# **ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Cllr Ann Adams

Cllr Dominic Tighe

# Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Addington Village Hall Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllr Lorna Chalk (Chair)

Cllr Peter Robinson

Cllr Matt Coles

Steve Hill - Clerk

Public – 0

# 24/147 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Patricia Garrett due to holiday – accepted.

Cllr Sarah Hohler (KCC) due to travel restrictions - accepted.

Cllr Martin Coffin (TMBC) due to previous engagements – accepted.

# 24/148 Declarations of Interest/Request for Dispensation

None declared.

# 24/149 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January Parish Council Meeting.

The minutes were proposed and **resolved** that the Chairman signs the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

#### 24/150 Open Public Session

No members of the public were present.

# 24/151 Report from Borough Councillors & County Councillors

There were no reports received.

#### 24/152 Crime Report

Between 12:00 on Tuesday 28th of January and 11:58 on Thursday 30th of January in London Road. Somebody stole the front number plate from a Mercedes C63 AMG parked in the road.

Crime Report No. 46/17121/25 - Posted 31/01/2025

No other crimes were reported to Police.

#### 24/153 Clerks Report (for information only)

To acknowledge closed actions from previous meeting and updates from previous meeting.

- 1) Ancient Oak Tree The application to TMBC to reduce crown to approx. 10.0 m final height, with a proportional lateral reduction to maintain and balanced overall canopy was resubmitted, and it is now 24/01973/PA awaiting decision in planning.
- 2) Ancient Oak Tree Two quotes from registered Arborist have been received to undertake the reduction of Crown, a third quote will be obtained to allow Cllr to decide once TMBC is approved.
- 3) **MOTO Appeal** Confirmed with Parish Alliance that APC would pay the £1,459. To date APC has paid £967.40 and this month we have been asked to pay a further £75.72 invoice presented in finance section.

- 4) Meeting with Ian of FERNS: Meeting took place 18<sup>th</sup> November to discuss the extension of Village Hall car Park. Ferns will undertake a tree report of the area and look at options, prepared to offer land to Parish as lease agreement for £1.00 PA. Details to follow from FERNS. Update No further direct contact with the Clerk but work has begun to clear some diseased trees in the area.
- 5) **National Highways:** advised of dead trees in East Street by bridge, Clerk was informed they would be replaced, work started on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February and are now complete.
- 6) **E-**Newsletter draft has been updated and is in the process of being completed once addition information is added. Cllrs to review at meeting.
- 7) **UTB Form completed for addition signatory** Dominic Tighe application has been made to UTB but is still outstanding.
- 8) **The new @addington-pc.gov.uk -** accounts have been created and the Parish will begin to use them once all Cllrs are up and working, target date March 2025.

#### 24/154 Planning

#### a. Applications:

24/01973/PA Tree Preservation Order Consent

Location: ADDINGTON GREEN, ADDINGTON, West Malling

**Proposal:** 1 x English Oak (Quercus Robur) located on the village green, Addington, Kent ME19 5B Reduce crown to approx. 10.0 m final height, with a proportional lateral reduction to maintain a balanced overall canopy. Prune to appropriate pruning points as per BS:3998 standards where

possible. T1 of Tree Preservation Order

Case Officer: Edward Jones

https://planning.agileapplications.co.uk/tmbc/application-details/159159

Resolved: No objections.

**25/00105/PA** Submission of Details Reserved by Condition Access Building Contractors Ltd **Location:** DEVELOPMENT SITE AT SHAW HILL HOUSE, ALDON LANE, ADDINGTON, ,

**Proposal:** Details of condition 11(biodiversity and planting management plan) pursuant to planning permission TM/22/01915/FL (Conversion of the Building from Nine (9) Residential Units into Four (4) Dwellinghouses, Demolition of Ancillary Outbuilding and Creation of a Detached Dwelling with associated parking, landscaping and access alterations.)

Case Officer: Susan Field

https://planning.agileapplications.co.uk/tmbc/application-details/159389

Resolved: No comments.

