

CHILHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Old Wives Lees Village Hall on 4th December, 2008 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J.Adams, M.Barbrook, D.Kennett, R.Marsh, A.Ralph, M. Sansom, E.Taylor, R.Taylor (Chairman), Y.White

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Mr G Dear (Clerk), G Cox and D Vann (Kent Highways), 4 members of the public

Prior to the meeting Graham Cox and Don Vann from Kent Highways discussed the development of a strategy that will resolve some of the current concerns and aspirations around traffic movements and parking within Chilham and answered questions.

It was agreed that the main problems are ...

- 1) congested and unrestricted parking
- 2) impeded access for emergency vehicles and delivery vehicles and residents
- 3) not enough use being made of Taylors Hill car park by tourists
- 4) inappropriate use of the square as a long stay car park when other more appropriate options are available
- 5) rat runs by cars using the square as a short cut
- 6) misdirected (often by SatNav) HGV vehicles using the square and causing damage to property in the approach roads
- 7) danger to pedestrians - especially school children walking between the school and Taylors Hill car park

The following next steps were also agreed...

- 1) KHS will do traffic surveys in the square and its approach roads during the next few weeks covering weekends and evenings as well as daytime and rush hours
- 2) A draft report proposing measures to be taken to resolve these problems will be produced around end January and a meeting with the parish council will be arranged to review this
- 3) A final report would be submitted to the Pipkin system in Feb/Mar

Any solution must be sympathetic to the unique nature of the square.

12/1 Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2008

The minutes were signed as a true record.

12/2 Matters arising from the Minutes

(11/2) Litter

Cllr White agreed to contact the Environment Agency and ABC Environmental Control to find out what support is available to prevent fly-tipping.

(11/2) RoSPA – Play Area Safety Inspection Report

The clerk had contacted Playdale and arranged for:

- 1) the gate to be repaired
- 2) 50 more bolt caps to be provided
- 3) the antiwrap bearing on swings to be freed up
- 4) an estimate for regluing the wetpour where splits between the edging have appeared

(11/2) Neighbourhood Watch Signs

The clerk had followed up the order and installation of the signs with Peter Wead – he was waiting for confirmation from PC Brosnan.

(11/2) Poorly placed overtaking road markings on A252

Cllr R Taylor had contacted Kent Police regarding these road markings and they had agreed to review the situation.

The Police have submitted a road traffic crash prevention report to Kent Highway Services requesting that they install a continuous double white line system at the location in one form or another. This would be either a continuous pair of solid white lines, or a solid white line when approaching the brow of the 'hump' then when visibility improves a broken white line.

(11/3) Planning.

The clerk had provided Cllr Marsh with details of the Redthorn decision.

(11/3) 2nd Community Workshop re Tenterden and Rural Areas DPD

The clerk had booked the large village hall for 15th January between 7pm and 11pm

The clerk had arranged for the meeting to be publicised in December Parish News, KM village news, parish noticeboards and the parish council website – parishioners interested in attending had been asked to contact the clerk before the end of December.

(11/5) OWL Basketball

The clerk had received a copy of the original application and confirmed the constraints placed on the use of the £30,000 grant provided by KCC Youth Capital Fund to ensure maximum benefit was gained.

(11/9) Prioritised list of issue for Kent Highways Liaison visit

The clerk had sent the list produced by Cllr Ralph to our Kent Highways liaison officer and the visit was likely to be in the first 2 weeks of December.

(11/12) Kent Health Watch

The clerk had publicised on noticeboards

(11/12) Alan Baker – Community Volunteer Responder Scheme

The clerk had contact Mick Troth to obtain notices to put on noticeboards

Cllrs R Taylor and White agreed to investigate furthering the new year

(11/12) KALC Ashford Area Committee – minutes of meeting on 1st October

The clerk had confirmed with our insurance brokers that we are covered for costs ABC might charge in respect of their monitoring officer investigating complaints.

(11/12) Lord Lieutenant of Kent's Office – invitation to attend annual civic service in Rochester cathedral

The clerk had sent an apology as no-one could attend.

(11/12) Society of Local Clerks – Kent Branch – request that we provide band D equivalent charge and precept

The clerk had provided the information requested

(11/12) ABC – Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – notification that this is available for review and comment between 29Sep and 11Nov
Passed to Planning Committee to supply feedback via the clerk
Cllr Adams to provide feedback to the clerk as soon as possible.

