

PETHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON LINE
ON THURSDAY 9TH JULY 2020 11AM

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom, no member of the public requested to observe

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Patrick

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

Cllr Clark declared an interest in item 4i Finance Payments

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th June were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Item 7 Highways – Tree at Garlinge Green: Cllr Mrs Knox pointed out that only some of the correspondence relating to the tree was circulated to members, there were two emails missing.

4. Financial Matters

(i) To approve payments as follows:

Scottish & Southern Electric	£ 18.22	St Light Energy – June DD
C. Castle	£ 300.00	Internal Audit
Cllr Norman Clark	£ 14.39	Zoom Fee for July Meeting
HMRC	£ 86.60	PAYE – July
Parish Clerk	£ 33.86	Expenses & Stationary – June/July
Cllr Norman Clark	£1124.72	Total Kenfield Pavilion Payments -

Addendum to the minutes attached showing individual payments made by Cllr Clark for restoration of the pavilion.

(ii) Members noted and approved the Draft Level of Reserves as at 1st July 2020

Draft Level of Reserves as at 1st July 2020	
Balance B/Fwd 01.04.18	34026.99
Income Received to Date	
Precept	15048.00
Concurrent Functions Funding	2972.00
Street Lighting Grant	1350.00
Kenfield Funding	2957.00
Bus Res Account Interest	12.32
Village Assets Account Interest	4.32
Total	22343.64
	56370.63
Less expenditure to date	5279.59
Balance	51091.04
NatWest Current Account sheet 373	50.00
NatWest Reserve Account sheet 236	37467.13
NatWest Village Assets Replacement Fund sheet 158	14003.65
Total at 1st July 2020	51520.78
Less unrepresented cheques from 2019-20	429.74
Total	51091.04

(iii) The internal Auditor has carried out her check of the End of Year Accounts and completed and signed the AGAR Internal Auditors Report. There were no issues raised.

(iv) To agree contract for conversion of street lights to LED

Since our last meeting we have received a formal estimate from Prime One for the conversion of our lights to LED, in the sum of £8999.40 plus £1411.20 annual maintenance plus VAT of £2082.12 totalling £12492.72. Streetlights confirm their charge would be £5850.00 plus £1170.00 VAT totalling £7020.00. There would also be a reduction in the maintenance of

£439.20 plus VAT per annum.

Members noted the response from Streetlights about the remote maintenance stating that it would not be necessary in our case. It was therefore proposed and seconded and the motion carried that we select the Streetlights quotation for conversion of our lights to LED.

- (v) Kenfield Cricket Ground – The Clerk has advised the CCC Business Rates Team that we now have responsibility for Kenfield Cricket Ground.

Cllr Clark advised that the kitchen is nearly complete. He suggests we obtain a copy of the historic photograph of the first cricket match held at Kenfield Cricket Ground in 1760, which is displayed in the Lords Museum. It appears that the only place we can obtain a copy is from Australia at a cost of \$67, £35.00 sterling. It was agreed we purchase a copy.

The Clerk then advised that our insurers are ready to settle the claim for the exorbitant water bill due to the broken pipe, in the sum of £455.28 minus the excess of £250.00 making a total payment of £205.28. However, the insurers will not pay for the repair of the pipe but the policy does provide cover to trace and access the leaking pipe if the contractor is able to itemise costs of these works separately from the leak repair. It was agreed we obtain a break down of the charges.

- (vi) COVID-19 Outside Recreation Areas.

The Cricket Club requests use of Kenfield Ground for a friendly match on Sunday 19th July, members support this subject to the Club providing us with a risk assessment, to which they have agreed.

As far as the opening of the playground is concerned the Chairman made some suggestions but following discussion on how to monitor this, including a suggestion that we only open the grounds for football and basketball, it was agreed the clerk make enquiries from other Parishes as to how they are dealing with opening their play areas. In the meantime the recreation ground is to remain closed.

- (vii) A communication from CCC advised that from 1st April 2021 they are taking back responsibility for maintenance of all the land they own in the District, this includes the Green at Garlinge Green. As we currently maintain the area under concurrent functions funding, they ask whether this will affect any contract we have for the work. As we do not have a long term contract members supported their decision. A member asked that we continue to cut the road verge on the bend nearing the bottom of the lane. The Clerk maintained that we have never cut that area as it is highways land. Cllr Mrs Knox stated that each time the Green is cut the grass verge is also cut. The Clerk to investigate.

- (viii) Website – Feedback from meeting with KIKK

The clerk briefly outlined details of the discussion and Cllr Nason is to circulate his more detailed notes. This item together with the notes to be on the next agenda as the Accessibility Regulations have to be in place by 22nd September.

5. Planning Matters

- (i) CA/20/01236 Wits End, Town Road, Petham

Detached two-storey dwelling following demolition of the existing dwelling. No objection

6. Planning Decisions Granted by CCC

- (i) CA/20/00995 2 no. single-storey detached outbuildings.

Dormer Cottage, The Street, Petham. Noted

7. Highway Issues and PROW

- Safety of remaining part of fallen tree, Garlinge Green

Members had been circulated with a copy of the invoice which states that the tree has been made safe for highways. Cllr Mrs Knox maintained that this information does not address the issue of safety should it bring down the power line, it has only been treated so that it doesn't fall on the highway. She is regularly in contact with UKPN and members considered that this is the most suitable way forward.

- Gardeners Plot – Highway Request

Highways have requested that the part of Gardeners Plot by the Electric cabinets is cut back as it is seriously overgrown. It was agreed that we ask a local contractor to deal with this and to also ask him to tidy and weed the area.

- Following notice of closure to Church Lane whilst the drainage works are taking place, it was pointed out that HGVs visiting the development site in Church Lane would have difficulty negotiating Chequers Hill and cause severe problems should they meet any vehicle travelling in the opposite direction. The Clerk has written to Highways on this matter who inform her that there is no alternative route. The Clerk to request a large sign at the top and bottom of the hill stating 'long single track road with no passing places'. Also to request that Highways install passing areas in the lane.

8. Recreation Ground

- The Clerk to report PROW 425, which is also the pedestrian entrance to the recreation ground has been narrowed from 1.8m to 85cm by the fencing of a large tree in the neighbouring garden.
- The Clerk will also report to the PROW team the chicken wire on the bridge on CB425 has worn away and is causing a serious trip hazard to users of the bridge.

9. Local Government Association Consultation on new Code of Conduct

The Clerk explained the history of the Standards Committee prior to the Localism Act 2011 at which time it was abandoned, since then there has been no real mechanism in place to deal with Councillors breaking the Code of Conduct. The LGA is consulting on whether to reinstate the means of dealing with disruptive members and members breaking the Code. It was agreed to note and await the outcome.

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

Due to its confidential nature the next item will be taken with the press and public excluded

11. Staffing

Nothing to discuss at this time

12. Confirmed date of the Next Meeting as 13th August 4pm

The meeting closed at 12.30pm

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

ADDENDUM 1