

CHILHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Chilham Village Hall on 7th February, 2008 at 7.30pm

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

Apologies: Cllr J.Adams, Borough Cllr J.Marriott

In Attendance: Mr G Dear (Clerk), 4 members of the public

Open Forum: Prior to the meeting Doffy Milner requested that the Parish Council supports the need for main drains to be supplied to the remaining properties within the Parish (where this is feasible) and that they pursue this with Southern Water. She pointed out that:

- 1) Mountain Street, Dane Street and Shottenden have a need
- 2) Mains drains have recently been supplied to Selling, Eastling and New Romney
- 3) Lack of mains drainage causes environmental damage
- 4) Average cost for connection would be c£500 (this would be optional but compulsory on selling the property)

The council agreed to follow this up with Southern Water.

2/1 Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd January 2008

The minutes were signed as a true record.

2/2 Matters arising from the Minutes

(1/3) RoSPA – Play Area Safety Inspection Report

The following course of action is required:

Old Wives Lees Play Area:

- 1) Site And Ancillary Items - Accessinstall additional paving (Medium risk)
Clerk had instructed John Russell to go ahead with the work
- 2) Multi Play and Slide - General Maintenance - Bolt caps ...replace (Medium risk)
Get bolt caps from Playdale - Cllr Marsh or ano to fit
- 3) 2 Flat Swings - General Maintenance - free seized (Medium risk)
Cllr Marsh or ano to free up
Clerk to provide copy of maintenance instructions

Latin Field:

- 1) Site And Ancillary Items - Seats ... damaged seat planks - replace (Medium risk)
- 2) Site And Ancillary Items - Fencing ... repair chain link / remove barbed wire (Low/medium risk)
- 3) Swings 2 bay 1 Flat 1 Cradle - Increase splay ... 1 bracket loose (Medium/high risk)
- 4) Swings 2 bay 1 Flat 1 Cradle - General Maintenance - reset to correct height ... (Low/medium risk)
- 5) Surfacing - Grass - Compliance - a protective surface is recommended ... (Low/medium risk)
- 6) Surfacing - Grass - General Maintenance - build up levels ... (Medium risk)
- 7) Standard Goals - Projecting bolt thread - cut off and ... (Low/medium risk)
- 8) Basketball Goal - Trip zones ... - build up ground levels ... (Medium risk)

Cllr Whites proposals should be extended to remove all these risks.

(1/3) Chilham – Yew tree at Denmark House

Clerk had asked the Tree Warden for suggested sites for the donated trees but no suitable parish owned land was identified.

(1/3) Litter Picker

Mr D West was not able to take up the position, however another candidate. Mrs Julia Turner, had now taken up the position.

(1/3) KCC – North Downs Way Information board – request for permission to install information board in Taylors Hill car park

The clerk had advised KCC that permission would be required from ABC.

(1/5) Planning Committee response to Rural Housing site search comments

Cllr Barbrook had provided the clerk with a copy of the committees comments and they had been forwarded to the Rural Housing Advisor.

The clerk had confirmed that the Rural Housing requirement was for 12 dwellings and had been advised that it was not known at this stage how many could be accommodated in Shrimpton Close.

(1/7) PACT

The clerk had confirmed that:

- 1) 400 meeting notices could be provided by PC Alison Barney
- 2) distribution by Parish News was possible
- 3) Ashford Inspector Andrew Judd would agree to attend

An open meeting was planned for 13th March to fit in with Inspector Judds availability. A provisional booking had been made for the small village hall.

(1/8) Train Service

Cllr Sansom had liaised with CEPS and formed a subcommittee to co-ordinate action on this issue.

(1/9) Chilham Guide

The clerk had contacted Plus Publishing and obtained an estimate for a reprint with minor changes – see agenda item 9.

(1/10) Parking Issues

Cllr R Taylor had investigated the complaint regarding a silver van parked in The Street and reported that the van and another vehicle had now been moved.

(1/10) Repairs required to Felborough Close Bus Shelter

Cllr D Kennett had identified the work required including the provision of a holder for the bus timetable.

The clerk would now obtain an estimate from a local firm.

(1/11) Xmas Tree

Cllr R Taylor had written letters to the committee, the vicar as well as to Peter Higgs for supplying the tree.

(1/12) OWL

Cllr White had reported the graffiti on Green Lane salt bin to ABC and it had been removed promptly.

2/3 Declarations of Interest

None.

2/4 Planning.

Decisions received from Ashford:-

Application No. 07/01830/AS

Chilham Park, Chilham Castle Estate, Chilham

Installation of floodlights on riding school

REFUSED

Application No. 07/02000/AS

The Star Inn, Selling Road, OWL

Single storey side and rear extensions

GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS

Application No. 07/01916/AS

Copyhold, Lower Lees Road, OWL

Front extension and new vehicle access

GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS

Applications Considered:-

Application No. 07/02279/AS

Bagham Cross House, Bagham Lane, Chilham

Erection of 3 bay timber framed garage

OPPOSE – the council would support a 3 bay garage but this seemed more than this – there was concern over future use for accommodation.

Application No. 07/02313/AS

Ava;on, North Court Oast, Lower Lees Road, OWL

Proposed single storey side extension

SUPPORT

Application No. 08/00004/AS

Redthorn, Branch Road, Chilham

To remove overhang over parking areas by 0.5m and reduce height to 2.5m, Leylandii hedge (T1); to remove approx 75% Leylandii hedge (T2); to fell 5 x Elder (T3,4,6,8,10), 1 x Yew (T7) & 1 x Ash (T9); to prune lower branches 1 x Holly (T5); to crown lift to provide 5.3m clearance to highway, 2 x Holly (T1 & T12) & 1 x Yew (T13)

SUPPORT

Application No. 07/02287/AS

Rosecroft, Selling Road, OWL

Erection of two storey side extension

SUPPORT

Application No. 08/00007/AS
Land at Builders Yard, Stone Stile Road, Shottenden
Conversion of barns into a single storey holiday let unit
SUPPORT

Application No. 08/00064/AS (Full Planning Permission)
Application No. 08/00066/AS (Listed Building Consent)
Ensdon Oast, Lower Ensdon Farm, Lower Ensdon Road, OWL
Conversion of redundant oast house into dwellings
SUPPORT

Application No. 08/00105/AS
Chilham Pumping Station, Mill Lane, Chilham
Extension to existing Motor Control Centre building component area
SUPPORT

2/5 Finance

The clerk gave the financial report which has approved.

The following payments were agreed:

950	G Dear	Clerk to 31-01-08	432.12
951	G Dear	Expenses - Jan 2008	72.87
952	J Turner	Cleaner to 07-02-08	110.20
953	Cordwainer UK	OWL dog signs	67.45
954	Audit Commission	External audit	470.00
955	Capability Gary	OWL Green	75.00
956	A Ralph	Sundry expenses	10.00
957	M Sansom	Sundry expenses	11.20
958	G Dear	Clerk underpayment	217.58
959	HMRC	PAYE payment	798.70

Total Payments 2265.12

A transfer of £2250.00 from the instant access deposit account was approved.

Request for funds from OWL Youth Club

The OWL Youth Club has obtained £3,700 in grants from the Child Network fund, which is a project for the 13 to 19 yr olds. They have purchased a number of items including Drum Kit, Keyboard, Pool Table, Lap top Computer. Insurance for these items is £250

The youth Club needs an extra £210 for the connection of the laptop.

It was agreed to allow the youth club £210 from the money held on their behalf by the PC in a ring-fenced fund.

Concurrent Functions Grant

The clerk was asked to obtain insurance details from CPRGT, CVH, and OWL VH committees so that this fund could be allocated at the March meeting.

2/6 Latin Field

Latin Field seat

Cllrs Whites proposal to repair and move the seat was approved on the basis of the estimate from John Russell.

Cllr White was asked to give John Russell the go ahead to do the work.

Latin Field. swings

Cllrs Whites proposal to repair and refurbish the swing was approved on the basis of the estimate from John Russell.

Cllr White was asked to give John Russell the go ahead to do the work

Latin Field fence

Cllr White was asked to contact Jimmy Stewart for an estimate to repair the fence.

2/7 PACT

It was decided to go ahead with the open meeting on 13th March at 730pm in Chilham village hall.

The clerk was asked to obtain 500 meeting notices from PC Alison Barney and provide 470 to the Parish News for inclusion as a centrefold in the March edition – the remaining 30 would be displayed on noticeboards and distributed to local organisations / businesses.

Cllrs Barbrook and Ralph were asked to lobby for candidates for the PACT panel.

2/8 Train Service

Cllr Sansom reported that the current off peak service would be retained but a decision on the peak service would not be taken until the summer.

The wording on the petition would be updated to focus on peak trains and posters would be produced.

Cllr Sansom was asked to agree wording on the posters with Cllr R Taylor.

2/9 Chilham Guide

Cllr R Taylor agreed to raise this with the traders group and report back at the next meeting.

2/10 Highways

Hedges & Verges subcommittee

Cllr Ralph gave a brief report.

Chilham Square

Cllr Ralph had distributed a report before the meeting. This stressed that the current aim was to address health and safety issues and that this required Kent Highways and ABC support and approval.

Kent Highways liaison

The clerk had received replies from Kent Highways on the following issues:

- 1) Dangerous bend at Dane Street – no action can be taken while damage only caused to property – residents should claim on motorists insurance policies
- 2) Footpath between fire station and Dane Street – works order will be raised after inspection – re-establishing the path near Dane Street will be submitted for prioritisation in the countywide schedule for footway works

- 3) Hambrook Lane / Mountain Street corner – no plans before end March but no objections in principle to installing kerbing

2/11 Meetings

KAPC Parish Forum

A report from Cllr Ralph had been issued before the meeting

Green Lane byway

A report from Cllr R Taylor had been issued before the meeting

Pipkin seminar

A report from Cllr R Taylor had been issued before the meeting

Chilham Nursing Association

Cllr Kennett provided a copy of the statement of accounts for 2007

2/12 Village Reports

OWL Play Area edging

Cllr Marsh reported that the edging around the play equipment needed strimming and agreed to arrange with Capability Gray that this was remedied during his next maintenance visit.

Streetlights

Cllr R Taylor reported that issues with a number of streetlights had been resolved with KCC.

Police

The clerk had received an activity report from PC Alison Barney describing incidents attended during January.

2/13 Correspondence

2/12 ABC – Tenterden and Rural Sites DPD : Community Workshops – report summarising the outcomes from the Chilham workshop and request for feedback

Decided that individual feedback was sufficient

2/15 Action with Rural Communities in Kent – Kent Village of the Year 2008 – Application Pack

The clerk was asked to pass this to the traders group and CEPS with a view to an entry next year.

2/16 Action with Rural Communities in Kent – Rural Community Retailer of 2008 – Application Pack – request to pass pack to local shop for completion

The clerk was asked to pass these details to Cllrs R Taylor and Ralph

2/21 ABC – Ashford Home Improvement Agency – request to display leaflets in the village
It was decided not to display these leaflets.

2/22 KAPC – of DfT bus passenger body consultation

It was decided not to participate.

2/25 Scott Poleykett – Scottys Circus Workshop – request to keep this in mind when organising events

The clerk was asked to forward this information to OWL Youth Club and OWL Fete committees.

2/29 Came & Company – New Norwich Union Parish Council Insurance Scheme – details for consideration when renewing

The clerk was asked to consider this scheme when requesting insurance renewal quotes.

2/40 Friends of Kings Wood – request for a stall at our local fete

The clerk was asked to pass this onto the OWL fete committee

2/43 Cllr Adams – Apologies for absence due to increased commitments following family bereavement

The clerk had noted the reasons for absence.

2/44 Kent Police – Neighbourhood Watch / Country Eye – form to register to receive crime and information messages about our area via a system called Kent Community Messaging

The clerk was asked to register with this scheme

2/46 NALC - Hazel Blears MP, Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and Local Government - Speaking at NALC Conference 2008! – Our chance to have our say – Booking Form

Decided not to attend

2/47 Kent BTCV – Ashford Borough Veteran Tree Project – project update and request to advertise in Parish News and noticeboards for volunteers

The clerk was asked to advertise for volunteers on noticeboards and in the Parish News

2/50 Communities and Local Government – Consultation on orders and regulations relating to conduct of local authority members in England – request to answer specific questions by 15Feb

Decided not to respond

1/14 Date of next meeting

6th March, 2008 in Old Wives Lees Village Hall

715pm for 730pm

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