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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 7th September 2023 at 7.30pm in Old Wives Lees Village Hall

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

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

Councillor Apologies: V Hutchinson

Councillor Absentee: N/A

AGENDA

Item

- 2023/103** **Welcome to new Councillors:** Councillors G. Taylor & K Jeffries confirmed they would observe the code as to the conduct which is expected of Members of the Council.
- 2023/104** **Apologies for absence:** Councillor V Hutchinson
- 2023/105** **Declarations of Interests And / Or Lobbying**
Councillors S. Barrett, A. Watkins & K Jeffries Fruit farm donations and Planning Application /2023/1462
Councillor A. Webb Grant application friends of St Mary's Church Chilham,
- 2023/106** **Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council**
2023/106.1 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2023.
Agreed
2023/106.2 To receive an update on any matters arising not included in the agenda.
Heads of Terms for the gas Governor at Cobbs Hill, Old Wives Lees, Chilham have been signed.
Verbal acceptance of the CPC accounts just awaiting written confirmation
- 2023/107** **Questions from Residents**
Question on the new mobile telephone masts on the A28.
Agreed: the CPC would ask for the masts to be painted in more appropriate colours
Question: Has CPC changed the rules for Co-opting new Councillors. **Confirmed the Council has not.**
Question regarding the broadcasting of meetings: CPC will resume broadcasting meetings when the new CPC website is launched. CPC will need to purchase additional equipment to improve the quality of the sound.
Question on the number of Old Wives Lees residents on CPC. **CPC confirmed that we have encouraged residents from Shottenden and Chilham to join the Council.**
CPC was encouraged to work with Tattinger to promote the parish of Chilham.

2023/108

Borough Councillors, Policing:

Borough Councillor report.

1. I have reported previously on the urgent need for many hedges to be trimmed so as to make footpaths safer and to allow for easier vehicular movements on narrow lanes. Since Ashford Borough Council (ABC) has recently reviewed some of the hedges I mentioned, and they have advised that no trimming is necessary, it is apparent to me that over a long period of time many hedges gradually get wider. A prime example is the hedge opposite Dave Cauldron's garage on The Street in Chilham. This hedge causes a lot of trouble in terms of car movements at the garage and for rubbish collection on The Street. But this process is difficult to convey to the Council.
2. Dog barking has recently become a serious nuisance in parts of Old Wives Lees. I gather that ABC has set up sound recording monitors along parts of Cobbs Hill to check on the most serious case. I hope soon to have a report on the outcome of this survey.
3. The annual small financial grants given to worthy causes by ABC are now available. If you have some cause that will enhance the community then you should apply to me at (geoff.meaden@ashford.gov.uk). The application must come from a "recognised" group such as Parish group, church group, sports club, a charity, etc. More details on the application guidelines can be found at
4. Congratulations must be given to the small working group from the Parish Council who have considerably enhanced the shelter on the Latin Field in Old Wives Lees. And I gather it has received a coat of paint since I inspected earlier this week!!
5. ABC have now issued a request for sites to be added to ABC's Local Plan. It should be important to note that these sites need not only be for being built on (housing, retail, industry, etc) but also sites "that support the environment, health and wellbeing and that seek to mitigate and adapt to, climate change potential sites for new green spaces, energy generation, opportunities for Biodiversity Net Gain, and wetlands for Nutrient Neutrality mitigation (if required) and or nature-based initiatives, are also being sought."

2023/109

To discuss proposals for Taylors Hill

- **Temporary Bollards**
- **Low traffic zone-encompassing the square**
- **Parking Bays in Taylors Hill Car park**

ABC have agreed to change the signs on the A28 to just indicate parking in Taylors Hill

Agreed: to request disabled parking bays to be marked out in Chilham square, two at each end of the square

Agreed: to request ASB to mark out Parking Bays in Taylors Hill car park

Agreed: to ask St Mary's Church about locating cycle racks behind the White Horse pub.

2023/110

Update on the Peacock

CPC has been in touch with ASB conservationists. They have written to the owners to get the repairs to the building to be carried out.

2023/111

Noise complaints Latin Field

A complaint about noise in the fields is being dealt with by ASB.

CPC has been working with local young people to refurbish the shelter using pallets and to paint the goal posts, new goal nets and behind goal nets to stop footballs going into neighbouring garden.

2023/112

Grant Application

2023/112.1

Revised grant application process. **Agreed.**

2023/112.2

Friends of St Mary's Church Chilham and PCC application for funds towards the restoration of clock tower. **Agreed.**

2023/113 Working Groups
To receive reports

2023/113.1 Finance & General Purposes:

2023/113.1.1 Financial Transactions for Approval-Appendix 1 refers

Noted

2023/113.1.2 Update on the annual accounts.-see above

2023/113.2 Planning

2023/113.2.1 Planning Applications

Case Reference: PA/2023/1231

Location: The Silvers, Selling Road, Chilham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 8BH

Proposal: Erection of a new dwelling

Noted Complaints are about the size of the dwelling, an issue with access to the site, it is a back garden development not an infill site, would overlook neighbouring properties causing loss of privacy, and no significant change from previously refused application.

Decision All opposed as the application is not for an infill building but development of the back garden which would set a precedent for properties on Selling Road in an area of outstanding national beauty. Not a significant change from previous application that was refused

Case Reference: PA/2023/1462

Location: Chilham Water Mill, Ashford Road, Chilham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 8EE

Proposal: Variation of conditions 11 (walls and fences) and 13 (landscaping) of planning permission 17/01694/AS for Demolition of office block; alteration extension and conversion of welfare block and garage to form office and game keepers' accommodation; alteration and conversion of side mill building to form 2-bedroom live work unit; conversion of generator building to form 4 bedroom house; refurbishment of stable block to form fishing store; rebuilding of fishing shelter and construction of new stand-alone wc block to allow for changes to landscape proposals (retrospective)

Noted Address was wrong on the application. Footpath goes right past the site. Poor quality of the Information provided.

Decision Approve-comment: Object to the retrospective nature of the application.

Case Reference: PA/2023/1488

Location: Heron Manor, Mountain Street, Chilham, CT4 8DG

Proposal: Replace the dining room, sitting room, and adjoining lobbies with limestone flooring tiles and underfloor heating. Remove a partition wall on the ground floor between the study and kitchenette

Decision Approve-comment: No comment from English heritage.

Case Reference: PA/2023/1501

Location: Maslow Court, 1 Canterbury Road, Chilham, CT4 8DZ

Proposal: Extension of change of use of mixed-use to storage/light industrial to allow use of the building for the production of fireproof wall panels, storage of materials and associated office usage.

Decision: Object- Comment: Retrospective application. Applicant ignored all conditions from previous application. Application is for 15 people to work at the site-CPC believe the site is not large enough to accommodate 15 people working safely.

Case Reference: PA/2023/1527

Location: Hambrook Lodge, Hambrook Lane, Chilham, CT4 8DJ

Proposal: Semi-enclosed rear extension to the existing covered canopy area and associated landscaping

Decision No objection

2023/113.2.2 Tree Orders

Case Reference: NOT/2023/1537

Location: Beech House, Hambrook Lane, Chilham, CT4 8DJ

Proposal: T1 Beech tree - Fell

Decision No objection

Case Reference: NOT/2023/1560

Location: The Woolpack Inn, The Street, Chilham, CT4 8DL

Proposal: T1 Castanea sativa - sweet chestnut. -Reduce the crown of the tree by the selective removal of between 2.5-3metres from the branch tips depending on the opportunities for cutting back to suitable live growth in each instance. -Remove the major deadwood (>25mm) from the crown of the tree -Prune to give upwards of 3m clearance from the roof of the garage/workshop, depending on the opportunity to prune to decent growth points. Radial spread reduced from 9m to 6m and height from 13m to 10m.

