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Minutes of the Parish Council held on Thursday 11th July 2024 at 7.00pm in Chilham Village Hall

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

Also Present: P. Coles (PC) (Clerk to the Council) plus one member of the public

Councillor Apologies: G. Schofield (Chair), V. Hutchinson

Councillor Absentee: N/A

Item

2024/079 Apologies for Absence
Councillors G. Schofield (Chair), illness and V. Hutchinson parental responsibilities

2024/080 Declarations of Interests And / Or Lobbying
Councillor S. Barrett item 2024/087-Chair of Old Wives Lees Village Hall
Councillor G. Taylor item 2024/089.3.1- Domaine Evremond are an Investor in the Tudor Peacock

2024/081 Chairs opening remarks.

Good evening, our Chair, Gill Schofield, is not feeling her best and as Deputy Chair, I, Shanise Barrett, will be chairing tonight's meeting. As you may be aware after serving as Member of Parliament for Ashford since 1997, Damien Green, lost the seat to Sojan Joseph in last weeks election. Damien was a friend to Chilham and the Parish Council and we wish him well in the future.

Chilham is part of the new parliamentary constituency, Weald of Kent. Our constituency covers the mostly rural areas in the centre of Kent and includes the towns of Tenterden, and Headcorn as well as the villages of Staplehurst, Coxheath, and Cranbrook. Our new MP is Katie Lam, and I wish to record our congratulations to Katie, and we look forward to working with her.

I am please to say that the slide in the Children's Play Area in Old Wives Lees Green has been replaced. The Parish Council is looking for grants to help us replace equipment in the Children's Play Area.

2024/082 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council

2024/082.1 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th June 2024.

Item 2024/069 Weald ward should read as Weald constituency. Next line should also say constituency. Otherwise

Decision: Agree

2024/082.2 To receive an update on any matters arising not included in the agenda.
No updates

2024/083 Questions from Residents

No Questions

2024/084 Borough Councillors, Policing:

Ward Member's Report (July 2024)

Not a great deal to report this month mainly because the Ashford Borough Council's routines have been interrupted by the General Election, which involves the Council with lots of extra work, and with ABC trying to cope with the effect of introducing a completely new waste and recycling company who were not well prepared for the complications that might arise. I gather that the Council had been receiving literally thousands of queries and complaints.

I had a meeting with two senior Planning officers to discuss what I consider to be completely inadequate protection being given to the conservation of "Green" spaces in the Borough. Thus, under the Local Plan the Borough is able to identify land required to accommodate necessary housing, retailing and employment growth, but there are no requirements to give "sanctuary for nature". So, we see all sorts of green land being abused and this goes on in a country which is already the most "de-natured" in Europe. Slowly, this situation is being recognised, e.g. via the recent "Making Space for Nature" initiative, but this is not enough and as a society we need far more urgent action. The ABC officers I spoke to were entirely sympathetic and have promised to take this "green protection" issue up with others in the Planning office. I sincerely hope that progress is made.

One unusual matter to mention was the receipt of an email which read as follows:

"Dear Sir, As a tourist I visited Chilham and I was very thankful to be able to see and feel such pristine quietness. If Chilham could just remain the wonderful green treasure as it is now that would be the absolute greatest decision for now and for future generations who are thanking you now. Kind regards and thank you. Mark van Santbrink."

I thought this to be such a charming and perceptive observation.

2024/085 Ashford Borough Local Plan

The Government requires local planning authorities to review Local Plans every five years.

The review of the Ashford Local Plan 2030 is complete and a new Local Plan for Ashford is being prepared.

The new Local Plan will look at the needs of the borough for the minimum of the next 15 years.

Information on the plan is available at: [www.ashford.gov.uk/emerging-local-](http://www.ashford.gov.uk/emerging-local-plan)

[plan](http://www.ashford.gov.uk/emerging-local-plan)

Ashford Borough Council are organising a series of community events. The events will explain what a Local Plan is, what stage are we at, and when will we go out to formal public consultation. Community events are taking place at:

Chilham Village Hall, Chilham Castle Estate, Chilham, CT4 8DB, Thursday 1 August, 2 - 8pm

Wye Village Hall, Bridge Street, Wye, Ashford, TN25 5EA, Wednesday 31 July 2 - 8pm

Member of Public: Last time the Borough P an residents in Old Wives Lees wished to object to development of a site in Old Wives Lees and were told the consultation had closed.

