters

1] 16/00337/USEH - Jet Garage – The Clerk has reported to Enforcement that the car washing operations are operating outside the approved curtilage again. Enforcement has agreed to visit the site again when the hand car washing operations commence again. The Clerk advised that the Local Restrictions Support Grants is only available for businesses with a rateable value.

2] 20/00030/USEH – Mayhill House, London Road, Addington – alleged unauthorised hardstanding and caravans – Enforcement has recently received a communication from the agent on behalf of the owner of Mayhill House indicating that they will move the unit in September 2021. Enforcement is not prepared to wait until then so will be proceeding with service of Notice. Enforcement has advised that the removal of the chalet will be more difficult to tackle due to Human Rights implications/public sector equality duty. However, Enforcement still intend to enforce against the residential use of the chalet building. The Clerk was asked to find out why and how Human Rights may affect any enforcement.

3] 20/00032/USEH The Vineyard Restaurant, London Road, Addington – alleged unauthorised car washing activities –The Planning Inspector has dismissed the appeal. Enforcement has advised that the car wash is not authorised to re-open following this decision. The owners have 21 days to meet the requirements of the Notice and cease the use.

4] 20/00324/WORKH – Adjacent the Vineyard Restaurant, London Road, Addington - alleged unauthorised work to form new porch and patio area. Enforcement has sent a letter to the premises owners to advise them that planning permission is required.

5] 20/00325/WORKH - 26 Clearway – Enforcement has advised that the garage is not occupied for residential use and even if it was that planning permission would not be required and the enforcement case has been closed.

6] ‘Old Orchard’ to the east of Aldon Lane – The Clerk has reported to Enforcement concerns about recent activities on the site involving a number of deliveries of soil and groundworks. Enforcement has advised that an Article Four direction has been served on the land which takes away permitted development rights from the land in relation to the erection of fences, temporary buildings/works, stationing of caravans, forestry development etc. It essentially means that any form of development on the land will require the benefit of planning permission.

09/21] HIGHWAYS:

a) Highways & PROW enquiries Outstanding: (as at 3 March 2021)

- 1] Enquiry 484292 – verges in St Vincents Lane are being eroded and dip in road outside the village Hall – *works have now taken place. The Clerk was asked to find out when the remaining works agreed by KCC for St Vincents Lane will be taking place*
- 2] Enquiry 506566 - Breaking up of the road and trench appearing in vicinity of the Angel Inn and Park Road – *The Highway Steward is waiting for another quote for Traffic Management.*
- 3] Enquiry 524272 Londerek, East Street – hedges as you enter East Street are very overgrown and full of brambles. *Works have still not taken place. The Clerk has asked the Highways Steward for an update.*
- 4] PROW 210476242 - MR173 – tree blocking the footpath has been reported to PROW – *portal suggests the tree has been removed*
- 5] Enquiry 565787 - St. Vincents Lane near to The Hedgehogs the black and white edge markers have been damaged - *the Clerk has reported*
- 6] Enquiry 565788 - South side of A20, opposite the beginning of the low ranch fencing, west of the entrance to Endeavour Park – a Chestnut tree appears to have dangling dead branches – *the Clerk has reported*
- 7] PROW 210454803 – the gate needs to be reinstated at the footpath to East Street from Addington Green – *the Clerk has reported*
- 8] Quad bikers in the quarry – Cllr. Robinson reported that there has been no recent activity with either trail bikes in the quarry nor quad bikes sighted on the roads. Cllr. Robinson is actively working with PCSO Amy Sears, Ferns and PROW Kent to try and prevent these incidents occurring again.

b) New requiring attention

- 1] Tree in Sandy Lane – in between meetings hit by a lorry but now removed by KCC
- 2] A20 island opposite The Vineyard – damaged bollard and damage to the island
- 3] Salt Bin TM174 at the corner of Sandy Lane/St Vincents is empty and needs filling
- 4] Pothole on the south carriageway of A20, west of Endeavour Park is getting larger and needs attention
- 5] Near to The Sycamores, London Road – dangerous metal post sticking up out of the ground on the verge
- 6] Advertising sign needs to be removed as fixed to a reflector on the A20 near to Clearways and there is a redundant post covered by the sign which also needs removing
- 7] The sign for the new Fish & Chip restaurant at the site of The Vineyard restaurant has been placed on the footpath side of the premises – the Clerk to check if this is permissible
- 8] Addington Lane – huge pothole near to the Pearson's Pit entrance – a trench has formed where lorries have been regularly coming in and out
- 9] St Vincents Lane – the Clerk to report that the ongoing problem with the stream of water down the bank is back

c) Other matters:

- 1] School bus issues with children crossing the A20 – Members were in agreement that KCC has not come up with a feasible solution. A virtual meeting was held with Les Henry (Les Henry Associates Highways Engineers) on the 16 March 2021 to discuss how he may be able to help provide a case for the original bus service to be reinstated. Members **resolved** to engage Mr Henry for this project at a cost of £40 an hour following confirmation from Mr Henry that his research and report will take no more than 12 hours.
- 2] Highways Improvement Plan – It was **resolved** that it would be helpful to use the services of Les Henry Associates to advise on reducing the speed limit on the A20 and the requirement for a replacement flashing speed sign at the junction of the A20 and Trottscliffe road. The Clerk was asked to find what additional research Mr Henry would need to do in terms of time and cost.

10/21| REPORTS OF MEETINGS:

- a) Village Hall Committee – Cllr. Chalk advised that a meeting is due to be held soon and the Committee is still in discussion with the Recreation Ground Committee regarding the proposed new CCTV system. The Village Hall Committee is purchasing a memorial bench in memory of the late Joan Scott which will be placed at the village hall. The Village Hall Committee would like to organise a village celebration for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.
- b) Recreation Ground Committee – Cllr. Robinson advised they are about to commission a company for a CCTV service that will be linked to mobile phones so that the system can be monitored remotely. Cllr. Robinson advised that the Committee is also looking at ways of reducing the cost of the heating and electricity and considering solar panel heating and heat source pump systems. Various grants may be available and are being investigated. The Recreation Ground Committee may also benefit from the Government’s proposed start up grants for the leisure and entertainment business as restrictions are eased. A further grant of £8,000 may be available.
- c) Parish Partnership Panel – There has been no meeting.
- d) Standards Committee – There has been no meeting.
- e) KALC Area Committee – Nobody was able to attend the meeting held on the 25 March 2021 as it clashed with a KALC Planning Seminar. Cllrs. Chalk and Garrett attended the KALC Planning Seminar which they found really helpful. The presentation slides and documents from the seminar have been circulated to all Members and KALC will be running the seminar again, the date has been circulated by the Clerk.

11/21| OPEN SPACES:

1] East Street North Village Green, remedial and planting works –

Cllr. Robinson advised that works have taken place to provide a better access to this area for vehicles and machinery by using a digger to clear a route. Members thanked Cllr. Robinson for overseeing the works. Matting has been laid down to provide access. Four Seasons has provided a quote of £957.60 to tidy up the hedge bordering the motorway, it was **resolved** to accept this quote but to postpone the works to the Autumn when the bird nesting season is over. Members ratified a decision between meetings to accept a quote of £489.89 for an area to be planted as flower meadow which was done this week. The Clerk has circulated ideas and quotes for benches for the village green to replace the ones that were there. The contractor for the replacement bridge, Osbornes, has donated the picnic bench they used which will be placed near to the recently planted flower meadow. It was **resolved** to purchase a Glasdon Elwood bench at a cost of £768.58 for the other side of the village green so that walkers can sit and admire the view. Cllr. Robinson kindly agreed to assist with the installation and suggested that siting the bench on slabs would be preferable. The Clerk suggested that a plaque is placed on the bench to mark the pandemic to act as both a thank you to key workers that have worked tirelessly through the pandemic and to also remember those that have sadly lost their lives to the virus. The Clerk will prepare the wording for the plaque and circulate to all Members.

2] Tree Warden – Members noted that Tony Leach attended the Lantra tree course at The East Malling Trust in March 2021 and had found it to very useful. The Clerk was asked to arrange a date with Mr Leach for a walk around the village to assess the trees before the Winter. Members remain particularly concerned about the condition of some of the trees on the A20.

12/21| CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) For information:
 - 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 7 April 2021 *Cancelled*
 - 2] Joint Transportation Board – 7 June 2021
 - 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 10 June 2021
 - 4] Standards Committee – 9 June 2021
 - 5] KALC Area Meeting – 25 or 27 May 2021

- b) On circulation (electronically): -

1] Parish News – March 2021

c) New requiring attention:

13/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Newsletter – the Clerk to produce a May edition.

14/21] ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

- 1] Village Community Strategy
- 2] Queens Platinum Jubilee
- 3] Review the need for a Handyperson

15/21] DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The Annual Parish Council meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday 5 May 2021 at 8pm

16/21] ANY CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS:

There were none.

The meeting was closed at 21:43hrs

Signed _____ Chairman Date _____