

Orlestone Parish Council

Meeting held at the Victory Hall on 3rd July 2006

Present: Andrew MacBean (in the Chair), Anita Hollowday, Adam Colton, Sebastian Barrow, David White, and the Clerk.

Also Present: County Councillor Mike Angell and five members of the public.

Apologies: Mandy Mount, George Sparks, Keith Taylor, Ian Kirkland and Ward Councillor Peter Davison.

Minutes of meeting held on 12th June: These were approved.

Councillors' Interests: None declared.

Matters arising

(a) **Dog fouling problem:** the situation seemed to have improved.

(b) **Provision of new allotments:** three more residents had expressed an interest in having an allotment. However, this was still not sufficient to justify the cost of acquiring suitable land. It was agreed not to proceed further with this unless demand was expressed by additional residents.

(c) **School Governors' Report:** the new Chairman of Hamstreet School had been invited to the meeting but did not attend.

Finance

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| <u>Current Account</u> | Balance 30th May | | 10,168.42 |
| | | Add | Nil |
| | Less | Newsletter | 134.00 |
| | | D.Cardno | 25.00 |
| | | Church of GS | 10.00 |
| | Balance 23rd June | | 9,999.42 |

Cheques outstanding: Victory Hall 24.00; Friends of St Mary's 25.00; Land Registry 30.00;

Cheques to approve: Care Signs (Notice Board Maps) 152.75; Church of GS 10.00; D.Cardno 25; Colin Howland (Street Cleaner) 394.40; Clerk 1,203.78(= 1864.93)

Deposit Account

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| | Balance 30th May | | 56.38 |
| | | Add | Interest |
| | | | 0.59 |
| | Balance 14th June | | 56.97 |

Orlestone Parish Council No.2 Account

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Balance 30th May | | 5,126.78 |
| | Add | ABC Drainage Grant | 10,000.00 |
| | Balance 23rd June | | 15,126.78 |

Total Balance after cheques: 8,134.49 + 56.97 + 15,126.78 = 23,318.24

OPC Youth Club Account

| | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| | Balance 1st June | | 2,941.63 |
|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------------|

Annual Return

This had been approved by the auditor. The return would be displayed on the notice board until August.

John Lancaster

The Chairman reported that the previous Chairman of OPC, John Lancaster, had passed away recently. It was agreed to mark his very significant contribution to the village of Hamstreet by making a donation in his memory to the Friends of St Mary's Church, as his family had requested. It was agreed to give £200 and the cheque was approved.

Planning

06/00834/AS Old Schoolhouse. Takeaway and delivery service. Refused by ABC for two reasons:

1. The provision of a take-away and delivery service would result in increased traffic and activity intensifying noise and disturbance to local residents from pedestrians and car borne customers to the detriment of neighbouring residential amenity.
2. Parking provision for this development is insufficient in the vicinity of the site and would be likely to result in illegal parking on the highway to the detriment of highway safety.

AC expressed his disappointment at the decision.

The permission for staff accommodation had not yet been resolved.

Notice of addition of antenna to Arqiva transmitting Station, Fairfield Terrace.

This was noted but OPC had already established that neither ABC nor OPC were able to influence decisions with regard to existing masts.

Police Matters: Community Warden

OPC had been informed that there was a new warden from 26th June to replace Graeme Whittington. His name is Paul Jarman and he retains the same mobile number as Graeme: 07 917 283 809.

Suspicious Vehicles

The Chairman asked people to be aware of any suspicious vehicles visiting the village, as there had been some concerns raised recently about possible drug use in the village.

Sports and Leisure

MUGA: This was now being used much more comprehensively by tennis, netball and football.

Floodlighting: The most desirable tender had been selected and was approved by OPC. The order would be placed as soon as possible. VAT could be reclaimed on just over £6,000 of the £18,946.78 total cost.

Drainage of Pound Lees: A small amount of work was still needed to complete the works. The new grass was growing well, but more rain was needed.

Pavilion: AH expected that a new lottery grant soon to be launched would be appropriate for this project.

Tennis Club: social play had restarted twice a week. It was hoped the times to be agreed with HDSL A would be Sunday 10am-Noon and Wednesday 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Any competent player was welcome to attend these sessions to see whether they would like to

join the club. Uptake of the coaching was promising. It was agreed that it should be called Hamstreet & District Tennis Club.

Highways and Drainage

Flooding: some blocked gulleys had resulted in some flooding in the Street and Bournewood recently. The Chairman said these were being investigated, but flash floods were inevitable during heavy summer thunderstorms.

Car park signs: it was agreed to request sign from the crossroads to the car park to encourage its use.

Hedges: it was agreed that two householders be asked to cut back their hedges.

Bus Stop on Ashford Road by Bankside: no progress to date.

School Parking: five residents of St Mary's Close came to complain about the problems the parking of the school was causing in their road. This included broken water mains, broken wing mirrors and personal abuse when polite requests were made to move cars blocking the road. Access for emergency and delivery vehicles was impossible at school drop-off and pick-up times. Their complaints would be passed on to Highways at the meeting outside the school that week, and OPC would feedback any outcomes to the residents. County Councillor Mike Angell asked them to contact him direct by e mail with their specific concerns and suggestions for solutions on: Mike.angell@kent.gov.uk

Administration: the risk assessment was almost complete.

Towards 2010: MA circulated this KCC publication and asked for feedback.

Communications:

Newsletter: the next issue would be going to the printers soon.

Notice Boards: the new maps were in place. The possibility of making a more decorative map incorporating local history was discussed and it was agreed that AC, AH and the Clerk would look into it in more detail. AC agreed to look after the notice-boards instead of the Clerk.

Welcome Pack: SB would provide DW with some amendments to the Welcome Pack.

Fireworks: the bank account had been opened and the funds deposited.

Footpaths

(a) Byway through Orlestone Forest: no response had yet been received from Woodchurch and Shadoxhurst.

(b) AC had contacted Sustrans again about the possibility of improvements to the cycle routes in the village.

(c) AC also asked when the footpath from Orlestone View would be constructed. It was agreed to write to Highways to ask them when this should be done.

ABC Building Design Award: AH and the Clerk had put an application in for this.

Kent Village of the Year: the second round judges had visited the village. AH had met with them to answer their questions.

St Mary's Churchyard: the maintenance of this was discussed again.

Correspondence:

Letter from resident of Lancaster Close re. ball games: this was discussed again and it was confirmed that a sign should go up in the play area forbidding ball games. It was agreed to reply to the resident pointing out that OPC could not intervene in disputes between neighbours. KT had suggested that the residents of Lancaster Close could form a Residents Association.

Correspondence:

ABC Mailing; Elbe catalogue; Notice from ABC Housing of water main renewal of Cotton Hill Walk; Standards Committee notice and agenda; KAPC Ashford Area Committee minutes; KAPC Mailing; Interaction; BAGO catalogue; new Kent Design Guide available; Annual Return from Auditor; Fieldwork (CPRE); Routine audit of membership interest forms; Towards 2010 consultation; Letter from KCC re. new warden; Use your paths challenge; Oast to Coast; Kent PROW Definitive modification order, Kingsnorth.

Any Other Business

(a) Housing Needs Survey: it was agreed to enquire when the results of this would arrive.

(b) Business Premises in the village: AC asked whether OPC had a policy of supporting businesses in the village. He was assured that they do.

Date of next Meeting: Monday 7th August at 7.30pm Victory Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

**Please note change of address of the Clerk from 1st August:
38, Albert Road, Ashford, Kent. TN24 8NX Tel 01233 664673**