

ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in Addington Village Hall
on the 1 December 2021 at 20:00hrs

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

In Attendance: Louise Goldsmith (Clerk), County Councillor Sarah Hohler

117/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence was received from Borough Councillor Ann Kemp and Cllrs. Mr. S. Macdonald-Gay, Mrs. L. Chalk and Mrs. P. Garrett and their reasons were accepted.

118/21] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION:

There were none.

119/21] MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

It was proposed and agreed that the Chairman, sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 3 November 2021 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

120/21] REPORTS

County Councillor – County Councillor Sarah Hohler has previously advised Members that a number of concerns have been raised about the quarry at Addington regarding operating hours, numbers of lorry movements and a suspected breach of planning control associated with a material change of use to include HGV operations. County Councillor Sarah Hohler advised that the Enforcement Officer at KCC had written to Ferns Group about these concerns and is dissatisfied with their response and will be issuing further warnings. Members of the local community have also raised concerns regarding a possible material change of use of a forestry building/yard east of Ford Lane being used for the maintenance of Ferns and associated vehicles. The Enforcement Officer will be discussing this potential breach with T&MBC and is also looking into concerns raised about HGV driver behaviours including speeding. County Councillor Sarah Hohler reported that County Councillor Harry Rayner has been negotiating with the bus company regarding a reinstatement of the TW10 bus service. The cost of reinstating the service could exceed £50 per day which is considered to be excessive. County Councillor Sarah Hohler explained that KCC is investigating a new bus strategy for the County which will look to improve home to school journeys. County Councillor Sarah Hohler advised that KCC is assessing the budget for 2022/23 and trying to find savings across all services. A planning proposal is expected for a solar park in Offham and possibly for one in Kings Hill.

b) Borough Councillor – There was no report.

20:15hrs County Councillor Sarah Hohler left the meeting

c) Kent Police – The Clerk reported that there has been a number of crimes in Ryarsh recently and that an individual, (a young male), has been identified and his image caught on numerous CCTV cameras. He has even been observed walking up and down roads just trying door handles which is causing great concern and alarm among residents. Residents in neighbouring parishes are being advised to report any suspicious behaviour or sightings to Kent Police. There has been no crime in Addington in November. The new PCSO for the area, James Robinson, is holding a crime prevention event at the Ryarsh Village Hall on Friday 3 December from 12-2pm. Cllr. Robinson reported that a caravan arrived and subsequently parked up in the village hall car park this afternoon and looks set to stay. This has been reported to Kent Police.

121/21] 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 – No update.

3] East Street planting – The Clerk is still waiting for the free pack of 105 saplings to be planted at East Street to arrive.

4] Queen's Platinum Jubilee – The working party comprising of volunteers and the village organisations met on the 15 November 2021. Subject to a planned cricket match being postponed the group is looking to

hold an afternoon fete on the recreation ground on Saturday 3 June 2022 and then a barn dance in the village hall in the evening. The Church is looking to hold an event on Addington Green on Sunday 4 June 2022. Members discussed the idea of purchasing commemorative gifts for the children in the village and it was agreed to discuss what finances could be made available at the precept setting meeting.

5] T&MBC Waste Collections – Garden waste collections and the bulky waste service are not expected to restart for some time as Urbaser is struggling to find and retain HGV drivers. The one-off garden collection service is in process. Recycling, waste and the food collection service is running to schedule.

6] Proposal to consider the renewal of the Recreation Ground Lease – The Clerk had instructed Brachers LLP to consider the renewal of the Recreation Ground Lease but is not happy with the lack of response so has contacted two alternative solicitors recommended by KALC and is waiting for a quote.

7] Meeting Dates 2022 – Members noted the dates of the meetings next year and it was proposed and **resolved** for a trial period to commence future meetings at 7pm.

8] KALC Community Awards 2022 - Members **resolved** unanimously to adopt the Scheme again and to bring nominations to the next meeting.

