

# **Orlestone Parish Council**

## **Meeting held at the Victory Hall on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2005**

**Present:** Andrew MacBean (in the Chair), Ian Kirkland, Mandy Mount, George Sparks, Keith Taylor and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Anita Hollowday, David White, Paul Settle, Sebastian Barrow, County Councillor Mike Angell and Ward Councillor Peter Davison.

**Also Present:** Ward Councillor George Weller

**Minutes of Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2005:** These were approved.

### **Councillors' Interests**

None.

### **Matters arising**

**(a) Rubbish in The Street:** The situation had improved, but would be monitored.

### **Finance**

#### **Current Account**

Balance 13 <sup>th</sup> October	9,804.48
Add Allotment rents 50.00	
Less Newsletter Printing 134.00; Victory Hall Hire 12.00; Church of Good Shepherd 10.00.	
Balance 11 <sup>th</sup> November	9,698.48
Cheques to approve:	
Doug Cardno 25.00; Victory Hall Funds 12.00.	

#### **Deposit Account**

Balance on 14 <sup>th</sup> October	11,222.69
Add Interest	20.97
Balance on 14 <sup>th</sup> November	11,243.66

#### **Orlestone Parish Council No.2 Account**

Balance 13 <sup>th</sup> October	11,949.66
Less Brett Waste Management Ltd 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Funding £1,100	£1,100
Balance 11 <sup>th</sup> November	10,849.66

Cheque to approve: Pilcher (Earthworks) £5,740.53

Cheque deposited 18/11/05: Brett Environmental Trust Ltd £10,000

£7,782.61 Stage 4 Payment MUGA (inclusive of VAT) not yet made

Balance remaining : 2.5% retention, due in 6 months £1,687.89 incl. VAT.

#### **OPC Youth Club Account**

Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> September	3,913.90
Quarterly Statements only	

### **Budget 2006-7**

The budget was agreed, with an increase of the precept of about 10%. This increase was necessary because of the forecast increase in Street Cleaning, Audit Fee, Clerk's Salary,

Property Maintenance and Insurance. The precept had not been increased the previous year. It was pointed out that the precept needed to be increased due to the increasing numbers of new homes in the Parish .

### **Planning**

One letter had been received in favour of the application to extend the surgery.

A letter had been received from Ashford Primary Care Trust in reply to the letter sent by the chairman the previous month, saying they were currently working with the surgery to explore what future services would be provided by them and what additional space would be required.

### **Police Matters**

#### **Speedwatch**

It was agreed not to proceed with the new scheme.

#### **Quarterly Police Forum**

Cllr Sparks was present at this meeting in Tenterden. It had been well supported and informative with regard to the new arrangements for local policing.

#### **Re-organisation of Police Services**

It was agreed to write to Kent Police supporting them in their aim to remain independent.

### **Sports and Leisure**

#### **(i) MUGA**

HDSL A were planning a maintenance programme.

#### **(ii) Floodlighting**

The works had not gone ahead because the contractor's scheme did not conform with the planning permission. New estimates were being sought and it was likely the cost would be more than the previous estimate.

#### **(iii) Drainage to Pound Lees**

It was likely that there would be additional costs for this project as the ABC surveyor had said that the spoil would have to be removed from site. The local Environment Agency Officer had approved the scheme; however in view of ABC Engineer's doubts it was likely that this approval would be revoked. Cllr Weller offered to try and convene an extra meeting of the ABC Grants Committee so that the matter of the ABC grant could be resolved before Christmas.

### **Highways and Drainage**

#### **(i) Bench on Ashford Road**

It was agreed not to proceed with this project.

#### **(ii) Flooding on Cock Lane**

This had been resolved very quickly. However, there was still a blocked drain up the hill on Ruckinge Road which should be reopened soon.

#### **(iii) Highways Seminar**

Mid Kent Division Highways Parish and Town Council Seminar on the afternoon of Tuesday 6th December at the Village Hotel, Aylesford. The Clerk agreed to go.

#### **(iv) Hedge along Bourne Lane**

The condition of this hedge had become a matter of concern. It was agreed to try and contact the owners of the Old Orchard to request that they cut it back.

### **Communication**

The content of the next newsletter was discussed. Suggestions included reporting of incidents of vandalism/petty crime, a justification of the increase in the precept, the value of the income for recycling to the village, the need to keep the area tidy, and to thank the Fireworks Committee.

### **Victory Hall Committee**

The works on the extension had begun but access of heavy plant to the hall across the green was proving difficult.

### **Youth Club**

The behaviour of the children was better since they had been told they had to stay inside.

### **Fireworks**

The display had been very successful and about £650 was available to buy fireworks the following year. Further fundraising activities would take place during the year.

### **Allotments**

It was agreed not to proceed with the investigation of providing a water supply on the grounds of expense and that at least three allotment holders thought it was unnecessary.

**Planning Application No. 05/01820/AS Dukes Head.** Conversion of warehouse/barn into 1 No. 2-bed dwelling. It was agreed to object to the application on the grounds that OPC had supported the conversion to a Staff Quarters from a garage in 2000 on the basis that it would remain attached to the Dukes Head Pub and serve as accommodation for staff only,

### **CCTV for Hamstreet Station**

OPC had been asked to contribute towards the cost of installing CCTV at the station, considered necessary by Southern Railway owing to the cost of vandalism and to make passengers feel more secure. It was agreed to support the project, but only £100 could be offered until the financial commitments of OPC became clearer in the next month.

### **Meeting Point for Young People**

This was discussed in general terms but it was concluded that OPC could not offer to make a significant financial contribution at this time.

### **Correspondence**

The Chairman and Clerk agreed to attend the Rural Housing meeting on 17/01/06 in Newchurch.

**Date of next meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> January in Victory Hall at 7.30pm.**

**The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.**