

ORLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Orlestone Parish Council's Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 7th March 2016 in The Hamstreet Sports Pavilion, Hamstreet, Ashford, Kent.

Present: George Sparks (Chairman), Michael Wady (Vice-Chairman), Vicky McKissock, Andy Othen, Tony Isted, Steven Shorter, Mags Wellsted-Boorman and the Parish Clerk (Sue Stiffell).

Also Present: Kent County Councillor Mike Angell, Borough Councillor Aline Hicks and Kevin Barry (Community Rail Development Officer).

- 1. Apologies:** had been received from David Lancaster; those present agreed that these apologies be accepted. Apologies had also been received from Borough Councillor Gareth Bradford (attending a meeting at ABC) and Community Warden Kathy Carter.
- 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). None were made at this point from Councillors present.
- 3. Minutes of the Last Meeting: Monday 1st February 2016**

Minutes from Parish Council's Meeting Held on Monday 1st February 2016: Mags Wellsted-Boorman proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman of the meeting; Steven Shorter seconded this proposal.
- 4. Matters Arising From The Minutes Of The Meeting Held on Monday 1st February 2016:**

Items for discussion only; no decisions can be made under this agenda item No items were brought forward.
- 5. Parish Councillor Vacancies: Co-Option:** Tony Isted had met with members prior the meeting for an informal meeting and had provided a short summary as to why he wished to join the Parish Council. Mags Wellsted-Boorman proposed that he be co-opted onto the Parish Council, Michael Wady seconded this proposal and all agreed. The Chairman welcomed Tony onto the Parish Council.

Additional Agenda Item

- 1. Kevin Barry (Community Rail Development Officer, Marshlink Line, Sussex Community Rail Partnership): Hamstreet Train Station Garden** – Kevin explained that he worked part-time for the Marshlink Line and was involved in making the stations in this area used as much as possible. He had been involved in various projects such as incorporating a Sunday stopping service at Winchelsea Train Station and helping to make a garden at Rye Train Station called the John Ryan Garden (named after the author of the Captain Pugwash books who had once lived in the area) for the use of the community.

At Hamstreet Station there is a sizeable garden that needed clearing and planting. It could be a place for people to meet, sit and relax. He had funding for a bench but needed to know if there was anyone locally who would want to be involved in the project. During discussion it was agreed that he would provide the Clerk with details that could be put in the Parish Magazine. *Following discussion Kevin Barry left the meeting.*
- 6. 'Adopt a Kiosk' – Andy Othen:** Andy explained that he had been approached by a resident who was concerned about the future of the public telephone box by Bournemouth Stores that was no longer in use.

On investigation he found that the Parish Council could adopt the kiosk for a nominal sum of £1 and if adopted it could be used as a small lending library. During discussion it was noted that it would need repainting and would need to have shelves to house the books. Those present agreed that steps be taken into having it adopted and it was agreed that £150 be set aside to do the work necessary to make it useable.

7. Flooding/Lighting Issues in the Parish:

Lighting: Following the last meeting the Clerk contacted William Train (Technical Officer ABC) highlighting the danger of the ‘necked’ street lights especially the one by Forge Gardens and asked if there was any further news about replacing or repairing the streetlights that were no longer working and was awaiting a reply.

Flooding: Christine Harrison from ABC had emailed the clerk concerning work at Bournewood noting that all the agreed work had taken place – the culvert under Ruckinge Road cleared, grating added, vegetation from ditch cleared and the culvert and ditch added to their routine clearing regime. Michael Wady highlighted that it had been promised that the ditch would be de-stilted and that this had not been done.

The Chairman reported that a 12 inch pipe had been installed onto a farmer’s field next door to Lancaster Close which was draining water into the field. Cllr Hicks highlighted that she had reported the problem concerning the pipe and it was noted that an informal meeting was to be held on 10th March to discuss flooding and highway issues in the Parish.

8. Play Areas in Hamstreet – Ref 106 Funding: Update: A letter had been received from the Victory Hall Management Committee giving notice that they were in favour of moving the play area which at the moment was sited beside the hall for enhanced visibility and welcomed the possibility of new play equipment. Copies of the letter were made available to those present and a copy had been sent to SallyAnne Logan (ABC). The Chairman highlighted that he had discussed with Victory Hall’s Committee the possibility of the Parish Council adopting the play area in the future.

The Clerk had contacted SallyAnne Logan asking if any progress had been made to the consultation questionnaire, she replied via email saying that as she was waiting to hear from the Victory Hall no further progress had been made concerning the consultation. She put forward two suggestions:

- a) Meet with representatives of the PC to discuss the content and layout of the consultation form and then get their communication team to put something together.
- b) She and Michelle Bryne put something together for the PC to comment on.

SallyAnne is to write a report to the S106 Working Group for a meeting being held on 16th March whereby they are bidding for formal allocation of the 106 funding to the proposed projects. She needs at least one quote for works to the MUGA for this meeting which Graham Woodcock from the HDSL A will supply.

The Chairman highlighted that he will request that SallyAnne and Michelle put the consultation questionnaire together and that on behalf of the Parish Council he would comment on it.

9. Reports From KCC Community Warden & PCSO Kathy Carter:

PCSO Gary Carr had provided a report which was made available to those present; it contained no updates for Hamstreet.

Kathy Carter Community Warden: reported via email:

‘Complaints – a resident of Bournewood complained that the road had not been resurfaced. I looked at the road and I think it looks so much better now that all the tarmac has been taken off. I asked Highways whether it was to be resurfaced and they rang me to say that at the moment the budget has run out of money.

Speed Sign – good to see this in the village. It is amazing watching drivers zooming through the village and the sign lighting up to 50 or 60, shaming them to slow down!

School – I have started going into Hamstreet School of a Tuesday listening to Year 5 read. A really good way of getting to know the children and obviously for them to get to know me.

WI – I saw the WI out in force today (Friday) in Hamstreet all wearing tiaras and picking up litter for the Queen’s Birthday. They were doing a brilliant job.’

10. County Councillor/Borough Councillors' Reports:

County Councillor Mike Angell: reported that he had been involved in meetings/discussions about a new provider for mental health provision in Kent. KCC had secured funding to convert all of its street lights to LED technology. These being more efficient and cheaper than the existing lights and all night lighting will be provided.

Borough Councillor Aline Hicks: reported that she had voiced her concerns about flooding in Hamstreet. She highlighted that the Government's new Housing and Planning Bill had reached report stage and included measures to extend right to buy to housing association tenants, introduce 'pay to stay' charges for tenants in council houses and force the sale of high value vacant local authority properties. Aline concluded that the new Ashford College was on target to open in 2017. *Kent County Councillor Mike Angell and Borough Councillor Aline Hicks left the meeting.*

11. Members Reports: None provided.

12. Correspondence: The following items had been received:

- An email from Richard Butcher the Chairman of the Hastings & St Leonards Veterans Association (HSVA of the Royal Air Forces Association (RAFA) informing the Parish Council that on Wednesday 13th April 2016 a commemoration ceremony will be held at the memorial at Johnsons Corner. He is hoping that the Parish Council's gardener will be able to tidy up the site and possibly whiten the memorial and surround. He asked if there are any other service organisations local to Hamstreet who would join in and let him know.

During a brief discussion it was highlighted that Tom Body (gardener for Forge Gardens) had been asked to tidy up the area for the ceremony. Details of the secretary to the Hamstreet Branch of the British Royal Legion will be sent to Richard who may wish to invite them to the ceremony.

- An email from a resident thanking members for the prompt and positive response from the Council concerning a flooding issue which was followed by a visit from Michael Wady.
- A letter from the Victory Hall Committee thanking members for the financial support which had gone towards grass cutting and maintenance and requesting this year's allocation of £750.
- A letter from the Friends of St Mary's Church had been received thanking members for the financial support provided and requesting this year's allocation of £750.
- A letter from the CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) had been received regarding renewing the Parish Council's membership at a cost of £36. Those present agreed that it be renewed.
- A copy of the notes from the last meeting of the Parish & Urban Forum held on 27th January.
- A circular from Tower Mint Ltd advertising their medal commemorating the Queen's 90th birthday.
- A letter from the Local Government Boundary Commission concerning the electoral review of Kent; final recommendations.
- Various magazines/journals including The Clerk magazine, Clerks & Councils Direct.

13. Planning: Update/Applications Received:

Application No: 16/00242: The Old Fire House, Cock Lane, TN26 2HU – Single storey rear extension and new front porch.

The plans were circulated to those present, it was noted that there were no comments at the present time on ABC's website. Those present agreed that no comment be made.

14. Finance: Update, Authorisation of Cheques:

Budget Review: was circulated to those present.

Authorisation of Cheques: Michael Wady proposed the following cheques be authorised for signature; Vicky McKissock seconded this proposal which was agreed by those present. It was agreed that the Chairman could authorise cheques requiring signature before the next meeting.

To	Details	Amount	Cheque No.
----	---------	--------	------------





15. Any Other Business Approved by the Chairman:

Items for discussion only' no decisions can be made under this heading.

10th March 11am: Meeting to discuss flooding/lighting issues in the parish.

Plaque: Michael Wady brought forward the possibility of having a plaque placed by the cannonball on Pound Lees to provide information about it.

Fencing: It was highlighted that there was no adequate fencing outside the primary school to stop children running into the road. This issue will be highlighted to Kent County Councillor Mike Angell.

Defibrillator: Michael Wady is to investigate the cost of providing one in the village.

16. Date of Next Meeting: Planning Meeting: Monday 21st March 2016 at 7.30pm (if necessary)

Parish Council: Monday 4th April 2016 at 7.30pm, invite as many as possible.

Meeting Concluded 9.36pm

Chairman: