

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mrs A Holroyd (Chairman)  
Mr J Beech (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth.  
Mr L Gosbee

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), County Cllr Sean Holden, Borough Cllr John Smith, TWBC selected Conservative candidate James Hannam, Mrs H Gosbee and 4 members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr M Cooper.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)**

There was none at this time.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mrs J Croucher, seconded by Mrs H Cullingworth and agreed unanimously.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Members Grant:

The Chairman reported that she had spoken with Cllr Holden who has offered funding from his Members Grant for the War Memorial. Cllr Holden will also investigate the cost of installing interactive speed signs on the Biddenden Road which he may also be able to help fund. The Chairman thanked Cllr Holden for his assistance.

Land at Valence View:

The Chairman had nothing further to report at this time.

WW1 Commemoration:

The Historical Society has dug a flower bed in readiness for the planting of the roses. Funding is still being sought.

Village Defibrillator:

Having spoken to the Manager of Larchmere House the Chairman had been advised that the defibrillator installed in the building by SECAMB is for the use of the whole village. As this is not widely known Mrs H Cullingworth requested that Mr M Cooper advertise this in the Parish Magazine. Mr L Gosbee suggested that notices should be placed in the pub and shop. Mr J Beech suggested a brief description of instructions for use should be included.

Flood Signs:

Mr J Beech confirmed that the signs have been altered and will now only be placed on the roadside when required.

Annual Budget:

The Clerk had written to TWBC informing them of the precept figure required for the Parish Council.

Frittenden Christmas Trees:

Mr J Beech addressed Cllr Smith thanking him for the excellent assistance and response from TWBC in this matter.

**5. PLAY AREA INSPECTION**

The Clerk had previously circulated the inspection report from Maria Cook to all Councillors. It was agreed that the report was very good and that the play area was being well maintained and cared for. A few minor issues had been highlighted for consideration. The Clerk is to investigate hard surfacing for the gate entrances to the play area; a green grip on the ramp of the toddler unit requires securing; algae and leaves on the tarmac area of the basket ball require clearing. Mrs J Croucher suggested the basket ball tarmac be cleaned during the village clean up day.

**6. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS**

The Clerk is to send letters to contractors requesting tenders for the grounds maintenance for the year 2015/16. There were no new suggestions of contractors to quote. Therefore, the Clerk will do her best to obtain three quotes as required.

**7. ROAD REPORT**

A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Mr J Beech reported that following Cllr Hotson's suggestion that he engage with Staplehurst Parish Council he has tried to contact Cllr Barrett Manning but has not yet received a reply. Cllr Holden offered his assistance in the matter including working with Cllr Hotson, as the A229 covers both Councillors areas. Cllr Holden stated that he has successfully secured alterations at Willesley Green to change the road layout, and to reduce the speed limit between Sissinghurst School and Willesley Pound roundabout. Cllr Holden explained that if a traffic survey concludes that the natural speed of the traffic flow on a road is lower than the current speed limit there is the possibility of having the speed limit reduced. Mr J Beech confirmed a speed survey has been conducted but the results received need to be explained by a traffic management expert. Cllr Holden will pursue this matter further.

Mrs N Aldhouse asked Cllr Holden if it is possible to have the 'Slow' sign repainted on the road at Rocks Hill as it was not reinstated following resurfacing work. Cllr Holden asked Mrs N Aldhouse to put this in writing to him and he will then investigate the possibility.

General:

Mr L Gosbee confirmed that the large salt bag has been delivered. However, the promised sand bags have not yet materialised. This will be chased. Mr L Gosbee had contacted Emma Pavitt at Kent Highways today regarding repairs to potholes and road haunches on Biddenden Road especially as nothing has progressed following their meeting. An extremely large pothole outside Park Farm was also reported. Highways have said this will be repaired within the week. Mrs A Holroyd reported excess water on the road at Satins Hill.

The Chairman invited Cllr Holden to report on other matters. Cllr Holden confirmed that a meeting between him, the Police Commissioner, MP Helen Grant, and parish representatives had finally been arranged to take place on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015, regarding the perceived lack of Police interest in speeding in rural areas. The Chairman had confirmed her attendance. The Clerk may also attend and will advise Cllr Holden of her availability to attend.

**8. PLANNING**

Applications:

14/505921      **Brissenden Farm, Sand Lane** – Change of use of farm office to residential annexe.

It was proposed by Mrs J Croucher, seconded by Mrs N Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to remain Neutral.

14/506207      **1 Kenwards Cottages, Bubhurst Lane** – Demolition of detached workshop, demolition of existing single-storey and two-storey extensions to dwelling and construction of a new Passivhaus extension to dwelling.

It was proposed by Mrs J Croucher, seconded by Mr J Beech and agreed unanimously to remain Neutral with the proviso that if the Planning Officer is minded to approve that a condition to tie the extension to the main house is applied.

Both the architect the applicants spoke in favour of the application. A neighbour spoke in objection.

14/506611 **Shenlands Farm, Ayleswade Lane** – Prior Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to one dwellinghouse.

Noted by Councillors.

Decisions:

14/504086 **Broadlake, Mill Lane** – LBC: Single storey link between main house and Oast.

Permission GRANTED

14/504310 **Peach Tree Cottage, Headcorn Road** – First floor extension to existing single storey extension

Permission GRANTED

14/504473 **Parsonage Farm, Cranbrook Road** – Vehicular access and off road parking for two cars

Permission GRANTED

14/505326 **Appleton Farmhouse, Green Lane** – Two storey side and rear extension

Permission GRANTED

14/505672 **2 Poundlands Cottages, Biddenden Road** – Demolition of existing rear extension and replacement with new garden room

14/505680 **2 Poundlands Cottages, Biddenden Road** – Listed Building Consent: Demolition of existing rear extension and replacement with new garden room

Permission GRANTED

Correspondence:

There was none.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

A copy of an email from Barbara Dunn, FMHMC Chairman, to Cllr John Smith regarding funding for various projects at the memorial Hall: Cllr Smith updated Councillors on the correspondence. At present there are no specific requests but Cllr Smith has offered to assist with funding applications and offered his Members Community Grant towards a project.

The Local Government Boundary Commission:

Notice of consultation period of an Electoral Review of KCC, further information at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

Various letters of thanks from local organisations re donations

**10. FINANCE**

The Clerk reported that she had received information from NALC regarding a Transparency code for parish councils with an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000. The code will become mandatory from March 2015. From April 2017 parish councils with an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000 will be exempt from external audit.

It was proposed by Mr L Gosbee, seconded by Mrs H Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

Cory Environmental.....	£9.60
Mrs N Aldhouse re Xmas Lights.....	£69.99
Commercial Services Trading Ltd.....	£98.19
Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£246.18
Expenses.....	£26.00
E-on DD.....	£17.36

A receipt of £583.78 had been received from HMRC re VAT reclaimed.

**11. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

Cllr John Smith reported that TWBC is currently reviewing the budget. The Government Revenue Supports Grant had been reduced. Savings were being made in various areas including staff reductions, and shared services. A small increase in income from parking tariffs, planning application fees, and the sale of non-performing assets was expected. Shared services, predominantly with Maidstone Borough Council, occurred in 10 areas including Benefit Fraud, CCTV, Licensing, ICT, Internal Audit, Revenue & Benefits, Legal, Recycling, Planning Support and Environmental Services.

Cllr Smith informed Councillors with regard to the site allocations consultation which takes place from 9<sup>th</sup> February to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 and a workshop for Councillors taking place on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015. There are no allocations for the villages and rural areas, only the old Sissinghurst School site is in the document. Cllr Smith reported that the application for housing at Sissinghurst proposed by Gladman had been refused by TWBC. The Gladman website states 'Appeal to be lodged'. Cllr Smith advocates parishes writing a Neighbourhood Plan to enable them to have a say in future planning in their areas. Jean Marshall, Planning Policy Manager, will be leaving TWBC imminently.

Mrs H Cullingworth requested that the telephone box be repaired and refurbished. It was confirmed that the Parish Council do not own the box. However, Mr J Beech believed BT would not oppose any maintenance carried out. It was proposed that Mr Roy Kemp, one of the main users of the phone, be asked to perform the work. Mr L Gosbee volunteered to approach Mr Kemp with this request.

Mrs H Cullingworth asked if the roads in the village could be salted, especially outside of the school. A request to KCC Highways who are responsible for salting roads will be made.

Mrs N Aldhouse asked if the overturned car in the trees at Rocks Hill could be removed as it has been there for some months. Cllr John Smith stated that previously the Police would remove these cars but now left them in situ to warn other drivers.

Mr L Gosbee reported that Dr Lyn Burnett from Staplehurst Health Centre is leaving the practice.

Mr J Beech informed Councillors that he had been approached by Phil Betts, Chairman Frittenden Historical Society, following a letter they had received from CPRE and English Heritage requesting a list of historical buildings in the parish. It was suggested that voluntary groups get together i.e. Parish Council's, Historical Societies etc to compile a list. Mr J Beech and Mr M Cooper had volunteered to discuss the way forward with the Historical Society and report back to the Parish Council.

Mrs J Croucher asked how to obtain Election papers for prospective candidates. The Clerk will contact TWBC and request some nomination papers to be held locally.

Mr J Beech had been approached by a resident of Sunnyside wishing to discuss parking issues. It was agreed to place this item on the following agenda.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.02 pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mrs A Holroyd (Chairman)  
Mr J Beech (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mr M Cooper  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth.  
Mr L Gosbee

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), County Cllr Sean Holden, Mrs H Gosbee and 4 members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

Mr L Gosbee declared an interest in item 5 and Mr M Cooper declared an interest in Item 11.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mr L Gosbee, seconded by Mr J Beech and agreed by 6 votes.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Members Grant:

The Chairman thanked Cllr Holden for offering to fund the cleaning of the War Memorial from his Members Grant. Mrs A Holroyd had unsuccessfully tried to contact the Stone Shop, who had quoted for the cleaning. The Historical Society is holding an event on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2015 and it is hoped the Memorial can be cleaned before that date. The Chairman will either visit or email the Stone Shop to engage them to carry out the work.

WW1 Commemoration:

The Chairman reported that the Historical Society had planted the roses.

Village Defibrillator:

Mr M Cooper confirmed that he would place an article in the next issue of the Parish Magazine.

Play Area Inspection:

The Clerk reported that she had met with M&M Contractors on site with regard to tightening the bolt on the Toddler Unit ramp and putting down a hard surface under the pedestrian gate. A quote of £500 had been received. It was agreed to source a further quote.

Mrs A Holroyd had spoken with Mr R Latham who suggested the monkey bars were given weather treatment. As this was not mentioned in the inspection it was agreed to leave the bars as they are.

Any Other Business:

Mr L Gosbee confirmed he had spoken with Mr Roy Kemp who agreed to refurbish the telephone box.

The Clerk has spoken to TWBC who will send her some election nomination packs when they are available at the end of February.

**5. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS**

Mr L Gosbee left the room at this point and took no part in the discussion

The Clerk had invited 5 companies to tender for the various contracts however only 3 tenders had been received. It was proposed by Mrs J Croucher, seconded by Mr M Cooper and agreed unanimously to accept the following quotes:

**CONTRACT 1** - to mow the Parish Field grass (a maximum of 16 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) to include mowing the new play area, and strimming around equipment as necessary, under trees and surrounding areas including field edges; to mow/cut the grass mounds within the Parish Field (a maximum of 8 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) to Landscape Services @ £1341.84

**CONTRACT 2** - to mow the grass and cut the hedge at the War Memorial (a maximum of 16 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) to Mr L Gosbee @ £100.00

**CONTRACT 3** - to cut the Paddock hedges, including hedge on road boundary and hedge between Paddock and Frittenden House. (a maximum of 2 cuts per annum) to Landscape Services @ £108.18

**CONTRACT 4** – to cut the outer side of hedge between the Parish Field & Laundry Lane, by hand, and to remove all cuttings. (1 cut per annum) to Landscape Services @ £119.03

**CONTRACT 5** – to cut all internal vertical faces of hedges within the Parish Field, and to remove all cuttings. (1 cut per annum) to Landscape Services @ £140.67

Mr L Gosbee was invited to return to the meeting at this point.

## **6. SPEEDING IN RURAL AREAS**

The Chairman reported that along with the Clerk she had attended a meeting organised by Cllr Sean Holden at Police HQ in Maidstone with the Police Commissioner Anne Barnes and Helen Grant MP and representatives from other parish councils and Speedwatch Teams. The main issue being that the police do little to enforce speeding in rural areas. Although offenders reported to the police by Speedwatch Teams are sent warning letters there are no prosecutions. Cllr Holden had offered to fund an SL700 laser speed gun used by the police. However, a spokesman for the police confirmed they would not want members of the public using this equipment due to possible confrontation and the process required leading to a prosecution which would involve the witness going to court. The Police Commissioner stated lack of funds and manpower as the main reasons for the lack of police presence. It was agreed that a small working party be formed to discuss this issue further. The District Inspector for Tunbridge Wells area is Dave Pate who stated that the Community Safety Partnership is responsible for road policing and safety. PS Ross Shearing is in command of Cranbrook area. Mrs A Holroyd suggested PS Shearing be invited to a PC meeting.

Mr J Beech felt this issue was particularly relevant at this time following the receipt of three letters of complaint from residents with regard to speeding in the village. Various suggestions for preventative measures and fund raising were offered in the correspondence including speed signs and speed bumps. Interactive speed signs on both Biddenden Road and Headcorn Road have previously been discussed and Cllr Holden was investigating prices and possible funding from his members grant. It was agreed the priority was to enrol volunteers to form a Speedwatch Team to involve members of the Parish Council. The equipment can be borrowed from Cranbrook & Sissinghurst PC for a small charge. Cllr Holden was invited to speak at this time by the Chairman. Cllr Holden reported that there will be no funds available due to budget cuts of £80m. He reiterated that enforcement is one of the things that stops offenders speeding. However, his offer to fund a laser gun was opposed by the police due to confrontation and witnesses attending court. He confirmed that Sandhurst had a regular visit from a mobile speed camera van, and that he receives more communication about speeding above anything else. Following the meeting with the Police Commissioner which, unfortunately, he had been unable to attend due to being required to vote on the KCC budget, a small working group would be formed, to include Cllr Holden, to liaise with the police and to be reviewed in the summer. Cllr Holden reported that an interactive speed sign on the Biddenden Road would cost approximately £5k. The cost of a solar powered sign is to be investigated. Cllr Holden believed Speedwatch is beneficial and suggested that the police make occasional visits when this is taking place.

Mr J Beech asked Cllr Holden if there is evidential basis for having interactive speed signs. Cllr Holden will investigate this. The Chairman noted that training would be required for Speedwatch volunteers. Cllr Holden confirmed this is provided by the police. Mrs A Holroyd suggested at least nine volunteers would be needed to carry out a successful scheme.

It was agreed to await a response from Cllr Holden regarding substantive evidence of the value of interactive speed signs before progressing this further; to investigate the practicalities and cost of speed bumps and to encourage volunteers to sign up for Speedwatch. Mrs J Croucher agreed to liaise with volunteers. Mr M Cooper will place an item in the Parish Magazine.

Cllr Holden reported that there would be a 1.99% council tax increase following the budget. KCC have saved £370m over the last three years with a further £240m to save. The Council has become a provider to the commissioning authority and is looking for best value. There have been few cuts in services. A saving of £1m has been saved by part night street lighting. Over the next couple of years street lights will be updated to LED lighting. Cllr Holden was thanked for his participation and left the meeting at this point.

## 7. **BROADBAND IN RURAL AREAS**

Mrs A Holroyd had attended a meeting arranged by Helen Grant MP. Four operators were present. The public can view the KCC website to check when their area will receive faster broadband.

## 8. **SOLAR FARM**

The Chairman had recently attended a meeting with Novus, Headcorn PC and Staplehurst PC regarding the proposed solar farm at Pullen Farm. Following new government legislation Novus are offering to build part of the solar farm as a Community Scheme. Members of the public are invited to invest in the scheme from which the Parish Councils could financially benefit. The parish council was being asked to decide if they wished to enter into a Community Scheme. It was noted that the latest proposal for a 10Mw farm has been reduced in area by 25% due to improvements in the equipment. A public meeting will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014 1.30pm – 8.00pm at Frittenden Memorial Hall. It was agreed to await the outcome of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March before taking this further.

## 9. **VILLAGE CLEAN-UP DAY**

It was agreed that the Clean-Up Day should take place on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2015. TWBC are to be contacted with regard to borrowing equipment. Sean & Rosie Croucher are to be approached with regard to the possibility of a concessionary lunch being available to volunteers as in previous years.

## 10. **ROAD REPORT**

### A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Mr J Beech reported that he has unsuccessfully tried to contact Cllr Barrett Manning from Staplehurst PC following the suggestion by Cllr Hotson to liaise with them. The Clerk will pursue this further.

### General:

Mr L Gosbee reported that cosmetic repair work had taken place in Grandshore Lane. The pot hole at Park Farm had been repaired. The surface water at Satins Hill had been assessed by Highways but no work had yet taken place. The tree that had come down at Maplehurst Wood had been cleared. The pot holes on Biddenden Road have been reported and Highways had agreed to repair the worst of them.

## 11. **PLANNING**

### Applications:

14/504085      **Broadlake, Mill Lane** – Single storey link between main house and Oast

It was proposed by Mrs H Cullingworth, seconded by Mrs N Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to recommend Approval.

Mr M Cooper took no part in the discussion for the following application:

15/500363      **Horsemill Barn, Mill Lane** – Single storey extension

It was proposed by Mr J Beech, seconded by Mrs H Cullingworth and agreed by 5 votes, with one Cllr opposed, to recommend Approval.

15/500681 **Land opposite Tile Barn Cottage, Ayleswade Lane, Headcorn** – New general purpose agricultural and livestock building

It was proposed by Mrs N Aldhouse, seconded by Mr J Beech and agreed unanimously to recommend Approval.

Decisions:

14/505921 **Brissenden Farm, Sand Lane** – Change of use of farm office to residential annexe.

Permission GRANTED

14/506611 **Shenlands Farm, Ayleswade Lane, Headcorn** – Prior Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to one dwellinghouse (Use Class C3)

Permission GRANTED

Correspondence:

There was none.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE**

Rural Housing Alliance:  
Affordable Housing brochure – LG

Tent Team:

Funding for the addition of missing names to the Honours Board in the church: after some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should fund this rather than the Tent Team. It was proposed by Mr L Gosbee, seconded by Mrs N Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to pay this invoice when it is received which is expected to be in the region of £500.

A request from the Youth Club for assistance with funding for a Kent Youth organised trip for the children. It was confirmed that the majority of the children attend Frittenden Primary School. It was agreed that a sum towards the trip would be donated on this occasion. Mr M Cooper is to investigate the number of children attending and the cost of the trip per head. It was suggested the sum in the region of £100 be given.

**13. FINANCE**

It was proposed by Mr M Cooper, seconded by Mrs H Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£344.09
Expenses.....	£38.79
E-on DD.....	£17.36

**14. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

Mr J Beech distributed a written report to Councillors following his attendance at a meeting with the Historical Society. CPRE had approached the Society asking for their involvement in a community project to produce a register of heritage assets. English Heritage had initiated this project which would place communities in a stronger position to resist development proposals that are against the wishes of the wider community. A local Heritage Group will need to be formed to consist of both residents and Parish Councillors as the process of compiling a register will involve public consultation. Mr J Beech offered to represent the PC until the elections in May.

Mrs J Croucher reported that along with the Clerk she had met with a local carpenter with regard to making a new parish noticeboard. A quote is awaited.

The Chairman noted that the residents of Sunnyside want the Parish Council to review parking issues on Biddenden Road. It was agreed residents would need to attend a meeting with their concerns and proposals.

Mr James Tuke informed Councillors that with regard to installing faster Broadband everything has fallen behind by about one year. However, things are gradually improving.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mrs A Holroyd (Chairman)  
Mr J Beech (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mr M Cooper  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth.

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), and 4 members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr L Gosbee.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

There were no declarations at this time.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mr J Beech, seconded by Mrs J Croucher and agreed unanimously.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Members Grant:

Despite Mrs A Holroyd leaving messages with the Stone Shop, a date for the cleaning of the War Memorial has yet to be confirmed.

WW1 Commemorations:

Mr M Cooper reported that nothing further had been heard with regard to updating the Church Honours Board.

Play Area Inspection:

The Clerk had contacted Mark Scott with regard to obtaining a second quote. Mr Scott agreed to visit the site. However, no further contact had been made despite the Clerk having left telephone messages. Mr J Beech offered to speak to Mark Scott to follow this up.

M&M Contractors had quoted a further £400 to lay a wet pour surface under the far side gate, if it was carried out at the same time as the gate previously quoted for.

Any Other Business:

The Clerk confirmed she had received election nomination packs from TWBC for distribution to prospective candidates.

Speeding in Rural Areas:

The Chairman had not heard from Cllr Holden regarding the cost of equipment. Mrs J Croucher confirmed that she had been contacted by eight residents volunteering for Speedwatch. Mrs A Holroyd is to contact Dave Pate to arrange volunteer training. It had been suggested that Frittenden approach Sissinghurst PC, who are allocated one week in five to use the joint owned Cranbrook, Hawkhurst, Sandhurst, Goudhurst & Sissinghurst Parish Speedwatch equipment, to request to borrow the equipment for one day of their allocated week. There will most likely be a charge for this.

The Chairman reported that she had been invited to join a small steering group to be set up following the meeting with the Police Commissioner and Helen Grant recently. Unfortunately, Mrs A Holroyd is unable to attend the first meeting scheduled for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

Mr M Cooper reported on a recent incident involving a local resident whose horse bolted when she was riding it due to a speeding car, regardless of her hand signals to slow the car down as it approached.

Village Clean Up Day:

The Chairman reported that the Clean-Up day has had to be re-scheduled for Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015 due to the equipment from TWBC being unavailable until that date. The Bell & Jorrocks have put this date in their diary and Ivor Jauncey has agreed to the use of his field for the collection of rubbish.

Correspondence - Youth Club:

The Chairman confirmed that it had been agreed to donate £100 to the Youth Club outing.

Any Other Business:

The Clerk is awaiting the quote for a new Parish Council noticeboard.

**5. ACCEPTANCE OF STANDING ORDERS**

The Clerk had distributed an updated copy of the Standing Orders to all Councillors. It was proposed by Mr M Cooper, seconded by Mrs N Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to adopt the Orders as they stood with one small addition limiting the time member's of the public can speak.

**6. ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Copies of the model NALC Financial Regulations had previously been distributed by the Clerk. It was proposed by Mr J Beech, seconded by Mrs J Croucher and agreed unanimously to adopt the Regulations in their current form.

**7. PULLEN FARM SOLAR FARM**

The Chairman reported that the drop-in session organised by Novus on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015 had been fairly well attended. A further public drop-in session will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at Headcorn Village Hall. Some interest has been expressed in the Community Benefit Scheme. Mr J Beech reported that he had been contacted by a local resident with experience of Solar Farm involvement, who had expressed caution. It was noted that grid connection is very expensive and that any future improvements to the operation of Solar Farms would not alter an existing installation. Any public benefit is likely to be very small.

**8. ROAD REPORT**

A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Mr J Beech had recently been informed that Staplehurst Parish Cllr Barrett Manning had met with Stephen Noad and Kent County Cllr Eric Hotson without liaising with Frittenden Parish Council. Following a breakdown in communications between Staplehurst PC and Frittenden PC it has been confirmed that Cllr Manning will re-initiate dialogue with Mr J Beech with immediate effect. Due to Knoxbridge residents moving away there has been a change in the membership of the group. However, the relevant contact has been in touch with Mr J Beech. Mrs N Aldhouse noted that new 50mph signs had been installed along the Knoxbridge section of the A229 along with a junction warning sign at Friday's entrance.

General:

Due to the absence of Mr L Gosbee the Clerk read a written report to Members: a caravan dumped on 9<sup>th</sup> March at Maplehurst Wood had finally been removed; the blocked culvert at Lambourne Way has been attended to and pot holes and resurfacing work at Biddenden Road earmarked to be done on 25th February will be done within the next month. It is hoped that due to deteriorating road edges this may be completed sooner. A delivery of a quantity of 'sand' bags called 'flood sax', which expand when wet, has been taken.

**9. PLANNING**

Applications:

14/501214      **Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane** – Conversion of barn to dwelling; demolition of a barn; conversion of barn to a domestic garage

It was proposed by Mr M Cooper, seconded by Mr J Beech and agreed unanimously to recommend Approval.

15/501318      **Peasridge Farm, Bubhurst Lane** – Single storey rear extension

It was proposed by Mr M Cooper, seconded by Mrs N Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to recommend Approval.

15/501345      **Frittenden House, The Street** – Demolition of Frittenden House North and conversion of existing outbuilding as a replacement dwelling; ancillary external works

It was proposed by Mr J Beech, seconded by Mr M Cooper and agreed unanimously to recommend Approval.

15/501875      **2 Coach Gate Cottages, The Street** – TPO application to reduce lateral growth by 2-2.5m of 1 Oak

It was proposed by Mrs H Cullingworth, seconded by Mrs N Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to remain Neutral.

Decisions:

14/506207      **1 Kenwards Cottages, Bubhurst Lane** – Demolition of detached workshop, demolition of existing single-storey and two-storey extensions to dwelling and construction of a new Passivhaus extension to dwelling.

Permission REFUSED

Correspondence:

There was none.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Chairman had received a letter of complaint from resident Mrs Debbie James regarding Ashford Valley Hunt who had held a meeting in the village on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Mrs James raised concerns re the Hunt trespassing on private land; allegedly carrying out illegal activity and the lack of notice of an intended visit. Mrs James spoke at the meeting about the events of the Hunt day and requested the Parish Council write to Ashford Valley Hunt regarding her concerns. Mr Guy Aldhouse also raised concerns at the meeting that the Hunt had worried his sheep. Mrs James stated that she had raised her concerns with the Hunt and had received a visit and apology from a member.

Mr M Cooper pointed out that it had been advertised that the Stirrup Cup was being taken by the Hunt at the Bell & Jorrocks.

It was agreed that a letter from the Parish Council, with content to be agreed, would be sent to Ashford Valley Hunt on behalf of residents.

Transport Accessibility Group:

Minutes of previous meeting and invitation to April meeting – Mr J Beech is to contact the Secretary

ACRK:

Oast to Coast magazine & Annual Financial Statement – JB

E-on:

Notice of new contract rates for street lights – due to the low level of consumption the financial increase was minimal and it was therefore agreed not to investigate further quotes.

BT:

Adopt a kiosk – it was agreed not to proceed as this would result in the loss of the public pay phone

**11. FINANCE**

It was proposed by Mr M Cooper, seconded by Mrs J Croucher and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

Mr L J Gosbee.....	£50.00
Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00
KALC.....	£50.00
Frittenden Youth Club.....	£100.00
Cory Environmental.....	£19.20
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£321.71
Expenses.....	£31.80
E-on DD.....	£15.68

**12. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

A written report from Mr L Gosbee was read out by the Clerk following his attendance at a Headcorn Airfield Consultative Committee Meeting:

Jamie Freeman was re-elected as Chairman of the Headcorn Airfield Consultative Committee and Brian Bristow from Smarden was re-elected as Vice -Chairman. The Airfield will be hosting Hobbs Parker's farm sale on 16th and 17th May, followed by a Tractor Run. The Gosbee family have been allocated a charity Boot Fair at the Airfield on 28th June, to raise funds for Frittenden Parish Council, Macmillan Cancer Support and Lashenden Air Warfare Museum. There will be a mini air show at the Airfield on 11th July with 1940's aircraft. The Pole Barn is still awaiting a decision from Maidstone planners. There have been no complaints about noise and only 3 night flights took place this winter because of weather conditions. The upcoming aerobatic dates are: 3rd May, 23rd May, 14th June and 27th June. If anyone would like a copy of the full list of events, please let me know. The main concern is the increase in traffic to such events, but Jamie does open another field adjacent to the airfield for extra parking.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.47pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mrs A Holroyd (Chairman)  
Mr J Beech (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mr M Cooper  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr L Gosbee

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), Mrs H Gosbee and 20 members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Sean Holden.

