

The Minutes of the Meeting of Detling Parish Council
held on 3rd December 2019 at 7.00pm in Detling Village Hall.

Councillors present: *Bowie*
 Bryant
 Clayton
 Coles
 Evernden
 Finn

Also, present: *PCSO Matt Adlington and 3 members of the public.*
The minutes were taken by Cllr Coles and Cllr Bowie

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Bowie.

Councillor Bowie opened the meeting and read out a statement regarding the recording and filming during the meeting.

Prior to the start of the meeting Cllr Irene Bowie, informed all present of the sad news that Sir Richard Alexander had passed away . He was the chairperson of Detling Village hall committee, besides being the President of the Bentley club. Cllr Bowie stated that Sir Richard had been an outstanding chairperson. He had also been the editor of the Detling News and had made and through his hard work over the years had achieved a great deal for the village .

The Chairperson, Cllr Irene Bowie, requested a 1minute silence in respect of Sir Richard.

A minute's silence was held.

Cllr. Bowie advised that the 'Villager of the Year Award', awarded to Sir Richard (in November 2019) will now be presented to his sons.

1. Apologies.

Members who cannot attend a meeting shall tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings, under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted.

Apologies were received from KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast , MBC Councillor Nick de Wiggondene-Shepperd and Mrs S Babington (Parish Clerk and RFO)

2. Declaration of Interest.

To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers.

To consider any Dispensation requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered.

There were no Dispensations were considered.

3. Public Comments and Observations. (The minute Book was closed)

The meeting is adjourned to enable members of the public to raise issues with the Parish Council. Public Comments and Observations will last a total of 15 minutes with each speaker being given a maximum of 3 minutes to speak.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.08pm.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.10pm.

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

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

The minutes from the previous meeting was circulated to all members for consideration and approval.

It was RESOLVED that the minutes were taken as read and confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Clayton , seconded by Cllr Bryant

The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the previous minutes (not reported elsewhere).

Parish Council Risk Assessment – It was RESOLVED that all volunteers (including Cllr's) would complete and sign the risk assessment before any further work was undertaken on parish council property.

Action: All risk assessment forms to be signed and forwarded to the Clerk

Bus Service in Detling – The Chairman confirmed that the Clerk despite writing to Arriva had not received a response.

Action: Clerk to follow up

It was AGREED that representatives of the parish council would meet with the Principle Planning Officer (Strategic Planning) MBC on the 11th December to discuss the Call for Sites as applicable to Detling.

6. Parish Councillor Vacancy.

The Chairman stated that to date no applications for the vacancy had been received.

7. Presentations from Outside Bodies.

There were no presentations from outside bodies.

8. Financial Matters.

a. To approve the payment of accounts (list to be supplied at the meeting)

The cheques for payment were authorised and approved by members. (Finn/Clayton)

The cheques and invoices were then signed by two authorised signatories.

b. To note the bank account balances as circulated in report supplied at the meeting.

The balances of the Parish Councils bank accounts were circulated and subject to clarification, were noted by members.

Bank Balances

Co-operative Current Account	£64747.38
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£1732.20
Closing Balance	£63015.18
Co-operative Deposit Account	£1505.87
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Closing Balance	£1,505.87
Total Balance of all Parish Council Accounts	£64521.05

c. To consider any Grant Applications.

There were no applications

d. 2020/2021 Budget.

The draft 2020/2021 Budget was circulated to all members. It was AGREED to defer to the 29th January parish council meeting.

9. Planning Matters.**Applications Received**

19/505472/FULL Magpie Bungalow White Hill Road Detling Maidstone Kent
 Permission 19/500311/FULL - (Ancillary accommodation comprising gym, games room and pool changing rooms). To allow an increase in footprint, height and changes to materials.
 It was RESOLVED that the parish council had no objection to the application.

MBC Application Decisions/Appeals

Notification of Appeal Lodged with the Planning Inspectorate

Proposal: Change of use of land from open space to private land; with a new fence and gates.

Location: Church View 4 St Martins Close Detling

An appeal has been lodged by Mr Daniel Tong in relation to the above for the following reason:

The Council has refused permission for this application.

To consider any Appeals and Enforcement Matters.

No matters were reported.

Call for Sites.

Cllr Bryant gave his report from the Joint Parishes Group Meeting (JPG) re the Call for Sites.

Following discussion, it was AGREED that DPC would consider withdrawing from the JPG.

Action: To discuss at the next parish council meeting

10. Highway Matters.

Cllr. Coles reported on the Parish Seminars Autumn Meeting which she and Cllr. Bowie attended on 28/11/19.

It was AGREED to invite Simon Jones -Director, Highways, Transportation and Waste-update to a parish council meeting.

Action: Clerk and Chairman

A meeting had been arranged with Kent Highways at KCC Maidstone on 18/12/19 to view and discuss the safety audit results and to discuss the Highways Improvement Plan. Cllrs Bowie, Coles and Clayton to attend.

11. Reports from External Parties.

a. KCC Councillor Report.

Apologies were received from KCC Councillor Prendergast.

b. MBC Councillor Report.

MBC Councillor de Wiggondene-Shepperd gave his apologies to the meeting.

c. Maintenance Report.

Tony Taylor gave his report to the meeting on the maintenance that he had undertaken around the parish. Cllrs were unanimous in their thanks to Tony for his outstanding efforts (again) in maintaining these aspects of the village.

d. Police Report.

PCSO Matt Adlington gave his report to the meeting.

Burglaries- there had been a massive spike as usual at this time of year.

He reminded residents to dead lock front doors as many burglars gained quick access in order to take keys from hallways and steal cars from drives.

He advised that he had a small supply of light /lamp timers for older/vulnerable people.

Cllr. Clayton requested 2 for 2 villagers.

He advised that he has 11 parishes to cover.

It was AGREED that PCSO Adlington would provide a list of the Neighbourhood Watch coordinators in Detling to the Clerk to enable the parish council to contact them and progress matters.

12. Parish Council Reports.

a. Clerk's/Correspondence Report.

To consider items of correspondence received relevant to the Parish Council.

The Clerks report was noted by members.

MBC Anti Idling Campaign. It was AGREED to consider possible locations at the next meeting.

b. Chairman's/ Councillors Report.

Members who have attended any meeting on behalf of the Parish Council are invited to give their report to the meeting.

Cllr. Clayton -attended KALC AGM 30/11/19. Cllr Clayton gave his report.

It was AGREED that the parish council would discuss this at a future meeting.

Cllr Bowie had attended the Village Hall Management Committee and was elected as the interim chair.

A Village Tea is to be held on Saturday 7th December. The committee had funded a new carpet in PC room and new windowsills and fire doors in the building. The hall had been redecorated.

c. Open Spaces Committee Report.

Cllr. Finn stated that the group had had an informal meeting.

The tenders for Monks Meadow/ Horish Wood /War Memorial and other open spaces maintenance had been put out to tender.

Cllr Finn gave an update on the work carried out by the Medway Conservation Trust.

It was RESOLVED that Cllr. Evernden would complete the volunteer policy risk assessment prior to any further work being undertaken on parish council owned property. Cllr's thanked Cllr Evernden for agreeing to assist in the removal of the brambles.

It was AGREED that signage would be made available to notify users of Horish Wood or Monks Meadow that work was being undertaken.

Action : Clerk and Cllr Finn

Cllr. Finn reported that he had taken a Forestry Commission Officer to visit Horish Wood. The Commissioner had been very impressed. The Chairman thanked Cllr Finn.

Other Committee Reports.

No matters were raised.

13. Energy Supplier for Detling.

Cllr. Finn reported that, having completed the initial investigations into this idea, there is now a clear possibility of being able to do this within the village.

A volunteer would be sought to organise the comparison of various quotes from companies and then organise a meeting with villagers to explain the savings from this scheme.

It was AGREED that potential energy suppliers were identified and invited to attend a parish council meeting. It was further AGREED that once a supplier had been identified a Village Co-ordinator would be sought.

14. Neighbourhood Plan.

A discussion took place regarding the Neighbourhood Plan process and the benefits this could bring to Detling. Cllr. Clayton commented that it was encouraging that 2 residents had responded to a request to come forward to assist with the air pollution data and 1 resident had volunteered to assist with the Detling neighbourhood plan.

It was AGREED to vote at the February meeting on the progression of a Detling NHP.

15. Emergency Plan for Detling

Cllr. Finn reported that the Draft Risk Assessment and Emergency Plan document compiled by himself and Cllr Coles had been circulated to members.

Cllr. Finn had taken pertinent points from the Brexit Planning Document and the Kent Resilience Plan and drawn up a list of agreed risks for Detling village and the parish of Detling.

It was AGREED that the parish council has meetings with the emergency services to establish their procedures in the event of a risk occurring.

PCSO Adlington advised that South East Water and Phone companies keep lists of vulnerable residents in order that they can attend within 24 hours in the event of an emergency.

A member of the public raised the issue of the inadequate state of the fire hydrants within the parish. It was AGREED that a list of fire hydrants in Detling would be supplied to ensure the locations were identifiable.

It was AGREED that Cllr. Finn to allocate other risks to council members for allocation of actions to be taken before /during and after each risk. It was AGREED that each Cllr would complete this and return to Cllr's Finn and Coles before the next meeting.

16. CIC Community Shop

Cllr Finn confirmed gave his report. It was noted that:

The Shop opening is scheduled for 11/1/2020. Invites to the opening ceremony have been extended to the Mayor of Maidstone/ our MP Helen Whately /Shellina Prendergast and Nick de Wiggondene-Sheppard. All Villagers of the year (past and present) are to be invited and also PCSO Adlington.

Cllr Finn explained that almost £9k had been raised by Detling villagers' donations. If every household in the village spends £5 /week, the project will be a success.

Cllr. Bowie thanked both Cllr. Clayton and Cllr. Finn for their sterling efforts on this project and also acknowledged the hard work of those villagers on the shop committee.

17. PC Website

Cllr. Bowie reminded members that new regulations for PC websites will come into effect in September 2020. The current website will not comply with these new regulations.

Action : Cllr Bowie and the Clerk to progress a new website .

18. Items to be placed on the next Agenda.

Bearsted Primary Academy / Parish Council Liaison

Call for sites - PC to consider making a safe route for access to schools a precondition of planning for building new homes.

Action: Clerk to place items on next agenda.

19. Date of next meeting.

Tuesday 4th February 2020 at 7 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Detling Village Hall.

Note :Cllr Bowie drew everyone's attention to 2 documents which she had produced : (Both to be displayed on PC notice board and copies were available for all present.)

Maidstone Borough Council 'Call for sites' update and -Bearsted Primary Academy (New school) admission details for September 2020

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.03 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____

