



Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 2 July 2024 in Detling Village Hall

Present: Cllr Clive English (Chairman), Cllr Laura Maclaren (Vice Chairman), Cllr Grahame Godding, Cllr Steve Jubb and Cllr Stephen Thompson;
and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present were nine members of the public.

Cllr English welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Time

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Time

Members of the public attended the meeting and asked about the alley meeting and the traffic consultation

1. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Peter Dabnor (personal) and Cllr Chris Evernden (unwell): apologies noted.

2. Declaration of Interest. or Lobbying

None were declared.

3. Dispensations

None

4. Items to be taken in closed session

None identified.

5. Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 June 2024

a) To consider the minutes of the previous meetings and if in order sign as a true record.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record; Cllr English duly signed the minutes.

b) Matters arising from the minutes (except those issues appearing under specific headings)

All matters on the agenda.

6. Visitors

SBCllr Thompson asked if reports could be published on the website.

Cllr English said that if Councillors agreed it would be possible if all representatives were willing to do this.

MBCllr Thompson reported that the garden waste bin collections on the Pilgrims Way continue to be an issue, improvements and adjustments have been made. He and SBCllr Jones had been out with the Waste Crime Officers, fly tipping is being addressed.

A249 central reservation: residents have said that non-mowing is valuable because insect life has disappeared from gardens.

He has attended a meeting regarding the Lenham Heath and Lidsing proposals.

Planning: The Heart of Kent Hospice will be moving. The only way to deal with longer term planning issues is for discussions to take place earlier. As soon as things are mooted is when action should be done, people's vigilance is needed. Maidstone Borough Council's new local Plan will be published on 17 July.

Following the tragedy in Thurnham Lane, there are highway safety issues and policing issues which need resolving.

Cllr English said these issues need to be discussed by Councillors at a separate meeting and brought back to Full Council.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange a meeting.

Cllr Maclaren said there is currently a Community Safety consultation.

ACTION 1: Clerk to put on the website.

ACTION 2: Cllr Maclaren to put on Facebook.

Cllr English full reports have been sent to Ward Members. Martyn Jeynes, Maidstone Borough Council Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager is very helpful and deals with anti-social behaviour.

ACTION: Clerk to include email in newsletter report.

ACTION: MBCllr Thompson to circulate report.

7. Correspondence

Consultation on Planning Validation Checklist changes

Cllr English said this is mostly for people likely to submit a planning application. The Borough Council, as the Planning Authority, has discretion.

ACTION: Cllrs to consider proposals and send comments to Clerk by 21 July.

8. Planning

Ref: 24/502388/SUB

Address: Oakview Holiday Park Scragged Oak Road Detling Kent ME14 3EZ

Proposal: Submission of details pursuant to condition 8 (foul sewage and surface water disposal measures) of application 22/504674/FULL.

Councillors considered the application and had no objections to the proposal.

24/501730/FULL Gorse Tor Detling Hill Detling ME14 3JG

Demolition of existing residential dwelling and all ancillary outbuildings and erection of a replacement detached dwelling with ancillary parking, cycle and bin storage and associated landscaping. Amended site plans

Councillors considered the amended site plans and had no objections.

23/501345/FULL APP/U2235/W/24/3343884

Reeds Wood Cox Street Detling Maidstone Kent ME14 3HL

Change of use of land to a luxury holiday park to comprising 6no. hard standing pitches, 2no. safari lodges, swim pond, cycle store and conversion of existing agricultural barn to a reception building with associated access, parking, foul water package treatment plant, 2no. surface water attenuation ponds with landscaping and lighting.

Cllr English said the Parish Council did comment on the original application and can submit further comments.

ACTION: Cllr Godding to send details to the Chairman.

9. Financial Matters:

a) Finance report

Received and noted.

b) Internal Auditor's report

Report noted.

c) Invoices for payment

Cheque no	Payee	Reason	Nett	VAT	Total
500114	DCK Payroll Solutions Ltd	Payroll fees	30.00	6.00	£36.00
500115	Mr G Godding	Expenses			£18.00
500116	KALC	Councillor Training	50.00	10.00	£60.00
500117	Mr L Robbins	Internal Audit			£175.00
500118	Detling Village Hall	Room Hire			£24.00
500119	Administration	Expenses	84.66	1.49	£86.15
500120-21	Staff costs				

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to make the payments.

d) To consider request from grant from Kent Sussex Surrey Air Ambulance Trust

Councillors considered the request and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to make a grant of £350 (cheque no 500122).

