

PETHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON LINE
ON 11TH MARCH 21021

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Knox

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

Cllr Clark declared an interest in item 4ii Finance Payments

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

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

Item 9 Recreation Ground: The Clerk reported the drainage problem to Highways. It appears it has been inspected and reported that it is not their responsibility. The Clerk to follow this up. She has also reported to PROW the fence that has been erected around the tree in the entrance.

4. Financial Matters

- (i) Following consideration of a request from Kent Air Ambulance for a grant, it was proposed and seconded that we provide a grant of £100.00.

It was also agreed to provide a grant of £700.00 to the Parochial Church Council to be put towards the upkeep of the Burial Ground.

- (ii) To approve payments as follows:

Scottish & Southern Electric	£ 17.56	St Light Energy – January DD
Parochial Church Council	£ 700.00	Grant towards upkeep of Burial Ground
Kent Air Ambulance	£ 100.00	Grant
Cllr Norman Clark	£ 14.39	Zoom Fee for the Council meeting
Cllr Norman Clark	£ 181.05	Wickes – Insulation to Kenfield Pavilion
Cllr Norman Clark	£ 76.36	Toolstation – floor paint
Castle Water	£ 37.37	Half Year Payment
HMRC	£ 86.60	PAYE – January
Parish Clerk	£ 19.91	Expenses & Stationary – Feb/March

- (iii) Quadrennial Review 2021 – *Regulations covering Parish Councillors Allowance Scheme*

The Clerk explained that this is reviewed every four years and really applies to District and County Councillors, Parish Councils do not have to abide by these rules and can make their own suggested allowance or none at all. Having put this to members, it was agreed to decline the right to pay councillors an allowance.

- (iv) Members approved the Payments Sheet and Draft Level of Reserves as at 1st March 2021.

During discussion of the level of reserves a member suggested that some of our named village signs need renewing. The Clerk to make enquiries as to which authority is responsible.

- (v) To note VAT Claim 2018 -2020

The Clerk reported that she has submitted a VAT claim in the sum of £1420.24 for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020. She hopes that it will be paid before the 2020-2021 financial year end.

- (vi) Kenfield Cricket Ground

Cllr Clerk reported that he has been working on the rear store room.

- (vii) Community Asset

Cllrs Collins, Henderson and Clark are to explore the possibility of purchasing a property to be used as a community asset now that there is a Government initiative and a budget available to assist in fund raising. Cllr Collins explained that there is an organisation that can help with the purchase of public houses which can be put to a number of uses such as a mini shop, coffee bar pub etc.

- (viii) COVID-19 Issues relating to Parish Councils

The Village Hall wish to know which organisations intend to return following the lifting of lockdown. The Clerk replied that we are currently governed by legislation until 7th May, but the KALC and NALC are lobbying MPs to persuade the Government to extend that date.

5. Planning Matters

- (i) CA/21/00887 Earley House, Waltham Road, Petham
Creation of a secondary vehicular access and construction of looped drive
It was agreed to object on the same grounds as previously.
- (ii) CA/21/00357 Sunnyside, Church Lane, Petham
Single-storey side extension with accommodation in the roof space together with single-storey detached double cart lodge.
Whilst no objection in principle, there was a little concern regarding the design of the cladding members would prefer it all to be horizontal rather than one section at first floor level vertical. Also to request that although the existing garage is currently to be retained as such, members would not wish it to be converted to residential accommodation in the future.

To consider two applications received following publication of the agenda

- (iii) CA/21/00487 Slippery Sams, Stone Street, Petham
Removal of conditions 03 (landscaping) and 04 (landscaping) of planning permission CA/20/00430/FUL for the proposed change of use from 1 no. holiday let to 1 no. dwelling together with erection of fence and formation of parking area. No objection
- (iv) CA/21/00505 Bonnet Wood, Petham
Application to determine if prior approval is required for the proposed erection of an agricultural storage building. In view of the history of a similar application it was agreed we should keep an eye on this proposal.

6. Planning Decisions by CCC

There were no planning decisions this month

7. Highway Issues and PROW

- Salt Bins – to note response from a resident
A resident aired his disappointment at the attitude of KCC Highways in not permitting any other bins than their own Yellow bins to be placed on highways, neither will they fill them.
- Stone Street Traffic
Having attended Highways Project ‘Vision Zero’ on line, Cllr Patrick gave a brief outline of the proposals up to 2050. He has also completed the on line questionnaire.

8. Recreation Ground

To note and act upon any issues raised in the Recreation Ground Inspection Report.
Following her inspection, Cllr Mrs Knox highlighted a number of issues needing attention. Cllr Clark to speak with the contractor who generally carries out the work to the recreation ground. During discussion the question of rubbish and dog bins was raised, the clerk to make enquiries as to who is responsible for emptying them.

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

Following Government legislation last year not to hold an Annual Parish Meeting, as yet the Covid-19 bulletins on Local Government issues have not confirmed that we are required to hold one this year. As there is a restricted period for holding APMs it may be that it will need to be held remotely, possibly the 8th April following the PC Meeting.

10. Staffing *Due to the confidential nature of this item the press and public will be excluded*

11. To Confirm date of the Next Meeting and decide on the Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting closed at 7pm