



Clerk to the Council, Mr P. Coles, c/o 3 The Square, Chartham, Kent, CT4 7JG
Tel:, Email: clerk@chilhamparishcouncil.gov.uk, Website: www.chilhamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Twitter: @ParishChilham

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 5th October 2023 at 7.00pm in Chilham Village Hall

Councillors Present: G. Schofield (Chair), K. Uncle (Deputy Chair), G. Meaden, S. Barrett, A. Watkins, V Hutchinson, A. Webb, & K Jeffries

Also Present: P. Coles (PC) (Clerk to the Council), and five members of the public.

Councillor Apologies: G Taylor

Councillor Absentee: N/A

AGENDA

Item

2023/117 Apologies for Absence
Councillor G Taylor

2023/118 Declarations of Interests And / Or Lobbying
Tree works at Deepwell House Councillor A Webb
Councillors S. Barrett, A. Watkins & K Jeffries Fruit farm donations

2023/119 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
2023/119.1 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2023.
Approved
2023/119.2 To receive an update on any matters arising not included in the agenda.

2023/120 Questions from Residents
By email. Dear Parish Councillors,

I hope you are well. My attention has been brought to some work being undertaken to the rear of the grade-II listed 'Old Coach House' opposite the Woolpack Inn Public house (which is also grade-II listed). A new fence is currently being erected within the grounds and it is my understanding that any form of development or external works within the curtilage of listed buildings and conservation areas such as this are required to obtain planning approval prior to starting work. I do believe that it could be argued that the new fence appears at odds with the organic pattern of development and due to both its height and appearance is visually dominant and detrimental to the appearance and setting of the listed building, the character of Herons Close and of the wider conservation area. It would be a shame for this to become a precedent for other local residents to follow - I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Councillors to raise with Shepherd Neame

By email.

Large amount of tree debris just fallen into the street, following a lorry with a tail lift travelling at speed. Have just removed most of it, how much longer must I have to put up with this until something is done about it? Do we have to wait until somebody is injured?

Councillor G. Meaden to follow up.

2023/121 Borough Councillors, Policing:

Ward Member's report for September 2023.

Geoff Meaden

Six short topics to mention:

1. Dog Barking. Severe dog barking disturbance has been extensively reported from Cobbs Hill. The Borough Council (ABC) has eventually addressed the problem. Strict instructions have been given to the householder that they need to comply with Council rules. The situation should be resolved within two weeks. Please let me know if this is not the case.
2. Loud music from Latin Field. Lots of discussion between the complainant and the persons responsible for this music appears now to have led to a resolution. It seems that there had been much difference in opinion as to the severity of what was happening. Again, I trust that this problem is being or has been resolved.
3. Maslow Court. This is an old problem that has re-appeared. This small production plant on the A28 just East of Chilham has, for several years, been causing severe disturbance for several of the immediate neighbours. The main problem is that the operations of the industrial processing do not comply with the conditions set by ABC, and the Council seem to be doing almost nothing. Most problems come from outdoor noise and from the coming and going of vehicles beyond permissible hours. A recent retrospective planning application for increased capacity at the plant shows that they intend to have up to 15 full time employees. This has the capacity to worsen the situation in terms of activity, disturbance and vehicle parking pressures.
4. The number of planning applications. This number has greatly increased over the last month at both Parish and Ward levels. Quite a few of the applications can be dealt with quite quickly but some are distinctly contentious. These complex applications involve a great deal of reading and subsequent discussions and communications. The application for the solar farm at Old Wives Lees has finally arrived.
5. The ABC Local Plan. As mentioned last month, the Borough planners are now preparing their local plan covering development in the Borough over the next 15 years. Any resident, business, farmer, landowner, etc, are invited to propose land for development. This can be for any built development but also for green conservation or protection. The Parish should discuss these submissions at some stage. As I see it, there is a problem concerning the communication of the intentions of the local plan, who can participate and how the local decisions are best made. The deadline for suggestions of land availability is November 20th next.
6. Parking opposite to Old Wives Lees village hall. As a means of helping to resolve car parking problems for residents of The Paddock, it was suggested some grass verge land almost opposite the village hall on Long Hill might be utilised for an extra three parking spaces. This has been investigated but I have been informed by KCC that this will not be possible, the reasons are varied but they involve various rules and regulations plus costs, the possibility of underground pipework and longer-term care and enforcement. There would however be a possibility of adding this suggested parking area to the Parish HIP. Meantime the irregular parking that now occurs can apparently continue. (P.S. – At the meeting it was suggested that this area was once a bus stop and there could be hard core under the current grass. If time permits, I will investigate this).

2023/122

To discuss the issue of nuisance behaviour from Dogs within the Parish

Discussed issue under Ward members report. No other issues raised regarding Dogs

2023/123

To discuss erecting a Bus Shelter in Old Wives Lees

Councillors explored locating bus shelter by the layby on Old Wives Lees where buses currently stop. The path and layby is privately owned and therefore not a suitable location. Councillors exploring other locations, looking for land owned by Ashford Borough Council.

2023/124

To discuss the management of the crab apple trees in Old Wives Lees

The crop from the Crab Apple Trees are causing a Health and safety issue. A number of residents have slipped and fallen in the last year. Proposing the removal of Four crab apple trees replacing with more suitable native tree.

Agreed, one abstention Councillor G Schofield.

2023/125

A28 junction survey

On line survey launched 21st Sept 2023 to run for 28 days

Interim results – 5th October 2023 – for CPC

28 online responses

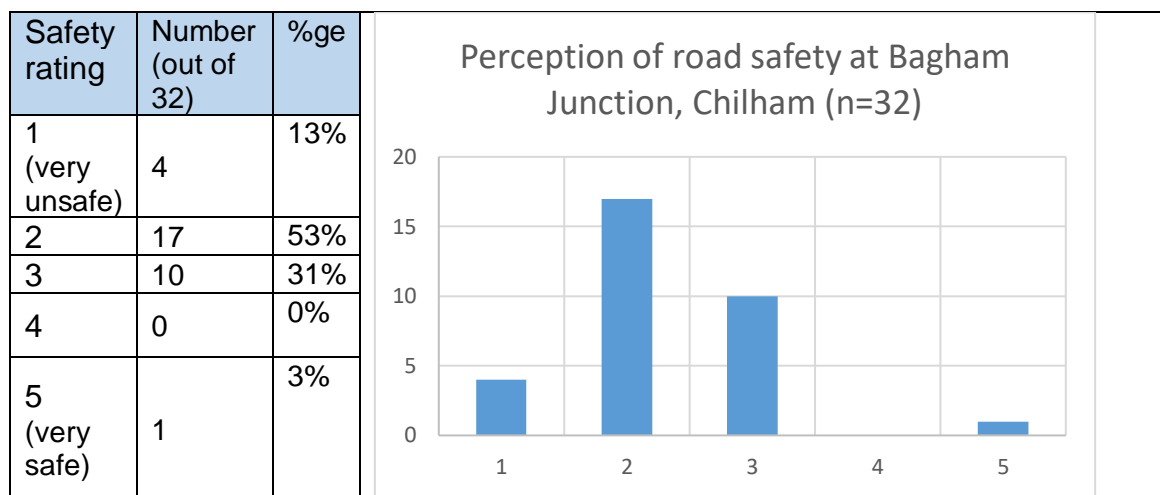
5 paper form responses

= total 32 to date

Perception of safety at Bagham Junction on scale of 0-5

0=very dangerous

5=very safe



Witnessed incidents?

18/32 said they had not witnessed incidents (i.e. near misses, potential for RTAs)

14/32 had witnessed near miss incidents

Free text reports – need further summarisation, but poor observation and judgement, pulling out in front of oncoming traffic (impatience etc) are consistent themes

Involved in incidents

No respondents had been directly involved in RTAs (several close misses reported in this category)

Suggested solutions to improve safety

Speed cameras and traffic lights

Roundabout

Signage – indicating priority

Pelican crossing

Author : Tony Webb

2023/126

Working Groups

To receive reports

2023/126.1 Finance & General Purposes:

2023/126.1.1 Financial Transactions for Approval-Appendix 1 refers.

Noted

Clerk confirmed that External auditors have signed off the accounts and notice published

2023/126.2 Planning

2023/126.2.1 Planning Applications

App Ref: PA/2023/1704

Location: Cork Farm, Annexe At, Long Hill, Old Wives Lees, Chilham, CT4 8BN

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate-Existing use of annexe as an independent dwelling

Agreed: Chilham Parish Council has no objection to the application

App Ref: PA/2023/1710

Location: Badgers Hill Farm. New Cut Road Chilham, CT4 8BW

Proposal: Erection of new building to accommodate and enlarge existing restaurant facilities, the existing car park and create a new access onto Canterbury Road following demolition of outbuildings.

Agreed: Representation

Chilham Parish Council are minded to support the application if the comments submitted by Kent Highways and Transportation in their letter dated the 2nd of October are taken into account. Particularly the comment regarding a pedestrian crossing across the A252, a major safety concern of Parish Council, and the need for a right-hand turning lane on the A252 if the application is approved.

2023/126.2.2 Tree Orders

App Ref: NOT/2023/1657

Location: Deepwell House, Chilham Castle Estate, Chilham, CT4 8D

Proposal: T1, T2 and T3 Limes - These remaining limes are part of replanting programme undertaken 20+ years ago and have been regularly maintained over the years (see previous applications). Over the past 3 - 4 years, permission was granted to remove 6-7 limes to give remaining 3 limes space to develop. Unfortunately, the root system starting to cause problems with other replanted trees (e.g., magnolia, hazel etc) in the area, the pathway and dense lvey growth, underground cabling. Requested work is to section fell x 3 Limes, grind stumps out.

Agreed: Chilham Parish Council does not have any objections to the application. The map on the application did not work and photographs should have been provided.

App Ref: OTH/2023/1735

Location: Mabels Wood, Taylors Hill, Chilham

Proposal: Retrospective works to woodland for the purpose of clearing dense ground lvy. Stripping dense lvy Growth from Tress and the removal of a number of dead/predominantly dead trees. All dead/predominantly were felled on grounds of safety (Elm, Hazel. Sycamore, Ash. Field Maple, and Holly)

Agreed: Chilham Parish Council felt compelled to object due to incorrect information provided on the application form. The owner's agent completed the application, however under the applicants details the information they provided indicated that the owner of the site was the

agent. Under reasons for the felling of the Trees the agent completed incorrectly. The Parish Council understood the Trees were felled due to the conditions of the Trees i.e., they were diseased. The applicant answered the question on the works being carried out in a conservation area incorrectly. The village of Chilham is situated in a conservation area which includes Mabel's wood.

App Ref: NOT/2023/1656

Location: 8 Stable Court, Cheyney House, Chilham Castle Estate, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 8DB

Proposal: T1 Yew - large specimen, good condition, Height 9 metres, Width 6/7 metres, owned by Stable Court Management Company. Upstairs of adjacent property now in darkness. Work required to rebalance tree as marked on attached photo by undertaking 10% crown thin, remove deadwood and small amount of epicormic growth on stem.

Agreed: Chilham Parish Council has no objections to the application

2023/126.2.3 Planning Decisions

None received.

2023/126.3 Communications and Information technology

2023/126.3.1 To receive a report from the Working Group on Communications
New website demo is not yet ready, should be by the Parish Council meeting. Confirmed that Eventbrite account is ready to be used.

2023/126.4.1 Events

2023/126.4.1 To receive a report from the Working Group on Events
Next events working group meeting on the 11th October.
Halloween event in Mabels wood.
Memorial has been cleaned in preparation for Remembrance Sunday

2023/126.5 Environment & Open Spaces

2023/126.5.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
Councillors G. Schofield, K. Uncle, and S. Barrett for clearing Footpaths and grass verge
CPC has been offered 1,000 Snowdrop bulbs to plant in Old Wives Lees-looking to plant in February. After 5 years bulbs need to be lifted and 1,000 bulbs returned to the benefactor to be located in another Kent village.
New Environment Policy to presented at next CPC meeting.

2023/126.6 Chilham Parish Youth Club

2023/126.6.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
22 children attended the young youth club.
Collected 300 Milk Bottles to support the Halloween event
£62.10 banked from the Youth Club.

2023/126.7 Chilham Square

2023/126.7.1 To receive a report of the Working Group
2023/126.7.2 To discuss the painting of car park spaces in Chilham Square
Following research and information from a previous parish councillor, CPC were informed that the parking area should have been repainted and retained inside the metal studs when the square was resurfaced by Kent Highways (1999?). Kent Highways offered to repaint the lines, a separate committee which had ambitious plans for the square turned down the offer at that time. These plans never came to fruition. However, this committee is no longer in existence and the square is fully under the parish council remit. This previous councillor also raised

concerns, as being a former fireman and fire engine driver, he felt that there was insufficient space for a fire engine to get through with the current state of parking.

Proposals

Repaint parking bays inside the original metal studs and incorporate 2 – 4 disabled bays at the end of the parking area to contain the area to be parked in. *Seating area suggestion to be put on hold due to H&S concerns from Kent Highways.*

Agreed

Kent Highways say they can't paint CAR PARK on Taylors Hill road..

Main road signs directing visitors to Chilham village have already been agreed to be amended to cover up "village centre" and just leave a "P" for parking on the signs. *With contractors.*

CPC will be contacting Ashford Borough Council, the owners of Taylors Hill carpark, to ask them to paint parking bays, to encourage visitors to park their vehicles in the carpark. At present people just park around the edge, unless there is a big event in Chilham Castle.

2023/127 Correspondence

List of items received during the period 1st September 2023 – 30th September 2023, (Appendix 2)

2023/128 Matters for Further Discussion

Councillor K. Uncle has been monitoring the state of the cleanliness of Taylors Hill Toilets. Average score 5 out of 10. Feed back from public not too bad could be better. Report to be discussed with cleaning company.

Agreed Toilet seat and Loo roll holders to be replaced.

Councillor G Meaden attempted to contact the owners of the Mobile Telephone Mast opposite the A28/A252 junction without any luck. Considering writing.

Christmas Tree in Chilham Square due to be erected on the 8th December. The lights due to be switched on by the Dean of Canterbury on the 10th of December.

2023/129 Date and Time of Next Meeting

To confirm the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 2nd November 2023 at 7.00 pm in Old Wives Lees Village Hall

Appendix 1: Financial Transactions.

Transaction Date	Transaction Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount
29/09/2023	NEST	28.26	
29/09/2023	ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL		26335
25/09/2023	FRIENDS OF ST MARY CLOCK FUND OVERPAY		1000
25/09/2023	CHILHAM VILL DOUBLE PYMT GRANT		792
25/09/2023	MRS G SCHOFIELD EXPENSES	22.78	
25/09/2023	MR S M DODD	50	
19/09/2023	PETER MILTON	120	
19/09/2023	FRIENDS OF ST MARY GRANT	1000	
19/09/2023	CHILHAM VILLAGE HALL GRANT	792	
19/09/2023	FRIENDS OF ST MARY GRANT	1000	
19/09/2023	CHILHAM VILLAGE HALL GRANT	792	
14/09/2023	SPOTON.NET LTD SPOTON	64.8	
14/09/2023	B.ONLINE LTD	11.94	

12/09/2023	CHILHAM VILLAGE HALL HIRE	330	
12/09/2023	VICTORY CLEANING	686.66	
12/09/2023	BOURNE TO GARDEN	390	
12/09/2023	BILTING FARM SELF STORAGE	46	
12/09/2023	CHILHAM PARISH REC	96	
01/09/2023	NEST	28.26	

Appendix 2: Correspondence.

Item	Date
Kent Mineral Sites Plan - Second Call for Sites - Hard Rock - August 2023	01/09/2023
Chief Executive briefing - Council welcomes Government announcement on nutrient neutrality	01/09/2023
Kent Bus Service Changes Bulletin - July, August, September and October 2023	01/09/2023
Chief Executive briefing - Council buys former Kent Wool Growers site	04/09/2023
KALC NEWS SEPTEMBER 2023 AND TRAINING 2023-2024	05/09/2023
GUIDE TO TAKING PART IN D-DAY 80 - 6TH JUNE 2024	05/09/2023
Ashford Police Newsletter September Edition - Rural North	06/09/2023
Kent County Council Rail Summit	06/09/2023
Ashford Borough Local Plan 2041: Call for Sites	06/09/2023
Chief Executive briefing - Ashford Local Plan 2041 - Call for Sites	07/09/2023
Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy 2024-2029 - Feedback webinar	12/09/2023
Minutes for Planning Committee, Wednesday, 6th September, 2023	13/09/2023
13 September Scam Alerts: This weeks scams to be aware of in Kent	13/09/2023
Chief Executive briefings - Ashford joins #InTheLoop campaign to boost on-the-go recycling and Create Music Village returns to Ashford Town Centre this October.	13/09/2023
KALC Ashford: Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 6th September 2023.	13/09/2023
Chief Executive briefing - Community Amenities Grant	15/09/2023
Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust	15/09/2023
Councils - Connect your community to the Slow Ways national walking network	19/09/2023
Sep 2023 Newsletter from Seiretto	21/09/2023
Updated contact details for Parish Clerks	22/09/2023
New NHW Messaging Service	22/09/2023
OWL Hall Committee AGM Minutes	25/09/2023
Chief Executive briefing - Quantock Village Green victory	25/09/2023
Agenda for Planning Committee, Wednesday, 4th October, 2023, 7.00 pm	25/09/2023
ONS consultation on the future of population and migration statistics in England and Wales	26/09/2023
KALC Finance Conference	26/09/2023
Fields in Trust – notification of new guidance and fee structure launch	29/09/2023
Latest news from East Kent Health and Care Partnership	29/09/2023
Friends of St Mary's Church re donation	28/09/2023