

Orlestone Parish Council

Planning Meeting held at the Victory Hall on 4th September 2006

Present: George Sparks, (in the Chair), Anita Hollowday, Adam Colton, Sebastian Barrow, Mandy Mount, Keith Taylor, Ian Kirkland, David White and the Clerk.

Also Present: County Councillor Mike Angell and one member of the public.

Apologies: Andrew MacBean and Ward Councillor Peter Davison. Ward Councillor George Weller had given notice that he would be arriving late.

Councillors' Interests: None declared.

Application 06/01378/AS The Gaer, Ashford Road. New roof over rear extension. It was agreed to support this application.

Application 06/1386/AS Costcutter [McColl's] The Street. Installation of an automated teller machine. It was agreed to support this retrospective application, but to comment that it could be made less vulnerable to physical attack.

Application 06/01394/AS Costcutter [McColl's] The Street. Advertisement application for illuminated fascia sign as part of new ATM. It was agreed on a majority vote to object on the grounds that there was insufficient need for the illumination in that area and that it might set a precedent for allowing illuminated signs in the Conservation Area.

Application for Listed Building Consent 06/01419/AS Poplar Farm, Hamstreet Road. New window in bricked up opening. It was agreed to support this application.

Application 06/00305/AS The Timbers, The Street. It was agreed to request that this application be considered at the ABC Planning Committee if the officers were minded to approve it.

Any Other Business

None

Meeting closed 7.45pm.

Orlestone Parish Council

Meeting held at the Victory Hall on 4th September 2006 following the Planning Meeting

Present: George Sparks (in the Chair), Anita Hollowday, Adam Colton, Sebastian Barrow, Mandy Mount, Keith Taylor, Ian Kirkland, David White and the Clerk.

Also Present: Three members of the public, County Councillor Mike Angell and Ward Councillor George Weller who arrived at 9.20pm. Community Warden Paul Jarman and Ashford Area Supervisor Emily Rayner attended for a short while after the Neighbourhood Watch Meeting had finished.

Apologies: Andrew MacBean and Ward Councillor Peter Davison

Minutes of meeting held on 7th August: These were approved.
Councillors' Interests: None declared.

Matters arising

(a) Provision of new allotments: no action this month as AM was away on holiday.

(b) Letter to McColls Supermarket: the Chairman made the following personal statement:

I am surprised that this council has included in the July minutes concerns relating to the sale of newspapers within this village. With the exception of matters relating to Planning or Licensing this council does not have a mandate to comment upon the commercial decisions of any business within the Parish. To do so could be perceived as favouring one business over another and I trust that this is not the case.

After further discussion it was agreed that it was not appropriate for OPC to express a view on a particular trading position and it was therefore decided that a letter would not be sent.

(c) Parking in Bunkley Meadow: following the discussion of this problem the previous month a letter had been received from a resident pointing out further parking related issues in this area. The letter was passed to the Community Warden to follow up. The security of Pound Leas car park was discussed and the improvement of the layout of parking in Bunkley Meadow. Any solution would require significant funding which was unlikely to be available from the relevant organisations in the near future. HDSLAs would soon be cutting back the bushes in the area of the car park which would improve visibility. OPC had already installed a street light there at its own expense. It was agreed to write to ABC about the problems in both areas.

Finance

Current Account Balance 24th July **7,934.49**

Add Tennis Coaching Fees 330.00

Less Doug Cardno 25.00; BTCV Donation 100.00; Printing @ New Romney 139.36;
Audit Commission 411.25; Victory Hall Hire 12.00; Tennis Coach Fee (Sam Carlton)
225.00; HDSLAs court fees for coaching (72) & Country Fayre stall (15) 87.00.

Balance 4th September **7,264.88**

Cheques outstanding: Hamstreet & District Tennis Club (profit from coaching) 18.00

Cheques approved: Doug Cardno 25.00

Deposit Account Balance 14th July **9,060.02**

Interest 15.57

Balance 4th September **9,075.59**

Orlestone Parish Council No.2 Account

Balance 4th September **6,126.78**

No transactions last month

OPC Youth Club Account Balance 1st June **2,941.63**

Police Matters: Community Warden: Paul Jarman briefly attended with his supervisor. He reported that he was reaching the end of his probationary period and would be able to work evenings soon. MM invited him to attend the Youth Club on Thursday evenings. He hoped to attend the next OPC meeting.

Vandalism: action had been taken to address this problem and there had been some signs of improvement.

Sports and Leisure

Floodlighting: this should be installed by the end of the month.

Drainage of Pound Lees: the final phase of the works had been completed, including making good the sunken trenches. The final payment would not be made until the snagging had been completed.

Pavilion: the new Community Buildings Lottery grant had been selected as the most suitable source of funds for this project. IK, AH, AM, SB and Sid Gittens would be involved in putting the application together. Some additions would be made to the existing plans to make it more environmentally acceptable.

Tennis Club: junior coaching would be taking place on Wednesdays from 4-7pm. Adult coaching could be available on Friday mornings – please call the Clerk on 664673 if interested. Social play was continuing.

Highways and Drainage

KT reported that the potholes had been repaired. The faulty flashing school sign had been reported. The Environment Agency were clearing ditches and surveying in preparation for some improvements of the drainage system in the village.

Hedges: one hedge had still not been dealt with – a letter would be written to the resident responsible.

Bus Stop on Ashford Road by Bankside: it was expected that some remedial work would be done soon.

School Parking: CC Mike Angell said he was actively working to find solutions to improve the situation.

New Lights on Warehorne Road: MA reported he had requested that the tops of the new lamps were replaced to match the new ones supplied by OPC in the centre of the village, but funding was a problem.

Public Participation

A resident attended to express concerns that rubbish was being left out well before the collection day of Monday. He was informed that offenders can now be easily prosecuted for this offence under new legislation. He was also concerned about fly-tipping and was asked to report it directly to ABC. He also expressed concern about the speed of cars driving round the new estate, Orlestone View, given that the road was shared by pedestrians and children playing. KCC would not act until the road had been adopted. This was the second representation about this problem. OPC has no powers to act itself in this matter and suggested the residents formed their own association to deal with this themselves. The issues would be referred to in the next OPC Newsletter.

Administration: the risk assessment was still not complete. The Chairman reported the sign on the flagpole required repainting.

Communications: Welcome Pack: final amendments would be made soon.

Footpaths (a) Damage to byway through Orlestone Forest: a meeting had been held which had revealed the extent of the problem across the borough and beyond. KCC were now taking it very seriously as the byways cost so much to repair.

(b) Footpath from Orlestone View to Pound Leas: there was concern that this was still not open.

Cotton Hill House: Rita and Lewis Brockway attended the meeting to request the support of OPC in their fight to remain in their accommodation in Cotton Hill House. It was agreed to write a letter to Ward Councillor Weller to support them. MA also expressed his support.

Parish Review: After discussion a motion was passed to make a formal request to ABC for the common boundary between Warehorne and Orlestone Parishes be moved westwards so that it follows the course of the centre line of the A2070 from the southern end of the parish to just north of the sewage works on Warehorne Road, to rationalise the situation which currently means that there are residents of Hamstreet who live in Warehorne Parish. A motion to change the name of the parish from Orlestone Parish Council to Orlestone and Hamstreet Parish Council was defeated by five votes to three

Housing Needs Survey: ABC had offered to look into finding a site for 10-12 units of affordable housing. A meeting would be held in due course to move this forward.

Fireworks: the display would go ahead on Saturday 4th November on Pound Leas, bonfire 6pm, fireworks 6.30pm. If the weather was dry the spectators would be allowed on the field. If wet the spectators would have to stand on the car park like last year. Permission would be applied for from ABC to close the car park from noon.

Correspondence:

E mail from Paul Settle – a reply would be sent; KAPC Mailing; Clean Kent Campaign; BTCV thanks for donation; Tour of Britain posters; KCC Seminar Sandwich Guildhall 13th September at 5.30pm on Kent Waste Development Framework.; KAPC Ashford Area Committee Minutes; Letter from Victory Hall Committee re. progress on extension to Victory hall; KCC Circular Roads 1/2005 “Setting Local Speed Limits”; Parish Forum 27th September preceded by networking event with ABC officers from 6.30pm; Interaction.

Any Other Business

None

Date of next Meeting: Monday 2nd October at 7.30pm Victory Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.35 pm