Orlestone Parish Council

Meeting held at the Victory Hall on 26th September 2005

Present: Andrew MacBean (in the Chair), Mandy Mount, Sebastian Barrow, George Sparks, Anita Hollowday, Ian Kirkland, and the Clerk.

Apologies: David White, Paul Settle, Keith Taylor and Peter Davison.

Also Present: County Councillor Mike Angell, Dr Julian Colledge, M. Ashenden Bax,

Frances Smith and 3 members of the public.

Presentation about Extension of Hamstreet Surgery.

Dr Julian Colledge explained why he had put forward a planning application to extend Hamstreet Surgery to the rear and by adding a second storey. The additional space would allow additional services to be provided at the surgery rather than journeys being necessary to The William Harvey and other Health Centres. He said that the pressure for the expansion was coming from a government proposal that smaller surgeries should be amalgamated, and said that if the expansion was not permitted the surgery could be closed within 5 to 8 years.

Minutes of Meeting held on 30th August 2005

These were approved.

Councillors' Interests

Cllr Kirkland declared an interest in the Hamstreet Surgery Application as a member of the Ashford Primary Health Care Trust. The Chairman declared an interest as a member of the Hamstreet Surgery Patients Forum.

Matters arising

(a) Larger Post Box for Bourne Wood

No progress this month.

(b) Rubbish in The Street

The situation had improved, but would be monitored.

(c) Sheltered housing accommodation

This had been discussed at ABC and a 6-month trial would be started soon.

Finance

Current Account

Balance on 12 th August		8,525.10
Less	Transfer to Deposit Account	2,000.00
	Doug Cardno	25.00
	Victory Hall Hire	12.00
	Newsletter Printing	134.00
	Audit Fee(61.25 VAT)	411.25
Balance 13 th September		5,942.85

Cheques to approve: Action with Communities in Rural Kent 35.00; Clerk's Pay & Expenses 1,102.30; British Trust for Conservation Volunteers Donation Tree Warden scheme 100.00; Doug Cardno 25.00.

Deposit Account

Orlestone Parish Council No.2 Account

Balance 13th August 17,987.50 Less Transfer to Deposit Account 8,400.00 Balance 13th September 9,587.50

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

Balance remaining: 2.5% retention, due in 5 months £1,687.89 incl. VAT.

OPC Youth Club Account

Balance 1st June 4,162.38

Add: Cash: 752.84; 909.40; 130; 614.50; 421.02; **Cheque:** 20.00; **KCC Grant:** 150 **Less: Cash:** 200.00; **Cheques:** 85.00, 205.63; 134.53; 468.37; 783.73; 216; 91.46;

300.00; 125; 461.52; 175.

Balance 1st September

3,913.90

Planning

Court Lodge Farm

ABC had sent a letter to the owner reminding him that his field by Church Lane could only be used for landing, taking off or storing aircraft for up to 28 days per calendar year.

Police Matters

Cllr Sparks reported that he had raised OPC's concerns that the Rural Warden was not kept informed of crimes in the area by the local police with Ashford and Tenterden Police Stations. He would attend the next forum on 14th November.

Neighbourhood Watch

The Clerk had been given a copy of the telephone tree.

Speedwatch

It was agreed that the best site for this was on Ashford Road by Bankside and PC Sharp would be informed of this. Concern was expressed at the cost of the new scheme. The Clerk informed OPC that she would not be prepared to store the new equipment if it was acquired.

Sports and Leisure

(i) MUGA

The floodlighting would be installed as soon as possible.

(ii) Drainage

The levelling of the field would be started very soon. The drainage would not be started until OPC had received confirmation that sufficient grants had been obtained to cover all the costs. The contractor, Pilchers, had agreed to do the first stage of levelling the field with the understanding that he would finish the works when the funds became available.

The Right of Way across the field would remain open throughout the period of the works with warning notices displayed as appropriate.

Highways and Drainage

(i) New Lighting in Conservation Area

These had been installed and painted black. So far comments had been favourable.

(ii) Recycling

The situation had improved.

(iii) Walking Bus

The headmistress, Mrs Macey, had replied to OPC's letter, agreeing that the walking bus should be encouraged as much as possible.

(iv) Bench on Ashford Road

It was agreed that the Clerk should go ahead and order the bench from Park Leisure.

(v) Extension of speed limit on Ruckinge Road.

It was agreed that the Clerk should ask Highways to extend the speed limit to beyond the brow of the hill out of Hamstreet, beyond Cotton Hill Rise.

(vi) The gulleys by the school had been cleaned to avoid further flooding downhill.

Victory Hall Committee

Two letters had been received from the Chairman of the Victory Hall Committee reporting the progress of the building works. They had been successful in getting grants from various organisations and more were awaited.

Cllr Hollowday reported there had been three serious cases of vandalism of the hall. It was agreed that in the case of serious vandalism then 999 should be dialled straight away to get the best chance of catching the offenders.

Youth Club

Several villagers were to be trained up as football coaches to coach the village children. Grants were being sought to pay for this, and for some laptops.

Fireworks

The display would take place on Saturday 5th November. The barbecue would start at 6.30pm, and the fireworks would start at 7pm. The public would be confined to the car park because of the ongoing works on the field. The car park would be closed from midday that day. If wet the display would be postponed until the 6th.

Application No. 05/01495/AS Hamstreet Surgery. Construction of a 2 storey extension to provide space for additional medical facilities and additional staff car parking. After discussion it was agreed to defer any decision until a further meeting had been held, ideally in daylight to allow a site meeting to take place.

Allotments

Doug Cardno had given up half his allotment. It had been offered to Margaret Allen of Rectory Walk who was first on the waiting list.

Kent Village of the Year

Hamstreet had been highly commended in the Business, Young People and Older People categories.

Church Lane, Orlestone

The Clerk would write to ABC confirming that all the properties in Church Lane were in Orlestone.

Date of next meeting: 24th October 2005 in Victory Hall at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm