

ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in the Pavilion, Park Road
held on Wednesday 7 September 2022 at 19:00hrs

Present: Cllr. Mr. S. Macdonald-Gay – Chairman for this meeting , Cllrs. Mrs. A. Adams, Mrs. L. Chalk, (arrived 19:12hrs), Mr. P. Robinson,

In Attendance: Louise Goldsmith (Clerk), Borough Councillor Ann Kemp,
Nick Scott and Brian Taylor from the Village Hall Committee

65/22] APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence was received from County Councillor Sarah Hohler, Borough Councillor Piers Montague and Councillors Garrett and Short and the reasons for absence were accepted.

66/22] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION:

None received.

67/22] MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

It was proposed and **resolved** that the Chairman, sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 6 July 2022 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

68/22 OPEN SESSION:

Mr. Nick Scott and Brian Taylor attended the meeting on behalf of the Addington Village Hall Committee and updated Members on the project to install solar panels on the village hall. T&MBC has teamed up with Solar Together and by purchasing panels in bulk is able to offer community venues discounted solar panel systems. A site meeting took place with representatives from Solar Together. It is proposed to install 40 panels on the south facing roof slope and provide a battery pack up. The projected savings makes the project financially viable and there could be an opportunity to share the supply with the pavilion. The cost of installing the scheme is £22,954.00 and Mr. Scott explained that the Village Hall Committee can find funds of £14,954.00 but would like the Parish Council to assist by providing a contribution of £5,000.00 this financial year with a further donation of £3,000.00 next year.

19:08hrs Nick Scott and Brian Taylor left the meeting

69/22] REPORTS

a) County Councillor – County Councillor Sarah Hohler advised that KCC is issuing warnings about a Citizens Advice scam. KCC Officers have been working hard with bus companies over the summer to secure routes to schools. Unfortunately, the bus company, Arriva, will be striking on the 5, 16, 20 and 30 September 2022 if an agreement on pay is not reached. It is recognised that this will be very inconvenient for parents and children and it is likely that buses run by different operators will already be full. The better news is that those routes which KCC consulted on ending as they were being subsidised, notably the 58, will run until further notice. Operators will accept Kent Travel Saver and other bus passes. KCC has secured some emergency funding and is considering how this could be used. Addington Lane, Trottscliffe, to the M20 overbridge will be closed for re-surfacing until Wednesday 7 September 2022. KCC has received over 11,000 responses to a recent consultation on the household waste sites. 95% of respondents said they were either satisfied or extremely satisfied with the new booking arrangements. Respondents also stated that they were pleased bookings can now be made on the same day and 55% had taken advantage of this new facility. KCC is trialling a new initiative to provide extra help for the elderly, disabled and pregnant unloading their rubbish. There is now an option on the booking form for people to state that they need help. KCC is also trialling a furniture disposal initiative in October 2022 in conjunction with ‘Making a Difference’. KCC’s Waste Management Team has been shortlisted out of 307 local authorities as ‘Best Team of the Year’ by the Local Authority Advisory Committee. KCC has been asking the public for their ideas on energy saving at home. Further advice and ways to ask for help will follow. The Local Government Association is calling on the Government to

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ban HGV drivers from using car sat navigation systems as they do not give warnings about the heights of bridges, narrow roads and roads that are just unsuitable for HGVs.

County Councillor Sarah Hohler responded to concerns about recent activities at Addington Quarry stating that KCC is investigating a number of breaches of planning.

b) Borough Councillor – Borough Councillor Ann Kemp advised Members that Cabinet at T&MBC is meeting this evening and should resolve that the Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation commences next week. Cabinet will also be making a decision about the future of the bulky waste service. T&MBC has launched a new webpage on climate change which contains information about what T&MBC is doing about climate change and also contains helpful suggestions for parishes. There has been a lot of staff changes in the Planning Department which has affected the service recently but hopefully a new recruitment drive will bring in new officers. Matthew Scott, The Crime Commissioner is due to attend the next Parish Partnership Panel Meeting to discuss rural policing. T&MBC has launched a 12 month pilot scheme with an enforcement company to clamp down on the dropping of litter. Specialist enforcement officers will be out across the borough targeting litter and fly tipping hotspots using body-worn cameras to capture evidence. These enforcement teams will be able to issue on-the-spot fixed penalties. The pilot scheme is being delivered at zero cost to the borough. The enforcement company will receive income from the fixed penalty notices.

19:15hrs Borough Councillor Ann Kemp left the meeting.

c) Kent Police – PCSO James Robinson has advised the Clerk of the following incidents. On the 3 August 2022 there was a theft of fuel from the Jet Garage on London Road. On the 7 August 2022 there was an attempted burglary at the recreation ground, Park Road whereby suspects cut locks on a shipping container.

