

ORLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Orlestone Parish Council's Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 4th September 2017 in The Hamstreet Sports Pavilion, Hamstreet, Ashford, Kent.

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

Also Present: Peter Davison (Orlestone Parish Council's Planning Adviser), Kent County Councillor Mike Angell, Borough Councillor Aline Hicks, Borough Councillor 'Brad' Bradford.

- 1. Apologies:** had been received from Tony Isted (working) it was agreed that these apologies be accepted. *Belated apologies were received from David Lancaster following the meeting.*

- 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): The Chairman (George Sparks) highlighted that he was the Vice-Chair of the Hamstreet Branch of the Royal British Legion; Mags Wellsted-Boorman noted that she was the Secretary to the HDSLAs.

- 3. Minutes of the Last Meetings:**

Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd July 2017: Vicky McKissock proposed that the minutes from the meeting be accepted as a correct record of the meeting and could be signed by the Chairman; Andy Othen seconded this proposal.

Meeting With The HDSLAs held on 20th July 2017: Mike Wady proposed that the minutes from the meeting be accepted as a correct record of the meeting and could be signed by the Chairman. The Chairman seconded this proposal.

- 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meetings held on 3rd and 20th July 2017:** *Items for discussion only; no decisions can be made under this agenda item.*

Victory Hall Play Area: Notes from a meeting held on 24th August were circulated. The results from the consultation noted that the top five activities wanted for the play area were spinning, climbing, imaginative/creative play, swinging and tunnels. ABC will put together a specification and put it out for tender. During the meeting it was agreed that the existing play area will contain play activities for under 6 year olds and a picnic area and opposite there will be activities for children aged between 6 and 11. It was noted that funding (via the 106 agreement) was not yet in place.

- 5. Reports From Representatives of the Community:**

Kent County Councillor Mike Angell: highlighted that concerns had been raised about the speed of traffic on the road near the turning by Bromley Green Road; he had been asked to take a petition with some 500 signatures to Kent County Council asking for a reduced speed limit in the area. He had received details of 29 crashes that had occurred in the last three years. None of which had been logged by the police. Mike concluded by informing those present that a Highways Officer would be visiting the area.

During a brief discussion, Borough Councillor Bradford explained that the crashes had not been logged as they were damage (to the vehicle) crashes and no one had been injured. The Chairman highlighted that the crashes may be due to bad driving and a flashing warning sign would be more effective than reducing the speed limit which would be hard to enforce.

The Chairman requested that Cllr Mike Angell make enquiries into the whereabouts of the lighting head from a street light in Warehorne Road that had been removed by a KCC Highways officer. He asked if it could be returned to the Parish Council as they had purchased them some years ago.

Cllr Angell concluded by highlighting that many areas would be celebrating 100th Anniversary of the end of WW1 in 2018 and suggested that thought be given to a beacon.

Borough Councillor Aline Hicks: noted that the consultation concerning the amendments to the Draft Local Plan 2030 had now concluded. She had been approached by a resident who had suggested that the proposed defibrillator be placed near the doctors' surgery. During a brief discussion it was noted that the preferred location would be at the Sports Pavilion and if possible another at the train station.

6. **Members Reports:**

Twinning: The Chairman reported that the trip had been successful with the hosts providing various activities; he is to send a letter of thanks to the Mayor of Therouanne. During the trip it had been agreed that the next visit take place in three years rather than two to celebrate 25 years of twinning in Hamstreet. *During this agenda item Cllr Mike Angell left the meeting.*

7. **Planning: Updates, Applications Received, ABC's Draft Local Plan:**

Application No: 17/00023
Proposal: Notification of a larger homes extension: single storey rear extension
Location: 19 Lancaster Close, TN26 2JG
Comment: Raise no objection.

Application No: 17/0126
Proposal: Erection of a two storey side extension and rear extension
Location: Burnt Oak House, Hamstreet Road, TN26 2EB
Comment: Raise no objection

Draft Local Plan: The Chairman reported that two letters had been submitted as a response to the consultation. He highlighted that he had sent a second letter regarding 'CIL' payments without consultation to members as he had not wanted to miss the deadline. This had been circulated to members when it had been sent. He further reported that he and Peter Davison had attended a workshop run by Hallam concerning Site 31. He had received a plan from Crabtree for Site 57 which showed a playing field, a car park and cycle park – this being a different plan to that in the Draft Local Plan.

It was highlighted that if all the benefits could be placed in Site 57 this could be then be seen as an alternative site to Site 31 which had received a strong local objection. The Clerk was asked to request meetings with Crabtree, Hallam and Simon Cole. *During this agenda item Cllr Bradford left the meeting.*

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

- A letter from the 1st Ruckinge and Hamstreet Cub Pack which highlighted that they had given up accessing the canal at Hamstreet due to the amount of dog mess. They have also noted that in the woods there has been an increase in dog mess and gained permission to put up posters. They highlighted that there were no dog bins by the canal and the one by the woods was overgrown with nettles.

During discussion it was agreed that the Clerk contact the dog warden requesting that further bins be put in these areas.

- Notice has been received that the Annual Parish and Urban Forum would be held on Tuesday 3rd October at the Aldington Eco Centre, commencing at 9.30am and finishing at 3pm. The Chairman and Andy Othen both hoped to attend.
- A copy of a letter from the Woodchurch Surgery to the Ashford Rural Community Network highlighting concerns about changes to its catchment area (emailed to members for information). This and concerns about how surgeries will cope with the extra demand on them that increases in population due to extra developments are due to be discussed at the next KALC meeting.

During a short discussion it was noted that many surgeries were reducing their catchment area due to concerns about how to meet the demand of extra households.

9. **Finance:**

External Auditors Report: It was noted that the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices. Copies of the report were circulated to those present.

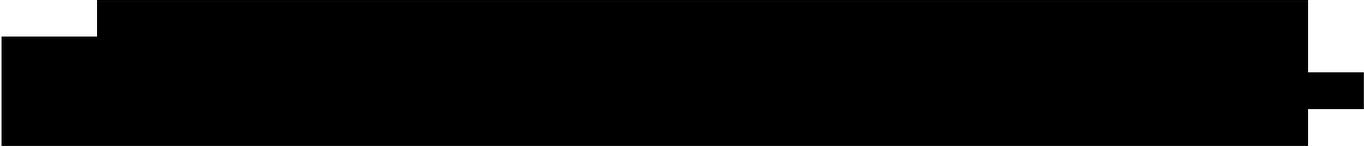
Matters not affecting the external auditors' opinion which they drew attention to were:

- a) Regulation 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 were not complied with as information was not published on the Parish Council's website. This had now been rectified and the Clerk will ensure that this regulation is not overlooked next year.
- b) Regard to the level of reserves held should be considered in future precept requests.

Budget Update: A budget update was circulated to those present.

Authorisation of Cheques: Andy Othen proposed that the following cheques be authorized, Vicky McKissock seconded this proposal. It was further agreed that the Chairman could authorise cheques that required signing before the next meeting.

To	Details	Amount	Cheque No.
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10. **Community Defibrillators:** During discussion it was agreed that the Clerk accept the quotation for £2,000 for a defibrillator from the Community Heartbeat Trust. It was agreed that this be placed at the Hamstreet Pavilion. The Clerk will make enquiries into the cost of two being provided.

11. **HDSLAs Funding:** The Chair recommended that Mags Wellsted-Boorman leave the meeting as she had an interest in the agenda item. Mags responded by noting that she did not have a pecuniary interest and wished to stay and listen to the discussion. During a short debate Mags Wellsted-Boorman verbally resigned as Parish Councillor and left the meeting.

Peter Davison left the meeting – following a short interval the meeting continued.

The Chairman highlighted that the HDSLAs had requested that the Parish Council pay for the utility bills for the pavilion; their fund raising activities would then cover various maintenance costs to the pavilion and pound lees. During discussion it was highlighted that it had always been expected that the pavilion would be self-funding and that it would be wrong to raise the precept to cover the cost of its utility bills when its usage could be utilised and income increased. It was agreed that a meeting to discuss how this could be achieved should be held between the HDSLAs and OPC. The Chairman is to draft a letter to the HDSLAs, this would be circulated to members before sending to the HDSLAs.

12. **Any Other Business Approved by the Chairman:** *Items for discussion only, no decisions can be made under this heading.*

Mike Wady: highlighted that the ditch running alongside Bournemouth Stores required clearing. This will be highlighted to ABC. He noted that the shrubbery and trees by the pond near Cotton Hill House required cutting back. A request will be put in to ABC. He further highlighted that the overflow pipes on farm land from Lancaster Close were a civil matter that was being pursued by the landowner. Mike concluded by highlighting that the overhanging trees in Bourne Lane had been looked at by ABC who had reported that these were not their responsibility but the responsibility of those whose land they stood on. The Clerk is to make enquiries into whether the Parish Council can write to the landowners highlighting this.

13. **Date of Next Meeting:** Planning Meeting: 18th September 2017 at 7.30pm (if required)
 Parish Council Meeting: 2nd October 2017 at 7.30pm

Meeting Concluded 9.57pm

Chairman: