

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 15th January 2019.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)
Mrs J Croucher
Ms R Riley
Mrs Heather Cullingworth
Mr Lester Gosbee

In attendance: Minute Taker - Mrs H Gosbee, and 3 members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident spoke about planning application 18/03871, 1 Buckhurst Cottages, raising concerns as a neighbour regarding the height of the extension. This was discussed further under Planning.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Vernon, Cllr Tuke, M. Rumble (Clerk)

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

Cllr Gosbee – declared an interest in planning application 18/03851, due to a family connection with the applicant.

Cllr Cullingworth – declared an interest in planning application 18/03851, due to a family connection with the applicant.

3. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

No reports received.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** by all members present that the minutes from the last council meeting on 12th December 2018 are a true and accurate record and that being the case Cllr Staples signed them. This was proposed by Cllr Riley and seconded by Cllr Gosbee.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Weald Business Park

Cllr Staples said that he had been attempting to visit Pure Foods Ltd, at the former Brickworks site, but has yet to find it open for business.

Draft Budget

Cllr Staples said that the cost of the precept for a Band D property should be published when tax base data are available from TWBC

The Annual Return is on the noticeboard, but not yet on the Parish Council website. Cllr Tuke will be asked about this.

Correspondence

Cllr Staples said that he has spoken to John King regarding the request to use the parish field for a junior football team.

6. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Croucher said that the Speedwatch equipment will be collected this weekend. More volunteers are needed. Cllr Riley suggested holding Speedwatch sessions later in the day.

7. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Cllr Staples outlined the arrangements for the Community Land Trust Event on Saturday 19th January at 2.30pm in the Memorial Hall. The guest speakers will be:

Alison Thompson from English Rural Housing,
Tessa O' Sullivan from Action with Communities in Rural Kent
Sarah Lewis from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Martin Cobb, Chairman of Shepherdswell Community Land Trust

There was a discussion regarding whether details of the preferred location for proposed affordable housing could be made public, and it was agreed to take advice on this from Alison Thompson.

Cllr Staples said that he will give an outline on the proposed housing and the Community Land Trust, then the Speakers will be invited to speak. Cllr Croucher said that she was concerned that some people are not sure of the definition of affordable housing, believing that the houses would be for sale not rent, which is not the case.

Cllr Riley asked whether it would be a good idea to put a reminder on the Frittenden Community Facebook page, explaining the definition of Affordable housing. This was agreed.

Cllr Riley said that volunteers that are needed to form the Community Land Trust steering group, with a whole range of different skills.

Cllr Staples said that the legal structure needs to be set up, with a bank account before the transaction for the purchase of the land is ready, possibly in a year or two. He said that if a CLT is not set up, safeguards will be necessary. A CLT handbook has been received.

8. MEMORIAL HALL

Cllr Riley reported that a survey on the Memorial Hall has been done, indicating a lot of updating that is needed. One priority is the rear doors of the hall. It was suggested that the survey could be used in making presentations to a potential funders.

9. PHONE BOX

Cllr Staples said that we need to make use of the Telephone Box, with the obvious possible use, a mini library. Cllr Croucher said that it is damp inside the telephone box, so might be an issue. Cllr Riley said that books are available to borrow from the shop and the Memorial Hall. Cllr Staples said that in the summer/ autumn, it was used for surplus fruit and veg that was available for anyone who wanted to help themselves. It was suggested that it could be used to display artwork from villagers.

Cllr Staples said that it would be nice if someone from the village could run the project for the Parish Council for the benefit of the village. Cllr Riley suggested contacting the person who

originally suggested the idea of making use of it. The broken windows can be repaired now that the Advent Window display has been removed.

10. ROAD REPORT - GENERAL

Cllr Gosbee reported that the new salt bin is now in place at the sharp bend at Little Brookwood, on Headcorn Road. He said that he has a few spare salt bags at Manor Farm.

He said that fly tipping at Parkwood Lane and Hare Plain Lane has been cleared, and further rubble that has been dumped at a gateway beyond Little Brookwood on Headcorn Road has been reported.

Cllr Gosbee said that numerous potholes on Biddenden Road have white marks around them to identify them for repair. There is a large pothole close to the Staplehurst Road junction that has been reported, as has the junction of Sand Lane with Dig-Dog Lane. Cllr Gosbee has spoken to Paul Catt at Highways, who has said that the ditch at the wooded area at the end of Sand Lane needs digging out, as does the ditch opposite Bourner Cottages at Dig Dog Lane. Paul Catt has said that the top bricks required to finish the repair of Buckhurst Bridge on Biddenden Road need to be ordered, then the road will need to be closed again while they are fitted.

Grandshore Lane was closed today (15th January), and repaired.

Cllr Gosbee said that he has reported a large pothole outside Lowlands in Sand Lane to KCC Highways a number of times, but they are refusing to repair it as it is caused by the large milk lorry that collects the milk from the farm, and because it is just off the highway, although it is used as a passing place for traffic. Cllr Gosbee said that he has asked whether KCC Highways would contribute towards the cost if they will not repair it. Cllr Staples said that it is contentious to blame the residents, as road safety should be ensured for reasonable use.

Cllr Croucher reported that a drain cover is missing on Headcorn Road, close to Bell View, so it is dangerous for walkers. Cllr Gosbee said that he will report it.

11. PLANNING

New Applications.

Cllr Cullingworth and Cllr Gosbee declared an interest in Application Number 18/03851, due to a family connection to the applicant, and took no part in the discussion of that application.

18/03402/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden. Retrospective: Change of land to garden, bin storage, swimming pool, brick wall enclosures with new native hedging and creation of additional access onto Staplehurst Road and associated driveway and landscaping. RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL: Proposed by Cllr Riley. Seconded by Cllr Croucher.
18/03758/FULL	Agricultural Barn at Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden. Proposed conversion of existing Dutch Barn to create a single residential dwelling and change of use of land together with new driveway and landscape/ ecological enhancement. RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL subject to: 1. It having a smaller residential curtilage (half an acre????). 2. The access road being completed before work commences.

	Proposed by Cllr Riley. Seconded by Cllr Gosbee.
18/03871/FULL	1 Buckhurst Cottages, Biddenden Road, Frittenden. Erection of extensions to west and north sides of house, plus erection of detached double garage. RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL. Proposed by Cllr Gosbee. Seconded by Cllr Croucher.
18/03650/LDCEX	Havisham House, Bell Lane, Frittenden. Lawful development application (existing). Change of use to create 2 additional dwellings. RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND NO OBJECTION. Proposed by Cllr Croucher. Seconded by Cllr Riley.
18/03807	Buckhurst Farm Buildings, Biddenden Road, Frittenden. Prior notification for the change of use of a building and land within its curtilage from an agricultural use to a use falling within Class 3 (dwellinghouses). RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL. Proposed by Cllr Cullingworth. Seconded by Cllr Gosbee.
18/03860	2 Kenwards Cottages, Bubhurst Lane, Frittenden. Prior notification for the change of use of a building and land within its curtilage from agricultural use to a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouse) and building operations reasonably necessary to convert the building. RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL. Proposed by Cllr Cullingworth. Seconded by Cllr Croucher.
18/03830/COUNTY	Knoxbridge Farm, Knoxbridge, Frittenden. Consultation from KCC – Section 73 application to vary conditions 3, 4 and 5 of TW/15/508499(Anaerobic Digester) as follows – to allow 57,500 tonnes of waste throughout per annum and condition 5 to be varied to allow a maximum of 112 vehicle movements (56 in, 56 out) to and from the site each week. Cllr Staples reported that this application has already been approved.
18/03851	2 Junkyard Barn, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden. Cllr Gosbee and Cllr Cullingworth declared an interest in this application due to a family connection to the applicant, and took no part in the discussion. Change of use of an existing non-residential building to become an annex to the residential house on the land. No plans available at this time.

	RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL. Proposed by Cllr Staples. Seconded by Cllr Riley.
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12. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Cllr Staples reported that he has been contacted by residents, who live adjacent to the former Brickworks site at Dig-Dog Lane. They have raised concerns regarding noise nuisance at the site. Cllr Staples said that he will visit the business to see if there are ways to mitigate any noise nuisance.
- Cllr Staples said that he has received an email regarding a grant of £250 is available for 'Bluebird Care', for people that work with needy people over 60. The email is to be circulated.
- Cllr Staples said that the Rector of Frittenden and Sissinghurst, Revd. Fred Olney is to retire in September. He said that Revd. Olney will be replaced, and an article has been placed in the Parish Magazine.

13. FINANCE

- Payments. The following list of payments was circulated, and Cllr Gosbee proposed that they were signed, seconded by Cllr Riley.

	FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – JANUARY 2019				
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102387	£91.98	£0.00	£91.98	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Clerks expenses – January
102388	£266.89	nil	£266.89	HMRC	PAYE & NIC – January
102389	£830.86	nil	£830.86	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Clerks salary – December – January/Annual Leave owed
102390	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	GM Contract – December
102391	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall hire
102392	<i>CHEQUE</i>	<i>WRITTEN</i>	<i>INCORRECTLY</i>		
102393	£49.00	nil	£49.00	Mr A Staples	CLT Membership
102394	£35.58	£5.93	£29.65	JRB Enterprise	Dog bags
102395	£83.20	£13.86	£69.34	Biffa	Service litter bins
102396	£181.50	£30.25	£151.25	Streetlights	Repairs – Cheque 102384 lost
102397	£54.61	nil	£54.61	HMRC	NIC - February
DD0101	£29.60	£1.41	£29.19	Eon	Street lighting energy - December
TOTAL	£1,803.22	£78.12	£1,725.10		

- Donations. Decisions regarding charitable donations were postponed until the next meeting as not all of the Councillors had received the email with the details.
- Personnel – Parish Clerk's Resignation. Cllr Staples said that Clerk Michelle Rumble has tendered her resignation due to personal reasons. Thanks were recorded for her work and a card was passed around to sign and some flowers will be given to her. Cllr Staples has emailed details adverts for positions currently available. Interest had been expressed by one possible candidate and it

was resolved that Cllrs Staples and Riley interview this candidate as soon as possible. If this does not lead to a successful appointment the job will be advertised.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.42pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 19th February 2019 at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (see Item 3), Cllr Sean Holden and Mrs H Gosbee.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Riley, Cllr Hannam.

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

Cllr Staples declared an interest in Item 21 due to having a family connection with one potential recipient of a donation and being a member of another. Cllr Staples will take no part in any vote on Item 21.

3. APPOINTMENT OF NEW CLERK

Cllr Staples reported that, along with Cllr Riley, he had interviewed a candidate for the position of Clerk and recommended that the Council engage the services of Mrs Emma Nightingale with effect from 1st February 2019. It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Mrs Nightingale be so appointed.

4. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden reported that KCC would be applying a general tax increase of 2.99% with an additional 2% increase to be ring fenced for adult social care.

Cllr Holden was also pleased to announce that all employees and contractors of KCC must now receive the living wage, rather than the minimum wage.

Cllr Holden reported that Kent had benefitted from a share of a £1bn fund provided by Central Government. £29m is being applied to the costs of Brexit, to include a scheme to keep lorries off rural roads. That scheme involves the provision of lorry parks at various locations and contraflows on motorways to avoid large sections of the M20 being closed, as is currently the case with Operation Stack. Enforcement action will be taken by KCC against lorries parked up illegally, with the maximum fine for this being £300. Cllr Staples noted that this was pertinent to Item 6, as a lorry was currently parked up in Dig Dog Lane, almost certainly for the night.

Cllr Holden commented that KCC was spending more than ever before on highways, but that the war on potholes goes on. Cllr Staples acknowledged the huge amount of activity by KCC Highways in tackling this problem, which was much appreciated. However, he raised concern as to whether KCC was getting best value for money in circumstances where the same bit of road was subject to a series of repairs over a relatively short period of time, for example Biddenden Road. Cllr Staples also noted that Cranbrook Road had been closed for 3 days for repairs to a

stretch of road immediately adjacent to the worst affected area by Grandshore Lane. That area was eventually repaired 1 month later, but the wrong slope was applied, meaning that the road now collects water and is an ice trap. Cllr Holden offered to look into this, but it was agreed that he should await the outcome of a review meeting being held by Highways on 20th February 2019. Cllr Gosbee noted that KCC had agreed to replace faded 30mph signs on the gateways, but this had not yet been done. Cllr Holden indicated that he would follow this up with the relevant party.

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the minutes from the last council meeting on 15th January 2019 are a true and accurate record and that being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Weald Business Park

Cllr Staples reported that he was yet to visit Pure Foods Ltd because of the limited times it was open. However, he was now able to cite a specific example of a lorry being parked outside the gates, because a Bulgarian registered lorry was parked there that evening. Cllr Staples had noted the lorry's registration number and confirmed that, if he was unable to speak with Pure Foods Ltd about this issue, he would direct the Clerk to write a letter expressing the Council's concerns. Cllr Staples has had a helpful discussion with the owner of CWP Fencing. He has taken steps to reduce potential noise nuisance, such as changing from a petrol to an electric chainsaw. However, it is impractical to operate with the unit doors closed as people are constantly coming and going. The doorway is used by both vehicular and pedestrian traffic and a clear line of sight must be maintained for Health & Safety reasons. This prevents the use of a plastic curtain.

Draft Budget

Cllr Staples reported that the cost of the precept for a Band D property had risen from £39.14 to £41.91, being an increase of 7.1%. The data provided by TWBC indicated that the total tax base for Frittenden had fallen slightly since last year, even though residential accommodation had been added by the conversion of former agricultural buildings. Cllr Staples therefore instructed the Clerk to investigate why the tax base had fallen.

Cllr Staples will provide Cllr Tuke with a copy of the Annual Return displayed on the noticeboard for publication on the website.

Phone Box

In Cllr Riley's absence, Cllr Staples reported that she had followed this up but was yet to receive a response from the person who had originally suggested making use of the telephone box. Cllr Cullingworth reported that four panes of glass had been smashed. Cllr Staples expressed the hope that such vandalism would reduce if the box was put into regular use.

7. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Croucher has collected the Speedwatch equipment, but only has two sessions booked due to the lack of volunteers.

8. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Cllr Staples reported that the meeting on 19th January 2019 had been successful in drawing out a good number of people with 88 residents, c.10% of the population of Frittenden being in attendance. Cllr Staples was pleased that the principle of affordable housing was not disputed by those present, with questions being directed at issues such as what was meant by affordable housing and whether there would be commercial sales of properties built on a Rural Exception

Site. Cllr Staples has put a note of the meeting on both the website and Facebook. Hard copies of that note have also been placed in the Pub, the church and the shop. Since the meeting, Alison Thompson of English Rural Housing has sent Heads of Terms to the landowner of the Cranbrook Road site and is awaiting a response.

9. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Cllr Vernon reported that a steering group had been formed to take the CLT forward and it had met on 7th February 2019. In addition to Cllr Vernon, the members of the steering group are Mark Corti, Jane Hagell, Paul Brown, Hilde Chapple, Stewart Hagerty and Nick Bull.

The steering group agreed to use the registration service provided by Wessex Community Assets and, following consideration of the different forms of legal entity that could be used to establish the CLT, they agreed to form a Community Benefit Society (CBS). However, without funding, there was little more the group could do at that time.

A Community Led Housing Fund opened on 15th February 2019 and Cllr Vernon has submitted an application for funding in relation to the initial £500 fixed costs to be paid to Wessex Community Assets. It will take 4 to 6 weeks for that application to be processed. Any funding received will be paid to the Council, being the most appropriate entity to hold those funds until such time as the CBS is in place. Cllr Staples confirmed that any such funds received into the Council's bank account will be ringfenced and held in trust.

Once funding for the initial set-up costs is in place, the next step will be to hold another public meeting, being the first Annual General Meeting of CBS. At that meeting, people will be invited to sign up as members of the CBS and a Board will be appointed. It will also be necessary to set up a webpage for the CBS, as it was recognised that good communication with the local community would be vital for the success of this project.

Cllr Holden indicated that KCC would be in a position to provide some funding and invited Cllr Vernon to supply him with details of all costs to be incurred in getting the CBS up and running. KCC was unable to fund legal costs, but it could assist with other costs. Cllr Staples thanked Cllr Holden for his support. Cllr Holden then then left the meeting.

10. ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Cllr Staples reported that he had invited Peter Steenhuis, Sub Divisional Commander for Tonbridge and Malling and Royal Tunbridge Wells to speak to the APA about crime. He will be accompanied by an Inspector or Sergeant from the Rural Liaison Team. They will:

- Provide a brief outline of the approach taken by Kent Police to rural policing;
- Discuss how residents can help themselves and avoid becoming the victims of crime;
- Participate in a Q&A session.

Cllr Staples will invite residents, via Facebook, to raise in advance any issues they would like to be addressed in that presentation, but the Q&A session will be open to the public in any event.

Cllr Staples suggested that it would also be useful for the APA to include an update on Affordable Housing and the Community Land Trust. Cllr Vernon agreed that a public update c.4 months on from the public meeting held in January would be appropriate.

11. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2019

The Clerk had received three quotes which were opened at the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** to award the following contracts:

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 Kent Grassland Services at £1225.00.

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 M. Ashbee at £100.

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 Kent Grassland Services at £160.00.

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 take place at the beginning of August) to Kent Grassland Services at £125.00.

CONTRACT 5 – to cut all internal vertical faces and tops of hedges within the Parish Field, and to remove all cuttings (1 cut per annum) to Kent Grassland Services at £120.00.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that the first cut in respect of Contract 3 should be carried out as early as possible in the year, because the hedge interferes with the highway if left to grow. The Clerk was instructed to include this stipulation when awarding Contract 3 to Kent Grassland Services.

12. STREET CLEANSING CONTRACT

Cllr Staples reported that Biffa had given notice that it would cease to empty the Parish Field/Burial Ground at the end of March 2019, because it would no longer be providing waste management services to TWBC after that date. Cllr Staples, therefore, authorised the Clerk to seek quotes from three reputable contractors with a proven record of providing this service and circulate details of the quotes received. Given the need to get a new contract in place quickly, and provided all members were then in agreement, the Clerk was authorised to accept the lowest quote.

Cllr Staples has obtained details of the changes that will be made to rubbish collections once the new contractor, Urbaser, takes over waste management services for TWBC. Cllr Tuke will put that information on the website and Facebook.

13. TUNBRIDGE WELLS TRANSPORT MEETING

In the absence of Cllr Riley Cllr Staples deferred this item until the next meeting.

14. TREE FOR ANNIE BULL

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that, should the family wish it and subject to the wording being agreed, the Council will fund a plaque for the tree that is to be planted on the Parish Field in memory of Annie Bull. The position and species of tree had been agreed with the Gardening Society to ensure that, when it reached maximum spread, it would remain within the boundary of the Parish Field.

15. DOG POOH BAG DISPENSER

Cllr Staples reported that bags were being taken from the dispenser at the rate of hundreds per week, which was not what was originally intended when the dispenser was installed. Cllr Staples invited members to consider whether the Council should continue to provide bags. In the meantime, he had drafted a notice to go in the Parish Magazine requesting that this resource be used sensibly. Cllr Tuke will also put that note on the Parish website and Facebook. Thereafter, it was agreed that this issue be kept under review.

