

APPLEDORE PARISH COUNCIL



4th March 2024 Minutes of the Meeting 19.30 Village Hall

Present

Cllr Roger Hiskey (Chairman), Cllr Gary Kinsley, Cllr Paula Thornton, Cllr Kevin Nicol, Cllr Roger Kimber, Cllr Sharon Marsh, Cllr Chester Lusk

In attendance: Cllr Mike Hill (Kent County Councillor)

Apologies

Cllr Johnny Shilton

5 Members of the Public were in attendance.

1. Formalities

I) Quorum

The council was quorate.

II) No absence

(LGA 1972 schedule12, 12)

III) Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

(Code of Conduct)

Cllr Sharon Marsh declared an interest in item 3 : Planning Applications Park Farm and Bennetts, 56 The Street

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2024 as a true record of proceedings.

Proposed by Cllr Kimber, seconded by Cllr Nicol- agreed unanimously

(LGA Act 1972 schedule12,19.1)

Adjournment of Meeting for Reports and Public Questions

County Councillor Mike Hill

KCC Budget has been set on 19th February- question is, can it be kept? An additional £13 million of Government funding earmarked for adult social care has been received by KCC. Inflation and the demand for Services are the challenge. There will be a 5% increase in KCC Council Tax this year. The Budget for the current year is not yet closed and there will be a need to "call on reserves".

Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers: the National Transfer Scheme is designed to take pressure off KCC. The pressure is not only financial, but resources such as accommodation are short. There are at present 9 Reception Centres across the County.

Roads: £134 million over 11 years is allocated for roads. Much of this funding seems to be available after 10 years. £6 million is available to spend between now and September on potholes.

EUSS: An entry and exit registration system beginning October 2024. Every tourist must physically register on entry. This will cause delay and additional pressure at ports such as Dover.

Resident Question to Cllr Hill: question about unaccompanied children. Cllr Hill explained that "children" means those 19 years and older. At present KCC has 1000 such children in residence.

Public Questions 19.45

1) A resident asked about the wooden posts in The Street around the lawn borders. These are now purchased, collected and in the care of John Wickens. The posts will be erected as required. There is some attention required at this time.

2) A resident inquired as to whether or not, there is a clause in the contract of sale of the Parish Council field to Martello which stipulates at what time income from the Parish Council owned house should be received.

3) A resident spoke of the advertising cart left in the centre of the Station Car Park – a hindrance and dangerous. This matter has been raised before and an answer will be provided by the next Parish Council meeting.

4) Question: will the Chairman of the Parish Council present a report at the Annual Parish Meeting? The answer was in the affirmative.

The meeting reconvened at 19.50

3. Planning

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

3.1 Planning Decisions by Ashford Borough Council

No decisions

3.2 Planning Applications Considered

PA/2024/0224 Park Farm, School Road, Installation of 2 roof lights NO COMMENT

PA/2024/0254 Park Farm -roof lights-NO COMMENT.
PA/2024/0356 Bennetts 56 The Street: addition of shower room: NO COMMENT
PA /2024/0340 Bennetts 56 The Street: external soil pipe: NO COMMENT

Pizza Van in Recreation Ground Mondays 5.00-8.00pm.: approved by Recreation Ground Trustees:
Ashford Planners not involved.

4. Finances

4. 1 Balances at 5th February 2024

Current	£17,431.01
Deposit	£82,205.56

4. 2 February salaries

Salaries	£2193.78
Expenses	£129.05
Pension	£339.82

4.3 Payments Made

R.Hiskey/ Hanging Baskets	£146.72
Castle Water:	£7.03
Allotment Charity: (loan)	£1000

5. Annual Parish Meeting: scheduled for 7.00 pm Thursday 21st March

Parish Council has been asked to authorise spending on refreshments up to £100 Proposed
Cllr.Gary Kinsley: Seconded Cllr Paula Thornton: Passed unanimously.

6. Car Park Update:

" Appledore "sign on gates from Kenardington: no news yet from Kieran Doble KCC, as to when this will be replaced.

Parking Signs: signs directing towards Court Lodge Car Park from The Street: no news yet from Kieran Doble KCC

Court Lodge Car Park: tree blown down partially obstructing public footpath. Emergency spending may be required. Cllr Sharon Marsh and her husband Simon have kindly agreed to look themselves to see what can be done.

Installation of Electric Charging Points in Appledore: Cllr Roger Kimber has been investigating the viability – technical and financial-of having charging points in one of the Appledore car parks. Meetings have been held at Village Hall with Trustee Chairman: further meetings planned with Kingsnorth Contractors on the 14th March. Issue concerning the distance between charging point and building. Each charging point could attract a grant of £12000: Cllr Johnny Shilton has advised that 80% grant aid may be available. Court Developments has the EON account at present. Our inquiries to EON are not answered at this time. The position of the disabled parking bays in Village Carpark will be considered in the planning and positioning of charging points. The Parish Council will require 3 quotes from a list of approved contractors as part of the submission process for funding.

7. 106 Funding Applications: update:

Recreation Ground: 106 funding applications submitted: small administrative issue raised about £97
Pavillion Improvements: not funded by 106 monies. Schedule of work being prepared. No payment will be made to the contractor until Recreation Ground Trustees have approved schedule.

Proposal: Parish Council pay Recreation Ground Trustees £20,000 once work is to commence- which could be within a couple of weeks. This payment is in line with previous motions over last 3 years confirming the Parish Council will support Recreation Ground Trustees in Pavilion refurbishment.

Proposed: Cllr Gary Kinsley Seconded Cllr Roger Hiskey: passed with one abstention: Cllr Nicol who expressed concern that no Responsible Finance Officer was present and item not on Agenda.

Allotments: application for 106 monies have been submitted to Ashford Borough Council. Ashford require details of capital and maintenance spending. Cllr Kinsley will pursue this with Ashford since he is at present in touch with the appropriate Officer. Fence posts have been installed: fenced off land returned to pasture: lock on gate removed to create access to a quiet space for all to enjoy.

8: Information for Councillors:

Parish Council owned house: Town and Country do not wish to manage Parish Council house: appropriate managing agent will be required. House should be finished construction in August 2024

Dog Waste Bin: Hop Gardens- removed. Parish Council will ask Ashford for litter bin in its place.

Parish Clerk: interviews underway: 2 interviews Saturday 2nd March: 2 Interviews Thursday 7th March.

Simon Honnor kindly repairing middle notice board in The Street. Heathside notice board in poor state. Arien signs to be approached for cost of replacement. Post office PC board also in need of attention.

School Road: vegetation outside certain houses presenting problem for passing on pavement. Chairman to report on progress April meeting.

Station Antiques: barrow in carpark causing obstruction: Chairman to report next meeting.

Directional Sign from Street to Station: Chairman to report: next PC meeting

Repton Popup Shop :in Pavilion 13 March and 27 March 10.30-11.30. Cllr Kinsley reported: customers spend £6 and receive £20 of produce Well attended. 13 customers signed up first session. Valued support from local volunteers.

Web Domain/Dedicated emails. To be discussed with pricing at next Parish Council meeting.

Citizens Advice Bureau. Cllr Kinsley and Johnny Shilton arranged finance so this can continue in Village Hall. Notice on Village Hall door indicates otherwise. This to be investigated.

9 Future Agenda Items:

Cllr Nicol: presentation on acquisition of red 'phone box to be sited at corner of Heathside for book exchange.

Web Domain- Cllr Kinsley

Date of Next Meeting: 7.30 pm Monday 8th April. Appledore Village Hall