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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 5th December 2024 at 7.00pm in Old Wives Lees Village Hall.

Councillors Present: G. Schofield (Chair), S. Barrett (Deputy Chair), K. Uncle, V. Hutchinson, G. Meaden & G. Taylor.

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

Councillor Apologies: K. Jeffries

Councillor Absentee: N/A

Item

2024/135 Apologies for Absence
Councillor K. Jeffries personal reasons

2024/136 Declarations of Interests And / Or Lobbying
None

2024/138 Chairs opening remarks.
Good evening and welcome to tonight's Chilham Parish Council meeting

I am sad to announce that Councillor Anthony Webb has stood down from the Parish Council for personal reasons. I would like to put on record my thanks for his time on the Council. Particularly his work on moving our website from our previous provider to our new provider NetWise. I think we all agree the site is a major improvement.

Today Penny Rickard shared the disappointing news that GSI Northcourt Limited have been granted the right to appeal the decision by Ashford Borough Council planning for a Solar Farm in Old Wives Lees. We will be discussing this news at the end of the meeting tonight.

I am pleased to announce that the Parish Council has paid the deposit to Playdale Playgrounds Ltd, to allow the work on replacing the Play Equipment to commence in the New Year. This is a major project for the Council and the new equipment should last at least twenty years.

2024/139 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
2024/139.1 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th November 2024.
Agreed
2024/139.2 To receive an update on any matters arising not included in the agenda.
No matter arising

These minutes are not verbatim, but a summary of discussions and decisions made at the meeting

Signed:..... Chairman

Date: 9/01/2025

- 2024/140 Questions from Residents**
No questions raised
- 2024/141 Borough Councillor report**
Bowerland Lane/A28 junction, another serious accident, week commencing 25/11/2024, involving a car exiting the Lane. The car was written off. It seems obvious that Bowerland Lane should be entry only from the A28 due to very poor visibility for cars exiting the Lane. Kent County Council's current records have the accident rate as being low, adding a further difficulty in improving the junction.
- 2024/142 Resignation of Councillor Anthony Webb**
Ashford Borough Council has been informed of Councillor Webb's resignation. Ashford Borough Council has issued notice of vacancy. Residents have until the 20th December to request an election to fill the post. Ten electors in the Parish are required for this. The notice of vacancy has been posted on the website and on Parish Council noticeboards
- 2024/143 Expenses form for Councillors**
Decision: Councillors approved a new form for Councillors to use when claiming expenses. The form will be added to the Chilham Parish Council policies on the Council website
- 2024/144 Discussion on working groups**
The Parish Council reviewed the use of Working groups. Councillors agreed that the working groups were not as successful as hoped. **Decision:** Councillors agreed to close working groups and to set up ad hoc task and finish groups when required. Councillors agreed to continue the Youth Club working group, COSY, due to its success.
All Councillors will now be responsible for supporting the Parish Council's community amenities. The Councillors Whats App group will be used to request support for amenities outside Parish Council meetings.
- 2024/145 Benches at the Star Inn**
The Parish Council has received a request to move the Benches at the Star Inn to Parish Council land. The Old Wives Lees Village Hall due to discuss relocating the Plaques on the Benches. **Decision:** The Parish Council agreed that the village hall is the appropriate location for the Plaques and that the Benches are in to poor a state to move.
- 2024/146 Maintenance of the Old Wives Lees Village Green**
Following the successful competition of the Tree work at Old Wives Lees village green by JB Tree and Garden Services. The Parish Council requested a quote for Tree work for the next three years.
JB Tree and Garden Services quoted £700 a cut, with two cuts annually, Spring before bird nesting season and Autumn.
Decision: Councillors accepted the quote
- 2024/147 Working Groups**
2024/147.1 To receive updates.
- 2024/147.2 Finance & General Purposes:**
2024/147.2.1 Financial Transactions for Approval-Appendix 1 refers.
Councillors noted and approved
- 2024/147.3 Planning**
2024/147.3.1 **Planning Applications**

Case Reference: PA/2024/2034

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Location: The Old Alma, Canterbury Road, Chilham, CT4 8DX
Proposed conversion of existing Old Alma with side and rear extensions to accommodate 4 No. 1-bedroom flats, plus the demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of 2 No. 2-bedroom flat

Decision: Councillors have no objection to the application. The Councillors noted that the Application has not stated how the applicant will deliver at 10% gain in bio diversity

Case Reference: OTH/2024/2154

Location: K6 Telephone Kiosk, Herons Close, Chilham
Notification for proposed 90 day consultation for the removal of internal telephony equipment and retention of kiosk
Decision: No objection

Case Reference: PA/2024/2148

Location: Domaine Evremond, Chalk Hill, Chilham, Ashford, CT4 8DT
Display of 2no. non-illuminated timber entrance signs.
Decision: No objection

Case Reference: PA/2024/1815

Location: Heron Manor, Mountain Street, Chilham, CT4 8DG
Change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian. Erection of stable block consisting of two stables, a farrier/ tie up bay, a tack room and a hay barn/feed store following demolition of 2no existing garages. Erection of 4no mobile field shelters.
Decision: No objection

Case Reference: PA/2024/1938

Location: Yeomans House, Lower Lees Road, Chilham, CT4 8AZ
Proposed new vehicular access and associated works.
Decision: No objection

2024/147.3.2 **Tree Orders**
None received

2024/147.3.3 **Planning Decisions**
None received

2024/147.3.4 **Planning Appeals**
North Court Solar Farm- Appeal: AP-90713
Councillors noted the deadline for the appeal

2024/147.4 Communications and Information technology

2024/147.4.1 To receive a report from the Working Group on Communications

2024/147.4.2 To receive an update on the Parish Council website.

Councillor V. Hutchinson agreed to continue supporting the Council's communication. Would not be able to service Councillors laptops.

2024/147.5.1 Events

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2024/147.5.1 To receive a report from the Working Group on Events
Christmas market postponed to next year

2024/147.6 Environment & Open Spaces

2024/147.6.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
Councillor V. Hutchinson to investigate drafting a Chilham Parish Council climate action plan

2024/147.7 Amenities

2024/147.7.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
Deposit paid to Playdale Playgrounds.

2024/147.8 Physical buildings

2024/147.8.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
New toilet holders fitted

2024/147.9 Chilham Parish Youth Club

2024/147.9.1 To receive a report from the Working Group
Christmas event held in Old Wives Lees Village Hall.
COSY raised £108 towards the purchase of play equipment
St Mary's school Chilham Parent Teacher Association raised £105
Old Wives Lees Village Hall raised £108

2024/147.10 Chilham Square

2024/147.10.1 To receive a report of the Working Group
The grant application to Kent County Councillor Clair Bell for the painting of parking spaces at Taylors Hill Car park was successful. Councillor G Meaden to contact Ashford Borough Council for a quote for Line Marking Taylors Hill Car park.

2024/148 Correspondence

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

2024/149 Matters for Further Discussion

None

2024/150 Date and Time of Next Meeting

To confirm the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 9th January 2025 at 7.00 pm in Chilham Village Hall

Appendix 1 Finance Transactions

Date	Transaction Description	Debit	Credit	Reason
25/11/2024	VICTORY CLEANING	786.94		Toilet Cleaning
25/11/2024	BILTING FARM SELF	46		Storage
25/11/2024	PLAYDALE PLAYGROUND	45205.62		Play Equipment OWL
25/11/2024	CHILHAM PARISH COU		18132.01	Savings Account transfer
20/11/2024	NATIONAL SAVINGS A INVAC		15411.73	Savings Account transfer
19/11/2024	MRS G SCHOFIELD	7.15		Bench Oil
19/11/2024	SLCC	50		Training
19/11/2024	D TODD	550		Bench OWL
19/11/2024	AIMEE BROWN	200		Grant to Shottenden Xmas Event
18/11/2024	CASTLE WATER LTD	113.51		Water Bill
14/11/2024	B.ONLINE LTD	18.42		Telephone

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11/11/2024	ASHFORD BOROUGH CO	75		Road Closure approval
11/11/2024	J M BROCKMAN	1625		Tree Maintenance OWL
11/11/2024	MRS G SCHOFIELD	359.1		Bench OWL
11/11/2024	MRS SHANISE BARRET	546.9		Chilham Square
08/11/2024	COSY		31.57	COSY
08/11/2024	COSY		43.2	COSY
08/11/2024	COSY		60	COSY
08/11/2024	COSY		51	COSY
05/11/2024	J M BROCKMAN	1400		Tree Maintenance OWL
05/11/2024	MRS G SCHOFIELD	24.49		Poppy Wreath
05/11/2024	BOURNE TO GARDEN	390		Grounds Maintenance
05/11/2024	CHILHAM PARISH REC	102.5		COSY
05/11/2024	P E COLES	67.19		Clerks Expenses

Appendix 2 Correspondence

Item	Date
LASER October 2023 Flexible Pricing	04/11/2024
Kings Award for Voluntary Services	04/11/2024
Employers NI update	06/11/2024
Chief Executive Briefing - Ashford takes part in national recruitment campaign	06/11/2024
Eat Well, Spend Less & Wellbeing Roadshow, Repton Connect Community Centre,	06/11/2024
All-age Kent and Medway Learning Disability and Autism Strategy - we want your views	08/11/2024
Updated version of FAQ document about Community Warden funding options	11/11/2024
Winter Season 24-25 and 1 Tonne salt bags for winter	12/11/2024
Joint Leader Briefing - Fortis House	14/11/2024
Joint Member Briefing - building safety compliance update	18/11/2024
KALC Ashford Area Committee Meeting 27 November 2024	20/11/2024
Chief Executive Briefing - Carnival of the Baubles event update	22/11/2024
Chief Executive Briefing - Huge support from Ashford residents as Carnival of the Baubles forged on	26/11/2024
Agenda for Planning Committee, Wednesday, 4th December, 2024, 7.00 pm	26/11/2024

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