70/22] CLERKS REPORT/PAST MATTER (Information purposes only)

- 1] Monthly check of the defibrillator – The Clerk advised Members that both of the defibrillators in the village have been checked this month and an update provided on WebNos.
- 2] CiLCA -The Clerk has now qualified.

71/22] PLANNING

a) Applications:

- 1] 22/01749/FL - 2 School Row, Addington Green, Addington, ME19 5BD

Infill existing porch window and make minor external alterations, extend existing rear flat roofed extension, lower flat height roof, add a glazed rooflight and lower internal ground floor level.

RESOLVED: No objection.

- 2] 22/01575/FL – The Kindlings, London Road, Addington, ME19 5DA

Erection of detached garage and roof alterations to include hip to gable conversion, addition of front and rear dormers and velux windows.

RESOLVED: We are concerned about projection of the proposed building and the effect this will have on the street scene.

- 3] 22/01624/FL – New Barn, Addington Green, Addington, ME19 5BE

Proposed porch, minor rear extensions and fenestration changes. Proposed swimming pool and plant room building.

RESOLVED: No objection.

b) Approvals

- 1] 22/01101/FL - Sandbanks, East Street, Addington, ME19 5DH

Demolition and removal of detached double garage, erection of a two storey side extension and enlargement of rear garden room.

c) Refusals

None to consider.

d) Non-determination appeal

- 1] TM/22/00628/FL – Westbank. London Road, Addington, ME19 5PL

Two storey side extension, alterations to roof including dormer windows and alterations to porch roof.

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e) Planning Appeals

None to consider.

f) Other Planning Issues:

- 1] 20/00030/USEH – Mayhill House, London Road, Addington – alleged unauthorised hardstanding and caravans – Enforcement has advised that the static unit has now been removed. Enforcement is still waiting for the planning agent to advise when a planning proposal is to be submitted for the chalet building and parcel of land which is being used to store 5/6 trailers
- 2] 22/002222/TPOT - Land to the side of the Jet Garage, London Road – The Clerk had received reports of works at the land to the side of the Jet Garage as well as evidence of a new roadway. Enforcement has visited the site and issued an Article Four Direction and issued instructions that no further works are carried out other than the clearing of rubbish from the site. There is evidence of road stone on the site but this has not been spread yet. Enforcement is due to meet with the owner of the site next week.

72/22 RESOLUTIONS

1. **Policies**

RESOLVED: To adopt a revised Complaints Policy and Equality & Diversity Policy

2. **Proposal to make a financial contribution to the village hall committee for a scheme to install solar panels on the village hall**

RESOLVED: To make a donation of £5000.00 this financial year and to look favourably upon contributing a further £3000.00 in the next financial year.

3. **Financial:**

- a) To note the completion of the limited assurance review for the year ending 31 March 2022

Members were pleased to note that the External Auditor has completed the review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) and have concluded that the information is in accordance with Proper Practices and that no other matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

- b) Notice of Conclusion of Audit

The Clerk has arranged for the Notice of Conclusion of the Audit to be displayed on the website and noticeboard along with the relevant sections of the AGAR.

- c) Information Commissioner – Data Protection Renewal

RESOLVED: The Clerk to renew the registration with the ICO and pay the annual data protection fee of £40.00

- d) Proposal to remain ‘opted in’ to the central procurement regime managed by SAAA

RESOLVED: To remain ‘opted in’ to the central procurement regime managed by SAAA.

- e) To receive the monthly review of the accounts and budget

Members noted the review of the accounts and budget circulated by the Clerk. No further action required.

- f) To approve the Financial Statement and make arrangements for authorisation

- g) **RESOLVED: To make the above payments electronically and to be authorised online by Cllrs. Short and Chalk**

- h) Action Plan – to consider a draft Action Plan

Members considered a draft Action Plan circulated by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to update the plan and following approval at the next meeting look to share/consult with residents.

Balances as at 7 September 2022:

Unity Trust Account: £16,936.04

National Savings Account: £25,549.55

Receipts: VAT Refund: £1598.98

Payments:

| <u>Supplier</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------------|---|------------------|
| Mrs L S Goldsmith | (Salary – August) | £625.60 |
| HMRC | (Tax – August) | £156.40 |
| Mrs L S Goldsmith | (Expenses –including email account and Zoom for August) | £210.33 |
| Gel Creative | (Monthly website maintenance) | £100.00 |
| Viking | (Ink) | £103.22 |
| Four Seasons | (Grounds Maintenance July/Aug) | £664.30 |
| SLCC | (50% CiLCA workshop) | £180.00 |
| SLCC | (Principal Membership) | £ 45.83 |
| PKF Littlejohn | (Limited Assurance Review) | |
| £240.00 | | |
| Total | | £2,325.68 |

73/22] PARISH MATTERS:

1] **Highways:**

a) **Highways & PROW enquiries Outstanding:**

1] Enquiry 606806 - Several bollard lights on the A20 located on the islands near to Seven Mile Lane are not working – further works awaited. The Clerk will ask County Councillor Sarah Hohler for assistance in getting this long standing fault resolved.

2] Enquiry 624014 – flooding on carriageway near to Hernewell Farm – KCC has attended and works now programmed.

3] Enquiry 641195 – hedge blocking light in East Street

b) **New requiring attention:**

1] The Clerk to find out why the A20 was recently closed between Trottscliffe Road and the Mitsubishi garage but there was no evidence of any works taking place. The closure caused unnecessary local disruption.

c) **Highways Improvement Plan:** Members noted the information recently circulated on the re-organisation of KCC Highways. An update on the action points in the Highways Improvement Plan is awaited.

2] **Renewal Recreation Ground Lease:** The Clerk has been in contact with Mariam Baraki from Wellers Law Group and hopefully has found the transfer documents needed to assist with ensuring that the pockets of land in question have all been registered. An amended lease and plan will then be issued.

3] **Local Plan Regulation 18:** Members noted that T&MBC will start the consultation on the Local Plan Regulation 18 next week. Cllr. Adams advised that at the Parish Partnership Panel Meeting officers from T&MBC were encouraging parishes and residents to view the documents and respond.

4] **Open Spaces:** The height restriction barrier at the entrance to the village hall was recently damaged by a Tesco delivery van. The bottom bar has deflected upwards and the top locking rod securing bracket has bent. The damage needs to be repaired and Jacksons have suggested that installing a new extended locking rod would not solve the problem but fitting an angle bracket to the closure post above the gate to prevent the gate from being lifted out of the rod would be the preferred option. Cllr. Robinson explained that Jacksons have provided a quote of £2,280.39 for the repairs and required additional works. Plexus, the legal representative for Tescos, has confirmed that they have been appointed to deal with this matter

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and have offered to instruct their own building repair team to inspect and repair the damage at no cost of the Parish Council or to consider alternative quotes. Cllr. Robinson is negotiating with Plexus and will report back at the next meeting. Cllr. Chalk advised that the trees are overhanging the wrought iron bench on the village green at East Street North and that the pedestrian gate needs a new post on the opening.

74/22] REPRESENTATION AT MEETINGS:

- a) **Village Hall Committee** – Cllr. Chalk advised that the Village Hall Committee is holding another barn dance on Saturday 1 October 2022 following the success of the one held for the Platinum Jubilee.
- b) **Recreation Ground Committee** – Cllr. Robinson advised that T&MBC recently carried out the annual hygiene inspection and that the pavilion has been awarded a 5 star food hygiene certificate. The committee has repaired a few roof tiles. Disappointment was expressed about the recent attempted break-in. Cllr. Robinson advised that the defibrillator is working and that the committee is looking to undertake some First Aid Training, Cllr. Robinson is continuing with his campaign for organisations like the cricket club to be eligible to be classified as a ‘Community Amateur Sports Club’ which would make them exempt from the restrictions on the use of red diesel.
- c) **Parish Partnership Panel** – Cllr. Adams attended the meeting held on the 1 September 2022 and reported that there has been a number of complaints about small electrical items, batteries etc. not being collected. T&MBC confirmed that they should be collected but that they were aware some of the refuse lorries do not have space to carry them. KALC have complained that money from the Shared Prosperity Fund has mostly gone to the larger areas and not the Parishes. T&MBC received £1m from the Fund which has mostly gone to Tonbridge with a small amount going to Snodland and East Malling where they have known anti-social behaviour problems. T&MBC advised that 300 sites have been put forward in the ‘call for sites’ and suggested that each parish looks at the sites in their areas and checks that the information provided is correct. T&MBC need to build 15,941 homes by 2040.
- d) **Standards Committee** – There has been no meeting.
- e) **KALC Area Committee** – The minutes of the meeting held on the 21 July 2022 have been circulated.

75/22] CORRESPONDENCE/CONSULTATIONS

- a) For information:
 - 1] Area 2 Planning Committee – 21 September 2022
 - 2] Joint Transportation Board – 19 September 2022
 - 3] Parish Partnership Panel – 1 September 2022
 - 4] Standards Committee – 23 January 2023
 - 5] KALC Area Meeting – 13 October 2022
- b) **New requiring attention:**
 - 1] KCC Budget Consultation 2023-2024 – noted.

76/22] ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

Planting of wild flower meadows.

77/22] DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on the 5 October 2022 at 7pm in the Sports Pavilion Park Road, Addington.

78/22] ANY CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS:

There were none to consider

With no further business to transact the meeting was closed at 20:21hrs

Signed _____ Chairman Date _____

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