# **25/00128/PA** Submission of Details Reserved by Condition

**Location:** LAND KNOWN AS MEADOW CREST FARM, LONDON ROAD, Addington, West Malling **Proposal:** Details of condition 8 (verification report) and 9 (remediation strategy) pursuant to planning permission TM23/00623/FL (Section 73 Application to vary Condition 2 (Plans List) of planning permission TM/22/00769/FL (Part demolition and conversion of part of the existing agricultural building into 4 residential properties and the construction of a detached 2 bedroom dwelling, with associated parking facilities and bin storage), to allow for revisions to plot 5)

Case Officer: Susan Field

https://planning.agileapplications.co.uk/tmbc/application-details/159414

Resolved: Unable to find supporting documents so no informed comment possible.

- b. **Approvals:** None to consider.
- c. **Refusals:** None to consider.
- d. Applications withdrawn: None to consider.
- e. Appeals: None to consider.

#### f. Other Planning Issues:

**20/00030/USEH** – Mayhill House, London Road, Addington – alleged unauthorised hardstanding and caravans.

**TMBC Reply:** A further site inspection needs to be undertaken to determine if any breach is now occurring. This will be undertaken in the next few weeks. TMBC have informed APC that a meeting will take place with the owner and agent on 12th February 2024 to discuss the site.

**22/00222/TPOT** – ancient woodland, land east of B2016: The Case Officer has been trying to get some information from the Forestry Commission about what should be planted but is still awaiting a response. Enforcement is now considering serving a replanting Notice.

**TMBC most recent Reply**: The tree replacement Notice is being prepared; a draft Notice has been prepared and this is being checked.

**23/00200/USEM** Aldon Lane: Enforcement have contacted the owner and a response is awaited. **TMBC Reply:** Site has been inspected and no evidence of residential occupation has been found. Contact has been made with the owner's agent and a further site meeting is being arranged. **TMBC most recent reply:** A meeting with the owner is hoped to be undertaken on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

## 24/155 Resolutions

- 1. Cllrs were unable to resolve until conformation from Capel Groundcare that they can continue with grass cutting. Alternative quotes will be obtained.
- 2. **Resolved** Cllrs agreed future Playground Inspection will be undertaken by Capel Groundcare and these will be completed in March & September.
- 3. **Resolved** Cllrs agreed the bollard on Village Green will be replaced with identical post in keeping with the Village Green and the street scene as it is a conservation area.
- 4. Tree Wardens report and trees at junction of East Street and Trottiscliffe Road Cllrs were unable to resolve until the ownership and responsibility of land concerned is clarified with KCC.

#### 24/156 Financial Resolutions

a. Financial statement and bank reconciliation was received and approved by councillors. Bank reconciliation statement signed by Cllr Lorna Chalk (Chair) and Cllr Peter Robinson.

#### Balances as of 31st January 2025:

Unity Trust Current Account: £ 3,892.58
Unity Trust Savings Account: £ 25,010.60
UTB Total Balance: £ 28,903.18

b. To authorise payments made out of and at meeting.

#### Payments made out of meeting:

UTB Ref:	Details	Amount	VAT*	Total	Auth
15/01/25	Netwise Email Inv 3947	168.00	33.60	201.60	PR & PG
21/01/25	Netwise Addington Domain Name Inv 3946	10.00	2.00	12.00	PR & PG
23/01/25	HMRC SDDS - PAYE	195.18		195.18	DD
27/01/25	Office Allowances	76.66		76.66	SO
27/01/25	S Hill – January Salary				SO
31/01/25	UTB Service Charge	6.00		6.00	DD

<sup>\*</sup> VAT to be reclaimed.

Payments for authorising at meeting:

UTB Ref:	Details	Amount	VAT*	Total	Auth
	S Hill – Expenses February 2025	77.45	7.84	85.29	PR & LC
	Gel WEB Maintenance January 2025 21977	150.00		150.00	PR & LC
	Capel Groundcare – January 2024	197.33	39.47	236.80	PR & LC
	MOTO Invoice - January	75.72		75.72	PR & LC
	KALC – Nuts and Bolts of Parish Councils	50.00	10.00	60.00	PR & LC
	Whitehead Monckton - Lease Village Hall	469.17	93.83	563.00	PR & LC
TOTAL		1019.67	151.14	1170.81	

<sup>\*</sup> VAT to be reclaimed

Cllrs Lorna Chalk and Peter Robinson agreed to sign UTB payment authorisations.

c. Cllrs agreed to review the latest NALC version of Financial Regulations as comparison to current version in use at Addington PC. Review of documents to take place at March Parish meeting.

# 24/157 Parish Matters

- 1. **Highways:** St Vincents Road and Park Road, which lead to the Addington Village Hall, hedge rows are in the process of being trimmed back as request by APC. The trench that has re-appeared on the London Road close to the junction with Ford Lane, APC will report to KCC for repair again. It was agreed to arrange the next HIP meeting late March. Sign on London Road eastly direction showing Clearway junction approaching on left needs to be checked if re-positioned.
- 2. **Recreation Ground and Village Hall Car Park:** FERNS have begun to investigate the area removing self-seeded trees and checking for trees of value to the community before any work starts, Clerk to contact Ferns for update and plan of works.
- 3. **VE Day 80 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025** The Village Hall has been booked in preparation for the event and the Church Warden is proposing to arrange activities along with the Cricket Club on the day.
- 4. **Village Green:** Oak Tree request has been made to TMBC 24/01973/PA Awaiting decision. The broken post will be replaced. Moles on the Village Green are causing a problem, Cllrs are reluctant to terminate for humane reasons and as they will return, it was suggested that raking and removing the hills is the best option especially as there is no budget allocated.
- 5. **LEVI Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure** Project Details. The Parish Council feel that an ideal place for a new charge point location would be at the Village Hall and Recreation Grounds in Park Road ME19 5BQ. The Clerk has now added a location request in the Village Hall Car Park. With the mix of users to these facilities it would provide and ideal location for people using both the Village Hall and the recreation grounds, which includes the Nursery users. A vehicle can be topped up while attending one of these venues and would provide a perfect opportunity that can be shared within the community.
- 6. Woodland Pursue Ancient Woodland replanting of hogging, no update received from TMBC.
- 7. **Open Spaces:** Trees at East Street Update: National Highways have removed dead trees and planted new laurels.
  - The Tree Wardens report and recommendations were discussed and considered, and it was agreed the whole of St. Vincents Lane and Park Road should be inspected as part of the HIPs survey in addition to the annual tree inspection carried out in August\September of each year.
- 8. **Parish e-newsletter** The final content was considered and agreed for the Winter Newsletter and will be sent to residents and other interested parties.
- 9. **PROW** Clerk has contacted FERNS to request that when they are doing their archaeological surveys that they always provide/maintain a temporary alternative route for walkers as APC has received several emails of complaint. KCC have also been in contact with FERNS asking them to consider residents wishes.

Initials .....

- 10. UTB An additional authorising councillor Dominic Tighe has been added to account.
- 11. **Media and Future communications** Cllrs discussed the best way forward to raise the profile of Addington Parish and the responsibilities it has to the residents. Notice Boards, Website and Facebooks will be updated in the coming months
- 12. **Climate Change** The Addington Village Cricket Club received an award for Tackling Climate Change 2024.

# 24/158 Reports from Committees and Representatives on other bodies:

- a. Village Hall No update.
- b. **Recreation Grounds** Looking at ways to encourage training sessions on the out-door gym and APC are looking at ways to offer training sessions during the summer.
- c. **Standards Committee** No meeting.
- d. KALC Area Committee No update.
- e. **Parish Partnership Panel** No update.

#### 24/159 Correspondence/Consultation

Complaints received regarding coppicing in Sandy Lane, Addington.

The Planning Enforcement at TMBC were contacted and APC received the following statement: *Having checked our records I can see that a felling licence has been issued by the Forestry Commission for 85% of the compartment to be coppiced. I am contacting the Commission to check that the work is being undertaken in accordance with that Licence.* 

The Church Warden has asked if he can send community events to the Clerk to be forwarded to the APC residents email distribution list, which was agreed by Cllrs. APC will also add a list of more local organisations to its WEB Page and Newsletter with details giving details of any current activities.

#### 24/160 Items for Next Meeting.

- Prepare HIP requirements
- Pursue the Woodland replanting of hogging (type one hardcore).
- Media and future communications Possible use of Addington Facebook Page.
- Review Financial Regulations Policy

# 24/161 Closed Session – Discuss confidential matters

There were none to consider.

# 24/162 Close of Meeting

With no further business the meeting was closed at 08.54pm

# 24/163 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Signed	Chairman	Date