



Minutes of the Meeting 3rd February 2020 at 7.30 pm Appledore Village Hall

Present

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

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

Members of the Public: 8

1. Formalities

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

II) Apologies had been received from County Councillor Mike Hill (LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12).

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

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

It was clarified that Martello would be using their own work force to refurbish the village hall and public conveniences whilst No 1 the Street and the council field would be contracted out by Martello.

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2020 as a true record. Proposed Councillor Wilkinson and seconded Councillor Vane (two abstentions from councillors not present at last meeting) (LGA Act 1972 sch12,19.1)

The meeting was adjourned at 7.35 pm

Report by Borough Councillor Mick Burgess

The borough council share of council tax would increase by £5 per band D property. The borough council is currently reviewing car park charges. Car parks in Ashford are free after 3pm. The council accommodates some Syrian refugees in private housing.

Public Questions

Council Minutes

A request for more detailed minutes regarding budgeting was made, however in response it was advised that the council had not required much discussion and the minutes covered what was legally required. In response to further enquiry to letters received by the council, virtually no letters were received by post. The emails containing information are sent on to the councillors or are added to the agenda if an action is required. Parish councils rarely receive letters of complaint.

Residential Enabling Car Park

The council was requested to keep pushing Savills for a meeting to discuss the details of the car park, to make sure that the car park was for the benefit of the community and is handed over at no cost.

Near Miss at School Crossroad

A driver had driven straight across the junction from School Road direction without stopping just missing a car that had gone through seconds earlier. The passenger of the car just missed, reported that the white lines at the junction are faded and they suggested a 'warning crossroads' sign, perhaps flashing. It

was noted that the speed in that area would shortly be reduced as part of the highways' improvement scheme. It was highlighted that everyone had to obey the highway code and signage did not make people better drivers.

History Society Quiz Night

Councillors were asked to promote the event where possible.

Rear of Village Hall Car Park

A beech hedge had been planted, on the parish council land, along the rear boundary by a neighbouring property owner.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.47 pm.

3. Finances

I) Bank Accounts as at 31st December 2019 £ 33,266.17

II) Cheques raised since the last meeting;

£58.50 TP Jones & Co LLP: payroll services October to December

£52.80 VR Sani-Co: Toilet sanitary waste collection

£72.00 M Philo refund: share of Local Council Clerk's Association annual membership

£39.97 Laser energy: Toilet Electricity November 2019

£450.13 Zurich Municipal: Council's insurance annual cost

£ 958.98 January salaries

III) Agreement of cheques to be drawn:

£28.02 Pett Parish Council: Share of mobile phone for Clerk January, October and November

£12.73 M Philo: administration costs: stamps £3.75, toilet requisites £8.95 (vat £1.50)

£90.00 Appledore Village Hall: 6 monthly meetings from September to March inclusive

IV) December Receipts

£44.51 Public Donations

£347.13 EDF Solar panels Fit payment

£3.66 December bank interest

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

I) Ashford Borough Decisions Advised:

a) 19/01721/AS Prospect House, School Road:

Alteration and extension to existing roof on front conservatory and erection of new entrance lobby. Permitted.

b) 19/00816/AS Land north of Bailey's Place, Mill Lane:

Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of two detached dwelling with associated driveway and access. Permitted

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

a) 19/01780/AS Fairwinds Station Road:

Detached garage with ancillary living accommodation to serve proposed dwelling approved under 18/01857/AS. It was resolved, by a majority, to support the application. Proposed by Councillor Winter and seconded by Councillor Hiskey (2 abstentions).

b) 19/01788/AS Land between Woodchurch Road and Appledore Road Tenterden:

Outline application for the development of up to 250 residential dwellings etc (Orlestone Parish Council requested that Appledore PC consider commenting). It was resolved to object to the application as it is a very large development outside of the recently approved local plan 2030, which will put too much pressure on infrastructure, schooling and health care. Proposed by Councillor Winter and seconded by Councillor Hiskey.

5. Highways and Byways

School Road Crossroads

Councillor Wilkinson had advised highways of the near miss incident. Refreshing the white lines at the junction was already scheduled and was carried out on the day of the meeting. It was highlighted that speeds at the junction would be reduced as part of the Highways Improvement scheme. No firm date had been given for the change of speed limits.