A request was received from the shop asking DPC to contribute 50% of the cost of a quotation for Pest control in relation to rats at the shop. Cllr Maclaren indicated that MBC offered a comparable pest control service at much reduced cost of £225 and that this should be explored before agreeing to the shop request.

10. Committees

a) To consider appointing a Planning Committee

Cllr English said the Parish Council does not have enough planning applications for there to be a Planning Committee. The Planning Inspectorate sets the timetable for appeals.

b) To consider appointing a Finance Working Group

Cllr English said some Parish Council have a Finance Working Group, mostly to prepare the budget for the following year; it would be a meeting of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Clerk to prepare proposals for Full Council to consider or they can meet in an emergency.

Cllr Maclaren said this has been raised because of the Open Spaces budget, we want to see a correlation of open spaces of what we have and plan for that.

Cllr Godding said the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk prepare the budget and asked what the community wants and how to get community feedback.

Cllr English said the Open Spaces Working Group is to consider the assts the Council has and maintains. This should lead into what the Council might do financially and what CIL money can be accessed. It needs to go through Full Council.

11. Highways

a) To receive an update

Cllr Maclaren informed Members that KCC will implement a Diversion order for PROW KH14-8, the footpath will go up to Jade's Crossing; the steps on the other side of the A249 will be

repaired. The overgrown verges on the A249 have been addressed; KCCllr Prendergast will try to get the mowing schedule changed. The verges near the M20 junction need to be resolved earlier before it becomes dangerous.

Consultation Leaflets have been delivered to most houses in the village in relation to double yellow lines and SIDs, unfortunately they contain an incorrect contact email and corrected details are available on the DPC website and Facebook, but leaflets will be redistributed in the next few days. The closing date for the consultation is 31 July.

b) Co-ordinated Parishes Traffic Group – to receive an update

Cllr Maclaren reported that the group has met with KCCllr Prendergast and KCC Highways; over congested roads, inappropriate diversions and HGVs are all issues affecting all parishes, there has been no feedback. Lorry Watch has been suggested. “No HGVs” signs have been requested for Hockers Lane to deter them from coming up.

The Parish will not get a weight, width or speed limit for the Pilgrims Way, a case will be put together to challenge this. The results of the speed surveys have been received.

Unfortunately, the wrong email address was put on the consultation document, responses can be sent via the website.

Fault reports have been submitted to KCC Highways.

Cllr English thanked Cllr Maclaren for her sterling work.

12. Open Spaces

a) To consider Working Group Terms of Reference

Cllr English **PROPOSED** the Terms of Reference be adopted; **SECONDED** by Cllr Godding: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councillor members of the Working Group were confirmed as Cllr English, Cllr Evernden and Cllr Jubb with Cllr Maclaren as substitute Member.

b) Monks Meadow and Horish Woods -To receive an update

Cllr English reported that there had been a site meeting with Mr Nixon, Pennies Day Nursery Ltd, regarding a new sign at Monks Meadow. The volunteers continue to carry out sterling work in the areas.

c) Open spaces

Cllr English reported that he had met with Mr Tony Taylor to look at matters in the village including the Tudor gateway, there is some invasive plant life on the gateway but no significant issues.

ACTION: Cllr English to liaise with the Conservation Officer.

Cllr Maclaren reported that the “No through road” sign at the top end of the Street will be discussed at the next Highways and Transportation Working Group. A request has been made for the trees to be cut back.

13. Community Resilience Plan

Cllr Thompson said the template circulated by Maidstone Borough Council Resilience Team was not a standard form or format; the KALC course said parishes have to draft a bespoke plan to suit its circumstances.

Cllr English said this is a general template for Sevenoaks District Council to be used as a starting point.

Cllr Godding said he attended a course and the plan must be bespoke. A Working group is needed to look at assets in the boundary, there is a lot of work to do. The plan must be community wide and the Parish Council should lead it.

Cllr English said the Community Resilience Plan is about the community being resilient not the Parish Council being resilient. It is good the Council is getting feedback, especially from organisations in the parish. A meeting can be arranged with those who have responded.

14. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 3 September 2024

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.08pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 3 September 2024