Decision No objection

2023/113.2.3 Planning Decisions

2023/113.3 Communications and Information technology

2023/113.3.1 To receive a report from the Working Group on Communications

Final design of the website has been shared with the group.

Data from old website has been harvested.

Emails will transfer to new site; New CPC Councillors will get email addresses when the site is launched.

Newsletter has been produced.

Working group will organise a session for Councillors to review the new site.

2023/113.4.1 Events

2023/113.4.1 To receive a report from the Working Group on Events

Halloween spectacular to be held in Mabel's Wood. Proceeds to go to COSY and St Mary's

Looking at holding a Christmas dance to raise funds for D-day celebration. Funds will go towards fish and chips for older residents.

2023/113.5 Environment & Open Spaces

2023/113.5.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
Library in the phone box, Old Wives Lees Hall. A volunteer has offered to run the library.
Maintenance of the child play area in Old Wives Lees completed.

2023/113.6 Chilham Parish Youth Club

2023/113.6.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
Usual sessions ongoing.
All day session held in the summer from 9-4pm, 23 children attended.

2023/113.7 Chilham Square

2023/113.7.1 To receive a report of the Working Group
Discussed earlier.

2023/114 Correspondence

List of items received during the period 1st August 2023 – 31st August 2023, (Appendix 2)

2023/115 Matters for Further Discussion

Disabled parking bays in Felborough Close: to consult with residents.

2023/116 Date and Time of Next Meeting

To confirm the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 5th October 2023 at 7.00 pm in Chilham Village Hall.

Appendix 1 Financial Transactions

Date	Transaction Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount
30/08/2023	P E COLES SALARY	931.7	
29/08/2023	500004		443.46
21/08/2023	B.ONLINE LTD	18.61	
18/08/2023	HMRC VAT		3815.92
16/08/2023	BILTING FARM SELF	46	
16/08/2023	CHILHAM PARISH REC	144	
14/08/2023	SPOTON.NET LTD	64.8	
03/08/2023	NEO GRAPHIX	24.35	
03/08/2023	VICTORY CLEANING	667.46	
03/08/2023	BOURNE TO GARDEN	390	
03/08/2023	500003		223.66

Appendix 2 Correspondence

Item	Date
NHW Message - Ashford Police Rural North Newsletter	02/08/2023
Aug 2023 Newsletter from Seiretto	03/08/2023
Chief Executive Briefing - Citizens Panel Launches to help Understand Residents Views	04/08/2023
KALC Weekly bulletin	04/08/2023
Chief Executive Briefing - MyAshford portal launched	07/08/2023

Chief Executive Briefing - Tenants Satisfaction Survey on the way	08/08/2023
Chief Executive Briefing - Civic Centre users consultation on proposed move	09/08/2023
Asian Hornets	10/08/2023
KALC Venue Based Conferences - Autumn 2023	14/08/2023
Latest news from East Kent Health and Care Partnership	16/08/2023
Duke of Cornwall Youth Community Resilience awards	18/08/2023
Flood Warden training dates released	18/08/2023
Read our new State of the Green Belt report!	19/08/2023
KALC Bulletin	21/08/2023
Kent County Council - Urgent Road Closure - Cobbs Hill, Chilham	23/08/2023
Urgent Road Closure - Mulberry Hill, Chilham - 29th August 2023	23/08/2023
Kent & Medway Partnership Domestic Abuse Strategy 2024-2029	23/08/2023
KALC CONFERENCES AND EVENTS	23/08/2023
Chief Executive Briefing - Salix praised decarbonisation work at the Stour Leisure Centre	24/08/2023
KALC Ashford: Agenda for meeting on 6th September 2023	28/08/2023
latest update from the Ashford Neighbourhood Beat Team	29/08/2023
Supporting Local Communities: Valuable Resource for Funeral Costs	30/08/2023