Footpaths

Councillors Hennig and Wilkinson would be meeting with the Footpath Warden Paul Ripley and Public rights of Way officer on the 12th February. The slippery footpath bridge at Old way had been reported.

Meeting with Simon Jones Director of Highways Kent

Simon had scheduled a visit to Appledore on the 6th March.

6. It was resolved to agree the council's Standing Orders (meeting procedures) with the amendment of the public session being limited to 15 minutes. Proposed by Councillor Vane and seconded by Councillor Winter.

7. It was resolved to accept the offer of 10 trees from Ashford Borough Council if the Borough Council would accept that the trees would not be planted on council owned land.

8. Residential Enabling Car Park

In response to the request for a stronger action the chairman agreed to speak to Savills to arrange a meeting of all parties.

9. Website Update

Cantium were charging £675 to parishes who wished to download their own information from their website. Cantium appeared to be overcharging as the process would normally take less than an hour.

10. Climate Emergency

It was suggested that this should be the subject of the annual parish meeting. A speaker who could provide a general overview of the topic leading to a working party being set up to produce a policy and then lead on local action. Borough Councillor Mick Burgess was asked to source a contact at Ashford.

11. Recreation Ground Report

The Committee would hold its Annual General Meeting in March and a request made to reinstate Derek's nomination to the committee. There had been outside interest in using the ground from an organisation which ran 'old style' fairs.

12. Village Hall Report – report attached.

A new Secretary had been found but the hall was still looking for a treasurer.

13. Information for Councillors

Date for annual parish meeting could not be set until a speaker or the format of the meeting had been decided.

Reminder - Appledore Level Crossing Closed Saturday 8th February midnight to Monday 10th February 4am.

New Audit regulations will be introduced for the next financial year

A new national code of conduct for parish councillors will be introduced this year.

14. Date of Next Meeting

2nd March 2020, 19.30hrs in the village hall. Reminder that May meeting is 4th May 2020 The meeting closed at 20.30 hrs.

Village Hall Report February 2020

Firstly, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year from the Trustees and committee members of the hall.

The quiz night which was held in November seems like a very long time ago now. It was an enjoyable and successful evening. As this is such a popular event for the village, we plan to hold the next one in May 2020 – slightly later than usual because we thought it would be rather nice to have a St Georges Day celebration this year – more details in the March edition of the village magazine.

The over 60's Christmas dinner was very popular. If you didn't come, and fit the criteria of being over 60 and living in Appledore Parish, you missed a special treat with excellent food, all cooked prepared, served and supplied by a very generous group of locals. Without them this event and others could not take place. A big thank you to everyone.

Linda and Jenny will continue to supply a lunch in the village hall on the last Wednesday of each month from 12-2.30pm. Everybody is welcome and there is no need to book. The next one is on Wednesday 26th February with the food having a Welsh note, as it is close to St David's day. Two courses for £6.00. The coffee mornings may start again later in the spring. We are not sure on this as enthusiasm seems to have declined. We welcome your views on restarting the coffee mornings.

Friday February 28th is Film Night. We will be showing Rocketman, a 2019 biographical musical based on the life of musician Elton John. Door open 7pm, film starts at 7.30pm. Licenced pay bar and snacks available. Tickets £5.00 each. For details contact Marilyn Ray on 01233 758586 07796266085. No need to book, turn up on the night.

The Trustees and committee members work hard to keep the hall going, especially in the current circumstances of not knowing exactly when the refurbishment works will start. We will be able to give everyone at least 3 months' notice before work commences. Unfortunately, the heating system has finally given up and cannot be resurrected, so in the meantime we have installed temporary heaters to see us through the winter months. Please be patient with us and if you are attending an event at the hall, come prepared for the conditions - there are many village halls out there that do not have any heating at all!

Finally, we are in need of a treasurer and a secretary for the Village Hall Committee. If you feel you could do either of these or if you can help in any capacity please get in touch. Without help we will find it difficult to function and the use of the hall may well be curtailed.

Best wishes for the forthcoming year.

Huw Jenkins (Chair) for and on behalf of the Trustees and committee members