

ORLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Orlestone Parish Council's Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 2nd February 2015 in The Hamstreet Sports Pavilion, Hamstreet, Ashford, Kent.

Present: George Sparks (Chairman), Mags Wellsted-Boorman, Vicky McKissock, Mike Wady, Andy Othen, Stephen Shorter, Keith Taylor and the Parish Clerk (Sue Stiffell).

Also Present: Kent County Councillor Mike Angel, Borough Councillors Aline Hicks and Peter Davison, PCSO Gary Carr.

1. **Apologies:** No apologies for the meeting had been received. *Following the meeting the Chairman received apologies via email from David Lancaster.*
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
 - Declarations of Pecuniary Interest (relating to items on this agenda made in order to comply with the Kent Code of Conduct): There were none made at this point from Councillors present.
 - Declarations of Significant Interest (relating to items on this agenda made in order to comply with the Kent Code of Conduct): There were none made at this point from Councillors present.
 - Declaration of Members Other Interest (relating to items on this agenda made in order to comply with the Kent Code of Conduct) It was noted that Mags Wellsted-Boorman was a member and Trustee of the Hamstreet & District Sports & Leisure Association (HDSL A) and that Andy Othen was taking part in the 'Three Peak Challenge'.
3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:**
 - Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on Monday 1st December 2014: Mags Wellsted-Boorman wished it noted that she did not feel that it was necessary to add an extract from the agreement between the Parish Council and the HDSL A under 'agenda item 8. HDSL A Update' and asked that it be removed. Those present agreed that it be crossed out in the top copy; following this alteration Mags Wellsted-Boorman proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman of the meeting; Andy Othen seconded this proposal.
 - Minutes from the Parish Council's Planning Meetings; Monday 15th December 2014 & Monday 19th January 2015: Monday 15th December 2014: Mags Wellsted-Boorman proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman of the meeting; Mike Wady seconded this proposal. Monday 19th January 2015: Vicky McKissock proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman of the meeting; Mike Wady seconded this proposal.
4. **Matters Arising:**
 - Recycling Banks: Julian Sharp from the Salvation Army had agreed to put the Parish Council's logo on their recycling bin (the logo has been sent to him). The bin in question is to be relocated to a better area in the car park.
 - Casual Vacancy: ABC have informed the Parish Council that as the elections are due to take place in May 2015 there is no obligation for the Parish Council to fill the existing casual vacancy by co-option. Interest had been noted by two members of the public. The Chairman noted as there was only one monthly meeting due to take place in March followed by the Annual Assembly in April that there was little point in co-option. It was agreed that no co-option would take place until after the elections in May (if necessary).
5. **Reports From KCC Community Warden & PCSO Gary Carr:** PCSO Gary Carr reported:

- Since the last parish council meeting a burglary dwelling was reported on Ham Mill Lane. One of the new uninhabited houses in Lancaster Close had been broken into. Outbuildings were also being targeted with a garage in Willow Drive being broken into.
- A vehicle parked on Burchett Lane was broken into and items removed; there had been other reports of vehicles being broken into including one at Carters Wood.
- A new Neighbourhood Watch group had been set up. He will support the group and will attend meetings when possible.
- Fly tipping had been reported on farmland at Sugar Loaf.
- There had been reports of several vehicles speeding through the village unfortunately no vrn's have been provided to follow this up.
- He had received several reports of suspicious males in the village and asked locals to continue to be vigilant in reporting suspicious events.
- Unfortunately Chris Banyard will not be returning, a KCC Community Warden will be allocated to the area, in the meantime there is a temporary warden covering the area as well as Hothfield and Bethersden who can be contacted on 07813711940.
- Primary School: discussions on improvements to parking were taking place these were dependent on funding.
- Kent Police can offer crime prevention advice to residents if they call 101. There are several websites which give advice on how to secure your property. www.securedbydesign.com and www.thecrimepreventionwebsite.com

Following Gary's report County Councillor Mike Angel reported that damage had been caused during the weekend by 'off roaders'. A short discussion was held during which Borough Councillor Peter Davison asked if Cllr Angel could lobby for byways in the area being turned into bridle ways so that vehicle use and resulting damage could be prevented.

6. County Councillor/Borough Councillors' Reports:

County Councillor Mike Angel: reported that he was in the process of organizing a meeting with Parish Council Chairmen during the first week in March. This would be an informal meeting and he would also be inviting the Head of Rights of Way and a cabinet member of finance plus Borough Councillors.

Borough Councillor Peter Davison: began his reported by detailing the damage caused by 'off roaders' to the countryside and voiced his support in the reclassification of some of the byways to bridleways to protect them.

He was concerned about the number of potholes in the area and was working with Keith Taylor to have these reported. He was aware of flooding issues and had worked with Keith to have pipes jetted out and the ditch near the duck pond to be cleared.

Borough Councillor Aline Hicks: reported that ABC had opened a new lettings property shop in Ashford town's centre. During a short discussion concerning rural homes for local people it was pointed out a need to find a sympathetic landowner willing to give up land for affordable homes was the first step.

7. Members Reports:

HDSL A Update: Mags reported that the bookings for the pavilion remained constant. Members had attended the 'Marsh Millions' meeting which had been very informative.

Hamstreet Master Plan Committee: Notes from an informal meeting held at ABC on 28th January 2015 were circulated to those present. It was highlighted that the next step was for a public survey to be drawn up asking for views on the play areas and green spaces in the village. Stuart Petit has offered to do the survey with an introduction by the Chairman. During the meeting it had been noted that section

106 funding for allotments in the Borough was earmarked for new allotments only. The Chairman is to make enquiries into finding suitable allotment land in the village.

Highways: Keith reported:

Flooding at Bournewood had been rectified with all pipes in the area being jetted out. Flooding around the duck pond area had been caused by a blocked ditch; this had been cleared and the drainage pipe jetted out. Residents in the area needed to help by keeping the ditch outside their home clear of debris. The street light damaged and removed during the winter 2012/13 by the school has been replaced.

Bourne Lane – Redrows pipe water which was trickling out all the time had slipped; the Environmental Agency are to do brick work on the bank to prevent this from occurring.

During discussion following Keith's report Vicky highlighted that the road sign to Tenterden was damaged – Keith will report this. Vicky noted that people parking in Parker Close made the road narrow and almost impossible to drive down. It was pointed out by the Chairman that the road was private and so the responsibility of residents to sort it out.

Johnsons Corner: Vince Watkins had put a new flag up, it was noted that the Chairman had two other flags. The gardener David Collins is looking after the area. *(Following the meeting the Chairman received news that Mr Collins no longer wishes to look after Johnsons Corner. Therefore a new volunteer is required).*

8. **Correspondence:** The following items had been received:

- An email from ABC concerning the Parish elections being held on 7th May 2015. There will be a candidates and agents briefing on 11th March at 6.30pm. This will cover the process and requirements for nominations. Nomination packs will be sent to Parish Clerks and can also be obtained from electoral services – email vote@ashford.gov.uk to request one.
- An email from Helen Gomme who needs help nominating her cousin Sue Shoebridge for a UK Honour; Sue has raised money for the Demelze Hospice and the Children's Society. Members were aware of her good work and supported the nomination. The Charities that she has helped including the Victory Hall Committee would be aware of the exact details.
- Details of an electoral review which will draw new electoral division boundaries across Kent, this may lead to less Borough Councillors and joint areas.
- Flyers/magazines: English Rural Housing Association Annual Report; Clerks & Councils Direct; Glasdon products for local councils.

9. **Planning: Update and Applications Received., Local Plan 2030 Shortlisted Sites in Hamstreet.**

An informal meeting was held prior the parish council meeting with Simon Cole (ABC Planning Policy Manager) concerning the shortlisted sites in Hamstreet. Concerns were expressed about the WS30 site that had been shortlisted. (notes from meeting attached). During a short discussion the Clerk was asked to get advice from the CPRE about the site.

10. **Finance: Update , Sponsorship Authorisation of Cheques:**

Budget Review: An up to date budget was circulated to members.

Sponsorship to the Hamstreet 3 Peak/3 Lake Challenge: It was highlighted that 14 challengers on 4th July 2015 would be climbing the highest mountain in Scotland – Ben Nevis, then cycling to Loch Lomond in order to swim across it. The group would then cycle from Scotland to Scafell Pike in Cumbria where it will be scaled. Then cycle to Wrynose Pass and Hardknoww Pass before arriving at Lake Windermere where they will swim across. The group will then travel from Cumbria to Wales where Snowdon will be tackled. After crossing Bala Lake they will return to Hamstreet.

Sponsorship of £1000 was agreed in principle during the last meeting held on 1st December 2014. During discussion those present unanimously agreed that sponsorship of £1000 be provided (this will be taken from the recycling credits budget).

Authorisation of Cheques: Keith Taylor proposed that the following cheques be authorised, this proposal was seconded by Michael Wady.

To	Details	Amount	Cheque no

11. Any Other Business Approved by the Chairman:

- Mags reported that sheep kept escaping from a field at the top of the hill. The Clerk was asked to inform PCSO Gary Carr.
- It was noted that workmen parking at Bank Side was resulting in residents here finding it extremely difficult to exit their driveways. The Clerk was asked to highlight the problems to PCSO Gary Carr.
- Twinning: No further news had been received following David Lancaster's email. It was agreed that an informal meeting be held on 9th February at 8pm in the sports pavilion to discuss a way forward.
- Parking: a large vehicle was constantly parking near the Cock Lane junction making it extremely difficult to see out. The Clerk to bring this to PCSO Gary Carr's attention.

- 12. Date of Next Meeting:** Parish Council Meeting: Monday 2nd March 2015 at 7.30pm
Twinning Meeting: Monday 9th February 2015 at 8pm
Planning Meeting: Monday 16th February 2015 at 7.30pm (if necessary)

Meeting Concluded 9.26pm

Chairman's Signature