(11/12) ABC – Rural Parishes Older Persons Project – chase up request to register interest.
The clerk had registered interest in case this could be of relevance to the parish

(11/12) KALC – Code of Conduct Consultation and making and Enforcement of Byelaws – notification of our opportunity to comment
The clerk had forwarded to Cllr Adams to review for relevance to the parish
Update required by Cllr Adams

(11/12) Kent Highways – feedback following Parish Seminars and invitation to visit their new Offices in Ashford
No cllrs wishing to take up this offer and join Cllrs R Taylor and Ralph had notified the clerk.

(11/12) ABC – Changes to permitted development rights – notification of significant changes to legislation governing householder developments and the need for planning permission
Planning Committee to review – passed to Cllr Barbrook
Update required from Planning Committee

(11/ 12) Communities for Local Government – Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees – a consultation
Cllr Kennett had reviewed the document on behalf of the Complaints and Grievances committee and it was decided not to comment.

12/3 Declarations of Interest

None.

12/4 Planning.

Decisions received from Ashford:-

Application No. 07/02159/AS

Chilham Pumping Station, Mill Lane, Chilham

Installation of new potable water pipeline from Howfield Pumping Station to a connection at Stile Farm Chilham (Subject to Environmental Impact Assessment)

APPROVAL OF AMENDED PLANS

Application No. 07/02227/AS

The Moorings, Pilgrims Lane, Chilham

Replacement dwelling and garage

APPEAL ALLOWED – PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

Application No. 08/00144/TC

35 Felborough Close, Chilham

T1-Acer Pseudoplatanus – crown lift to edge of garden to 6m in height to permit light to penetrate

NO OBJECTIONS

Application No. 08/00147/TC

2 Hambrook Close, Chilham
Fell silver birch trees – S1 and S2
NO OBJECTIONS

Application No. 08/01474/AS
13 Mountain Street, Chilham
Erection of single storey shed for storage
GRANTED

Applications Considered:-

The planning committee had reviewed each application prior to the meeting. All their decisions were endorsed by the council. The resulting decisions are listed below.

Application No. 08/00165/TC
Elephant House, School Hill, Chilham
T1 Lime - reduce crown by 40%, T2 Horse Chestnut - fell, T3 Lime - thin by maximum of 20%, T4 Sycamore - reduce by maximum of 40%
SUPPORT

Application No. 08/00166/FC
Hawkins Rough, Old Wives Lees
Cutting Coppice
SUPPORT

Application No. 08/01307/AS
Old Vicarage, Church Hill, Chilham
Erection of one dwelling
SUPPORT but concern regarding access to the site (a) during the build and (b) once completed, traffic issues around Chilham Square affecting access to the dwelling by emergency vehicles and delivery vehicles need to be addressed in conjunction with this planning application.

Application No. 08/01736/AS
2 Garden Cottages, Lower Lees Road, OWL
Demolition of ground floor extensions, erection of a two storey rear extension – revised scheme to approved consent reference 08/01255/AS
SUPPORT

12/5 Finance

The clerk also presented the accounts for 2008/9 and they were approved by the meeting. The following payments were also approved:

1051	A R Groombridge	OWL grass cutting	266.73
1052	Chilham Village Hall	Hall hire	70.00
1053	KALC	Expenses-Lunch at AGM	8.50
1054	G Dear	Clerk to 30-11-08	671.31
1055	G Dear	Expenses - Nov 2008	34.14
1056	K Jeffery	Cleaner to 04-12-08	210.20
Total Payments			1,260.88

A transfer of £1250.00 from the instant access deposit account was approved.

OWL Basketball

The clerk advised that there were no indications that we would exceed the £30,000 grant provided by KCC Youth Capital Fund. Including the latest update from Cllr White expenditure to date was £20,641.80.

Budget and Precept for 2009/10

The clerk summarised the finance committee budget proposal for 2009 and highlighted the major items. The meeting approved the proposal unanimously and set the precept for 2009/10 at £15,373, an increase of 4.5% on 2008/9.

Recycling Fund Bids

The clerk advised that a bid for £1000 had been received from Chilham primary school to help fund a sensory garden that had a projected cost of £5000.

The finance committee had reviewed this bid prior to the meeting and proposed that a grant of £1000 should be made as requested. This was approved unanimously.

Xmas Tree in Chilham Square

The meeting confirmed its support of this successful community event and it was agreed that in future years the Xmas tree committee should present an itemised list of projected expenditure in September so the parish council could establish the level of funding required.

12/6 Website

The clerk provided an update on progress and circulated a draft Whats On listing. This would be posted on village noticeboards and the parish council website.

