

ORLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Orlestone Parish Council's Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 5th February 2018 in The Hamstreet Sports Pavilion, Hamstreet, Ashford, Kent.

Present: Andy Othen (Chairman), Mike Wady (Vice-Chairman), Sid Gittens, David Lancaster, Vicky McKissock, David Weeks and the Parish Clerk (Sue Stiffell).

Also Present: Borough Councillor Aline Hicks, Peter Davison (OPC's Planning Adviser) and 15 members of the public.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and it was agreed that agenda item 9 would be brought forward and discussed following agenda item 2.

- 1. Apologies:** had been received from Mags Wellsted-Boorman (away); Steve Shorter and Tony Isted (working) it was agreed that these apologies be accepted. Apologies had also been received from Borough Councillor Bradford (attending another meeting) and Kent Country Councillor Mike Angel.

- 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): None were 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):

- 9. Planning:**

Applications Received:

No 18/00056

Location: Land Between A2070 and the Railway north of Warehorne Road

Proposal: Outline planning application for residential development for up to 70 dwellings including details of access.

The Chairman reported that representatives from the OPC had met with Warehorne Parish Council (WPC) to discuss this application and various concerns had been raised. WPC had objected to the application; a copy of their response was circulated to those present. A draft letter objecting to the application was circulated to those present.

During discussion it was noted that to date there were four objections on ABC's website regarding this application and concern had been raised by Southern Water which noted that the existing sewage works were at full capacity and it would be a number of years before work to it would allow extra capacity. KCC's flood risk project officer has also put forward concerns. OPC members agreed that the Parish Clerk object to the application using the draft objection letter which had been circulated and that it should also be noted that there was concern regarding the lack of natural boundary that could result in spiralling development.

The Chairman recommended that as many people as possible responded to the application and highlighted the importance of individual comments from residents.

An email had been received regarding Section 106 funding for this application. OPC were asked if they could put forward costed projects. It was agreed that members would put forward ideas via email to the parish clerk that could be passed on. *Members of the public present left the meeting.*

No 17/01751

Location: St Thomas Cottage, Birchett Lane, TN26 2ED

Proposal: Proposed first floor rear extension above existing ground floor and alterations to existing rear conservatory (revision to planning permission 17/00101)

The plans were made available to those present. Those present looked at the proposed alterations and no objections were raised.

Application No 18/00128

Location: Land south east of 8 Viaduct Terrace

Proposal: Erection of 2 no. semi-detached houses

During a short discussion it was noted that access was via a private 'road'. Those present agreed that the application be objected but a comment would not be made until correspondence with WPC.

A letter had been received from ABC's Planning & Development Department giving notice that ABC had submitted the Local Plan 2030 to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 21st December 2017 for independent examination. The next step being that the Ashford Local Plan 2030 would now be subject to an Examination that would be conducted by two inspectors who will assess it and judge whether it is sound and whether it meets the legal requirements set out in legislation. Part of the examination process will involve hearing sessions where those invited to attend will have the opportunity to respond to matters and issues raised by the inspectors. Everyone who made comments on the plan will be contacted directly by the programme officer in due course with information about the hearing agendas and process.

3. **Minutes of the Last Meetings:** Parish Council Meeting held on 11th December; Parish Meeting held on 12th December 2017 and Parish Meeting held on 18th January 2018. Mike Wady proposed that the minutes from these meetings be accepted as correct records and be signed by the Chairman; Andy Othen seconded this proposal which was agreed by all present.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meetings held:** *Items for discussion only; no decisions can be made under this agenda item.*
 - i) The GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations): The existing Data Protection Act 1998 is to be repealed and on 25th May 2018 the GDPR will come into force. The Clerk highlighted that various training courses were being held but she was unsure how helpful these were at the moment as information about how the GDPRs would affect Parish Councils had not been properly established and information had not been released. It was agreed that the Clerk would attend a course when a suitable one came up.
 - ii) Lancaster Close Play Area: No further updates had been received.
 - iii) Section 106 Funding: Following an initial enquiry in May 2014 to ABC about 106 funding relating to Lancaster Close phase 2 development; Head of Planning Martin Vink (now retired) responded and provided details of what the funding had been set aside for. Following this initial response there had been various discussions, emails, meetings, consultation sessions, leaflets and questionnaires regarding how the funding set aside for play areas and green space could be used in Hamstreet. OPC were informed some 4 months ago that this funding had mistakenly been paid to KCC and that ABC would request its return.

Following lack of progress and further information the Parish Clerk had contacted ABC and KCC and requested under the Freedom of Information Act details about where all the funding under this agreement had gone and if spent what it had been spent on. During a brief discussion it was agreed that if a proper explanation was not forthcoming a letter would be sent to Ashford's MP requesting that this issue be investigated.
5. **Reports From Representatives of the Community:**

PCSO For Hamstreet: It was noted that the South Weald now had a new PCSO called Luke Jones.

Kent County Councillor Mike Angel: reported via email that the 'dualling' of Chart Road from the tank roundabout to the Matalan roundabout was likely to be delayed until 2019 due to a lack of bond by the construction company which meant the contract with Jacksons could not be signed.

Borough Councillor Aline Hicks: noted that OPC's response regarding application 18/00056 was good. Aline further explained that once the current Local Plan had been agreed work on a new one would begin. ABC's budget had been finalised and Council Tax would be rising by approximately 2.5%. Aline concluded by reporting that the site visit with Mike Wady had resulted in her raising various issues with officers at ABC.

