



5th July 2021
Minutes of the Meeting
7.30 pm St. Peter and St. Paul

Present

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

In attendance: Clerk Mary Philo and PCSO Katherine Richardson.

Members of the Public: 6

1. Formalities

I) Quorum

The council was quorate. The chairman welcomed Gary Kinsley who had been elected on the 24th June. A high turnout of 36% was counted. Gary Kinsley and Andrea Honnor were thanked for standing.

II) Apologies

Apologies had been received from County Councillor Michael Hill and District Councillor Burgess.

(LGA 1972 schedule 12, 12)

III) Declarations of interest and Dispensations

a) Councillor Perkins declared an other significant interest (OSI) regarding the planning applications for Beech Tree Farm, Oaklands and Victoria Terrace. Councillors Kinsley and Winter had a pecuniary interest in the request for funding from the recreation ground.

b) There were no requests for dispensations.

(Code of Conduct)

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meetings held on 7th June 2021 as a true record.

Proposed by Councillor Wilkinson and seconded Councillor Hiskey. (LGA Act 1972 schedule 12, 19.1)

Adjournment of Meeting for Reports and Public Questions

The meeting was adjourned

Report from PCSO Katherine Richardson

The PCSO had been in the village that day for speed checks in the Street around the shop. No high speeds had been registered. Parking along the road kept traffic speed down. Vehicle thefts and crimes to vehicles were on the increase in the district and the PCSO reminded car and van owners to remove tools and temptation from vehicles while parked overnight.

Recreation Ground Request for Funding

The Vice Chairman for the Recreation Ground spoke about the need to update the ground as a whole to provide more for the village to include more than football, car rally and play area. Various previous attempts such as a new tennis club and pavilion works via Martello with the sale of the council field, had fallen by the wayside. Renewed effort was required for a tennis club and for further ideas which include an outdoor fitness gym, outdoor exercise classes, running group, playgroup shared with the village hall, more seats, trees and park area for residents to sit and chat and more events for the community like

fetes. The pavilion building needed foundation works (subsidence) to the centre section, a new roof, insulation and it would benefit from an entrance from the road. The opportunity was there to update the facility and use renewable energy sources to provide electricity and water before the building was condemned and thus declared unfit for use. Currently funding streams such as the lottery are focusing on schemes that benefit large numbers of people as found in towns and cities. Completing smaller projects first was preferable.

Allocating some of the cash funds from the council field sale is an opportunity to spend money from the village on the village. The recreation ground was looking for an 'in principle' agreement from the parish council to allow for more detailed assessment of the cost of these improvements. The costs mentioned are based on prices which are two to three years old.

Simon Honnor offered assistance with assessing the most viable options for renewable energy sources, high lighting an Energy Performance Certificate may be needed and domestic versus commercial differences.

In response to a question, the recreation ground will consult with the village and welcome input. No money would be wasted.

A member of the public advised of the historic issue that the ground was always wet by the pavilion possibly due to a stream and thus resolving the foundation issue may be much more costly than anticipated.

Public Questions. 19.50hrs

Queens' Platinum Jubilee Celebration Bank Holiday Weekend June 2 -5 2021

National plans included Trooping the Colour and Beacon lighting on the Thursday 2nd June, Platinum Jubilee Party (live broadcast music) on Saturday evening and culminating on Sunday with the public holding street parties as part of the Big Jubilee Lunch followed by the Platinum Jubilee Pageant featuring 5,000 people from across the UK and Commonwealth against the backdrop of Buckingham Palace and surrounding streets.

The reduced membership of the History Society meant that the group is not able to organise these events as it has in the past. Tracy Morgan as an experienced organiser of such events offered her services. Coordinated village action is needed to prevent duplication and early bookings required to ensure the events such as lighting the beacon on Thursday June 2 and any road closures. Tracy suggested that holding an event on the Thursday would facilitate residents being on the recreation ground to see the beacon lighting on Mill Hill. Contingency plans should be made to cover bad weather and the death of the Sovereign and a budget set. A notice in the magazine published last year had received no response. It was suggested that the event could be self-funding as the car rally was and that any profits could be distributed among local groups

Hall and Toilet Refurbishment Works and Allocation of Cash from the Could Field Sale

There are no over runs or under runs for the toilet and hall refurbishment works. No re allocation of the cash element of the council field sale had been made as yet.

The meeting reconvened at 9.15 pm

3. Planning

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

3.1 Planning Decisions by Ashford Borough Council

None.

3.2 Planning Applications Considered

I) 21/01085/AS Beech Tree Farm: Formation of 2 ponds for Great Crested Newts. It was resolved to support by a majority. Proposed by Councillor Vane and seconded by Councillor Hiskey (one abstention).

II) 21/01105/AS Oaklands, Moor Lane: Proposed stables, riding arena, hay/bedding store along with associated works and change of use of land for keeping of horses. It was resolved to support by a majority. Proposed by Councillor Kinsley and seconded by Councillor Hiskey (one abstention).

III) 21/00207/AS 2 Victoria Terrace Heath Road: Laying of small hard standing for new small/narrow (650 litre) oil tank at the front of the house following oil tank installation regulations. It was resolved to support by a majority. Proposed by Councillor Wilkinson and seconded by Councillor Vane (one abstention and one against).

4. Request for Funding from Appledore Recreation Ground

Councillors made the following comments:

- Recommended feasibility studies and market research as well as research into renewable energy sources for heating and water to ensure that the right projects went forward.
- Welcomed the opportunity to work with the recreation ground.
- That the council would have to consider its finances and check costs for the highways works.
- An 'in principle' agreement is not legally binding.
- Improvement to the Muga and possibly the play area, within the grand scheme, will be funded from infrastructure payments paid by the developer on the residential development of the council field so these will definitely go ahead. Small steps such as these will encourage residents to make more use of the ground.
- Reassurance would be needed that the recreation committee was robust and stable enough to make sure that the scheme will be completed.
- Further discussion between the recreation ground and council would be beneficial.
- Support for the community fund and community representative.

It was resolved to elect Councillor Gary Kinsley as Community Representative. Proposed by Councillor Hiskey and seconded by Councillor Perkins.

It was further resolved, by majority, to agree 'in principle' to fund £50,000 for pavilion building and roof with a renewal energy sourced heating and hot water and £10,000 for an outdoor adult fitness gym, while the council investigate what finances it has available and the recreation ground obtain costs from suitably qualified contractors. Proposed by Councillor Vane and seconded by Councillor Hiskey (Two abstentions).

5. Highways

Highways Improvement Scheme Plan Phase 2

Costs for the 7 road surface roundels with dragon teeth road markings along The Street from Court Lodge to Kenardington Road were yet outstanding as well as the costs for rationalisation of signs to include direction to the Station. The Traffic Survey costs were advised too late to be included on the agenda.

'The Narrows'

Following a further meeting on site to discuss various solutions, highways would not allow a further bell on the junction (opposite the one in existence) as being dangerous and also confirmed they would not allow traffic lights but suggested extending the dragon teeth further into The Street and moving the narrows sign for which they will provide costs.

Other Items

The poor condition of pavement from Old Way to Bayleaves, The Street has been logged and will be inspected.

The poor paint condition of the Military Canal Bridge will be logged with Kent County Council and a request made to see if volunteers Action.

A request for Speed Watch volunteers will be published in the next parish magazine.

Hedge growth has been fed by the summer rains and residents are reminded to cut back hedges. An item to be included in the parish magazine.

Footpaths

A voluntary group of residents will be working with Paul Ripley the Footpath Warden to clear paths around the village

6. Delegation to Clerk for any Further Lockdown

It was resolved to agree, from the 6th July to 6th January 2022, that if the government announces any further lockdown, that the Clerk will be given delegated powers alongside the Chairman and Vice Chairman to run the council as per the previous delegation in March 2020. Proposed by Councillor Vane and seconded Councillor Hiskey.

7. Electronic Agenda

It was resolved to agree in the case of an emergency that councillors accept electronic agenda. Proposed by Councillor Vane and Councillor Perkins.

8. Information for Councillors

Heathside Proposed New Play Area

A letter was hand delivered to all the households on Heathside asking for resident's thoughts and comments about installing a small play area on the grass area which includes the shelter. Most households responded. The overwhelming comment was that it was not a suitable location and that increasing the current provision on the recreation ground was preferable. As a result, the parish council has contacted Ashford Borough Council to see whether this would be allowed. We await their advice.

Heathside Parking Issues

The council has written to Ashford Borough Council to highlight the issue and to ascertain if the borough council will provide additional parking in some form.

Queen's Platinum Celebration 2nd June 2022

See Public Questions

Archaeological Report on the Court Lodge Development

Border Archaeology Limited has advised that they are making good progress with the archaeology from Appledore and the specialist analysis is ongoing so they expect that it will be another couple of months before they receive all those specialist reports.

Finances

Bank Account: as at 31st May 2021 £ 115,350.15

May Receipts

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| £0.70 | May Bank Interest |
| £18.12 | Public Donations from the Public Toilets |

May Payments

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|-----------|---|
| £260.40 | McVeigh Parker & Co Limited: 10 verge posts (vat £43.40) |
| £136.50 | Care Signs: Temporary Care signs (vat £22.75) |
| £18.88 | M Philo: Admin costs –toilet requisites (vat £3.15) |
| £162.00 | Kent Association of Local Councils: training Green Agenda x2 and Facebook Training (vat £27.00) |
| £1,195.61 | Salaries |

9. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 2nd August 2021, 7.30pm, St Peter and St. Paul. The meeting closed at 20.39 hrs.