It was agreed that the clerk should get the listing as complete as possible and then publicise thru Parish News and noticeboards before Xmas.

12/7 Highways

Cllr R Taylor reported that a KHS drainage team had been working in the parish over recent weeks.

Cllr Ralph reported an RTA on the A252 near Dane Street.

Cllr White reported that the damaged 20mph sign at the junction.

12/8 Meetings

CPRGT – Cllr Ralph had circulated a report of the meeting on 27th November
Chilham Village Hall – Cllr White reported on the AGM

12/9 Village Reports

Local Need Housing - Cllr R Taylor reported on a successful meeting to discuss the plans
Downland Housing had drawn up for extending Shrimpton Close. 20 members of the public
had attended, feedback had been positive and Downland were considering a number of minor
changes to their plans including reducing ridge levels and installing solar panels.

OWL – Cllr R Taylor reported on a meeting he and PC Barney had attended with OCS Youth
Club to discuss damage caused to OWL village Hall and other property in the village on
Haloween.

Raves – Cllr R Taylor reported on email correspondence he had had with Kent Police
regarding their response to raves in the parish culminating in a official complaint to
Professional Standards at force HQ, the particular concerns were:

- a) The lack of positive action at the rave from the word go.
- b) Why we had to wait three weeks for an official reply from Ch Insp Frayne.

Police – the clerk circulated a report on incidents during the last month from PC Barney.

12/10 Correspondence

12/1 Open Spaces Society – appeal for funds to support legal action
Decided not to donate

12/2 ABC – Notification of review of ABC funding and support to voluntary community
organisations – request for feedback
OWL Village Hall Chair Tina Taylor had agreed to respond based upon experience obtaining
a community grant from ABC

12/6 CPRE – Stop the Drop – Parish Council Toolkit
The clerk was asked to forward this to Cllr White

12/8 KALC – KCC Verge Cutting Survey
The clerk had completed and returned to KALC

12/10 Swale Borough Council – Preparation of Faversham Creek Area Development Plan
Document – invitation to make representations
Decision taken: not our borough – no need to comment

12/15 KHS – KCC Permit Scheme – Further Consultation
Decided no need to comment last time so no need to comment this time

12/17 ABC – Standards Committee – 28th November – Agenda
Action taken: passed to Cllr R Taylor

12/18 KCC – East Kent Area Reception at Canterbury Cathedral College Lodge – 20th Jan
630pm-830pm
Cllr R Taylor agreed to attend

12/19 Ringmaster emails:- Missing Person Anne Gregory / Damage to property in Long Hill, OWL / Theft of bushes and garden statue from outskirts of OWL / Theft of husky/alsation cross from Crundale / Clean Kent initiative / Theft of Daihatsu fourtrak from Shalmsford Lane Burglary in Church Lane, Molash / New NhW website at www.mynhw.co.uk
Action taken: Passed to Cllrs

12/20 Trading Standards Alerts – Buy with Confidence Traders / suspicious trader offering garden work in Herne Bay / suspicious traders offering building work in Canterbury and Dover / telephone cold callers asking for bank account details / cold caller in Edenbridge extorting £5000 as deposit for roof repairs not started / rogue housing inspector and builder operating in Canterbury
Action taken: forwarded to Cllrs and Elisabeth Arter

12/22 KHS – Parish and Town Council Survey – request to complete questionnaire
Action taken: clerk completed and returned survey

12/23 KALC – Freedom of Information (Model Scheme)
The clerk was asked to forward details to Cllr Adams to review and assess implications on the parish council

12/26 Kent Fire & Rescue - Integrated Risk Management Plan 2009/10 – request to complete online questionnaire by 12th Jan 09
The clerk was asked to pass to Cllrs Kennett and Marsh to complete questionnaire

12/27 Linton Parish Council - The Linton Boundary Project
Action taken: passed to Cllr R Taylor

12/31 CASE Kent – Directory for the over 50's – request for Parish News contact re inclusion of piece about the directory
Action taken: clerk provided contact details

12/32 ABC – Ashford Winter Festival
Action taken: copy passed to Cllrs

12/33 KALC Ashford Area – Community Strategy – copy of strategy issued to cllrs who attend Ashford Area meetings
Action taken: copy passed to Cllr R Taylor

12/11 Date of next meeting

8th January, 2009 in Chilham Village Hall
715pm for 730pm

PLEASE NOTE: All actions are recorded in *italics*. Please provide the clerk with an update 2 weeks after the meeting.