

CHILHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Chilham Village Hall on 3rd January, 2008 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs M.Barbrook, D.Kennett (Vice-chairman), A.Ralph, M.Sansom, E.Taylor, R.Taylor(Chairman), Y.White

Apologies: Cllrs J.Adams, R.Marsh

In Attendance: Mr G Dear (Clerk), Borough Cllr J.Marriott, 1 member of the public

1/1 Election of Vice-chairman

Cllr D Kennett was elected vice-chairman unopposed.

1/2 Minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2007

The minutes were signed as a true record.

1/3 Matters arising from the Minutes

(12/2) RoSPA – Play Area Safety Inspection Report

The clerk had obtained another copy of the RoSPA report and forwarded copies to cllrs R Taylor and Marsh.

Cllr Marsh had been asked to review the action required to address issues raised in the RoSPA report (this action is required or our insurance will be invalidated) and propose a course of action at the January meeting.

Cllr R Taylor agreed to follow up the matter with Cllr Marsh.

(12/2) Govt office for the south-east – The South East Plan – Publication of Panel Report
Cllr Ralph reported that there were no issues to address.

(12/2) Chilham – Yew tree at Denmark House

Clerk had advertised the offer of 2 trees thru KM village news and the Parish News for suggestions of type of tree and location but had not received any suggestions.

The clerk was asked to check again with our tree warden for suggestions.

(12/5) Next steps following the LDF community workshop

The clerk had given the following feedback to ABC:

- 1) The workshop was well organised
- 2) An open invite to the parish would have produced a more representative attendance
- 3) There were uninvited attendees

(12/7) PACT

The clerk had re-distributed the leaflet from Kent Police to remind cllrs of the PACT objectives so they could consider candidates to be contacted regarding sitting on the panel.

(12/8) Train Service

The clerk had written on behalf of the council to DfT and South Eastern Trains.

The clerk had contacted parish clerks at Chartham and Wye and they had agreed to collaborate on opposing cuts to the service.

(12/10) Litter Picker

The clerk had placed an advert on village noticeboards and arranged for the vacancy to be included in KM village news and the Parish News.

There were 2 candidates and the successful candidate was Mr Derek West who would start work immediately.

(12/11) Highways - The Square

Cllr Sansom had submitted a brief report on the fire engine experiment in the Square to the KM after clearing the content with the chairman.

(12/11) Accident on A252 near Dane Street

The clerk had raised the issue with Kent Highways and requested action be taken to prevent further incidents.

(12/12) KCC – North Downs Way Information board – request for permission to use Taylors Hill notice board

The clerk had confirmed that the panel would be separate from the noticeboard.

The clerk was asked to advise KCC that permission would be required from ABC.

(12/12) KCC Trading Standards – notification of Trading Standards Alert Email messaging system and request that we help in display and distribution of messages

The clerk had confirmed that the council would participate in this scheme.

(12/12) Stuart Latta – email re Hambrook Lane / Mountain Street corner – request to support request to Kent Highways to repair damage caused by passing vehicles

The clerk had passed the issue to Roads & Transport committee to monitor and emailed the councils support for the request to Kent Highways

(12/12) Centre for Independent Living Kent (CILK) – request for mobile service that “takes empowering, independent living information to disabled people of all ages living in Kent and the Medway towns” to visit the parish for one day in January, February and March

The clerk had confirmed council agreement for visits and had suggested Felborough Close as a suitable location for the mobile service. Having also asked local organisations for their thoughts the suggestion had been extended to:

1. Felborough Close on a Thursday after 2pm when the Lunch Club is finished
2. OWL VH car park just before the Seniors Club on alternate Tuesdays from 2.30 pm

1/4 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Barbrook expressed an interest in the Church Hill site considered in Planning Committee response to Rural Housing site search under 1/5 Planning (below) and did not comment on this site.

1/5 Planning.

Decisions received from Ashford:-

Application No. 07/01914/AS

Windermere, Pilgrims Lane, Chilham

Erection of rear extension, open porch and side extension. Conversion of existing roof space into living accommodation with the insertion of a front and rear dormer

GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS

Applications Considered:-

Application No. 07/01916/AS
Copyhold, Lower Lees Road, OWL
Front extension and new vehicle access
SUPPORT

Application No. 07/02165/AS
Sunnybank Garage, Canterbury Road, Chilham
Erection of 3 number security light poles with pir controlled lights mounted 4.5m above ground level
SUPPORT

Application No. 07/02227/AS
The Moorings, Pilgrims Lane, Chilham
Replacement dwelling
SUPPORT

Application No. 07/02231/AS
St Marys CofE Primary School, School Hill, Chilham
To demolish a derelict and redundant outdoor toilet block, formerly an air raid shelter and construct a new single storey multi-purpose building for staff, and relay tarmac paving around the buildings
SUPPORT

Planning Committee response to Rural Housing site search comments
Cllrs Barbrook and Kennett reported that their first choice was the Shrimpton Close site with the site along the A252 behind Felborough Close as second choice provided suitable access could be provided from Felborough Close. All other sites were considered unsuitable.
Cllr Barbrook would provide the clerk with a copy of the committees comments so they could be forwarded to the Rural Housing Advisor.
The clerk would request confirmation of the number of dwellings planned for Shrimpton Close.

1/6 Finance

The Clerk gave the financial report which has approved.

The following payments were agreed:

947	G Dear	Clerk to 31-12-07	432.12
948	G Dear	Expenses - Dec 2007	27.95
949	Chilham Village Hall	Hall hire	90.00

Total Payments 550.07

A transfer of £725.00 to the instant access deposit account was approved.

Budget for 2008/9

The clerk presented the budget proposed by the finance committee (see annex) and made the following points:-

- 1) The budget was based upon projected expenditure for 2007/8
- 2) The proposed precept of £14713 was a £2456 increase on 2007/8
- 3) The main reasons for the increase were due to the extra hours now included in the clerks contract and an increase in Maintenance costs (mainly OWL grass cutting)
- 4) 2.5% had been added to account for inflation

Following questions of clarification the budget was approved.

1/7 PACT

It was decided to look into publicising this initiative via Parish News by distributing the meeting notice provided by PC Alison Barney.

The clerk was asked to check that:

- 1) 400 meeting notices could be provided by PC Alison Barney
- 2) distribution by Parish News was possible
- 3) Ashford Chief Inspector Martin Bradley would agree to attend and if so find out his availability

1/8 Train Service

Cllr Sansom reported on a meeting with MP Damian Green who agreed to put the Chilham case to SouthEastern. Other items reported included:

- 1) The petition had collected 180 signatures
- 2) Meeting planned with Mike Gibson (SouthEastern) on 16Jan with CEPS and Boro Cllr Marriott
- 3) Wye and Chartham PCs had agreed to collaborate with us

Cllr Sansom was asked to liaise with CEPS and form a subcommittee to co-ordinate action on this issue.

1/9 Chilham Guide

The clerk was asked to contact Plus Publishing and obtain an estimate for a reprint with minor changes.

1/10 Highways

Hedges&Verges subcommittee

Cllr Ralph reported on 2 issues successfully addressed by the committee

Chilham Square

Cllr Ralph reported had estimated that the proposed signs would cost c£200 and that the production of a proposed layout was in progress.

Parking Issues

Cllr R Taylor agreed to investigate the complaint regarding a silver van parked in The Street.

Repairs required to Felborough Close Bus Shelter

Cllr D Kennett agreed to identify the work required including the provision of a holder for the bus timetable.

1/11 Meetings

Xmas Tree

Cllr Barbrook reported on the committee that arranged this.

Cllr R Taylor congratulated the committee on behalf of the parish Council and agreed to support this with a letter.

Police and Parish Forum

Cllr R Taylor reported on the December meeting.

KAPC – Ashford Area

Cllr R Taylor reported on the December meeting.

1/12 Village Reports

OWL

Cllr White reported graffiti on Green Lane salt bin and agreed to ask ABC to remove it.

Chilham

Cllr White agreed to replace Cllr Ralph as PC rep for Chilham Village Hall.

Police

The clerk had received an activity report from PC Alison Barney describing incidents attended during December (here had only been 2) and assistance given to Community Warden Lin Marshall re parked vehicles in The Street.

1/13 Correspondence

1/8 Kent Air Ambulance – Request for donation

Decided not to donate.

1/14 KAPC – Ashford Area – request for candidates for standards committee

No volunteers.

1/18 Hobbs Parker – request for village information

Decided not to help.

1/24 Kent Wildlife Trust – Anti-social behaviour on Mystole Road / Pickleden Lane – email from reserves warden describing the problem

Cllr R Taylor had met the reserves warden to assist in resolving the problem.

1/14 Date of next meeting

7th February, 2008 in Chilham Village Hall

715pm for 730pm

PLEASE NOTE: All actions are recorded in *italics*.