

**PETHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON LINE THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2020**  
*The meeting was held remotely via Zoom*

In attendance were Cllrs Mrs Spratt, Clark, Patrick, Warden, Mrs Knox, Mrs Obry, Nason and the Parish Clerk.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence

**2. Declarations of Interest and Update to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Register**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**3. To approve the Minutes of the last Meeting and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

**Item 4ii Insurance:** The Clerk has sent all the necessary documentation to our insurers but has not heard back from them. This is probably due to the fact that the office is closed and some staff are working from home which makes it difficult to obtain papers.

**4. Financial Matters**

(i) The following invoices were approved for payment.

Scottish & Southern Electric	£ 18.22	St Light Energy – March DD
Castle Water	£ 24.31	6 Month Water Bill (Paid)
KALC	£ 336.98	Annual Subscription
Mr M Castle	£ 96.00	2020 Rent for Recreation Ground
HMRC	£ 83.60	PAYE
Parish Clerk	£ 36.52	Expenses & Stationery

(ii) Members noted receipt of £2957.00 towards upkeep of Kenfield Ground for 2020-2021. The Clerk asked Strutt and Parker to convey the Parish Council's thanks to Stour Valley Farms.

(iii) Action taken as a result of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Clerk advised that our website now contained a number of documents relating to COVID-19 that would be of interest to the public. She will now amend the paper on how the Parish Council meetings will take place whilst the lockdown continues.

(iv) To consider obtaining an updated quotation for conversion of street lights to LED

The Clerk to request a quotation from our Street Lighting Maintenance team, KCC and one other for updated quotations to convert the street lights to LED.

(v) To note end of year payments

Although the Clerk has completed the final figures for payments and receipts she has not been able to complete the entire end of year accounts.

(vi) It was proposed, seconded and the motion carried that two Members sign a letter to the bank requesting transfer of £2000.00 from the Business Reserve Account to the Village Assets Account.

**5. Planning Matters**

(i) CA/20/00730 Field off Waltham Road, Petham

Application for prior notification for agricultural storage building

Members were not happy with this application due to the excessive size of the building in an open area. The building is not fit for the purpose of drying logs as it is entirely closed in, and the land is not of sufficient acreage to warrant a building of this size.

(ii) CA/20/00333 Four Mile House, Stone Street, Petham

Proposed two-storey extension to existing garage for use as workshop, store, gym, hobby room and ancillary accommodation. No objection

(iii) CA/20/00784 Buckholt Park, Waltham Road, Petham

Removal of condition 7 (occupancy) of Planning Permission CA/05/01192/FUL for the construction of stables and covered walkway, formation of gallop, use of land for horse-keeping, alteration of agricultural occupancy condition to incorporate equestrian use on site. Disappointingly, members agreed to this.

**6. Planning Decisions**

- (i) CA/20/00527 3, The Street, Petham  
Application for lawful development for existing workshop garden storage building. Was lawful
- (ii) CA/19/01828 New Barn Farm, Duckpit Road, Petham. – Amended Plans  
Proposed formation of riding arena, erection of replacement stable block and refurbishment of barn. Granted by CCC
- (iii) Appeal Ref: W/4000318 Stable Lodge, Broadway, Petham. Appeal Dismissed

**7. Highway Issues and PROW**

- Cllr Patrick stated that at the moment the B2068 is relatively quiet due to the lockdown situation. The Clerk informed that CCC Cllr Thomas is to meet with KCC Highways senior officer regarding the night time use of the road by HGV's. It was suggested that the entrance to the B2068 has cones placed across half its entrance and that additional signage be placed at the same point.
- Cllr Knox to write to Highways and contact UKPN and BT on behalf of the Parish Council about the tree in Garlinge Green Road, part of which fell during a storm, bringing down the overhead BT line – which lost the neighbourhood, telephone connection, wifi and closed the road for some considerable time. Cllr Knox has spoken with a representative of Kent Highways several times who maintains that the remaining part of the tree must remain until nesting bats have left. However, it is considered that the tree is too dangerous to remain and would have a serious impact on the area should it fall without proper assistance by a tree surgeon.
- Following a complaint regarding a problem relating to boundary fencing, it appears that a newly erected part of a fence has veered off its correct location onto the PROW. The Clerk to report this to the KCC PROW Department

**8. Recreation Ground**

Cllr Clark to send two inspection reports to the Clerk. A member enquired whether the grass was being mowed.

**9. Village Signs**

**10. Correspondence, Publications and any other matters of an urgent nature.**

**11. Staffing** *Due to its confidential nature this item will be taken with the press and public excluded*

It was agreed that despite the lockdown, we should go ahead and advertise the vacancy for a clerk. The Chairman to draft a brief job advertisement and circulate to Cllrs Clark, Mrs Knox and the Parish Clerk.

**12. Confirmed the date of the Next Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020 6pm**

*The meeting closed at 12.08pm*

Signed.....Date.....