**2. PORK PIE FARM PLANNING APPLICATION:**

**14/506257** - Retrospective - Barn A change of use to B8 storage, cladding repaired and painted and new shutter door fitted. Barn B and C change of use to B8 storage. Cladding repaired and painted and new door fitted. Shed D replace with compound steel fence 3 metres high and portacabin office. Workshop E change of use to B1 light industrial. Cladding repaired and painted and new shutter door fitted. Barn F change of use to B1 offices R and D. Repair and refurbish existing building.

Mr M Cooper introduced the application and offered some background information. The application had been informally discussed by the Parish Council but it was felt prudent to publicise as widely as possible the meeting at which the application was to be considered, ensuring that parishioners could voice their opinions. All previous planning applications and planning appeals at Pork Pie Farm had been refused and/or dismissed and all development and activity on the site was, therefore, illegal. The Design and Access statement was misleading; there are serious traffic issues and new relaxed planning laws allowing Permitted Development for (B8) storage or distribution buildings to change use to residential (C3) was worrying.

The Chairman closed the meeting to give members of the public an opportunity to speak on this application. A number of concerns were raised as follows: the Design and Access Statement referred to the land as Brownfield when it was clearly Greenfield; the current activity at the site, which was extremely noisy; the road system being inadequate; the current barns being illegal; the environmental impact close to a SSSI not being addressed. It was also unknown what nature of business was being carried out on the site. Concern was expressed about the impact of the proposals on property prices in the area. For these reasons residents were in favour of seeing the application refused. The Chairman then re-opened the meeting.

The Parish Council discussed the application taking into consideration the history of the site; the sensitivity within an area of High Weald Special Landscape; the site being outside the limits to built development; the traffic issues and contravention of planning policies along with the concerns raised by those residents present and four letters of objection received prior to the meeting. For these reasons it was proposed by Mr J Beech, seconded by Mr M Cooper and agreed unanimously to recommend REFUSAL and to request the application is called in before TWBC Planning Committee.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

There were no declarations at this time.

**4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mrs J Croucher, seconded by Mrs H Cullingworth and agreed unanimously.

## 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

### Members Grant:

The Chairman confirmed that she had finally spoken to the Stone Shop who would clean the War Memorial in the summer. The Vicar would be holding a commemoration service on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015, so it was hoped the cleaning would have taken place before that date.

### WW1 Commemorations:

An estimate to update the Church Honours Board was expected. Mr H Lilley asked if it would be possible to update the WWII Honours Board at the same time. It was agreed this was not a matter to be discussed at this time.

### Play Area Inspection:

A quote to hard surface under the gate/s had been received from Mark Scott for the sum of £80 plus VAT. The Clerk would confirm whether the price was for one or both gates. It was agreed to accept the quote and to have the ground beneath both gates resurfaced.

### Speeding in Rural Areas:

The Chairman reported that she would be attending a Speedwatch Conference on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

PC Guy Rollinson will be running Speed Watch training sessions in Frittenden, for those residents who have volunteered, from 1pm until 6pm -7pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

### Village Clean Up Day:

The Chairman reported that more than 40 residents had joined in with the Clean-Up day and had collected lots of litter. All those involved were thanked for their efforts. Mrs A Holroyd would write letters of thanks to Sean & Rosie Croucher, Ivor Jauncey and Dick Munton.

### Any Other Business:

The Clerk had received a quote for a new Noticeboard from Nigel Gilbert. This compared favourably with quotes previously received as it also included installation which the others did not. It was proposed by Mrs H Cullingworth, seconded by Mrs N Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to accept the quote from N Gilbert Carpentry at £1260.00.

### Pullen Farm Solar Farm:

The Chairman reported that there was no further news on the Solar Farm.

### Correspondence:

The Clerk had received a reply to her letter from Ashford Valley Hunt. Mrs James thanked the Parish Council for writing to the Hunt on her behalf.

## 6. VALENCE VIEW

The Chairman had been informed by TWBC that the areas of land remaining in their ownership will go to auction at some time in the future. Councillors felt that the size land in question was so insignificant that it was of little use to anyone. The Chairman had requested that the Parish Council be notified when the land was to be sold.

## 7. ITEMS FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Chairman had spoken to PC Ross Shearing who had agreed to attend the meeting as guest speaker and make a short presentation, followed by Q & A session. The agenda for the meeting was agreed as follows:

Apologies for Absence

To Receive the Accounts of Charities

Minutes of the Previous APA

Chairman's Report

Matters Arising

Any Other Business

## 8. ROAD REPORT

### A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Mr J Beech stated that he would be attending a meeting with Staplehurst Parish Cllr Barrett Manning the following day, and that he would report back to Councillors afterwards.

Mrs N Aldhouse said she had made an error regarding 50mph signs on the A229; these were in fact 'Go Slow' signs.

### General:

Mr L Gosbee reported that a brick wall at Saw Lodge Farm had been damaged by a vehicle. He had been informed by Highways that the work would be referred to an Engineering Team for repair. The residents of Saw Lodge had sensibly put a warning cone by the wall. It would be another two months before potholes on Biddenden Road were repaired as a team of men would be required to execute the work, and the road would need to be closed for two days. Residents would be given the option to have their drive entrances surfaced at the same time.

Mr M Cooper confirmed that a license from the Forestry Commission had been issued before work had begun on felling the trees at Grandshore Lane.

Mr L Gosbee confirmed that a water leak outside of Jubilee Cottage, Headcorn Road, notified to the Parish Council by a resident, would be attended to by the water board.

## 9. PLANNING

### Applications:

15/502241      **2 Poundlands Cottages, Biddenden Road** – LBC for replacement of approved rear glazed double doors and side panels with full bifolding glazed doors.

It was proposed by Mrs J Croucher, seconded by Mr J Beech and agreed unanimously to remain Neutral.

### Decisions:

14/504085      **Broadlake, Mill Lane** – Extension and alteration of the oast house and single storey link between the oast and the main house.

Permission GRANTED

15/500363      **Horsemill Barn, Mill Lane** – Single storey extension

Permission GRANTED

15/500681      **Land Opposite Tile Barn Cottage, Ayleswade Lane, Headcorn** – New general purpose agricultural and livestock building

Permission GRANTED

### Correspondence:

There was none.

## 10. CORRESPONDENCE

### TWBC:

Notice of 'Love Where We Live Awards' – details on Website

### KCC:

Nominations required for 'Try Angle Awards' – details on Website

Cllr Sean Holden:

Members Fund: grants available – Mr J Beech reminded Cllrs that Cllr Holden had offered to investigate the cost and usefulness of flashing signs before any decision to request funding from his grant for speed warning signs was made. The Clerk would chase Cllr Holden.

Mrs A Holroyd said that she would be hoping to learn more about the types and effectiveness of interactive speed warning signs at the Speed Watch Conference on Saturday.

**11. FINANCE**

It was proposed by Mrs N Aldhouse, seconded by Mrs H Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

KALC - Subscription.....	£328.49
ACRK - Subscription.....	£65.00
Cory Environmental.....	£9.60
Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£358.08
Expenses.....	£18.72
E-on DD.....	£17.36

**12. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

The Clerk reported that she has completed the Year End Accounts which are currently with Mr B Millard for internal auditing. She believed that the accounts should be approved by the current Council before the election, and suggested calling an Extraordinary Meeting to be held before the Annual Parish Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 7.30pm. This was agreed.

Mrs H Cullingworth reported that many dog owners are not picking up their dog's mess on the Parish Field. It was noted there is signage on all gates into the field concerning this issue. A rubbish bin for the play area was requested. It was thought this would be possible.

Mrs J Croucher reported that Mr M Ashbee had kindly tightened some bolts on the children's climbing frame. Mr Ashbee was thanked for making the repairs.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm

A Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mrs A Holroyd (Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mr M Cooper  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr L Gosbee

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk) & Mrs H Gosbee.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr J Beech.

**2. TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2015**

All Councillors had previously been circulated a copy of the accounts for the Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. The Clerk confirmed that the accounts had been reviewed earlier in the year by Mr M Cooper and that Mr B Millard had recently performed the internal audit. It was proposed by Mrs J Croucher, seconded by Mr M Cooper and agreed unanimously to approve the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

The Clerk read the annual governance statement to all members. It was proposed by Mrs H Cullingworth, seconded by Mrs J Croucher and agreed unanimously to approve the Statement of Assurance.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm

A Planning Meeting of the Parish Council was held at The Wagon Lodge, Mill Lane, Frittenden on Wednesday 6th May 2015 at 11.00am.

Present were: Mrs A Holroyd (Chairman)  
Mr J Beech (Vice Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mr M Cooper (Minute Recorder)  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr L Gosbee

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mrs D Jenkins, Clerk, had advised that she would be unable to attend due to work commitments.

**2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

15/502274 **Stone Court Farm, Biddenden Road** – To take chimney down to roof level and rebuild

15/502141 **Stone Court Farm, Biddenden Road** - LBC: Take down chimney to roof level and rebuild

It was proposed by Mrs J Croucher, seconded by Mrs H Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to recommend APPROVAL for these two linked applications.

15/502557 **Rock Farm Oast, Grandshore Lane** – Replacement outbuilding with link to main house

It was proposed by Mrs A Holroyd, seconded by Mr M Cooper and agreed unanimously to remain NEUTRAL.

15/502946 **Appleton Farm Cottage, Green Lane** – Single and two storey extension and related alterations

It was proposed by Mr L Gosbee, seconded by Mrs N Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to remain NEUTRAL.

14/506257 **Pork Pie Farm, Grandshore Lane** - Retrospective covering various Change of Use and other proposals.

Mr Cooper confirmed that following an exchange of emails with the Case Officer Mr Richard Hazelgrove about some modifications to this application the Clerk had, at Mr Cooper's request, formally advised TWBC that our objections to the earlier version still applied in full to the modified one.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 11.25am.

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mrs K Ballantyne  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr L Gosbee  
Mr A Staples  
Mr R Vernon

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk) and Mrs H Gosbee.

Cllr Croucher welcomed all Councillors to the meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Sean Holden and Cllr J Hannam.

**2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Croucher invited nominations for the post of Chairman. Cllr Vernon proposed Cllr Staples, who agreed to accept as a new Councillor if no other member wished to be nominated, this was seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously. Cllr Staples was, therefore, duly elected as Chairman.

**3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman invited nominations for the post of Vice-Chairman. It was proposed by Cllr Aldhouse, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously that Cllr Gosbee be elected as Vice-Chairman.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

There were no declarations at this time.

**5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The acceptance of the minutes from the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015 was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee and agreed unanimously.

The acceptance of the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015 was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously.

The acceptance of the minutes of the Planning Meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> May 2015 was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Gosbee and agreed unanimously.

**6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Pork Pie Farm:

Borough Cllr James Hannam had contacted the Clerk with regard to verifying that application 14/506257 had been called in by Cllr John Smith before the election. Cllr Croucher was able to confirm that Cllr Smith had called this application in, to be reported to TWBC Planning Committee. The date for this has not yet been confirmed. Depending on the date, Cllr Vernon may be able to attend to represent the Parish Council.

Members Grant:

The Chairman is to confirm the date of 4<sup>th</sup> July 2014 for the commemoration service. The Clerk is to contact the Stone Shop for a date the Memorial is to be cleaned.

WW1 Commemorations:

An estimate to update the Church Honours Board is awaited.

Play Area Inspection:

The hard surfacing of the ground beneath the gates had been completed by Mark Scott Arenas at a cost of £150 plus VAT.

Speeding in Rural Areas:

The training of 11 Speed Watch volunteers took place at the Memorial Hall on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015. Mrs A Holroyd had previously offered to approach Sissinghurst PC with regard to borrowing their Speed Watch equipment when available in Frittenden. Cllr Aldhouse asked if it would be more practical for Frittenden PC to purchase the necessary equipment themselves. It was agreed to approach Sissinghurst PC to borrow their equipment to begin with and to assess the situation at a later date. Cllr Croucher offered to contact Sissinghurst PC.

Village Clean Up Day:

At the APA Cllr Croucher had suggested a second Clean-Up day in the autumn. It was generally thought this was a good idea. At present high visible jackets, gloves and litter pickers are supplied by TWBC for the day. Cllr Staples suggested the Parish Council might purchase their own equipment. It was agreed to put this item on the June agenda. Cllr Ballantyne felt the event should be published more effectively as she had been unaware of the event on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015. Further suggestions to involve young children and families and to plant bulbs on the Parish Field were made. This would be discussed at the next meeting.

Any Other Business:

The Clerk confirmed that she had been notified that the Noticeboard was almost complete and ready for installation.

Pullen Farm Solar Farm:

No further news to report.

Valence View:

No date for the sale of the land has been received from TWBC.

Correspondence:

The Clerk had not heard from Cllr Holden following his offer to investigate the cost and effectiveness of interactive speed signs. The Clerk will chase Cllr Holden.

Any Other Business:

Further to a request from Cllr Cullingworth, it was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the cost of dog waste sack dispensers for the Parish Field and a litter bin for the Play Area.

**7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

It was agreed to defer this to the next meeting.