During a short discussion it was noted that

- i) Ownership of the bank by Duke Meadow needed to be investigated.
- ii) The hedgerow at Bourne Lane was overgrown and its ownership needed to be investigated; it was noted that land registry could be approached.
- iii) The benches by Cotton Hill House were in disrepair.
- iv) Cats Eyes had been placed on various roads in the village.
- v) Path by Bournemouth Stores had been repaired.
- vi) There were a lot of pot holes in Cock Lane and Dukes Meadow – these had been reported. The potholes in Church Road and Birchett Lane needed reporting.
- vii) Rubbish in Bunkley Terrace was a tripping hazard and damaging a fence – this would be reported.

6. Members Reports/Updates including Highways Update, Rural Means Rural Campaign:

Rural Means Rural Campaign Seeks the adoption of Landscape Protection Policy into the National Planning Policy Framework for the benefit of all areas rural and urban and they would like to see it included in the Ashford Local Plan. The group had held meetings, started an online and in person petition, written over 500 letters to ministers, MPS and the Head of ABC, launched a Facebook and twitter campaign, sent out leaflets, started to prepare a video of residents expressing their views, connected with the campaign for the Protection of Rural England, encouraged inter-village collaboration and lobbied at ABC via Borough Councillors. It was noted that help could be provided by donating to their fund activity, signing their petition, following the group on Facebook and signing up to be notified of applications on ABC's portal. Councillor Jane M A Martin email jane.martin@ashford.gov.uk

During a short discussion it was agreed that OPC would support the group in any way it could.

7. **HDSLAs: Review Business Plan & Funding:** The Chairman had drawn up a draft Business Plan between OPC and the HDSLAs which was circulated to those present. It was noted that its purpose was to provide a list of objectives for both parties. He would pass it on to the Chairman of the HDSLAs for comment. It was noted that funding provided would be used to pay the electricity bill and would be additional to the £1,250 already provided annually; the Parish Council also covered the cost of insuring the Pavilion and usually provided funding for various costs (last year OPC had paid to have the stair lift repaired, this year OPC had paid to have the fencing around Pound Lees car park repaired/replaced). The long term aim of the Parish Council being that the Pavilion and Pound Lees/MUGA could be more profitable so that it could cover its own running costs.
8. **Arrangements for Parish Poll Being Held on 22nd February 2018:** During discussion it was agreed that a poster would be drawn up and sent to each household in the parish. Four banners would be ordered, with one being placed by each entrance of the village advertising the poll. A lift service for those unable to get to Victory Hall would be advertised. It was hoped that the Kentish Express would cover the event.

9.30pm: Those present agreed that the meeting continue

9. Correspondence: received

- An invitation from Orlestone's WI to their 'Give Hamstreet a Green Heart' which was taking place on Thursday 8th February between 2pm and 5pm in Victory Hall. It was noted that this was the group's third year of supporting the NFWI and the Climate Commission Campaign to raise awareness of the need to protect the environment. Various activities were planned for adults and children and as many green hearts as possible will be made. The primary academy were involved and students had been making hearts which will be hung around the railings outside the academy. Damian Green MP will be attending with the Mayor and Mayoress.
- An invitation to renew membership to the CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England); annual fee being £36. It was agreed that membership be renewed.
- Information regarding the 'Great British Spring Clean' taking place on 12th March 2018 and an invitation to involve the community
- An email from ABC concerning a Community Clean up and information package.

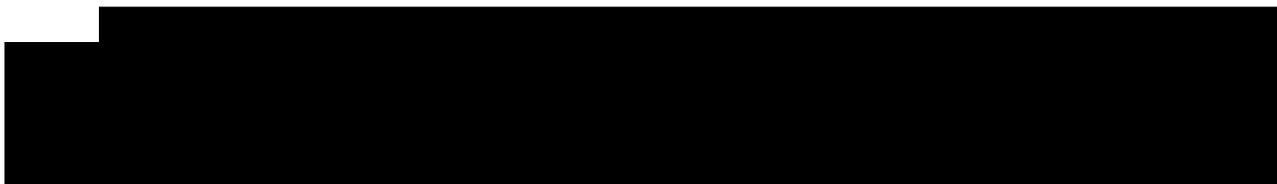
- A letter from Angela Bromfield in her capacity as Chairlady to the Victory Hall Management Committee and Friends of St Mary's Church thanking the Parish Council for their donations towards mowing and maintenance costs.
- An email from Borough Councillor Bradford highlighting that the police element of council tax had been raised by £1 per month; this will ensure that there are more police officers employed.
- An information leaflet regarding proposed development at Kingsnorth.
- A letter from the Victory Hall Management Committee relating to section 106 funding.

10. Finance:

Budget Update: The Clerk provided income and expenditure records and explained how these were incorporated into the monthly budget update.

Authorisation of Cheques: David Lancaster 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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11. Items For Next Agenda: *Items for discussion only, no decisions can be made under this heading.*

- Flooding at Cross Roads – organise a site meeting
- Missing bin outside Quince Cottages

14. Date of Next Meeting:

Planning Meeting: Monday 19th February 2018 at 7.30pm (if necessary)

Parish Council Meeting: Monday 5th March 2018 at 7.30pm

Meeting Concluded 9.45 pm

Chairman's Signature: