

ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in the Pavilion, Park Road
held on Thursday 2 February 2022 at 19:00hrs

Present: Cllr. Mrs. C. Short – Chairman for this meeting, Cllrs. Mrs. A. Adams, Mrs. L. Chalk,
Mr. P. Robinson

In Attendance: Louise Goldsmith (Clerk), Borough Councillor Ann Kemp, 2 members of the public

149/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence was received from County Councillor Sarah Hohler and Cllrs. Garrett and Macdonald-Gay and their reasons for absence were accepted.

150/21] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION:

There were none.

151/21] MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

It was proposed and agreed that the Chairman, sign the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on the 2 December 2021 and 5 January 2022 as a true and accurate record of the meeting

152/21] REPORTS

a) County Councillor - County Councillor Sarah Hohler was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report. The KCC budget meeting is on 10 February 2022. The budget consultation had over 2,000 responses. 70% of respondents were not comfortable with reductions in social care for the over 65s or for children, nor for savings on highways, the environment and waste. KCC has looked for opportunities to deliver services at a lower cost to give better value for money. The results of the 10,705 replies to consultation on the booking system for visits to the Household Waste Recycling Centres have been collated. Approximately 30% of respondents said they would like to be able to book a slot on the day as well as booking in advance, and this is now being phased in. There have been fewer visits to the sites but residents are bringing more waste (the average load has increased from 44kg to 60kg). Recycling has gone up from 63% to 69% which has saved money. KCC has 99 libraries and is currently engaging with residents on how to make the libraries more user friendly. The consultation closes on the 7 March 2022 and KCC has already received over 100 ideas. 94% of current users say they will continue to use their library. Libraries offer so much more than book borrowing and it is hoped that they will become successful community hubs. KCC is discussing the new strategic plan, delayed because of the pandemic. KCC is also looking to develop a Civil Society Strategy to strengthen their relationship with the voluntary sector. Kent Together is still available to help and support more vulnerable residents. County Councillor Sarah Hohler is chairing the cross-party member group which is developing the next 5 year strategy for country parks

b) Borough Councillor – Borough Councillor Ann Kemp advised that T&MBC is pleased to announce that the residents of Tonbridge and Malling recycle more of their household waste than anywhere else in Kent. The annual analysis carried out by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) shows that households across the borough recycled 51.6% of their rubbish. The average across Kent was 43% with a national average for England of 42%. Borough Councillor Ann Kemp advised that the call for sites event, for the draft Local Plan, opened on the 13 December 2021 and closes on the 7 February 2022. It was noted that there has been a number of staff changes in the Planning Department at T&MBC. T&MBC has sent a Housing Survey to a random selection of houses and would like to encourage people to complete it by 7 February 2022. Cllr. Robinson mentioned that a consortium appears to have leafleted the village encouraging landowners to contact them to discuss selling their land for development. Members asked that T&MBC is encouraged to consider measures of reducing the carbon footprint in the Local Plan.

19:08hrs Borough Councillor Ann Kemp left the meeting.

c) Kent Police – There has been no crime in Addington in January 2022.

The Chairman proposed and it was resolved to take Members of Public as the next agenda item

155/21 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Kathy Searle and Ronnie McKinley from the Seekers Trust attended the meeting to explain their plans for the healing centre which include a refurbishment of the chapel and extensions to the healing rooms so that they can accommodate more people. They explained that the centre is open for anyone to come and walk round and that they were keen to forge a relationship with the village. They also intend to reach out to other local charities and self-help groups. There are plans in progress to mark the 90th year of the centre next year and they are keen to assist with the celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee. A member of the public living in Trottiscliffe has called the Clerk to complain about the school bus service to Tonbridge and the fact she has to drive her child each day to West Malling to catch a school bus. The member of the public has written and complained about the school bus service to MP Tom Tugendhat. The Clerk has also been contacted by a concerned resident about the amount of mud in Plowenders lay-by.

19:33hrs 2 members of the public left the meeting

153/21| 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. It was noted that the broken pane of glass in the BT box at the Jet Garage has now been replaced.

2] T&MBC Local Plan Development – The call for sites event opened on the 13 December 2021 and closes on the 7 February 2022.

3] Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Cllr. Chalk advised Members that the working party met virtually on the 10 January 2022. The working party were advised that the Parish Council would be willing to make a contribution towards the cost of providing drinks at the Beacon lighting. Cllr. Robinson has been approached about organising a friendly cricket match against Trottiscliffe on the Friday at Trosley Court. An afternoon of games on the recreation ground and displays in the village hall is being considered for the Saturday afternoon and in the evening a barn dance will be held in the village hall which will be paid ticketed event and hopefully self-financing. Attendees will need to bring their own food and drink. Members noted that KCC has simplified the application process for applying for a street closure for the street parties to be held on the 5 June 2022. The Clerk has placed this information and a copy of the application form on the website and Facebook.

4] T&MBC Waste Collections – The current interim garden waste collections continue and due to lower volumes of waste than the previous interim collection slightly faster progress. A regular garden waste collection service and the bulky waste service is not expected to return in the short term due to staff shortages.

5] Proposal to consider the renewal of the Recreation Ground Lease – Roger Taylor at Wellers Law Group hopes to send an initial draft of a lease document for discussion next week. The Clerk has received a formal apology from a partner at Brachers LLP in recognition of the poor service received.

6] Encampment in village hall car park and to discuss proposals to protect the car park – Members were pleased to note that the encampment left the village hall car park on the 11 January 2022. T&MBC has advised that the Direction which was used applies to all the Parish Council's land ownership in the area which means if the encampment returns to any area covered by the Direction in the near future an application can be made immediately to the Courts seeking an Order for removal. Cllr. Robinson had arranged for rubbish left by the encampment to be removed. Cllr. Robinson advised that the recycling banks have been removed from the car park so that a barrier can be installed to prevent further encampments. Gallagher has delivered some large free ragstone boulders and Ferns have donated six one tonne bags of top soil to assist with constructing bunding to prevent vehicles bypassing the height barrier. A number of quotes have been obtained to supply and install a 2.3m high by 7m wide height barrier and Members **resolved** to ratify a decision between meetings to accept a quote of £3,928.45 (excluding VAT) and to approve the design drawing. Jacksons hope to carry out the works the week commencing the 7 March 2022. Members formally thanked Cllr. Robinson for all his hard work in organising the works required to secure the village hall car park.

7] Annual Parish Meeting – Members discussed the format of the Annual Parish Meeting due to be held in April and agreed that the Clerk should try and get a speaker to discuss how to reduce the carbon footprint. The Clerk was asked to contact Robin Betts at T&MBC and Ecolution to see if they would be prepared to speak on this subject. The Clerk will send out the invitations to all the local organisations.

8] Reducing our carbon footprint – Members discussed the impact the proposed lorry car park in Wrotham could have on air quality and pollution in Addington. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact all the parishes affected to sound out their views on this proposal. Members agreed to consider ways in which the Parish Council could look to improve the carbon footprint of the village hall and pavilion.

154/21| FINANCE

A statement as at 2 February 2022 was circulated:

Balances as at 2 February 2022:

Unity Trust Account: £22,796.41

National Savings Account: £25,546.99

Receipts: Interest National Savings Account: £2.56

a) Payments:

<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Salary – January)	£ 596.00
HMRC	(Tax – January)	£ 149.00
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Expenses – January)	£ 194.81
KALC	(Training)	£ 60.00
Small Works Building Co.	(BT box replacement glass)	£ 215.00
T&MBC	(Fees – unlawful encampment)	£ 400.00
Bartlett Tree Expert	(Fertiliser treatment – oak tree)	£ 132.00
Addington Recreation	(Mole catching)	£ 40.00
Total		£1,786.81

Resolved: To make the above payments electronically and to be authorised online by Cllrs. Short and Chalk.

b) Other matters:

1] Grass cutting contract 2022 – Members considered two quotes obtained by the Clerk and **resolved** to continue with Four Seasons Gardens at they have provided a very good service. It was **resolved** to enter into a 3 year long term agreement with a quote for year 1 at £1,701.38 (excluding VAT) and rising by 1.5% for year 2 and again in year 3.

156/21] PLANNING

a) Applications:

1] 22/00027/FL – The Caravan, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DH

Removal of existing residential caravan and outbuildings and erection of single detached dwelling with associated hard and soft landscaping. *Resolved: No objection but we would like a condition set that the whole site needs to be tidied up.*

b) Approvals

1] 21/03150/LDP – New House, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DG

Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Single storey rear extension and removal of existing glazed conservatory.

2] 21/03028/LDP – Lyndale, 11 Clearway, Addington, ME19 5BP

Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Loft conversion with rear dormer.

c) Refusals None to consider

d) Withdrawn applications None to consider.

e) Planning Appeals

1] TM/20/01876/OA – West Malling Golf Club, outline application erection of 3 dwellings. Noted that an appeal has been made

f) Other Planning Issues

1] 20/00030/USEH – Mayhill House, London Road, Addington – alleged unauthorised hardstanding and caravans – Enforcement has advised the Clerk that the use of the chalet style building and associated hardstanding are unauthorised and subject to enforcement action but has suggested that T&MBC has up-to four years to act on breaches of planning control of that nature as pursuant to Section 171B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Enforcement has advised the Clerk that they have served two enforcement notices on the owners of Mayhill House since 2020 and have apologised for the delay in progressing these and will look into the other issues raised regarding the site.

2] S106 Agreements/Planning Obligations – The Clerk is still waiting for T&MBC to get in touch to discuss this topic.

3] Concerns about the effects of silica sand –The Clerk had reported Member’s concerns about the effects

of silica sand to Environmental Health at T&MBC. T&MBC has advised that a Permit has been issued to Ferns Aggregates for the drying of sand at the site but the actual quarrying of the sand would be subject to controls enforced by the Health & Safety Department at T&MBC. The Permit has a Condition that requires emissions from the dryer flue to be monitored to ensure that it meets an emission limit of 50mg/m³. Previous inspections of the site have demonstrated compliance with this limit. Environmental Health at T&MBC has advised that if a resident has developed breathing problems they can register a complaint for nuisance with the Environmental Protection team which will be investigated with the operator. It was agreed that the Clerk should pass this information on to the concerned resident.

4] Fish & Chip Shop at the Vineyard – Enforcement has written to the registered owners of the site requesting removal of all ‘Fishyard’ associated signage within 28 days of the date of letter. If they fail to remove the signage Enforcement will take further action at the site.

157/21] HIGHWAYS:

a) Highways & PROW enquiries Outstanding:

- 1] Enquiry 484292 – verges in St Vincents Lane are being eroded – the erosion of the verges was discussed at the Highway Improvement meeting and Claire Venner is investigating.
- 2] Fault 220148228 - Footpath from East Street to Mill House Lane – the Clerk has reported a number of diseased trees adjacent to this footpath.
- 3] Fault 210910210 - Footpath from Mill Lane to East Street – the Clerk has reported that the fence bordering the dwelling Kingfishers is falling across the footpath.
- 4] Enquiries 597903,597906,597907 – request for remedial works to a number of trees in the village – KCC is in the process of assessing.
- 5] Enquiry 606806 - Several bollard lights on the A20 located on the islands near to Seven Mile Lane are not working - The Clerk has requested that the bollards are replaced urgently as it was agreed that the reflective stickers do not provide enough protection.
- 6] Enquiry 613605 - Fingerpost at Woodgate Road needs refurbishment – works completed
- 7] Enquiry 613606 - Aldon Lane – surface cracked and needs resurfacing – KCC has assessed and reported that no action is needed
- 8] Enquiry 613607 - Addington Lane – needs resurfacing – KCC has assessed and reported that no action is needed. Report to Sarah
- 9] Enquiry 616950 – Plowenders lay-by – mud on the road

b) New requiring attention

- 1] Enquiry 617823 - Pot holes Park Road – the Clerk has reported and it was noted that the holes have now been filled
- 2] Park Road – it was noted that Cllr. Robinson has cleared a section of the verges at the entrance to the village hall and it was agreed that this has made a huge difference to the width of the carriageway.
- 3] Enquiry 618861 - A20 between Regency Court and Sundown – the Clerk has reported that water is pulsating on the verge.
- 4] Plowenders layby – Clerk to report vast amounts of mud

c) Other matters:

- 1] Highways Improvement Plan –A follow-up meeting with Claire Venner, Schemes Project Manager at KCC, took place on the 14 January 2022. Claire Venner has agreed to do a ‘walkabout’ of the village with the Clerk and Members on Friday 11 March 2022. The following was discussed:
 - a) London Road A20, request to reduce the speed limit – The collision data does not suggest any contributory factors that would benefit from engineering intervention. Recent speed and traffic count surveys show that over a 7 day period east of the junction with Trottscliffe Road Average speeds are 40.9mph and West of the junction with Trottscliffe Road Average speeds are 46.7mph. Claire Venner has agreed to look at possible improvements to the signage on the A20 and side roads at the walkabout.
 - 2] A20 near to the junction with Trottscliffe Road – interactive sign – KCC has now advised that they will not reinstate the interactive sign as it would be too close to the junction. KCC also claim that these signs are only installed when the location is considered to be safety critical and recent speed surveys and an analysis of collision date do not support a reinstatement

- 3] Trottiscliffe Road, request to reduce the speed limit – KCC has confirmed that Trottiscliffe Road is not a priority. Current speeds show that the 40mph is being well complied with and the average speeds are 32.5mph. Collision records show that there has been 1 occurrence in the last 3 years. The contributory factors do not justify engineering intervention.
- 4) A20 & Bus Routes – The bus company will not be reinstating the TW10 bus service. At the request of the Parish Council KCC has commissioned pedestrian surveys to assess the hazards of residents and in particular children having to cross the A20 to access bus services.
- 5) Addington Lane – Issues with flooding on the road are being investigated by the drainage team.

158/21| REPORTS OF MEETINGS:

- a) Village Hall Committee – Cllr. Chalk advised that Tim Scott is the new Village Hall Manager and that Paul Fennell is the new Treasurer. Works to improve the pathway have now been completed. The fire door has been replaced, a new fridge has been installed, some lights have been replaced with LED fittings and new openers have been fitted to the windows in the toilets along with extractor fans. The Committee is pleased to report that the Caravan Club has re-booked for New Year. A ‘wish list’ of possible improvements were discussed which include the purchase of new covid friendly chairs, a dishwasher, handwashing facilities in the kitchen, extension to the car park by removing the grass area to the side and baby changing facilities in the mens toilet. Social media is being explored for advertising the facilities.
- b) Recreation Ground Committee – There has been no meeting. Cllr. Robinson is investigating a water leak from under the sink in the kitchen.
- c) Parish Partnership Panel – Cllr. Adams attended the virtual meeting held on the 27 January 2022. Thomas Shelly from Aylesford has been appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Partnership Panel. Details were given about upcoming meetings with the focus of the May meeting being the refuse collection service and the meeting in September will focus on upcoming events and climate change. A discussion was held about the Local Plan. T&MBC aim to use Brown Field Sites before encroaching onto Green Field Sites or Green Belt. Section 18 should be complete before March 2022 and Section 19 by May 2023. T&MBC is aiming to be carbon neutral by 2030 and are trying to ensure developers adopt such strategies in their planning applications. The proposed lorry park at Wrotham was a further point of discussion and Parish Councils were encouraged to respond to the consultation. It was agreed that the new format of these meetings is working.
- d) Standards Committee – There has been no meeting.
- e) KALC Area Committee – There has been no meeting.

159/21| OPEN SPACES:

1] Entrance to Overlea Cottage, Addington Green – Members considered a proposal to improve the access to Overlea Cottage which would cross land owned by the Parish Council. Members were in agreement that the proposed materials are not in keeping with the area and street scene and requested that the applicant reconsiders their proposal.

160/21| CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) For information:
 - 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 23 February 2022
 - 2] Joint Transportation Board – 7 March 2022
 - 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 27 January 2022
 - 4] Standards Committee – 2 March 2022
 - 5] KALC Area Meeting – 24 February 2022
- b) New requiring attention:
 - 1] T&MBC review of its performance – survey completed in between meetings

161/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

1] Cllr. Short to attend the KALC Chairmanship Networking Day on Saturday 26 February 2022

162/21| ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

1] Street Naming – side road off East Street

163/21| DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 2 February 2022 at 7pm in the Sports Pavilion Park Road, Addington.

163/21| ANY CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS:

There were none.

The meeting was closed at 20:28hrs

Signed _____ Chairman Date _____