



Minutes of the Meeting on 1st July 2019 at 19.30 hrs Appledore Village Hall

Present

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

In Attendance: County Councillor Mike Hill, Borough Councillor. Mick Burgess and the Clerk Mary Philo.
Members of the Public: 7

1. Formalities

I) The council was quorate (LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12/28/45).

II) Apologies: None (LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12).

III) Declarations of interest and dispensations: None (Code of Conduct).

2. Approval of Draft minutes

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June 2019 as a true record, with the following amendment: item 9 "Police Crime Report – It would appear from the report that Appledore is a safe place to live in Kent". Proposed Councillor Vane and seconded Councillor Hiskey (LGA Act 1972 sch12,19.1).

The meeting was adjourned at 19.38 hrs.

Report by County Councillor Hill

Brexit – Whilst a new leader for the government is being selected, Brexit talks have been halted. The barriers closing off the two central lanes for lorry parking on the M20 will remain in place.

Library Strategy – All parties concerned had agreed the new reduced opening hours that will be introduced in the autumn this year.

Tenterden Hopper – The service had made a good start. The support shown by Appledore Parish Council was appreciated.

Report by Borough Councillor Burgess

Military Canal Pumps – Further pumps were being replaced as part of the maintenance scheme.

Hawthorn House Overgrow Hedges – These are scheduled to be cut.

Station to Village Footpath – As requested Councillor Burgess would be contacting landowners.

Public Questions

Draft minutes – In future, the draft minutes will be published on the website within about two weeks.

Overgrown vegetation – Members of the public called for the weeds and brambles to be cleared along School Road and for the hedges to be cut along Tenterden Road between Upton and May House.

New Planters at Appledore Station – Noted that these made the station platforms very pleasant. It was suggested that the centre of the village could benefit from planters. The proposed linear park extension into the village centre should be as effective.

7 Applecourt 19/00768/AS – The owners advised that the list of restrictions on the land registration document did not include that the property had no permitted development rights.

The meeting was reconvened at 19.50 hrs.

3. Finances

In order to abide by data protection laws the Clerk's expenses relating to the Clerk's remuneration package will not be declared publicly.

I) As at 30th June 2019 bank balance stood at £38,687.89.

II) Income received:

£ 69.29 Public Donations

£ 3.20 Bank Interest

II) Cheques raised since the last meeting:

£ 978.88 June salaries

£ 97.80 HMRC PAYE

II) It was resolved to draw the following:

£ 105.00 Village hall: room hire

£ 58.50 T P Jones & Co LLP: April – June payroll service (vat £9.75)

£ 5.53 M Philo: £2.00 Gloves for loos, £1.83 stamps, £1.70 toilet cleaner (vat 61p)

4. Planning (Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 sch1/2010)

I) Ashford Borough Decisions Advised:

a) 19/00621/AS Tithe Barn, The Street – Conversion of garage/store to tourist accommodation – Granted

II) New applications for A.P.C. to consider and vote on:

a) 19/00768/AS 7 Applegate Court – Retrospective application for the erection of an outbuilding to accommodate two garages, gymnasium, meditation/yoga room and implement store; installation of timber access gates and change of use of land to residential. It was resolved to support the application. Proposed by Councillor Hennig and seconded by Councillor Winter.

III) Notification that the parish council's planning application for the village hall refurbishment has been validated and is being consulted on – 19/00800/AS - Rear extension to provide an additional activity space, timber cladding and removal of pebble dash for render.

5. Highways and Byways

I) Following query, Kent Highways advised that they had paid the full cost of the speed and traffic surveys (contrary to an understanding that the parish council would be expected to pay one third of the estimated cost of £1500) and that the £570.07 fee was an additional cost to that quoted by Highways. It was therefore resolved to pay the £570.07 which equated to the design costs required for the Traffic Regulation Order for the proposed reduction of speed limits for Appledore. There will be no additional design costs required should the Order be successful. Proposed Councillor Hiskey and seconded Councillor Jenkins.

II) Other highways issues

Flooding at Four Wents Crossroads – Thanks were expressed for Highways quick response. It was noted that the good relationship between Kent Highways and Councillors Wilkinson and Hennig was very effective.

"20 is Plenty" scheme – As a result of the supportive vote for "20 is Plenty" at the KALC AGM, Kent County Council is considering running a pilot. Highways officers had previously pointed to the findings in Bath and Manchester where monitoring of the scheme there, had demonstrated that the scheme had little effect and increased the danger to pedestrians.

6. External Affairs

Community Bus

Thanks were expressed to Councillor Hill for prompting the inclusion of Appledore in the scheme. After the first week in service, the Appledore run had seen the most passengers.

Ashford and District Neighbourhood Watch Conference

The morning included presentations on drugs and crime in the area, Speed Watch, Victim Support, Kent Fire and Rescue, SE 4x4 (rescue service), Hypo Hounds and Neighbourhood Watch. A consistent theme throughout was the contribution made by volunteers. As there had been a recent increase in burglaries in Appledore, it was suggested that neighbourhood watch be revived.

Ashford Borough Council's Market Stalls

The various departments in the council maned a stall about the service they provided. Aspire (ABC inhouse grass cutting service) attended and the new Mayor was present. It was suggested that the head of recycling could attend to give a briefing.

7. Recreation Ground Report

The pavilion had been broken into in early June. Fortunately, nothing had been taken but there was some damage to various door. The Car Rally would take place on the 21st July. A couple of local companies had offered to help with equipment. The committee were considering participating in a village against village 'It's a Knock Out'.

8. Village Hall Report

The hall AGM was held on 12th June and a new treasurer appointed. On the evening, a review of the hall's successes during the year was given. Numbers of regular hirer's had increased with Pilates, sewing classes, Rock Choir and weekend markets. The planned refurbishment of the hall will be challenging. The build time was expected to be 6 – 9 months. The committee thanked everyone for their support over the last year.

9 Information for Councillors

PCSO – PCSO Carin Andrews would be joining PCSO Katherine Richards and replacing PCSO Luke Jones.

VE day – The Pageant Master was reaching out for groups to commemorate 75 years since Victory in Europe on the 8th May 2020. Friday 8th May will be a bank holiday. The Clerk to place advert in the parish magazine.

Council Website – Residents were requested to pass information for the website by the 20th of the month before. The website would be updated once a month.

High Halden PC – The council had been in contact with Councillors Wilkinson and Hennig about the procedure for a highways improvement consultation.

Friends of Appledore Station – The group now had a commuter representative on MALG.

Telephone Box – The box needed a clean. The toilet cleaner to be asked if it could be cleaned once a month.

Items for the agenda – Best in Bloom and Defibrillator for Appledore Train Station.

10. Date of Next Meeting

5th August 2019, 19.30hrs in the village hall. The meeting closed at 20.12 hrs