

APPLEDORE PARISH COUNCIL



1st March 2021 Minutes of the Virtual Meeting 7.30 pm

Present

James Perkins (Chair), Roger Hiskey, Helen Hennig, Lyndsey Jenkins, Charles Wilkinson Chris Vane and Derek Winter.

In Attendance: Borough Councillor Mick Burgess and the Clerk Mary Philo.

Members of the Public: 9

1. Formalities

- I) The council was quorate. (LGA Act 1972 schedule12, 12/28/45)
- II) Apologies had been received from County Councillor Michael Hill. (LGA 1972 schedule12, 12)
- III) Declarations of interest and dispensations: (Code of Conduct)

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meetings held on 1st February 2021 as a true record.

Proposed by Councillor Hiskey and seconded Councillor Vane. (LGA Act 1972 schedule12,19.1)

Adjournment of Meeting for Reports and Public Questions

The meeting was adjourned at 7.37 pm

Passing of Ian Bampton

The Chairman reported the passing of Ian Bampton, a long-standing resident who had dedicated much of his time to the Recreation Ground and the new car park for Court Lodge Road. The Chairman will send the council's condolences to his wife and family.

Public Questions.

Land adjacent to Well House

A resident queried if the council had not envisaged that the developer would apply for more houses to maximise their profits. In response it was explained that during the early stages of seeking planning permission, a scheme for 9 houses had been rejected by the planning authority and there was no reason for the council to believe that planning officers would go back on their earlier decision. Court Developments Limited had approached the parish council with regard to additional applications to explain the applications and ask the council's opinion. The council would comment when and if the applications went out for public consultation. A further resident raised the issue of contractors continuing to park outside the site on the road which has resulted in damage to two verge posts and they requested that these were repaired. This has been mentioned to the contractor and this will be resolved at the end of the build.

Public Conveniences

A request was made for a copy of the scope for the toilet refurbishment. The Clerk would look into the request.

Councillors Attendance at Virtual Public Meetings

Councillor Winter had been unable to attend previous zoom meetings as the available broadband to his property would not support a zoom meeting. Mobile phone reception was also too poor to boost

performance nor was it feasible to use another property. BT Openreach had not been able to resolve the issue. Fortunately, zoom landline phone connection has now been enabled and Councillor Winter attended the meeting by landline phone.

Council Minutes

A member of the public commented on what they deemed to be errors within the minutes but councillors considered them to be a true record.

Report from Borough Councillor Mick Burgess

As part of budget discussions, Ashford Borough Council voted at its cabinet meeting to cease paying the concurrent function grant and the council tax support grant to parish councils. As the decision was being made after parish councils had set their own precepts, Ashford Borough Council was making a final one-off payment of £589 in Appledore's case.

The Borough Council also set its council tax which will increase by just over £5 a month for a band D property.

The meeting reconvened at 8.05 pm

3. Planning

(Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 schedule 1/2010)

3.1 Planning Decisions by Ashford Borough Council:

- a) 21/00013/AS Gusbourne Estate Vineyard, Kenardington Road: Siting of two canopies on wooden decking (canopies sited from 1st March to 31st October in any year) and two composting toilets for visitors to the vineyard. – Permitted.
- b) 20/01688/AS Tithe Barn, The Street: Single storey rear extension- Refused. An application has since been submitted under general permitted development rights.
- c) 20/01564/AS and 21/01565/AS (Listed Building Consent) Queens Arms, 2 Court Lodge Road: Provision of lime mortar render to lower half of flank wall – Permitted and granted.
- d) 20/01721/AS No 1 The Street: Variation of condition 2 on planning permission 18/00381/AS to change the external appearance of the existing mill building to include Keim mineral paint to the South, North and Eastern Elevations – Permitted.

3.2 Planning Applications Considered

- a) **21/00190/AS Manclark Cottage: Wildlife pond for great Crested Newts. It was resolved to support.** Proposed Councillor Winter and seconded Councillor Hennig
- b) **21/00195/AS (listed building consent) Queens Arms 2 Court Lodge Road: Insertion of heritage roof light into blind dormer. It was resolved to support.** Proposed by Councillor Wilkinson and seconded by Councillor Vane.
- c) **21/00228/AS (listed building consent) Appledore Station: Maintenance and refurbishment works to the Appledore Station building and exterior. It was resolved to support.** Proposed by Councillor Hennig and second by Councillor Wilkinson.
- d) **21/01232/AS No 1 The Street: Variation/modification of condition 27 of 18/00381/AS – updated elevations to include minor fenestration/elevation detail adjustment. It was resolved to support.** Proposed by Councillor Winter and seconded by Councillor Wilkinson.
- e) **20/00975/CONA/AS Land adjacent to Well House, 4 Court Lodge Road: Discharge condition 25 & 26. It was resolved to support.** Proposed by Councillor Perkins and seconded by Councillor Vane.

4. Residential Enabling Car Park Court Lodge Car

As stated earlier, Court Developments Limited advised the parish council that they are going to submit two further separate applications. They notified the parish council at the same time as they started to speak with neighbouring property owners. The parish council will give its response when the applications are out for public consultation. It was suggested that loss of wildlife should be noted.

5. Highways Update

Road Surface 40mph Roundel near Mannerings Corner

Councillor Hennig had asked if the works could be carried out while the narrows were closed for UK Power Network but this was not possible.

Footpath Steps at Canal Bridge – Old Way Footpath AT129

The Public Rights of Way Officer inspected the steps and advised that permission from English Heritage would be needed to add a hand rail but it would be acceptable to lay some stones (hardcore) at the bottom of the steps. The rail would be low down on their priority list.

Footpath Obstruction at Ferry Road entrance and Tenterden Road entrance to footpath 123A

A resident had reported that the path was obstructed by electric fencing. It is likely to be temporary to prevent the sheep from escaping. Councillor Perkins will speak to the land owner and or sheep farmer.

6. Public Conveniences

A few small items have to be remedied and then the toilets will open.

7. Vision Zero

Vision Zero refers to Kent County Council ambition to reduce the number of road deaths to zero by 2050. It is argued that with the best will in the world, there will always be human error, so the aim is to create safe systems, which ensure that if human error leads to a crash, the crash is sufficiently controlled so as not to cause death.

8. Finances

8.1 Bank Account: as at 31st January 2021 £37,979.99

8.2 January Receipts

£0.17	January bank interest
£379.97	EDF FIT solar panels

8.3 February Payments

£27.78	Iden PC – share of a set of inks for printer (no vat)
£16.51	VR Sani-Co – Toilets sanitary waste bin collection February to May (vat £2.75)
£1,163.86	February Salaries

8.4 Internal Audit

It was resolved to instruct Mike Cuerden to carry out the internal audit as appropriate for the current financial year. (last year's fee £285) Proposed by Councillor Vane and seconded by Councillor Perkins.

9 High Speed Broadband

Mike Rivers is looking into other sources of funding for the scheme and the cost for a smaller scheme.

10. Information for Councillors

Annual Parish Virtual Meeting – Monday 15th March. The Chairman, County and District Councillors will provide annual reviews. Reminders to go out on Facebook.

Parish Council Open Day - Councillor Hennig will formalise plans.

Village Hall Refurbishments – The Section 106 contract was still to be signed. Ashford Borough Council lawyers were taking much longer than anticipated. Though progress is being made it is not possible to state a date when the contract will be signed. Consideration will be given to where the fish and chip van and contractors will park during the works.

11. Date of Next Meeting - Virtual

Monday 1²th April 7.30pm 2021.