**8. ROAD REPORT**

A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Following a useful meeting Mr J Beech had attended on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2015 with Staplehurst Parish Cllr Barrett Manning, Cllrs Aldhouse and Croucher had attended a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015 with County Cllr Eric Hotson (Staplehurst), Cllr Barrett Manning and Stephen Noad from KCC Highways. Cllr Croucher reported that the meeting dealt with that part of the A229 within Staplehurst parish. However, Stephen Noad was agreeable to holding a meeting with Frittenden Parish Council to discuss the small but important stretch of the A229 in Frittenden parish. Cllr Croucher reported that the meeting had been very positive. Cllr Hotson confirmed he had been liaising with Cllr Holden with regard to establishing speed restriction from Iden Manor to Rocks Hill, and funding improvements from their Members grants. Some signage in the area had already been erected but signs to include warning of

HGV vehicles were required. Cllr Hotson confirmed the signs would be paid for from his Members Grant. Stephen Noad is to investigate the cost of installing wooden Gateway signs and solar/electric VAS signs. Following a suggestion by Stephen Noad, Cllr Manning had asked businesses along this stretch of road to erect signage to warn their customers of traffic speed as they depart the premises. Cllr Croucher agreed to contact PC Ross Shearing to request a Speed check on the A229. Cllr Aldhouse informed Stephen Noad that the 'slow' sign had never been repainted on the road at Rocks Hill following resurfacing. Rumble strips as an alternative was suggested. Cllrs Aldhouse and Croucher agreed to join the Knoxbridge Road Safety Group. The next meeting will be arranged once the information requested has been received.

General:

Cllr Gosbee reported Biddenden Road won't be repaired until July/August. During a recent conversation with Emma Pavitt, Highways Steward, Mr L Gosbee had asked if road planings could be used to surface the strip of land outside of The Orchards, to be used for parking by residents of Sunnyside, in an effort to solve the issue of parked cars on a blind bend. The owner of the hedge had agreed that it could be cut back providing more space. Councillors were agreeable to this suggestion. However, Highways would be required to authorise this request.

Cllr Gosbee stated that the telephone box would soon be painted.

Cllr Staples asked if any work could be carried out at Satins Hill which is known to ice over when frosty and is not salted by Highways. Cllr Staples asked if a ditch to take away the excess water could be dug. Cllr Gosbee replied that the road is salted if he hounds Highways. However, due to what he believes may be a spring in the area, there will always be an issue with surface water.

Cllr Gosbee is to arrange a meeting with Emma Pavitt to visit the village and will discuss the concerns raised regarding water at Satins Hill at this time.

**9. PLANNING**

Applications:

There were none.

Decisions:

15/501214      **Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane** – Conversion of barn to dwelling; demolition of a barn; conversion of a barn to a domestic garage

Permission GRANTED

15/501318      **Peasridge Farm, Bubhurst Lane** – Single storey front/side extension

Permission GRANTED

15/501875      **2 Coach Gate Cottages, The Street** – TPO application to reduce lateral growth by 2-2.5m of 1 Oak

Permission GRANTED

15/502241      **2 Poundlands Cottages, Biddenden Road** – Listed Building Consent replacement of approved rear glazed double doors and side panels with full bifolding glazed doors

Permission GRANTED

Correspondence:

There was none.

Councillors discussed how the planning process would be approached by the Parish Council. It was agreed that applications from TWBC would be received by the Clerk who would then notify Cllrs to look at the application on the TWBC website. Cllr Vernon would use his expertise to alert Councillors of any particular issues to note. If time allowed the applications would be discussed at the following PC

meeting. If the deadline for comments was before the meeting the Clerk would request an extension. If this was not possible a separate Planning meeting would be called.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

Try Angle Awards:

A request for financial support for the awards: It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to donate the sum of £100.

Came & Company Insurance:

Insurance renewal quotes had been received. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon and agreed unanimously to enter into a three year binding contract with Hiscox for the sum of £516.01 per annum from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015.

**11. FINANCE**

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

Mr B Millard (Internal Audit).....	£50.00
Frittenden Memorial Hall (APA & May Meeting)	£30.00
Cory Environmental.....	£9.60
Stationery Express.....	£18.53
Mark Scott Arenas.....	£180.00
Frittenden Memorial Hall (Speedwatch Training)	£20.00
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£355.28
Expenses.....	£37.78
E-on DD.....	£16.80

A receipt of £4400.00 received from TWBC being the first precept instalment.

**12. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

The Clerk was requested to write a letter of thanks to those Councillors who stood down at the election on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015 for their services whilst on the Parish Council.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)  
Mr L Gosbee (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mrs K Ballantyne  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr R Vernon

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), Cllr Sean Holden and two members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were none.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

There were no declarations at this time.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Pork Pie Farm:

Cllr Vernon reported that the application had been deferred from the TWBC Planning Committee agenda for 17<sup>th</sup> June, a new date is awaited. Cllr Vernon had written to the Planning Officer, Richard Hazelgrove who is minded to approve the application, with numerous reasons for the application to be refused, the principal reason being the unlawful use of the buildings. The Planning Officer explained that due to time periods the use was no longer unlawful. Cllr Vernon, if available, will attend the Planning Committee meeting that the application is scheduled for. However, the outcome is not looking promising. If the application is approved Cllr Vernon would expect conditions to be applied.

Cllr Holden asked if the owners of the site have a Certificate of Lawful Development. Cllr Vernon is to verify this. Cllr Vernon had been informed by the Planning Officer that the charge was not on the land, which is at odds with normal practice.

Members Grant:

The Clerk had spoken to the Stone Shop who had confirmed the War Memorial would be cleaned before the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

WW1 Commemorations:

Nothing further has been heard regarding the estimate to update the Church Honours Board.

Speeding in Rural Areas:

Mrs J Croucher confirmed that Speed Watch sessions had taken place in the village. Five cars had been found to be speeding at one of the sessions. The equipment had been borrowed from Sissinghurst PC on three occasions during the week that Sissinghurst have use of it. Cllr Holden informed Councillors that Sandhurst PC were looking to buy their own equipment, and suggested Frittenden PC speak to them about sharing the cost of the equipment if the Council wanted a greater use. However, Councillors felt that at this time they did not want to purchase or maintain a system themselves. It was agreed that Cllr Croucher would ask Mrs Anne Holroyd to approach Staplehurst PC to see if they would consider allowing Frittenden Speed Watch to use their equipment on occasion.

Village Clean Up Day:

Councillors agreed that a further Clean Up day should be organised for Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Cllr Ballantyne is to contact Mr Mike Cooper with regard to placing a notice in the Parish Magazine and will organise further publicity. Cllr Croucher is to book the use of the equipment with TWBC and speak to Sean & Rosie regarding refreshments at the Bell and Jorrocks. It was agreed that for safety reasons families with children would be limited to picking litter at the Parish Field only. It was also suggested that those people working at the field could also wash the play equipment and plant bulbs. Cllr Vernon is to investigate the cost of bulbs from Bumbles. It was agreed not to purchase litter pickers at this time.

Any Other Business:

The Clerk confirmed the notice board had been installed and was in use. The waste bin had not been attached to the new posts so as not to damage them. The Contractor used had provided a quote of £165 to supply and erect a post solely for the bin. It was agreed to obtain a further quote for this work from another source.

Pullen Farm Solar Farm:

The Clerk had received a letter and DVD from the applicant with details of their application. However, she had not been formally notified by TWBC that the application had been registered,

Valence View:

Nothing further has been heard from TWBC regarding the auctioning of the land.

Correspondence:

Cllr Holden had sent the Clerk a copy of an email from KCC Highways regarding the effectiveness of interactive Speed Signs. This stated that Highways are currently assessing the benefits of some signs installed for five or more years. The belief is that due to the recent proliferation they may now be less effective, as they are ignored by many.

Any Other Business:

The Clerk had investigated the cost of dog waste sack dispensers for the Parish Field and a litter bin for the Play Area. After some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Aldhouse, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously to purchase a sack dispenser, post, bracket and bags from JRB Enterprise Ltd at a cost of £147.92 excl. VAT. Further investigation on 50ltr litter bins that can be attached to the Play Area fencing is required.

The Clerk confirmed that she had written to those Councillors who had not stood for re-election at the May election.

Matters Arising from the Annual Parish Assembly:

As Councillors had not received the draft minutes it was agreed to defer to the next meeting.

**5. COUNCILLORS OPEN SESSION**

Cllr Staples suggested holding an open session where parishioners can meet and speak to Councillors to find out more about what the Parish Council does, at an informal event. It was agreed this was a good idea. The Clerk is to confirm the availability of the Memorial Hall for Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015 between 10.00am and 12.00noon. Light refreshments will be served.

**6. CONTENTS AND USE OF PARISH CONTAINER**

Cllr Vernon had been asked what was in the container and who used it, by residents who did not know. It was confirmed that the container was used by the Tent Team and housed the tents, barbecue, generator and PA system, along with a wheel chair, and was purchased from funds received by hiring

out this equipment to residents. Cllr Staples, a member of the Tent Team, confirmed the equipment was well used.

**7/8. WIDTH OF PAVEMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY OF MAINTAINING HEDGES**

Cllr Vernon raised concerns from residents regarding the reduced width of pavements due to overgrown hedges. It was confirmed that the owner of the hedge is responsible for the maintenance.

Cllr Gosbee stated that farmers are not legally able to cut their hedges until July, once the nesting season is over. Cllr Vernon suggested that a notice informing residents of their responsibilities to maintain hedges should be placed in the Parish Magazine. Cllr Holden stated that KCC Highways can write to residents if a hedge is encroaching on the highway and obstructing visibility. It was agreed that Councillors would speak to those offenders with whom they were familiar and the Clerk would write to other residents. Cllr Staples also noted that some road signage was being obscured by overgrown vegetation.

**9. HEADCORN AIRFIELD CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

Cllr Gosbee reported that he had attended a meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2015 where Jamie Freeman confirmed that MBC had approved all of his outstanding planning applications. A Battle of Britain event is to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015 to include a BBQ and evening Ball which will be a ticketed event for up to 10,000 people. A traffic control system will be employed. The annual Model Show will take place between 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015. One complaint regarding noise had been received. Pilots had since been asked to keep revs low until they reached a height of 500ft. The Airfield Museum had been voted the top free attraction in Kent and the Airfield had been voted second. A young aerobatic pilot, Michael Pickin, uses Headcorn Airfield for his practice.

Cllrs Croucher and Staples noted that recently there were far more aircraft flying over the village. Cllr Gosbee requested that any complaints should be reported to Headcorn Airfield by telephone at the time of the incident. Flying areas are varied and they are told to follow the rules and to avoid built up zones. Cllr Staples asked everyone to be vigilant. Cllr Gosbee stated that he would take any complaints to the next meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

Cllr Gosbee reported that a Stroke event will be held at Staplehurst Health Centre on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and that Beverley Stainsby is leaving Staplehurst Health Centre to work at Headcorn Surgery.

**10. ROAD REPORT**

A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Cllr Aldhouse reported that Stephen Node had requested three dates when Councillors are available to attend a meeting with him. Cllrs Aldhouse and Croucher volunteered to provide dates and attend the meeting to which other Councillors are also welcome if they are free.

General:

Cllr Gosbee is to meet Emma Pavitt, Highways Steward, on her return from holiday, to carry out a site visit of Frittenden roads. Emma Pavitt had confirmed that Biddenden Road would be resurfaced starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015. The road will be closed for up to 5 days. Cllr Gosbee hoped the road planings could be used to surface the strip of land outside of The Orchards.

Fly tipping continues, especially in Sand Lane. TWBC are taking longer to collect the waste after it has been reported.

Mr Roy Kemp has begun work on painting the telephone box. Mr Kemp suggested the roof be painted white as a contrast to the red. Councillors agreed the whole box should be painted red as previously.

KCC Cllr Sean Holden reported that following receipt of the email from KCC Highways he is not convinced that using his Members Grant to provide interactive Speed Signs is a good use of the funds. He confirmed that he had met with Staplehurst KCC Cllr Eric Hotson, with regard to joining forces to reduce the speed limit on the A229 from the Willesley Pound roundabout to Staplehurst. Both Councillors have agreed to fund their part of this project. Cllr Holden stated that he had recently put funds into the Speed Watch equipment

owned by five parishes. Following on from the meeting held between the Police Commissioner, Parish Council's and Speed Watch groups, a working group had been formed. A further meeting of this group is to be arranged. Cllr Holden is still pushing for Speed Watch teams to be allowed to use the SL700 laser gun which he would be prepared to fund.

The alteration to the A229 junction at Waterloo Road, funded by Cllr Holden, is scheduled for the autumn.

## **11. PLANNING**

### Applications:

15/503824      **Frittenden House South, The Street** – Demolition in a conservation area – Extension to Frittenden House South. Demolition of Frittenden House North and conversion of existing outbuilding as a replacement dwelling. Ancillary external works

Councillors Noted this application following their Approval of full application, which had subsequently been approved by TWBC.

15/503953      **Great Bubhurst Farm, Bubhurst Lane** – Single storey side extensions to existing garage and conversion of roof space to provide room including two dormer windows

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to recommend Approval.

15/504281      **Greenworld Garden Centre, Cranbrook Road, Staplehurst** – Article 10 Consultation – Change of use of part of existing retail garden/pet centre building to boarding kennels, and associated facilities

A letter from a neighbouring Frittenden resident had raised concerns about the application. It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Vernon and agreed unanimously to raise concerns regarding potential noise and the disposal of dog waste.

15/503622      **Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane** – Variation of Condition 16 to read that the holiday accommodation 'shall NOT be occupied continuously for a period exceeding six weeks by the same person(s)' and removal of condition 19 of planning permission TW/13/01284 (Conversion of bullock lodge to one dwelling unit; Retention of Dutch barn as covered parking area; Conversion of stables to holiday let; Retention of cart lodge as garage; Removal of the outbuildings to the sides and rear of the Cart Lodge; Removal of the modern agricultural buildings to the north of the Bullock Lodge; Associated landscaping) – Retention of Cart Lodge as garaging

Councillors Noted this application as the amendments were due to a technical error by TWBC

### Decisions:

15/501345      **Frittenden House South, The Street** – Extension to Frittenden House South. Demolition of Frittenden House North and conversion of existing outbuilding as a replacement dwelling. Ancillary external works

Permission GRANTED

15/502946      **Appleton Farm Cottage, Green Lane** – Single and two storey extension and related alterations

Permission GRANTED

### Correspondence:

TWBC Site Allocations Supplementary Planning Document – Cllr Vernon to view

**12. CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter had been received from a resident alerting the Parish Council to damage to fencing in Park Wood Lane following the installation of a replacement mobile home at Park Wood Stables.

KALC:

Request for funding towards a study for the economic benefits towards east facing slips at junction 5 of the M25 under Section 137 powers - Cllrs agreed not to donate funds

Kenward Trust:

Spring/Summer magazine – JC

**13. FINANCE**

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

	<u>Incl. VAT</u>	<u>Excl. VAT</u>
Stationery Express.....	£24.95	£20.84
Mr N Gilbert.....	£1260.00	N/A
Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00	N/A
HMRC.....	£21.40	N/A
HMRC.....	£20.80	N/A
HMRC.....	£6.80	N/A
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£236.35	N/A
Expenses.....	£25.02	
E-on DD.....	£20.51	£19.53

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.34pm

Cllr Vernon offered his apologies for the July meeting.

Cllr Croucher remarked on the debris on the roads from tractors carrying hay/straw which blocked the storm drains.

A Planning Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)  
Mr L Gosbee (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mrs K Ballantyne  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mr R Vernon

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), Cllr James Hannam and approximately 80 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the format for speaking on the application.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Mrs H Cullingworth.

**2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

15/504228      **Land Adjacent to Folly Farm, Frittenden Road, Staplehurst TN12 0DL –**  
Change of use to gypsy/traveller accommodation, stationing mobile homes, utility rooms and touring caravans

*The Chairman closed the meeting to allow members of the public to speak on the above application.*

Approximately ten members of the public spoke on this application including two ex Chairman of Frittenden Parish Council and the acting Chairman of Staplehurst Parish Council Planning Committee. Everyone who spoke wished to see the application refused. The main points raised were the lack of detail in the application, that MBC should be challenged for validating an application that had no supporting documents, the flooding of the site, access into the site being on a bend and the narrowness of Frittenden Road, issues regarding sewage disposal, domination of the settled community, negative visual impact and the impact on infrastructure i.e. doctors, schools and other amenities.

*The Chairman re-opened the meeting.*

The Chairman addressed all Councillors individually on their thoughts on the application. There was great concern that the application lacked any detail. Other issues raised included the suitability of the land which was known to flood, the potential increase in traffic on Frittenden Road, a narrow country lane, the access into the site being on a bend in the road, the impact on the settled community, the negative visual impact, flooding on the road which ices over in the winter, the overall impact on the area and on local infrastructure. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee and agreed unanimously to strongly recommend refusal for all of the above reasons.

It was also agreed to write to the Chief Executive of Maidstone Borough Council challenging the validation of an application that lacked such little detail that it was difficult to make an informed decision.

Cllr Vernon and the Clerk would liaise with regard to the exact wording of the comments to be made to MBC and the content of the letter regarding challenging MBC for validating the application in the first instance.

There being no further business, Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Upstairs Room at the Bell & Jorrocks, Frittenden on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), Cllr Sean Holden and 13 members of the public. Cllr James Hannam joined the meeting part way through.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Gosbee and Vernon.

*The Chairman closed the meeting and gave residents the opportunity to speak. A number of residents spoke on planning application KCC/TW/0170/2015. Concerns were raised regarding the increase in traffic; the scale of the site and that it was not known whether this was a positive or negative move to the disposal of chicken waste. The Chairman re-opened the meeting.*

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

There were no declarations at this time.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes of the June meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Aldhouse, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes of the July planning meeting.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Pork Pie Farm:

Cllr Staples reported that since the last meeting the application had been withdrawn.

Members Grant:

The War Memorial had been cleaned and all agreed that a very good job had been done.

Village Clean Up Day:

Cllr Croucher confirmed that she had booked the equipment from TWBC for Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and had spoken to Mr & Mrs Jauncey who had again agreed to the use of their field for the collection of the rubbish sacks. Cllr Vernon had previously reported that Jeremy at Bumbles had kindly offered to donate a sack of 100 daffodil bulbs to plant on the day.

Notice Board Rubbish Bin:

Mr Roy Kemp had quoted the sum of £40 to supply a post and install and attach the rubbish bin at the notice board. It was agreed to accept this quote.

Dog Waste Sack Dispenser:

The Clerk reported that she had ordered and paid for a dispenser amounting to £118.30 Excl VAT. However, she had been unable to purchase a post from the supplier.

Councillors Open Session:

As Cllr Vernon is unavailable on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015 it was agreed to change the date to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015. The Clerk is to check the availability of the Memorial Hall.

Width of Pavements and Responsibility of Maintaining Hedges:

Cllr Staples noted that the hedges that were causing an obstruction had now been cut. However, many road signs are obscured by overgrown vegetation.

Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from KALC confirming that having reached the funding target the study for east facing slips at Junction 5 of the M25 will proceed.

Planning Meeting:

Cllr Staples reported that more than 60 letters of objection had been lodged with MBC regarding application 15/504228, of which approximately one third were from Frittenden residents. Comments were still being accepted by MBC. The Clerk reported that Staplehurst Borough Councillor John Perry had met with both Helen Grant MP and Brandon Lewis MP with regard to this application. Cllr Vernon had suggested forming a group to include residents to investigate the history of the Staplehurst Lane gypsy sites. However, as Staplehurst PC had been working on this process it may not be necessary to do so. The Clerk reported that the application had currently been put on hold by MBC until further documentation had been received from the applicant.

There had been some confusion over an advertisement in the newspaper that listed the application as a TWBC application rather than an MBC application. It was not known why this had occurred.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

Dog Control:

This issue had been addressed by the purchase of a dog waste sack dispenser.

**6. MEMORIAL HALL**

*The Chairman closed the meeting to allow the Chairman of the Frittenden Memorial Hall Management Committee, Barbara Dunn, to speak.* Mrs Dunn thanked the Parish Council for taking time to listen to the Committee of which many members were present. She reported that approximately 5 years ago a survey stated that a possible 15 years of reasonable life was left in the hall. All the exterior doors required replacing and internal decoration is necessary. In the past much patching has taken place and this could continue but the Committee believed that the time had come to replace the hall. The expenditure currently exceeds the lettings income received. The main reasons behind this was that the surrounding village halls had better facilities; only having one room available for hire; the inefficiency and cost of heating the hall; and the costly maintenance of the building. The hall also suffers from damp in the winter, is a fire risk and currently has an ongoing mouse infestation. Funding for a new hall is currently being investigated. Cllr Staples asked Mrs Dunn if she thought bookings would be greater if a new hall was built. It was believed that this would be the case if a new hall offered more than one meeting room and took advantage of the wonderful views that could be had from the rear of the building. Mrs Dunn confirmed that a public meeting is to be arranged, and that Claire Gregory, the architect employed for the pre-school building had been approached. Mrs Dunn stated that she had wanted to present the proposal to the Parish Council first as the elected body representing the village. Cllr Staples thanked Mrs Dunn for informing Councillors of the Committee's intentions. *The Chairman re-opened the meeting.*

A number of residents left the meeting at this point.

**7. PLAY AREA**

The Clerk had visited the Play Area having received a report from Mr Roy Latham who, during his weekly inspection of the area, had noticed that part of the concrete anchorage for the slide had eroded despite being previously repaired by Cllr Gosbee. Cllr Aldhouse agreed to cordon the mound with

hazard fencing, and place notices warning people not to use the slide. The Clerk will contact Maria Cook for advice on repairs.

**8. SPEED WATCH**

Cllr Croucher reported that along with Cllr Aldhouse she had recently met with Stephen Node. Missing road markings, visibility issues, obstruction of signs and the poor condition of the A229 were all discussed. The usefulness of interactive speed signs was also in question and she believed a previous request for funding from Cllr Holden's Member Grant for an interactive sign may be put to better use for the purchase of Speed Watch equipment. Previously the equipment had been borrowed from Sissinghurst PC but this was no longer possible as permission had not been obtained from the other parishes that partly owned the equipment. There was also an issue relating to insurance when borrowing equipment from other parishes. Cllr Croucher confirmed the cost of purchasing the equipment would be in the region of £2200.

Cllr Holden suggested approaching Sandhurst PC who was currently investigating the purchase of their own equipment. He referred to the current position with Kent Police, who was liaising with Sussex Police, compiling evidence with regard to allowing Speed Watch teams to use laser guns, which meant offenders could be prosecuted. A further meeting with the Rural Speeding Group and the Police Commissioner will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> September and a member of the PC will be invited to attend. Cllr Holden would not wish to fund the purchase of Speed Watch equipment at this time if Kent Police, in the near future, would allow Speed Watch teams the use of laser guns which would, in his opinion, be preferable. Cllr Holden stated that the value of Speed Watch does make the traffic slow down.

Cllr Staples suggested that as the next Parish Council meeting was after the rural speeding meeting that the discussion on the purchase of Speed Watch equipment be deferred until then. This was agreed.

**9. ROAD REPORT**

A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Cllr Aldhouse reported that an article had appeared in the KM and Courier newspapers highlighting speed issues on the A229. At a meeting attended with Stephen Node, Cllr Eric Hotson and Staplehurst Parish Councillor Barrett Manning a proposal to reduce the speed limit to 50mph had been put forward.

Cllr Holden confirmed that following discussions with Cllr Hotson they had both agreed to fund their part of a speed survey from Willesley Pound to Staplehurst, and that this matter had been actioned. Cllr Holden confirmed that between Willesley Pound and Weald Academy he had managed to have the speed limit reduced to 40mph. This was due to the survey results illustrating an average speed of 43mph.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Holden for his support and the information provided.

General:

In Cllr Gosbee's absence the Clerk read a road report that he had submitted: Biddenden Road is still scheduled to close from 3<sup>rd</sup> August for up to five days. The road planings will not be used to create a lay by at The Orchards due to KCC Highways not wishing to encourage roadside parking. Sand Lane had been experiencing a large amount of fly tipping. The latest load had been reported by Cllr Gosbee.

**10. PLANNING**

The Clerk reported that Cllr Aldhouse had contacted Rob Campbell, TWBC Enforcement Officer, regarding surfacing material being laid at the entrance to the Hatchin' Tan. Rob Campbell visited the site the same day. He confirmed that 'Enforcement Notices, an Article 4 direction, and an injunction against Mr Brazil and "persons unknown" are still all applicable to this site'. Daily monitoring of the site is taking place by TWBC and Mr Campbell now believes 'the recent activity is directly linked to the organised dumping of commercial waste'. He has reported this to the Environmental Health Team and will continue to monitor the site.

Applications:

KCC/TW/0170/2015      **Land to the north of existing farm buildings, Knoxbridge Farm, Cranbrook Road** – Installation of Anaerobic Digester, comprising below ground digester, ammonium sulphate tank, lagoon and associated areas of hardstanding, together with relocated earth bund

*The Chairman closed the meeting to allow residents further input on the above application. The meeting then re-opened.*

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to recommend REFUSAL due to insufficient information particularly regarding the clarification of bringing chicken waste onto the site from elsewhere; the likely impact of any site failure; and the unknown nature of the material that goes into the lagoon.

15/505149      **Land at Pullen Farm, Staplehurst Road** – Use of the land to provide a solar farm and its enclosure by fencing and the erection of just over 39000 panels along with the provision of associated transformers, switch gear housing and substation

After much deliberation it was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to remain NEUTRAL. However, Councillors wished it to be noted that they had concerns regarding the expected increase in traffic movements on Staplehurst Road and Frittenden Road during the construction period.

15/505253      **Helford, Sand Lane** – Erection of a new rear extension

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously to recommend APPROVAL.

15/505254      **Shenlands Farm, Ayleswade Lane, Headcorn** – Prior notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to one dwellinghouse

The application was Noted by Councillors.

15/505501 &      **Tile Barn Cottage, Ayleswade Lane, Headcorn** – Demolition of rear extensions.  
15/505515 LBC      Change of use from two dwellings to one with associated alterations, refurbishment and two side extensions to existing building. Replacement vehicular/pedestrian access

It was proposed by Cllr Aldhouse, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to recommend APPROVAL

Decisions:

15/506257      **Pork Pie Farm, Grandshore Lane** - Retrospective - Regularisation of widening and off road setback of entrance gates. Change of use of Barns A, B and C from agriculture to B8 storage. Change of use of Workshop E and adjoining area from agriculture to a use by an agricultural sub-contractor for farm machinery repair and hire, including the stationing of a portable office building and construction of a 3m high fence. Non-retrospective - Change of use of Barn F from agriculture to B1 offices/Research and Development use. Renovation and repair work to all buildings.

Application WITHDRAWN.

15/502141 LBC      **Stone Court Farm, Biddenden Road** - LBC: Take down chimney to roof level and rebuild

Permission GRANTED

15/502274      **Stone Court Farm, Biddenden Road** – To take chimney down to roof level and rebuild

Permission GRANTED

- 15/502557      **Rock Farm Oast, Grandshore Lane** – Replacement outbuilding with link to main house  
Permission GRANTED
- 15/503622      **Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane** – Variation of Condition 16 to read that the holiday accommodation ‘shall NOT be occupied continuously for a period exceeding six weeks by the same person(s)’ and removal of condition 19 of planning permission TW/13/01284 (Conversion of bullock lodge to one dwelling unit; Retention of Dutch barn as covered parking area; Conversion of stables to holiday let; Retention of cart lodge as garage; Removal of the outbuildings to the sides and rear of the Cart Lodge; Removal of the modern agricultural buildings to the north of the Bullock Lodge; Associated landscaping) – Retention of Cart Lodge as garaging  
Permission GRANTED
- 15/503824      **Frittenden House South, The Street** – Demolition in a conservation area – Extension to Frittenden House South. Demolition of Frittenden House North and conversion of existing outbuilding as a replacement dwelling. Ancillary external works  
Permission GRANTED
- 15/504281      **Greenworld Garden Centre, Cranbrook Road, Staplehurst** – Article 10 Consultation – Change of use of part of existing retail garden/pet centre building to boarding kennels, and associated facilities  
NO OBJECTION
- 15/504985      **Land to the north of existing farm buildings, Knoxbridge Farm, Cranbrook Road** – EIA Screening opinion (County Matter) application for the installation of Anaerobic Digester, comprising below ground digester, ammonium sulphate tank, lagoon and associated areas of hardstanding, together with relocated earth bund  
NOT REQUIRED

Correspondence:

There was none.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

ACRK:  
Oast to Coast magazine – JC

Clerks & Councils Direct:  
Magazine – HC

Kenward Trust:  
Invitation to visit Conference facilities

Victim Support:  
Donation request

**12. FINANCE**

The Clerk advised Councillors that a donation of £250 had been made to the Parish Council by Cllr Gosbee. The Clerk was requested to convey the appreciation of Councillors to Cllr Gosbee.