Councillors K. Uncle, A. Watkins, A. Webb, G. Meaden, and G. Taylor confirmed they would be attending.

Decision: CPC to promote the consultation event at Chilham Village Hall and sign up to have your say portal.

2024/086 Quote for trimming new growth on trees around Old Wives Lees Green

Quote from Hart Lee for the work is £936

Decision: Agreed

2024/086.1 To consider an annual maintenance contract for the trees around Old Wives Lees Green

Decision: Councillor K. Jeffries to confirm with Hart Lee expected costs

2024/087 Grant request for Old Wives Lees Village Hall

Councillor S. Barrett left the room.

Old Wives Lees Village request a Contribution of £1,000 to

- Internal redecoration
- Upgrading internal furniture
- Erection of external fencing to create an enclosed and safe outdoor space adjoining the hall

Total cost of the project is £3,500

Decision: Agreed

Councillor S. Barrett returned to the room. Thanked Councillor K. Uncle for restoring the owl sculpture and erecting at Old Wives Lees Village Hall.

2024/088 Request Chilham Chase 2024 committee to the Parish Council regarding their funds

The current Chilham Chase Committee are standing down and request that the Parish Council hold a sum of money to enable a new committee to hold the chase for a period of 5 years. At the end of which time, the Parish Council may approach the last known Chair/Secretary for clarification on status of the funds.

Decision: Agreed

2024/089 Working Groups

2024/089.1 To receive updates.

2024/089.2 Finance & General Purposes:

2024/089.2.1 Financial Transactions for Approval-Appendix 1 refers.

The clerk highlighted the HMRC payment as the first in nearly two years. On employment the clerk had tax and NI deducted from salary, HMRC changed the clerk's tax code mid-year resulting in the Council having a significant balance with HMRC to cover employers NI contributions. The clerk's tax code for this year has changed resulting in the need to pay tax and NI from the clerk's salary. Councillors noted

2024/089.3 Planning

2024/089.3.1 **Planning Applications**

Case Reference: PA/2024/1019

Location: Domaine Evremond Winery, Land west of, New Cut Road, Chilham, Canterbury, Kent

Proposal: Display of 2no. non-illuminated timber post entrance signs.

Decision: No objections

2024/089.3.2 **Tree Orders**

None received

2024/089.3.3 **Planning Decisions**

None received

2024/089.3.4 **Planning Appeals**

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 - APPEAL UNDER SECTION 78

Appellant: Mr David Greenhaigh

Proposal Erection of one and a half storey dwelling, following the demolition of existing garage

Location Land at Hatfield Lodge, The Street,, Chilham, CT4 8DP

Councillors noted they approved the application previously

Decision: The clerk to write to the planning inspectorate confirming the Parish Council's previous decision and support the appeal.

2024/089.4 Communications and Information technology

2024/089.4.1 To receive a report from the Working Group on Communications
Councillors are receiving emails in regards to renewal of Microsoft accounts on Parish Council laptops. Councillor A. Webb will liaise with the clerk on payment. Councillor V Hutchinson has produced flyers for the fete.
Councillors noted that posts on Facebook were not visible to them all due to Facebooks algorithms.

2024/089.4.2 To receive an update on the Parish Council website.
Councillor A. Webb working with NetWise to address an issue affecting links copied from the website.

2024/089.5.1 Events

2024/089.5.1 To receive a report from the Working Group on Events
Fete on Saturday 13th July, 33 stalls booked and 30 Dogs already, Dogs will be able to enter the Dog show on the day.
The support vehicle for the steam tractor will be able to park in the church. The church is the site for disability vehicle parking.
The committee noted that the mail van will need access to the post office to collect the post at midday. The post office is due to close at 12:30 pm.

2024/089.6 Environment & Open Spaces

2024/089.6.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
No report

2024/089.7 Amenities

2024/089.7.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
Noted the ROSPA reported circulated by the clerk. Will take action to address issues in the report. No significant risk identified, or immediate action required.

2024/089.8 Physical buildings

2024/089.8.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
All the handrails have been delivered. Councillor K. Jeffries.
Clerk to check whether the door maintenance has been done.

2023/089.9 Chilham Parish Youth Club

2023/089.9.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
The Youth club will be closed for the summer. Last one on the 23rd of July 2024.
Starting up again in September.

2023/089.10 Chilham Square

2023/089.10.1 To receive a report of the Working Group
Quotes for painting of parking bays in Taylors Hill car park being sourced.
Once done, the Parish Council will monitor impact to see if further actions are
required to address parking in the square.

2023/090 Correspondence

List of items received during the period 1st June 2024 – 30th June 2024,
(Appendix 2)
Councillors noted.

2023/091 Matters for Further Discussion

None

2023/092 Date and Time of Next Meeting

To confirm the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 5th
September 2024 at 7.00 pm in Chilham Village Hall

Appendix 1

Transaction Date	Transaction Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Reason
27/06/2024	BOURNE TO GARDEN	780		2 months charges for Ground Maintenance
27/06/2024	ASHFORD BOROUGH CO	75		Closure of Chilham Square Fete
27/06/2024	P E COLES	188.37		Clerk's Expenses including annual Zoom charge
27/06/2024	P E COLES	692.75		Clerks salary
27/06/2024	VICTORY CLEANING	738.34		Cleaning Taylors Hill Toilets
27/06/2024	HMRC	825.65		Quarterly Employer/Employee Tax bill
17/06/2024	CASTLE WATER LTD	129.12		Water charges
14/06/2024	500034		43.05	COSY
14/06/2024	500033		70	COSY
14/06/2024	500032		54	COSY
14/06/2024	500031		59.75	COSY
14/06/2024	B.ONLINE LTD	13.14		Telephone
12/06/2024	MR ROBERT WESTON	1562		Fish & Chips for D'Day celebrations
12/06/2024	VICTORY CLEANING	738.34		Cleaning Taylors Hill Toilets
12/06/2024	BILTING FARM SELF	46		Storage

12/06/2024	MISS YVONNE WHITE	93.79	Plants for CPC Planters
10/06/2024	RENTOKIL INITIAL	92.16	Annual Charge for rodent management
05/06/2024	CHILHAM PARISH REC	60	COSY
05/06/2024	P E COLES	32.85	Clerk's expenses
03/06/2024	NEST	70.44	Clerk's pension

Appendix 2

Correspondence	
Item	Date
Agenda for Planning Committee, Wednesday, 12th June, 2024, 7.00 pm	03/06/2024
Event Reminder - Road Safety Partnership - Safer Roads Stronger Communities	03/06/2024
KALC Training Bulletin (3 June 2024) -	04/06/2024
Draft Minutes KALC Area Committee Meeting held on the 29 May 2024	04/06/2024
FREE - ACTIVE KENT & MEDWAY WORKSHOP - BOOK NOW FOR 11TH JUNE	06/06/2024
Weekly Bulletin Week Ending 7 June 2024	06/06/2024
The Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Kent and Medway - We need to hear from Parish and Town Councils!	07/06/2024
KENT FIRE AND RESCUE WATER SAFETY EQUIPMENT SURVEY	12/06/2024
Highway Improvement Plans (HIPS) - Parish Councils	12/06/2024
FW: MS4N town and parish council contacts &KSCP Annual Review	12/06/2024
Hiscox Risk Academy: access to documents, templates, and training at your fingertips	13/06/2024
Chief Executive Briefing - Waste and recycling service update	13/06/2024
TRAINING BULLETIN - 20TH JUNE 2024	20/06/2024
Minutes for Planning Committee, Wednesday, 12th June, 2024, 7.00 pm	20/06/2024
News from Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust	20/06/2024
Planning Training	23/06/2024
Eat Well, Spend Less Roadshow , One You Shop and Park Mall, Wednesday 10th July, 9.30am - 3pm	25/06/2024
KALC TRAINING BULLETIN	26/06/2024
CEO Briefing - Cabinet agrees mitigation measure to overcome 'Stodmarsh ban'	28/06/2024