9] Model Code of Conduct Update – The Director of Central Services & Deputy Chief Executive recently updated Members of the Standard Committee on the Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct. This Model Code was produced by the LGA in response to a recommendation from the Committee on Standards in Public Life. A working group of Kent Secretaries has reviewed the Model Code, with a view to establishing whether it would be preferable to adopt the new Model in its entirety or whether it would be better to modify the existing Kent Code to reflect some elements of the Model. The latter of these options seems more appropriate than working on specific changes to the Kent Code. It is intended to submit a revised version of the Kent Code to the Borough Council's General Purposes Committee in January 2022, with a view to formally adopting an updated Code at the full Council meeting in February. Parish Clerks will in due course be advised of any changes to the adopted Code.

10] Historical Documentation Gift – Cllrs. Garrett and Adams recently visited former resident and Councillor Patricia Richardson who has gifted historical photos and papers to the Parish Council. Cllr. Garrett has kindly agreed to sort through the paperwork with a view to the Clerk arranging for the documents to be digitally stored.

122/21| FINANCE

a) A statement as at 1 December 2021 was circulated:

Balances as at 1 December 2021:

Unity Trust Account: £28,875.01
National Savings Account: £25,546.99

Receipts: T&MBC second half of Precept: £11,500.00

Payments:

<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Salary – November)	£ 596.00
HMRC	(Tax – November)	£149.00
Mrs L S Goldsmith	(Expenses – September)	£ 205.01
Four Seasons Gardens	(Grounds Maintenance)	£ 560.33
Day Tree Fellers	(Tree Maintenance)	£2,050.00
The Small Works Building	(Wrought iron bench works & adjustment)	£ 268.49
Total		£3,828.83

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

b) Other matters:

1] Grass cutting contract 2022 – The Clerk has obtained one quote and will attempt to obtain another quote to be considered at the next meeting.

2] Budget 2022/23 preparations - Cllrs. Garrett and Short have arranged to hold a virtual meeting with the Clerk on Tuesday 7 December 2021 at 2pm to discuss the budget and precept requirements for 2022/23 and to consider setting up direct debits for some monthly payments.

123/21 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Members noted that the member of the public who has been in touch with the Clerk about The Seekers Trust will now be attending the February meeting with representatives from The Seekers Trust.

124/21] PLANNING

a) Applications:

1] 21/02940/PDVL – 6 Hazelview, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DF

Prior Notification for residential extension (Part 1 Class A): Single storey rear extension to a depth of 3.2m, maximum roof height of 3.2m and eave height of 2.8m. *Resolved: No objection*

2] 21/02839/FL – Land known as Meadow Crest Farm, London Road, Addington

Demolition of all existing buildings and the construction of five detached and semi detached residential dwellings, together with associated parking, bin and cycle storage facilities and general pedestrian and vehicular access. *Resolved: Object. We feel that this proposal represents an overdevelopment of the site and would be disappointed to see the loss of these rural buildings. We are concerned about the increase in vehicle movements in and out of the access road on to this busy stretch of the A20 where cars are generally travelling at high speed.*

3] 21/02754/LDP – Little Oaks, Sandy Lane, Addington, ME19 5BX

Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Single storey side extension to be constructed no higher than 3 metres, within 2 metres of the neighbouring boundary, with materials to match the existing building where possible. *Resolved: No objection*

4] 21/002648/OAEA – Land Part of Wrotham Water Farm, off London Road, Wrotham

Outline Application: Construction of a secure 24 hour truck stop facility for up to 200 HGVs incorporating fuel station; amenity building of up to 1100 sqm; creation of new access to A20 via roundabout; landscaping and other associated works. *Resolved: Object. We feel that there are no exceptional circumstances for a lorry park to be built on this site in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which is at the base of escarpment of the Kent Downs. This rural area is already congested with traffic which results in vehicles travelling at speed on lanes not built for this purpose through the neighbouring villages. Accidents on either the M20 or M26 exacerbate the problem further along with regular overnight closures. In Addington we are already experiencing issues with the road surface on the A20 cracking up in parts and residents have shared their concerns with us about structural damage to their properties all due to the volume of traffic. We are also concerned about the inevitable increase in traffic from the proposed Lower Thames Crossing, the effects of which does not seem to have been considered. We remain concerned about air pollution and light pollution and question how we as a village can reduce our carbon footprint if this proposal goes ahead. We feel that there are more suitable sites further down the M20.*

b) Applications received after distribution of the agenda:

1] 21/03008/LDP – Lyndale, 11 Clearway, Addington, ME19 5BP

Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Loft conversion with dormer. *Resolved: No objection*

c) Approvals

1] TM/21/01732/FL – Graylings, Trottscliffe Road, Addington, ME19 5AZ

Demolition of existing conservatory, erection of orangery to rear and two storey side extension

d) Refusals: None to consider.

e) Withdrawn applications: None to consider.

f) Planning Appeals

1] TM/20/01876/OA – West Malling Golf Club, outline application erection of 3 dwellings – Members noted that that the applicant has lodged an appeal regarding the above proposal and the decision of T&MBC.

g) Other Matters

1] 20/00030/USEH – Mayhill House, London Road, Addington – alleged unauthorised hardstanding and caravans – Enforcement has advised the Clerk that they have no update. Members remain concerned that the site is not being monitored. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask the Borough Councillors to get involved again and find out why it seems that no enforcement action is being taken.

2] 21/00153/ADVH – The Vineyard, London Road, Addington – regarding alleged unauthorised sign/adverts – Enforcement carried out an inspection of the site today and recorded measurements of the various signage. The measurements recorded confirm that the majority of the signage falls within the provisions of Class 5 of The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007 which permits advertisements on a business premises. Planning permission is therefore not required. Enforcement were not able to confirm if the illuminated signage above the entrance door and advert on the side elevation facing the car park categorically fall within the provisions of Class 5. However, at the site visit today Enforcement were advised that all ‘Fishyard’ signage will be removed within the next few weeks as the site is reverting back to ‘The Vineyard’ restaurant and the owner is closing down the take-away service. Enforcement will monitor the site closely to see what develops with the use of the site.

3] S106 Agreements/Planning Obligations – The Clerk was asked to request a date to meet with Officers to discuss S106 agreements and planning obligations as it has been several months since such a meeting was offered and to copy in the Borough Councillors on all correspondence.

4] Concerns about the effects of silica sand – The Clerk is waiting for a response from KCC about when the last testing of air quality was carried at the quarry as Members remain concerned that there has been no testing since planning permission was granted. The Clerk has also asked KCC to confirm what the current legislation suggests about the regular testing of the air quality at quarry sites. Cllr. Short will also be raising this issue at a KALC meeting.

5] Design Codes - The Clerk has contacted the Planning Department at T&MBC and asked if they would adopt any Design Codes developed and how they would use them in determining planning proposals for Addington. A response is awaited

125/21] HIGHWAYS:

a) Highways & PROW enquiries Outstanding:

1] Enquiry 484292 – verges in St Vincents Lane are being eroded – The Clerk has not received a response from KCC about when any further works are taking place. The Clerk will ask County Councillor Sarah Hohler to find out what works have been programmed.

2] Enquiry 596236 - Park Road – hedge needs cutting - enquiry attended and works completed.

3] Enquiry 594761 – cracked carriageway at the eastern entrance to Jet Garage, job attended and works now completed

4] Footpath from East Street to Mill House Lane – the Clerk has reported a number of diseased trees adjacent to this footpath.

5] 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.

6] Enquiry 597902 – Fingerpost at junction of Mill House Lane and Trottiscliffe Road – the sign has now been refurbished

7] Enquiries 597903, 597906, 597907 – request for remedial works to a number of trees in the village – KCC is in the process of assessing. Enquiries 597904 and 597905 – KCC has assessed the trees and resolved no works are required

8] Enquiry 606806 - Several bollard lights on the A20 located on the islands near to Seven Mile Lane are not working - KCC has inspected and the batteries are not charging so will need to replace all the bollards. In the meantime, they are satisfied that the reflective stickers suffice. The Clerk was asked to contact KCC and ask that the bollards are replaced urgently as it was agreed that the reflective stickers do not provide enough protection.

b) New requiring attention

1] Fingerpost at Woodgate Road needs refurbishment

2] Aldon Lane – surface cracked and needs resurfacing

3] Addington Lane – needs resurfacing

c) Other matters:

1] School bus issues with children crossing the A20 – Members discussed the response from County Councillor Sarah Hohler and agreed that it is unlikely that the bus company will look to reinstate the bus service and that the suggested costs are prohibitive. It was agreed that the Parish Council has done as much as it can to get the TW10 bus service reinstated.

2] Highways Improvement Plan –A follow-up virtual meeting has been arranged with Claire Venner, Schemes Project Manager at KCC, for the 14 January 2022 at 10am.

126/21| REPORTS OF MEETINGS:

- a) Village Hall Committee – There has been no meeting.
- b) Recreation Ground Committee – Cllr. Robinson reported that unfortunately the Bridge Club is no longer using the pavilion which is a significant loss of income.
- c) Parish Partnership Panel – The minutes of the meeting held on the 4 November 2021 to discuss the format of future Parish Partnership meetings have not been published yet. However, T&MBC has advised that there are now three ways of requesting agenda items for future meetings. Matters can be passed to Committee Services at T&MBC by Monday 20 December 2021. These will then be placed on a forward plan to be considered by the Panel at their next meeting on Thursday 27 January 2022. The forward plan is a way of ensuring that the Panel has sufficient business to discuss during the year, thus avoiding the need to cancel meetings at short notice. It also allows for time to invite any external organisations. Secondly, Parish Councils, via the parish clerk or KALC, can ask for matters to be placed on the agenda in advance of the meeting. Only one question should be submitted by a Parish Council due to the time limitations, although this is at the discretion of the Chairman. If there is an urgent item of business that occurs subsequent to the agenda being published this can be raised under Any Other Business. Roger Dalton will be the Chairman at all meetings and Parish councils are invited to consider nominations for a parish council vice-chairman. Gabriel Crane, Road Safety co-ordinator for Kent Police explained the role of the unit and advised that there is just one Police Sergeant and 8 Police Constables for the whole of Kent. As a result, the unit only has the resources to attend road accidents where someone has been killed or seriously injured or where there is evidence of anti social behaviour- excessive speed, drink driving etc.
- d) Standards Committee – There has been no meeting.
- e) KALC Area Committee – Cllr. Short attended the AGM held virtually on the 13 November 2021 at which a presentation on Climate Change was given by Rachel Coxcoo, Director of Climate Guide. A copy of the presentation has been circulated. Members agreed that the Parish Council should consider its own carbon footprint and look to obtain some more statistics on this.

127/21| OPEN SPACES:

1] Request for a Christingle Service on Addington Green on the 24 December 2021 – The Clerk has circulated a request and risk assessment for the Church to hold a Christingle service on the village green on the 24 December 2021. The plans include a marquee, the Nativity scene, lighting and musicians. Members **resolved** to approve this request and the risk assessment provided. The Clerk will let the residents around the green know about the event.

2] Request to erect a Nativity Scene on Addington Green - It was **resolved** that the Parish Council will give permission for St Margaret's Addington to erect a nativity scene on the village green for the month of December 2021. The Clerk has circulated the risk assessment and insurance documents.

128/21| CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) For information:
 - 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 8 December 2021
 - 2] Joint Transportation Board – 7 March 2022
 - 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 27 January 2022
 - 4] Standards Committee – 11 January 2022
 - 5] KALC Area Meeting – 9 December 2021 AGM:
- b) On circulation (electronically): -

1] Parish News – November 2021

c) New requiring attention:

1] Library Service Engagement – KCC is consulting on the current library service and asking residents for their views on how they would like to see it develop. The consultation closes on the 28 February 2022.

2] South East Water Engagement - a consultation on the water industry's first 25 Year Environment Plan. South East Water would like to hear from local residents and council members about their feedback on our plan. The consultation closes on the 7 January 2022.

129/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

130/21] ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

1] Climate Change and reducing our carbon footprint

131/21] DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 5 January 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall Park Road, Addington.

132/21] ANY CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS:

There were none.

The meeting was closed at 21:15 hrs

Signed _____ Chairman Date _____