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

	<u>Incl. VAT</u>	<u>Excl. VAT</u>
Mr M Cooper re-imburement.....	£10.54 (EF)	£8.79
Cory Environmental (May & June).....	£19.20	£16.00
The Stone Shop.....	£936.00	£780.00
KALC.....	£25.00	£20.83
Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00	N/A
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£464.39	N/A
Expenses.....	£148.44	£118.30
Mr M Cooper.....	£20.00	N/A
E-on DD.....	£19.85	£18.90

Cllr Hannam apologised for arriving late to the meeting. This was due to work issues. He confirmed that he had spoken with his counterpart Cllr Louise Brice in Staplehurst regarding the planning application at Folly Farm. He had been assured that good officers were on the case and that the application was currently on hold whilst further information is obtained by the applicant.

Cllr Hannam stated that following residents suggestions when canvassing in the village he had subsequently written an article for the Parish Magazine proposing a blanket 20mph speed limit in the village. However, he had received very little response to the article. It was agreed to discuss this item at the September meeting.

Cllr Hannam raised his concerns with regard to solar farm proposals across Kent which he said were essentially driven by the receipt of Government subsidies.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)  
Mr L Gosbee (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs N Aldhouse  
Mrs K Ballantyne  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr R Vernon

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), 1 member of the public, Cllr Sean Holden who joined the meeting part way through, Cllr James Hannam who joined the meeting part way through and Mrs H Gosbee.

Cllr Gosbee began the meeting due to Cllr Staples being delayed and arriving during Item 5.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

There were no declarations at this time.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Village Clean Up Day:

Cllr Vernon had collected the sack of daffodil bulbs kindly donated by Jeremy at Bumbles. Cllr Croucher had ordered the equipment from TWBC. Mike Cooper had agreed to use his trailer for the collection of rubbish as in previous years. Cllr Ballantyne reported that she had been contacted by Dick Munton offering his mule to tow the trailer. The Clerk is to contact Mike Cooper to ask him to liaise directly with Mr Munton regarding this.

Notice Board Rubbish Bin:

Mr Roy Kemp had installed the rubbish bin at the notice board and the Clerk had received his invoice for payment.

Dog Waste Sack Dispenser:

Mike Ashbee had kindly erected the dog waste sack dispenser on the gate at the main entrance to the Parish Field. Cllr Cullingworth reported that over a short time all the sacks had been removed from the dispenser. The dispenser had since been replenished by Cllr Croucher.

Councillors Open Session:

The Clerk confirmed that she had booked the Memorial Hall for the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015 between 10.00 and 12.00. It was agreed that refreshments should be served. The Clerk is to contact Mike Cooper to place a notice about the event in the Parish Magazine. Cllr Aldhouse asked if it would be possible for her to sell poppies during the session. Cllrs were in agreement to this.

**5. WASTE BIN – PLAY AREA**

The Clerk had investigated various bins for the play area which she shared with Cllrs. It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to purchase a 50ltr plastic hooded bin from Broxap for the sum of £49.00 plus VAT and delivery charges, to be attached to the play area fencing.

It was noted that Mr Roy Kemp had erected a post on a concrete plinth inside the children's play area. Cllrs believed that he may have installed this on the assumption that a similar bin to the one at the noticeboard would be purchased. The Clerk is to contact Mr Kemp to ask him to remove the installation as soon as possible as the Parish Council had not requested the work, and the structure caused a hazard in this position.

**6. PLAY AREA**

Cllr Cullingworth had purchased some topsoil and turf and made an excellent repair to the exposed concrete at the top of the slide. The Clerk had sought quotes to repair the mound where the matting is slipping and undulations have occurred. Two quotes had been received. M&M Contractors had suggested covering the whole mound in thick rubber mulch costing £600 + VAT. Barge Landscapes quoted for making repairs, using rubber matting and rubber bark adjacent to the slide and rope area, at a cost of £3244. As the immediate hazard had been addressed, Cllrs decided not to proceed with either option at this time. The situation will be monitored.

Cllr Croucher reported that the side panel at the top of the slide required replacing as it had been shattered. The Clerk will contact Proludic for a replacement part.

It was noted that the grass on the main field had been cut but the play area hadn't. The Clerk informed Cllrs that this was due to different teams cutting the different areas. A gang mower could be used on the main field but a smaller mower was required for the play area. Cllr Staples reported that the hedge at Laundry Lane had not been cut. The Clerk would contact Landscape Services regarding mowing and hedge cutting.

**7. 20MPH SPEED LIMIT**

Cllr Staples with Anne Holroyd had attended a Speedwatch meeting with Helen Grant MP and other representatives. At the meeting the Police confirmed their support for 20mph speed limits but stated they had to be self-enforcing. Cllr Staples invited Cllr James Hannam to explain this. Cllr Hannam believed this to mean that either chicanes or other such measures had to be installed. A pilot scheme outside of Maidstone Schools is to be initiated which will be rolled out across the county if successful. Helen Grant MP was very supportive and stated that she would take this up with Ministers if policy prevented the scheme going ahead.

The use of laser speed guns was also discussed at the meeting. It was confirmed that Sussex Police do not allow their use by speed watch teams. Cllr Staples spoke with Cllr Hannocks, Chairman of Sandhurst PC, who confirmed his interest in purchasing joint Speedwatch equipment. The Clerk is to contact Sandhurst PC Clerk to discuss this further. Cllr Holden stated that if the equipment was shared between the two parishes he would be happy to fund this from his Member's Grant. Cllr Staples informed the meeting that static cameras are supported by the police. The meeting with Helen Grant MP had been a positive one with progress being made on the concept of 20mph speed limits, and also the use of speed recording equipment.

Cllr Hannam left the meeting at this point.

**8. FACEBOOK**

Cllr Ballantyne had been exploring the use of Facebook by other Parish Councils as an outlet for information, and believed that Frittenden would benefit from the Parish Council having their own page. She believed it was a good way of communicating with residents. There was much discussion amongst Cllrs on the pros and cons of having a Facebook page. There was some concern that it could be used as a tool for people to abuse the system. It was agreed by Councillors to investigate the set up of a Facebook page that limited the site to putting information out, but not to receive comments from users. Cllrs Ballantyne and Aldhouse would action this.

**9. AMENITY VEHICLE**

Cllr Ballantyne had been contacted by residents who informed her that they had been told by the vehicle driver that certain items of waste could not be taken. The residents believed these items had previously been taken.

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter informing her of changes to come into effect in April 2016. This meant there would be alternate months for residual waste and garden waste, and that from 1<sup>st</sup> April the Parish Council would be required to pay £407 per annum for the service. However, to date the Clerk was not aware of any changes. Cllr Holden stated that there had always been some restrictions to the waste material that could be disposed of, but there had been no recent changes.

**10. RESIDENTIAL BREAK-INS**

Cllr Ballantyne reported that a number of break-ins had recently occurred in the village. Mr Mark Ballantyne was invited to speak by the Chairman on this subject. Mr Ballantyne, who is involved in the CCTV and security business, said that some residents were interested in installing CCTV cameras in the village. He suggested erecting cameras on the Memorial Hall and at the Bell & Jorrocks which could act as an aid for catching criminals on video. Cllr Staples believed the benefit would be limited as the village covered a wide area, and not many residents lived in the centre of the village. Cllr Vernon suggested residents opinions on this issue could be sought at the Councillors Open Session on 31<sup>st</sup> October.

It was confirmed that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme did operate in the village. Sean Croucher is the co-ordinator, and Cllr Croucher is the Parish Council representative. Cllr Croucher is to liaise with Sean Croucher with regards to the scheme. Mark Ballantyne stated that there are various layers of security, of which this was one.

**11. SPEEDWATCH**

Cllr Croucher reported that following a conversation with the Clerk of Sandhurst PC last week she had been informed that they were not interested in purchasing joint Speed Watch equipment. This conflicted with the information the Chairman had been given. Anne Holroyd had sent Cllr Croucher the Kent People's Trust grant application form which could be completed for the purchase of Speed Watch equipment. Cllr Croucher had spoken with Guy Rollinson who had advised that the basic equipment would be sufficient, costing £1950. The maximum grant value is £2500. Cllr Holden suggested applying for the grant, and that if the Parish Council was unsuccessful that he would fund the equipment from his Members Grant. It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon and agreed to purchase Speed Watch equipment to be funded by a grant.

**12. ROAD REPORT**

A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Cllr Aldhouse reported that an accident had recently occurred on the A229 outside of Greenworld and asked Cllr Holden if the speed limit on this road would be reduced. Cllr Holden confirmed that he had requested a reduction in the speed limit from 60mph to 40mph between Willesley Pound and Knoxbridge, and that Cllr Hotson would do the same for his part of the A229, in Staplehurst ward. A survey will have to be performed and the natural speed of the road will have a determination on any reduction. Cllr Holden commented on the meeting with Helen Grant MP where Speed Watch cameras were discussed, along with the enforcement of speed limits in areas of potential danger not just where evidence of deaths had been gathered. He hoped that speed limits on the A229 would be enforced.

General:

Cllr Gosbee reported that the potholes on Biddenden Road had been repaired. Highways had intended repairing The Street at the same time but decided against this due to both roads being closed simultaneously. This will be repaired soon. A large free salt bag had been offered by KCC Highways. However, the bag from last year was not used but had disappeared into the vegetation. Cllr Gosbee would ask one of the farmers in the village if they had a tractor fork that could lift the bag onto the concrete plinth at Bettenham, where it would be more visible. Cllr Cullingworth raised concerns regarding the ice that forms on the road at Little Brook Wood. Cllr Gosbee had asked if a salt bin could be placed in the area. If any residents require sand bags, please contact Cllr Gosbee who is storing alternative inflatable bags.

Cllr Cullingworth mentioned areas of the footpath that are raised and uneven around the school and the parish noticeboard. The Clerk suggested reporting the faults on the Kent Highways fault reporting website.

Cllr Cullingworth requested the Parish Council write to the primary school asking them to speak to parents about parking considerately when dropping and collecting their children. This was agreed.

**13. PLANNING**

The Clerk reminded Councillors of the importance of responding to planning applications before the deadline date for comments.

The Clerk reported that she had received a telephone call from a Knoxbridge resident who was disappointed that the Parish Council had remained Neutral with regard to the Tolehurst planning application.

Applications:

15/505149      **Land at Pullen Farm, Staplehurst Road** – Provision of a temporary construction access and compound to facilitate construction of solar farm. Revised details being change of description from ‘Use of land to provide a solar farm and its enclosure by fencing and the erection of just over 39000 solar panels along with the provision of associated transformers, switch gear housing and a substation.

Councillors NOTED the revised description.

15/505902      **2 Folly Cottages, Mill Lane** – Erection of outbuilding as secure garden shed, logstore, home office/utility room

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to remain NEUTRAL.

15/505993      **Gould Farm, Mill Lane** – Replacement of existing single storey store to front of dwelling with new single storey store

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to recommend APPROVAL.

15/506412      **Birch Barn, Green Lane** – Revised scheme of 15/501214 conversion of barn to dwelling, replacement of existing Dutch barn with new building to provide garage, gym, game room, store room and home office, to be ancillary to the main dwellinghouse.

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Vernon and agreed unanimously to remain NEUTRAL

15/506624      **Tolehurst Farm, Knoxbridge** – Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 9 (junction layouts) of application reference 13/01965 for the replacement of 7 existing poultry buildings with 2 new poultry buildings, together with associated landscaping and amendments to access. Proposed variation to provide for altered arrangements at junctions 3 and 4

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Vernon and agreed unanimously to remain NEUTRAL.

15/506766      **Chanceford Cottage, Sand Lane** – Variation of conditions 3 and 4 of 11/01951 (Conversion of double garage with games room above into holiday let accommodation) – to have 6 weeks extended to 5 months.

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Aldhouse and agreed unanimously to remain NEUTRAL.

Decisions:

- 15/503622      **Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane** - Variation of Condition 16 to read that the holiday accommodation 'shall NOT be occupied continuously for a period exceeding six weeks by the same person(s)' and removal of condition 19 of planning permission TW/13/01284 (Conversion of bullock lodge to one dwelling unit; Retention of Dutch barn as covered parking area; Conversion of stables to holiday let; Retention of cart lodge as garage; Removal of the outbuildings to the sides and rear of the Cart Lodge; Removal of the modern agricultural buildings to the north of the Bullock Lodge; Associated landscaping) – Retention of Cart Lodge as garaging.  
Permission GRANTED
- 15/503953      **Great Bubhurst Farm, Bubhurst Lane** – Single storey side extensions to existing garage and conversion of roof space to provide room including two dormer windows  
Permission GRANTED
- 15/504228      Land Adj to **Folly Farm, Frittenden Road** – Change of use to gypsy/traveller accommodation, stationing mobile homes, utility rooms and touring caravans  
Application WITHDRAWN
- 15/505253      **Helford, Sand Lane** – Erection of new rear extension  
Permission GRANTED
- 15/505254      **Shenlands Farm, Ayleswade Lane, Headcorn** – Prior notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to one dwellinghouse  
Prior Approval GRANTED
- 15/505501 &      **Tile Barn Cottage, Ayleswade Lane, Headcorn** – Demolition of rear extensions.  
15/505515 LBC      Change of use from two dwellings to one with associated alterations, refurbishment and two side extensions to existing building. Replacement vehicular/pedestrian access  
Permission GRANTED
- KCC/TW/0170/2015      **Land to the north of existing farm buildings, Knoxbridge Farm, Cranbrook Road** – Installation of Anaerobic Digester, comprising below ground digester, ammonium sulphate tank, lagoon and associated areas of hardstanding, together with relocated earth bund  
Permission GRANTED
- 15/505993      **Gould Farm, Mill Lane** – Replacement of existing single storey store to front of dwelling with new single storey store  
Permission GRANTED

Correspondence:

There was none.

