

PETHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON 15TH JULY 2021 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

In attendance were Cllrs Clark, Mrs Spratt, Patrick, Warden, Henderson and the Parish Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Knox and Collins

2. Declarations of Interest There were no Declarations of Interest

3. Staffing *Due to the confidential nature of this item the press and public were excluded*

The Clerk advised that today she received a reference for the applicant of the position of Parish Clerk. Members having read the reference confirmed their previous decision to offer the role on a six month trial period to Mr C. Beatrup. The Clerk to write informing him of the offer and conditions of employment subject to a few items, such as pension, holidays, certain allowances and membership of organisations, cilca, all of which need to be discussed with Mr Beatrup.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Items 5v,vi,vii Annual Audit: The Clerk has received notification from PKF Littlejohn – appointed auditors, that they have received and logged Petham Parish Council notice of exempt status for the year ending 31st March 2021, therefore there is no review to be performed and no auditor certificate and report. They added that we will not be hearing from them again this year unless a member of the public queries any issue during the period of Public Rights of Inspection which ends on 6th August 2021.

5. Financial Matters

(i) Members approved the following payments:

Scottish & Southern Electric	£ 18.36	St Light Energy – Account for June DD
HMRC	£ 86.60	PAYE
Parish Clerk	£ 52.51	Expenses & Stationary – June/July

(ii) Members approved the Payment Sheet and Draft Level of Reserves as at 01.07.21

(iii) Renewal of lighting contract for street lights.

The Clerk explained that she has spoken at length with SSE who advised that the amount of energy used will reflect the charge that will be made. He further explained that the Unmetered Supply Team have no input into the costs and that it is the Sales Team who set the tariff. It was agreed the Clerk discuss this with Ken Bonner at Streetlights who may be able to advise us of the way forward.

(iv) Kenfield Cricket Ground.

- The Clerk has contacted Strutt and Parker as they have not transferred our estimated funds for 2021-22. However during the conversation Mr Fell stated that under the terms of the current licensing agreement, public liability insurance, electricity, water and fuel are the responsibility of the Parish Council. On checking the agreement, this is so, although these items have always been in the estimates previously but never been queried.
- The Parish Council to contact the Secretary of the Cricket Club regarding their failure to pay for the use of the ground.
- The Chairman learned from a member of the club that Kent County Cricket Club has arranged for their ladies team to use the pitch on this coming Saturday, as the Parish Council has not been informed of this arrangement, the Clerk to contact KC Cricket Club Secretary explaining that whilst we are delighted that they have chosen Kenfield Cricket Ground they do need to communicate with the Parish Council and not the Kenfield Cricket Club.
- The Clerk has insured the generator for £1200.00.

(v) Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons and Event

Members had quite a lengthy discussion on ways and where to celebrate the event. It was suggested that the beacon should be lit by the owners of the property on which it stands. We have three venues to choose from, the recreation ground, the cricket ground and the village

hall, the decision will be dependent on the weather. Members to give some thought as to the type of event. It was also agreed to investigate a grant for adult fitness equipment.

(vi) Queen's Platinum Jubilee Community Orchard

To mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee it has been suggested that we plant an orchard in the recreation ground, using around 70 fruit trees, the planting is likely to be on the northern side from the vehicular entrance to the bottom of the ground. A member has put out feelers for the donation of the trees and suggestions on community involvement.

(vii) Community Asset – Update by members

We now have 106 responses to the consultation phase with a score of 8.9/10 of the importance to have a local pub and community hub for Petham that offers the types of services/facilities The Chequers could provide.

We have shared the survey with social media, leafleted most of the village and input any manual surveys to the online version. The results are encouraging and are summarised on the Survey Report.

6. Planning Matters

Canterbury District Local Plan – Draft Vision and Options for the District

A member reported on his attendance at the CCC Local Plan meeting for Parish Councils which he considered to be a rather negative event, they were informed that the Government state that 9000 properties should be built in the District but CCC suggest 17000 which would help generate sufficient funds for a ring road, this has been investigated and found to be totally insufficient. We are informed that out of the 300 responses received on the Draft Vision and Options – 300 did not support the plan.

It was agreed that the clerk respond that Petham is not suitable for the tentative proposals put forward by CCC as there is insufficient infrastructure, access in and out of the village is poor, the existing facilities are insignificant, much of the land suggested is landlocked and that Petham is clearly a rural farming area, a conservation area and an AONB.

7. Planning Decisions Granted by CCC

CA/21/01228 Cloverleigh, Chequers Hill, Petham. Porch and dormer to front elevation.

8. Highway Issues and PROW

A member reported that speed checks will be laid in Stone Street in September, although another member believes they have already been laid. KCC Highways has returned the HIP suggesting that any speed reduction considered should be from Hogg Lane to Thompsons Nursery. The Stone Street group found this unacceptable and considered that it must include Stoneway Park. This was agreed by the Parish Council. Cllr Patrick to alter the HIP back to include this then forward to members to add any other issues. Once complete Cllr Patrick will then return it to KCC Highways. It was agreed to invite a member of the group to our next meeting. The Clerk to inform CCC that the rubbish bins and doggie bins still need emptying.

9. Recreation Ground *To note and act upon any issues raised*

The Chairman reported that the pedestrian entrance damaged by the overflowing drain has been resurfaced. The concrete cover on the pavement has been removed and replaced with a proper manhole cover. Members noted that the play equipment area grass has not been cut.

As mentioned under Queen's Jubilee, we investigate funding for adult fitness equipment.

Two members carried out a walkabout with KCC Cllr Sole who will report some issues to KCC.

10. Confirmed the Date of the next meeting as 12th August 2021 at 6.30pm

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