



3rd October 2022
Minutes of the Meeting
7.30 pm Village Hall

Present

Roger Hiskey (Chairman), Toby Davis, Gary Kinsley, Chester Lusk, Paula Thornton and Charles Wilkinson.
In attendance: County Councillor Mike Hill and District Councillor Mick Burgess.
Members of the Public: 6

A Minute of Silence for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The Parish Council, not having met since the death of Her Majesty, observed a Minute of Silence-together with Members of the Community present in recognition of respect and an indication of how Queen Elizabeth touched us all.

1. Formalities

I) Quorum

The council was quorate.

II) Apologies

Councillor Winter, Clerk Mary Philo

(LGA 1972 schedule12, 12)

III) Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Councillor Davis had a prejudicial interest in the planning application PA/2022/2301 63 Poplar Hall

(Code of Conduct)

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

Following minor amendment, it was resolved to agree the minutes of the meetings held on 5th September 2022 as a true record. Proposed by Councillor Kinsley and seconded Councillor Davis.

(LGA Act 1972 schedule12,19.1)

Adjournment of Meeting for Reports and Public Questions

Report from County Councillor Mike Hill

There has been in Kent County Council a period of mourning for Her Majesty The Queen: also as this is now the Party Conference Season, there has been a degree of less activity. The financial position for the Council is no better and the prospect is a difficult year ahead, from a financial point of view.

Report from Borough Councillor Mick Burgess

Councillor Burgess referred to the Party Conference season and the difficult financial position facing the Borough Council. The Borough Council's Housing Business Financial Account is under review and the prospect of an increase in affordable/social housing locally, is remote. There will likely be a slowdown in housing maintenance and the creation of more social housing in the immediate future.

Councillor Burgess suggested that if members of the community require a speedy response on a Planning issue, one way to receive speedy attention is by an online approach via Planning.help@ashford.gov.uk

Councillor Burgess advised that the name of the Ashford officer can be inserted in any message, but not essential. He added that a response should come within 4/5 days.

Councillor Wilkinson took issue with the "4 or 5 days" which he felt was too long. He described some of the difficulties he had experienced in attempting to contact officers of the Council.

Public Questions 7.40pm

Outside Lighting for the Car Park at the Hall

A resident made a reference to what they felt is poor lighting in the Village Car Park, beside the Village Hall and requested that better lighting at night be provided.

Pavement extension from The Heath

A member of the public made a plea for improved pavement provision at the end of The Heath near the Four Wents cross road. A further parishioner, who also commented on poor pedestrian provision at the end of The Heath near Four Wents crossroad, advised they had obtained a quotation for creating a pavement, which they are willing to share.

Blackwall Farm Planning Application

The applicant for Blackwall Farm advised the Council that drawings for the garage proposed in the planning application for Blackwall Farm have now been submitted to the Borough Council as has a flood risk assessment.

The meeting reconvened at 7.50 pm

3. Planning

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

3.1 Planning Decisions by Ashford Borough Council

I) 22/01039/AS (previous 22/00524/AS) 1 New Rents, Kenardington Road: Demolition of existing garage. Proposed two storey side extension and single storey rear extension. Replacement of existing glazing. Erection of single storey garage. External and internal alterations. Approved with conditions.

II) 22/01048 /AS (revision of 22/00525/AS) 2 New Rents Kenardington Road: proposed erection of replacement single storey rear extension with the addition of an entrance door on South elevation. Approved with conditions.

3.2 Planning Applications Considered

I) PA/2022/2175 Oak tree Cottage, School Road: Retrospective erection of an incidental outbuilding and proposed alterations to external appearance. It was resolved to make no comment. Proposed by Councillor Hiskey and seconded by Councillor Wilkinson.

Councillor Davis left the room during the discussion of the following two applications

II) PA/2022/2496 (listed building) 63 Poplar Hall, The Street: Proposed internal reconfiguration to provide larger kitchen, convert utility room/garage into dining room and utility, remove conservatory, install bi-folding doors into kitchen family room/snug, and proposed dining/family, install glass balustrade to existing first floor roof terrace, oil tank to be relocated behind garden wall, removal of greenhouse, extension to patio freestanding timber pergola and timber fencing with pedestrian gates. It was resolved to support. Proposed by Councillor Wilkinson and seconded by Councillor Thornton.

III PA/2022/2301 (planning application) 63 Poplar Hall, The Street: Proposed internal reconfiguration to provide larger kitchen, convert utility room/garage into dining room and

utility, remove conservatory, install bi-folding doors into kitchen family room/snug, and proposed dining/family, install glass balustrade to existing first floor roof terrace, oil tank to be relocated behind garden wall, removal of greenhouse, extension to patio freestanding timber pergola and timber fencing with pedestrian gates.). It was resolved to support. Proposed by Councillor Wilkinson and seconded by Councillor Thornton.

4. Residential Enabling Car Park

As recorded in the minutes of the APC meeting 6/09/22, the transfer of ownership document does not include the footpath to the Military Canal. Our solicitor has recently, having been away on holiday, replied to our request for advice. This requires scrutiny and consideration, hence the reason for agenda item 15 which will be in camera.

The drawings and information required by Kent Highways have been sent by Court Developments. An invoice for the required fee is now in hand enabling the Traffic Regulation Order to begin and signage to be produced and installed. Depending on public acceptance of the yellow lining, this may take between 3 and 9 months and it is regrettable that it has taken since June to reach this point.

As mentioned in the October edition of the Parish Magazine, the planning application for the 6th house at Maple Place has been withdrawn.

The appeal against the refusal of the planning application for the bungalow close to the footpath, is still awaiting a decision.

5. Recreation Ground Facilities Improvements Advisory Group

Update by Councillor Davis: the working group comprising Steve Burton, Jo Papenheim, Councillors Davis, Kinsley, Lusk with Mary Philo in attendance met on 19th September. They discussed what can be done to improve the Recreation Ground and is going to focus on measures which can be achieved relatively quickly. The working group are looking for two additional members of the community to join them. A future meeting has been scheduled.

6. Community Engagement

Update by Councillor Hiskey. On Monday 26th September volunteers, old and new, visited the Village Hall throughout the day to plan and coordinate future activity. Planned programmes include Speed Watch, work on the Recreation Ground Tennis Courts (an hour of weeding), Footpath Monitoring and Clearance, Resilience Planning for the Community, volunteers to assist with maintaining Planters and, Litter Picking

7. Highways and Byways

Councillor Hiskey reported on Highways:

31-37 The Steet Footway (opposite Miss Mollets) will be resurfaced within 90 days from early August.

The Bridge over The Military Canal has been sprayed, cleaned and repainted.

The signage and visibility of signs much improved at the School Road Crossroads (Appledore/Tenterden Roads). There are new "STOP" signs on both sides of the road travelling along School Road.

Salt Bin at the canal bridge has been removed by the History Society who were thanked. The salt bin will not be replaced.

A scheduled date for the Gates at entry points to the Village is not available but Highways is being "chased".

The uneven and subsidence along Station Road was again mentioned. County Councillor Mike Hill undertook to press for remedial work from Highways.

Members of the Community were encouraged to log complaints on Highways issues on the KCC Highways website. We shall publish the contact details in the Parish Magazine.

Councillor Kinsley reported on Byways:

A team comprising Paul, Tracy, Gary and new volunteers are working to a four-stage plan.

(1) identifying where attention is required, producing spreadsheets with this information. Available Footpath maps which are copies to be reproduced to improve to reading them.

(2) establishing priorities and clearing footpaths, some of which have not been touched for decades and is looking to work with Rambling Groups who use the footpaths.

(3), renew 3 or 4 footpaths which have been lost due to locked gates, building works or lack of use.

(4) focus on areas which will benefit from improved stiles and kissing gates.

8. Jubilee Celebrations Financial Round Up

Councillor Kinsley reported.

There are too many people to thank by name, but a considerable amount of volunteer support given.

Total cost (entertainment, insurance, printing) came to £3162, whilst contributions £2711. The deficit of £451 has been covered by further contributions.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Kinsley for his work on the Platinum Jubilee, for the considerable time he had devoted and for his generosity.

9. Resilience Planning

Councillors Thornton and Lusk, who have been working together on resilience planning, have produced a form which, after further modification, will be delivered to every household in Appledore. This form is looking to identify people who require help and what help they require.

The issue was raised about the way in which data will be stored which does not infringe data protection legislation.

Councillor Hill raised the question about whether people who require financial help will be identified. At present the resilience planning is not embracing this area of support.

10. Finances

10.1 Bank Account

As at 31st August 2022 stood at £95,859.57 (this includes £62,343.01 ring fenced for capital projects and £11,343.69 ring fenced for highways).

10.2 August Receipts

£14.12	Public Donations from the conveniences
£8.22	Bank Interest

10.3 August Payments

£60.98	Refund M Philo Admin costs: Defibrillator battery, baby change repair, stamps
£20.00	P Caro: re-rake of car park at the hall
£100.00	Donation to Flower Festival St Peter and St Paul (1972 ACT section 137)
£45.00	P Caro: Cutting tree near Military Canal Bridge
£86.86	Castle Water: Toilets fresh water Jul to December 2022
£1,286.08	August Salaries

10.4 Additional September Payments

£1,864.19	September Salaries and second quarter PAYE
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10.5 It was resolved to make the following payments

£30.00	P Caro: car park at the hall hedge trim and weeding
£200.00	Appledore Local History Society: removal of broken salt bin at the canal bridge
£53.83	LASER: Toilets electricity June to August 2022
£43.18	KCS: Toilets requisites (£7.20 vat)

Toilets waste water bills have been recalculated since the new meter and readings. The account is currently £11.88 in credit.

Proposed by Councillor Lusk and seconded by Councillor Davis

11. Information for Councillors

Civility and Respect Pledge will be on the November agenda.
The ladies' toilet handle in one of the cubicles is now fixed. Thanks to recreation ground for their assistance. Also, for a previous repair to the hand basin tap

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 7th November 2022, 7.30pm, Appledore Village Hall

13. Discussion of Transfer Document for Court Lodge Car Park

Pursuant to section 1) of the Public Bodies (Admissions Act) 1960, it was resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during the item regarding the discussion of the transfer document for the Court Lodge Car Park Proposed by Councillor Hiskey and seconded by Councillor Davis

1972 LGA sch. 12A part 1.3 (commercially sensitive advice from solicitor)

The Parish Council should try, through our solicitors, to obtain the footpath along with the carpark and ask the solicitor for advice on other actions.

Meeting ended at 9.25 pm.