**14. CORRESPONDENCE**

**KALC:**

Transparency Fund workshop for smaller authorities – Clerk to attend

KFRS:

Email regarding chimney fires – placed on website

15. FINANCE

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

	<u>Incl. VAT</u>	<u>Excl. VAT</u>
Mr M Cooper re-imburement.....	£108.70 (EF)	£99.34
Commercial Services Trading Ltd.....	£870.01	£725.01
Cory Environmental (May & June).....	£9.60	£8.00
Streetlights.....	£95.70	£79.75
PKF Littlejohn LLP.....	£120.00	£100.00
Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00	N/A
Mr R Kemp.....	£40.00	N/A
Mrs H Cullingworth (reimbursement).....	£15.54	£12.95
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£383.26	N/A
Expenses.....	£16.20	N/A
E-on DD Aug.....	£20.51	£19.53
E-on DD Sept.....	£20.51	£19.53

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)  
Mr L Gosbee (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr R Vernon

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), Mrs Barbara Dunn and Mrs H Gosbee.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Aldhouse, Cllr Ballantyne and Borough Cllr James Hannam.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

There were no declarations at this time.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Amendments were made to the spelling of 'Ashby' to 'Ashbee' on P1647 under the heading 'Dog Waste Sack Dispenser' and from 'in Dig Dog Lane' to 'at Bettenham' on Page 1649 under the heading 'Road Report – General'. Following the amendments it was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes of the September meeting.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Village Clean Up Day:

Cllr Staples felt the clean up went well and believed carrying out the exercise twice in one year was beneficial. Cllr Croucher understood that Cllr Ballantyne would be placing a message in the Parish Magazine to thank those volunteers who helped on the day.

Dog Waste Sack Dispenser:

Cllr Croucher reported that she had not had to refill the dispenser since the first time. Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that despite the sacks she had still seen dog waste left on the field.

Councillors Open Session:

Cllr Staples shared a poster that he had made advertising the event which would be displayed at various points around the village. Cllr Staples suggested having display boards at the event to include information about the Parish Council and what they do. It was agreed this was a good idea. Cllr Staples asked Councillors to each send him a head and shoulders photo to be placed on the board. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Cllr Holden and Cllr Hannam inviting them both to attend the event.

Waste Bin – Play Area:

The Clerk had ordered the waste bin. Cllr Croucher would ask Mr Ashbee if he could attach it to the Play Area fencing. Cllr Gosbee and Richard were thanked for removing the post and concrete plinth from the play area and returning the area to grass so promptly following the installation. Cllr Staples remarked at how much the Cllrs and volunteers do for the village, saving costs.

Play Area:

The Clerk had inspected the damaged side panel on the slide and informed Councillors that to purchase a new panel for the small amount of damage caused would be expensive. Cllr Croucher volunteered to speak to Mr Ashbee to ask him if he could smooth the sharp edge of the broken corner. This was agreed.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Landscape Services who confirmed they would be cutting the Laundry Lane hedge in October. Cllr Staples suggested thinking of alternative solutions to this problem.

Facebook:

No update had been received from Cllrs Aldhouse and Ballantyne. It was agreed that before the system went live all content should be agreed by the Parish Council. The Clerk suggested that a Media Policy be adopted if the Council would be using Facebook. However, it was agreed that as the site would be used for information only and would not be interactive this would not be necessary.

Amenity Vehicle:

Cllr Staples noted that Cllr Holden had written to TWBC asking for the charge to be imposed on Parish Councils to be abandoned. Cllrs agreed that they would not want to lose the service but were unhappy about the charges. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed that the Clerk should write to TWBC informing them of this decision.

Residential Break-Ins:

Cllr Staples reported that had spoken to PC Lee Jules who offered the opinion that public CCTV cameras would not be necessary in the village. Cllr Vernon reiterated his suggestion to ask the opinion of residents on this matter at the Councillors Open Session.

Cllr Croucher had spoken with Sean Croucher regarding Neighbourhood Watch. Although a meeting had not taken place Mr Croucher is observant of activity in the village.

Speed Watch:

Cllr Croucher confirmed that the grant application had been submitted. No decision had been received to date. The Clerk had been in contact with Sandhurst Clerk and the grant application form from Cllr Holden had been received. This will be completed following the decision from Kent People's Trust.

Road Report:

Cllr Cullingworth had reported the uneven footpath surface to Kent Highways. The area outside the school had since been repaired. The footpath adjacent to the noticeboard had been marked in white paint but would require greater work. It was noted that the refuse vehicle mounted the pavement in this location when turning around in the village. The Clerk is to write to TWBC advising them of this and to request that the refuse lorry complete the manoeuvre where there is less chance of causing damage. The Clerk confirmed she had written to the Primary School regarding parents parking their cars in the vicinity of the school. Cllr Staples asked Barbara Dunn, Memorial Hall Chairman, if the Hall car park could be used during school collection and drop off. Mrs Dunn replied that this was perfectly acceptable as long as cars weren't left on site if parking was required for Hall hirers.

Correspondence – KALC:

The Clerk confirmed she had attended the Transparency Code Workshop. Due to the extra workload imposed by the code, a contribution from DCLG towards set up costs could be applied for by Parish Councils. The Clerk would complete the application form.

**5. AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Cllr Staples reported that he and Barbara Dunn had recently attended an event at which Community Land Trust made a presentation on Affordable Housing. A talk from Homes and Community Agency also took place. Cllr Staples stated that although there had been disappointments over the last few years in finding a suitable site, he believed the Parish Council should revisit the issue again as certain planning restrictions had been relaxed. Councillors agreed that the matter should be reviewed. An assessment for local demand would be the first step. The Clerk would contact ACRK to ask for any assistance they could offer. Cllr Staples confirmed that at present the Community Right to Buy did not apply to those communities with less than 3000 inhabitants.

**6. ANNUAL BUDGET**

The Clerk distributed a draft budget to all Councillors. Following an in depth discussion it was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Gosbee and agreed unanimously to increase the precept from £8,800 to £10,000. This was in part due to there being no increase for the past five years; the steady increase of costs; the expected charge to retain the Amenity Vehicle; and the suggestion by

TWBC for parishes to make an annual contribution towards moving gypsy's from unauthorised encampments.

**7. PARKING IN FRITTENDEN**

The Clerk had received a letter from a resident regarding poor parking at the Mill Lane/ Headcorn Road/The Street junction. Parked cars are causing a hazardous obstruction when turning both into and out of Mill Lane. After much discussion it was agreed to invite the Kent Highways Steward, Emma Pavitt, to visit the village to offer her opinion of the measures that could be introduced to prevent obstructive parking at the junction. The Clerk would write to the resident informing him of this action.

**8. HEADCORN AIRFIELD CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

Cllr Gosbee confirmed his attendance at a meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015. A planning application had been submitted to move the fence and demolish some older buildings to create more space. The new war museum would be erected this winter. It was noted that the summer events went well. A Dove airplane had been acquired. Ashford Valley Hunt would return in the spring and there would also be a Southern Models display. Fewer events are planned for next year. Cllr Gosbee had asked if the Shoreham air disaster would be likely to have an effect. Mr Freeman was confident that it wouldn't affect the running of Headcorn. The next meeting would be on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Cllr Staples asked Councillors if they had been made aware of any complaints regarding aircraft flying over the village. No complaints had been received.

**9. ROAD REPORT**

A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Cllr Aldhouse was not present and no report had been received.

General:

Cllr Gosbee reported that TWBC had removed a considerable amount of fly tipping. Potholes had been repaired throughout the village and all salt bins had been refilled. A new salt bin had been placed in Mill Lane. Cllr Cullingworth had requested a salt bin at Brookwood Corner but Highways had turned down the request. Matthew Robinson had offered to move the salt bin at Bettenham onto the concrete plinth. The large salt bag would be moved to Brookwood Corner. Cllr Gosbee would ask Emma Pavitt if an ice warning sign could be placed at the Brookwood bend. The manhole covers opposite the school have been levelled.

**10. PLANNING**

Applications:

15/507928      **Birch Barn, Green Lane** – Part retrospective application for conversion of barn to dwelling, replacement of existing Dutch barn with new 3 bay detached garage with lean-to mower store and space above for game room and home office, to be ancillary to the main dwellinghouse Birch Barn (revised scheme of 15/501214)

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to recommend APPROVAL.

KCC/TW/0341/2015      **Knoxbridge Farm, Cranbrook Road** – Section 73 application to vary condition 3 of planning permission TW/15/504981 to allow the consented anaerobic digester to also process chicken manure from other Fridays' farms

Councillors expressed their disappointment that this variation wasn't included in the original application, as the performance of the Digester and the amount of chicken manure available on the site would have been known at this time. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously to recommend Approval.

15/507019      **Annexe Gordon Cottages, 1 Cranbrook Road** – Lawful Development Certificate (Proposed): Use of storage room as living accommodation.

Noted by Councillors

Decisions:

15/505902      **2 Folly Cottages, Mill Lane** – Erection of outbuilding as secure garden shed, logstore, home office/utility room

Permission GRANTED.

15/506412      **Birch Barn, Green Lane** – Revised scheme of 15/501214 conversion of barn to dwelling, replacement of existing Dutch barn with new building to provide garage, gym, game room, store room and home office, to be ancillary to the main dwellinghouse.

WITHDRAWN

15/506624      **Tolehurst Farm, Knoxbridge** – Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 9 (junction layouts) of application reference 13/01965 for the replacement of 7 existing poultry buildings with 2 new poultry buildings, together with associated landscaping and amendments to access. Proposed variation to provide for altered arrangements at junctions 3 and 4

Permission GRANTED.

15/506766      **Chanceford Cottage, Sand Lane** – Variation of conditions 3 and 4 of 11/01951 (Conversion of double garage with games room above into holiday let accommodation) – to have 6 weeks extended to 5 months.

Permission GRANTED

Correspondence:

DCLG Consultation – Planning and Travellers:

Cllr Vernon informed Councillors of a consultation on proposed changes to national planning policy for traveller sites to ensure that the planning system applies fairly and equally to both the settled community and travellers. Cllr Vernon suggested the Parish Council write to MBC asking them how they expect to deal with the new Government policy. This was agreed with a copy to be forwarded to Staplehurst Parish Council.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

TWBC:

Following the Parish Chairman's meeting a letter was sent to parishes to consider a contribution of around £500 towards a fund to deal with unauthorised encampments by travellers, and to reflect this in the precept. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously to enter into the scheme but for further discussion to be entered into with regards to weighting the contribution by population.

Amy Wichall – Frittenden Primary School:

A letter asking for suggestions for 15 children to be involved in activities relating to a community awareness event to take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: It was agreed that the Clerk should respond suggesting leaf clearing on The Paddock footpath; gathering fallen wood and leaves at the Burial Ground; and planting bulbs in the wall on the footpath boundary at the rear of the school.

KALC:

Invitation to AGM 21<sup>st</sup> November 2015

Local Boundary Commission:

Consultation re Sevenoaks

12. FINANCE

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

	<u>Incl. VAT</u>	<u>Excl. VAT</u>
Cory Environmental (Aug & Sept).....	£19.20	£16.00
Broxap (Litter Bin).....	£88.80	£74.00
Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00	N/A
HMRC.....	£72.40	N/A
D A Jenkins Salary.....	£310.86	N/A
Expenses.....	£16.20	N/A
E-on DD Oct.....	£19.85	£18.90

Income: TWBC receipt for £4400.00 being second part of precept.

Councillors agreed to transfer the sum of £1260 from the reserve account to the current account to pay for the new noticeboard.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)  
Mr L Gosbee (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs K Ballantyne  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk), Adam Osborn (Community Warden), Cllr Sean Holden, Cllr James Hannam (arrived during Item 5) & Mrs Hazel Gosbee

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Aldhouse and Vernon.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

Cllrs Staples and Croucher declared an interest in Item 6, Donations to FPCC and Hospice in The Weald respectively.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Waste Bin – Play Area:

Mr Ashbee had agreed to attach the bin to the Play Area fencing. Cllr Croucher would supply the fixings.

Play Area:

Cllr Croucher confirmed that Mr Ashbee had filed down the splintered edge of the slide and replaced the plastic cap over the bolt hole at the top of the slide.

Cllr Gosbee proposed the Council thank Mr Ashbee for all his help by funding a modest lunch for him and his partner at the Bell and Jorrocks. This was agreed by all.

Laundry Lane hedge had been cut.

Facebook:

Cllr Ballantyne reported that no progress had been made to date as she and Cllr Aldhouse had not yet managed to meet. Cllr Staples requested that before the page goes into the public domain a proposal is presented to Councillors. Cllr Ballantyne would bring her laptop with her proposal to the next meeting. James Tuke had written to the Clerk suggesting that more use could be made of the Parish website. The Clerk and Chairman had arranged to meet James Tuke on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Cllr Staples informed Councillors that the Clerk had suggested writing a Media Policy. A pro-forma will be obtained.

Speed Watch:

Cllr Croucher had spoken to Guy Rollinson as there had been no reply from Kent People's Trust regarding the grant application. Guy Rollinson believed that it was probable that the request had been unsuccessful. The Clerk had since completed the KCC Members' Grant for the whole amount, £1950, in a joint application with Sandhurst PC. This would be sent to KCC this week. Adam Osborne confirmed that PCSO Lee Jules would be carrying out a Speed Watch session in the village next week. Cllr Croucher would liaise with Lee Jules.

Road Report:

The Clerk had contacted TWBC regarding the refuse lorry damaging the footpath adjacent to the notice board. The letter had been forwarded to the Contractor by TWBC but no further update had been received. The Clerk would chase.

Correspondence – KALC:

The Clerk confirmed she had completed the application form applying for costs towards meeting the requirements for greater transparency for smaller councils.

Affordable Housing:

The Clerk reported that TWBC had confirmed to ACRK that they would be willing to fund a housing needs survey in the parish. A meeting between Councillors and Tess O'Sullivan Rural Housing Enabler at ACRK and Sarah Lewis at TWBC is to be arranged.

Annual Budget:

The Clerk distributed an updated budget for 2016/2017. It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed to include a transfer of £1000 from the reserve to the current account.

Parking in Frittenden:

Cllr Gosbee had spoken with Highways Steward Emma Pavitt and would chase a meeting date with her.

Planning Correspondence:

The Clerk is to confer with Cllr Vernon regarding the Planning and Travellers DCLG consultation.

Correspondence:

Cllr Staples confirmed that the Primary School had been involved in some leaf and wood clearing and had also visited Larchmere. He had suggested to the teacher that advanced warning be given if the event is to be held again.

Cllr Staples confirmed that he would be attending the KALC AGM on 21<sup>st</sup> November.

**5. COUNCILLORS OPEN SESSION FEEDBACK**

Cllr Staples noted that not many residents had attended but he was pleased that Cllrs Hannam and Holden had been present. The main issues raised were a requirement for housing for the elderly; transport; security cameras; Facebook use; ground works at Ferrers, Sand Lane. It was confirmed that housing for the elderly had not been investigated by the Parish Council in the past. This is a housing need that is not met and could possibly be addressed by way of a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Holden informed Councillors that a Neighbourhood Plan protects and lends weight to decide where housing would be sited in a village/town. Cllr Staples asked Councillors if the Parish Council wished to explore the advantages of a Parish Plan/Neighbourhood Plan. The negatives would be resources and cost. It was suggested the Clerk speak to the Clerk of Benenden PC who she believed were about to embark on a Neighbourhood Plan. The issue of public transport had been actively visited by the previous Council but despite various attempts to have a bus route detour through the village there had been no support for this from the bus companies. Cllr Staples reported that the owner of Ferrers had contacted him soon after the Open Session and had informed him that a planning application for a dwelling on the site would be submitted imminently and that the damaged verge would be returned to its previous condition following completion of the works.

Councillors generally felt the Open Session went well and agreed that this should be an annual event.

**6. DONATIONS**

Councillors evaluated the list of recipients and after some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and resolved to make the following donations under s137:

Citizens Advice Bureau	£100	Kent Air Ambulance	£100
Frittenden Parochial Church Council	£350	Hospice in the Weald	£75
Frittenden Pre School	£50	Kent Youth	£30
Frittenden Primary School	£100	Kenward Trust	£100
Frittenden Youth Club	£100	Royal British Legion	£50
Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital	£50	Samaritans	£50
High Weald Academy Farm	£50	Victim Support	£25

The Clerk suggested that a policy be written to deal with the system for making donations. Councillors agreed to look into this in early January 2016.

## 7. NEXT YEAR'S MEETING DATES

The Clerk had previously circulated draft meeting dates for 2016. The following dates were agreed:

Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May (APA)	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	

The Clerk would book the Memorial Hall accordingly.

## 8. ROAD REPORT

### A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

Cllr Croucher confirmed that no meeting had taken place.

Cllr Holden reported that the Police had stated that they would not reduce the speed limit on the road to 50mph as the survey results concluded the natural speed was 47mph. Due to the variations in speed restrictions between Willesley Pound and Knoxbridge, Cllr Holden wished to visit this section of the road with a Highways Officer to appreciate the issues. He would then request a further survey.

### General:

Cllr Gosbee reported that Matthew Robinson had kindly moved one salt bag onto the plinth at Bettenham. The second bag was too rotten to move to Brookwood. The salt would be moved using alternative means. Cllr Holden had spoken with Earl Bourner, Highways District Manager, with regard to erecting an ice warning sign at Brookwood bend but had been told there were no resources for this. However, Cllr Holden agreed to pursue this matter after hearing from Councillors of the dangers of ice on the road in this area. Cllr Gosbee stated that large amounts of rubble had been dumped in Dig Dog Lane.

## 9. PLANNING

### Applications:

15/508672      **Ponds Farm Land & Buildings, Biddenden Road** – Prior Notification for the change of use of agricultural buildings to two dwelling houses

Noted by Councillors

15/508967      **Street Farm Oast, Cranbrook Road** – Conservation area notification to 2no. Silver Birch – fell, 2no. Goat Willow – fell, 1no. Prunus – fell

Noted by Councillors

### Decisions:

15/507928      **Birch Barn, Green Lane** – Part retrospective application for conversion of barn to dwelling, replacement of existing Dutch barn with new 3 bay detached garage with lean-to mower store and space above for game room and home office, to be ancillary to the main dwellinghouse Birch Barn (revised scheme of 15/501214)

Permission GRANTED

Correspondence:

There was none.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr Gosbee had received a letter from a resident requesting that the mini football nets be either removed from the field or made safe following an incident late at night when her dog had got caught up in the net. Councillors commented that this was an unfortunate incident. The Clerk is to respond accordingly.

Frittenden C of E Primary School:

From the Head of School in reply to the Parish Council's letter regarding parking in the school area.

Cllr Hannam reported that allegedly an agreement had been reached at the TWBC Parish Chairman's meeting for parishes to make a contribution towards the amenity vehicle. However, it seems that the future of the vehicle was not discussed fully at TWBC Full Council meeting. Cllr Holden stated that both Benenden and Cranbrook Parish Council's are strongly opposed to paying for the service. Cllr Holden said this amounts to double taxation and he is to raise this issue with the Council. Cllr Holden suggested that all rural villages should get together on this matter as it was a case of TWBC not understanding the rural areas.

Cllr Hannam reported that at a recent meeting of the Joint Transportation Board the possibility of bringing in a 20mph speed restriction in urban and village centres was discussed. A working group to explore whether to agree a policy has been initiated. Cllr Hannam would pursue this matter.

Cllr Holden informed Councillors on the progress to alter the junction with the A229 and Waterloo Road, Cranbrook to be funded by his Member's Grant. The new scheme, to extend the pavement and tarmac the road in a different surface to take the natural flow of the traffic onto the A229 rather than through Cranbrook, will hopefully be implemented in the spring of 2016.

Cllr Holden mentioned that his bee campaign, to increase the bee habitat and to produce local honey for local people, would hopefully become part of the KCC Environment Strategy.

**11. FINANCE**

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

	<u>Incl. VAT</u>	<u>Excl. VAT</u>
Cory Environmental (Refuse collection)	£9.60	£8.00
A Coney (WW1 Memorial Board amendments)	£255.00	N/A
NALC (Local Councils Explained Ref Book)	£54.99	N/A
SLCC (Local Council Administration Ref Book)	£72.30	N/A
TWBC (Election expenses)	£1291.65	N/A
KALC (Transparency Workshop attendance)	£36.00	£6.00
Frittenden Memorial Hall.....	£15.00	N/A
D A Jenkins (Clerk's Salary & Expenses)	£339.53	N/A
E-on DD Oct.....	£20.51	£19.53

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The Clerk reported that via Staplehurst Parish Council she had been invited to study for a professional CiLCA qualification, to become a qualified Clerk. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and resolved to support the Clerk and contribute towards a quarter of the total funding costs. The Clerk thanked Councillors for their support.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)  
Mr L Gosbee (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs K Ballantyne (arrived during Item 4)  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr R Vernon

In attendance: Mrs D Jenkins (Clerk) & Mrs Hazel Gosbee.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Aldhouse and Cllr James Hannam.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)

There were none.

**3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Waste Bin – Play Area:

Cllr Croucher confirmed the waste bin had been erected on the Play Area fencing.

Play Area:

It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon and agreed unanimously to purchase a voucher for £30 from the Bell and Jorrocks to thank Mr Ashbee for erecting the bins and making the required repairs to the play equipment. Cllr Croucher is to organise this.

Facebook:

Cllr Staples reported that he and the Clerk had met with James Tuke to discuss the website and how to use it more effectively. A number of ideas were suggested including a village calendar and a link to the various village organisations. Cllr Staples suggested Councillors view other parish websites and put forward any suggestions to improve Frittenden Parish Council website.

Cllr Ballantyne, who arrived at the meeting during the item, reported that she had not met with Cllr Aldhouse and, therefore, no progress had been made with originating a Facebook page. It was agreed that Cllr Ballantyne would progress the matter herself and present to Councillors at either the January or February meeting.

Speed Watch:

Cllr Croucher had been unable to speak to PCSO Lee Jules before he carried out the speed check but will request feedback from him.

Road Report:

The Clerk had not received a response from Cory Environmental to date and would chase TWBC further. It was suggested Cllr James Hannam be contacted to chase this on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Gosbee asked if a sign could be erected adjacent to the notice board prohibiting large vehicles from turning at the entrance to the field. The landowner would have to be contacted before this was agreed.

Affordable Housing:

A meeting with Tess O’Sullivan from ACRK and Sarah Lewis from TWBC would take place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am at Frittenden Memorial Hall. Cllr Cullingworth offered her apologies as she had to work on this day.

Parking in Frittenden:

Cllr Gosbee confirmed he had spoken with Highways Steward Emma Pavitt who had informed him that parking was not her responsibility. The Clerk suggested the Parking Enforcement team at TWBC should be contacted for advice.

Planning Correspondence:

Cllr Vernon had written a proposed letter to MBC regarding the Government policy changes on Travellers. It was agreed to send this to the Chief Executive of MBC with a copy to Staplehurst Parish Council.

Correspondence:

The Chairman reported that he had recently attended the Chairman’s meeting where he raised the issue of a £500 contribution from parishes towards the Amenity Vehicle. He felt he was treated very casually by the Leader of the Council Cllr David Jukes and felt very disillusioned by the matter.

**5. IDEAS FOR CELEBRATING THE QUEEN’S 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**

Cllr Staples informed Members that the Queen’s official birthday celebrations would take place over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016. At the Parish Chairman’s meeting he had been informed that some funding would be available from TWBC to assist with organised celebratory events. Cllr Staples asked if Councillors wished to hold a village event. This was agreed with enthusiasm. The Chairman suggested that Councillors be given time to think about how the village should mark the occasion, and that a meeting be held in January, to include representatives from all the village organisations, with a group set up to organise the event. Cllr Staples would provisionally book the village marquees for that weekend. He confirmed the Church would like to be involved and would support any event. Cllr Staples would investigate the availability of the Memorial Hall for a meeting and contact the various village groups. Cllr Cullingworth believed Mr Mike Fitzgerald may be interested in helping with the organisation.

**6. ROAD REPORT**

A229 Speed reduction Campaign:

As nothing was happening on this at present it was agreed to remove the item from the agenda until further required.

General:

Cllr Gosbee reported that Highways Steward Emma Pavitt had looked at the Mill Lane junction sight lines and had issued a notice to the owners of ‘Poplars’ giving them one month to cut their hedge. However, she was unable to advise on the matter of parked cars. The salt has not yet been moved to Brookwood Corner but will be completed before Christmas. Cllr Gosbee confirmed that he would be obtaining and erecting the village Christmas tree next week.

**7. PLANNING**

Applications:

15/509900      **Street Farm Oast, Cranbrook Road** – Single-storey kitchen extension, entrance porch and detached garage with log stores

Councillors felt that the proposal was in keeping with the existing property and had little or no impact on the neighbouring properties.

For this reason they wished to see the application APPROVED.

15/509966 **Ferrers, Sand Lane** – Replacement oak framed house and detached garage

*Cllr Staples closed the meeting and invited the applicant, who arrived at this time, to speak with regard to the application. Cllr Staples re-opened the meeting.*

Cllr Vernon raised concerns that part of the documentation was missing. The proposed dwelling had been sited in the same position as the original dwelling. However, it was a much larger building, although the visual impact seemed minimal on the lane due to the angle. Councillors agreed to defer their decision until the missing Design and Access Statement had been received. It was agreed to email the Clerk as the deadline for comments was due before the next meeting date.

Decisions:

15/507019 **Annexe Gordon Cottages, 1 Cranbrook Road** – Lawful Development Certificate (Proposed): Use of storage room as living accommodation.

Permission APPROVED.

15/508967 **Street Farm Oast, Cranbrook Road** – Conservation area notification to 2no. Silver Birch – fell, 2no. Goat Willow – fell, 1no. Prunus – fell.

TWBC raises NO OBJECTION.

Correspondence:

There was none.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr Vernon had received an email from a resident of Mill Lane concerned with the dangers of the egress from Mill Lane onto the Headcorn Road. This issue, which had been visited by the Parish Council over a number of years, was recently raised by another resident and the current Council had been speaking to various authorities on the matter. After much discussion it was agreed that Cllr Vernon would seek advice from TWBC and KCC about the matter. Cllr Vernon would reply to the resident's letter accordingly.

TWBC:

Consultation on Revised Statement of Community Involvement re planning - (Cllr Vernon to review).

Cllr Vernon reported that he had been looking at various parish Neighbourhood Plans. If the Parish Council decided to proceed with this they would need to work closely with TWBC. Cllr Staples believed a NP could be a good thing in preventing any unwanted development as well as deciding where wanted development would go. It was decided to proceed with the Affordable Housing survey in the first instance.

The Counselling Centre:

Donation request – it was decided that as the donations had already been authorised for this year the request would have to wait until the following year.

**9. FINANCE**

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Croucher and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

	<u>Incl. VAT</u>	<u>Excl. VAT</u>
Commercial Services Trading (grass/hedge cutting)	£1181.65	£984.71
Stationery Express (stationery)	£19.32	£16.10
Mr L J Gosbee (grass mowing)	£50.00	N/A
Frittenden Memorial Hall (hall hire)	£15.00	N/A

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Bell & Jorrocks (tent team lunch) EF	324.50	N/A
D A Jenkins (Clerk's Salary & Expenses)	£298.50	N/A
E-on DD Nov (street lights)	£19.85	£18.90

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.13pm