A resident has expressed an interest in funding the purchase of a bag dispenser and bin to be located in Pound Hill at a suitable point near the footpath opposite Laundry Lane. The Clerk was asked to ascertain the current price of these items and Cllr Croucher was authorised to speak to

the resident again once this information was to hand. Cllr Vernon noted that it would also be necessary to carefully consider precisely where any new dispenser/bin could reasonably be sited before any decision was made on this purchase.

16. LITTER PICK

Cllr Croucher reported that this will take place on Saturday 23rd March, commencing at 9.30am meeting by the Pub. A volunteer had asked whether signs could be erected warning motorists that the litter pick was taking place. Cllr Tuke will make laminated signs to be displayed at each of the four entry points into the village and Cllr Gosbee will erect stakes at each location to which the signs can be attached.

17. WINTER RESILIENCE

Salt bins have been provided for residents to grit the roads, as they consider is necessary, in the following locations:

- The bottom of Satin's Hill on Cranbrook Road, at the junction with London Lane;
- At the end of Sand Lane, at the junction with Dig Dog Lane;
- Close to the telephone exchange on Biddenden Road, at the top of Pound Hill
- At the top of Mill Lane, at the centre of the village;
- At the School;
- At Little Brookwood on Headcorn Road.

There is also a bulk salt bag in the Memorial Hall Car park.

Cllr Staples suggested that a notice be issued at the beginning of each winter reminding residents where the bins are to ensure the salt gets used. It will also be necessary to have a supply of pure salt for use on pavements. The Clerk made a note to put this on the agenda for a meeting in the Autumn.

18. ROAD REPORT - GENERAL

Cllr Gosbee reported that Biddenden Road will be closed for 5 days from 25th February 2019 for UK Power Networks to carry out cable work.

The manhole cover just outside the gateway on Headcorn Road had now been replaced.

The chronic problem of water/ice on the road outside Ridgefield on Biddenden Road was being investigated. The source of the water needs to be identified, but it was felt that the situation might be improved if the ditch at the side of the road was made deeper. Paul Catt might approach the owner in this regard.

Coping stones for the bridge on Biddenden Road have been ordered, but it was not known when they would arrive.

Cllr Gosbee has raised the issue of the 30mph signs with KCC Highways and Cllr Holden (see Item 4)

Fly tipping in Dig Dog Lane has now been cleared.

The dropped kerb at the School has now been marked. Cllr Gosbee hopes that this work might be carried out before April. Cllr Gosbee is still trying to get a disabled bay.

The salt bin at the top of Sand Lane was empty. This will be reported.

Cllr Gosbee noted that the road just beyond the railway bridge on the Headcorn Road appeared to be about to sink. He has reported this and asked for it to be looked at as a matter of urgency.

19. PLANNING

New Applications – None

Outcome of previous applications

18/03860/PNQCLA	2 Kenwards Cottages, Bubhurst Lane, Frittenden Prior notification for change of use from agricultural to Class 3 (dwellinghouse) PRIOR APPROVAL GRANTED
18/03758/FULL	Agricultural Barn at Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Proposed conversion of existing Dutch barn to create a single residential dwelling. PERMISSION GRANTED
18/03807/PNQCLA	Buckhurst Farm Buildings, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Prior notification of change of use from agricultural to Class 3 (dwellinghouse) PRIOR APPROVAL GRANTED
18/0387/FULL	1 Buckhurst Cottages, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Erection of extension and double garage PERMISSION GRANTED
18/03650/LDCEX	Havisham Hall, Bell Lane, Frittenden Lawful Development Application (existing) – Change of use to create 2 additional dwellings APPLICATION REFUSED
18/02181/FULL	Balcombe Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Submission of details re planning conditions. APPLCIATION PERMITTED

Planning appeals

17/502997/FULL – Maplehurst Paddock, Frittenden Road – Appeal will be heard on 12th March 2019. Cllr Vernon has submitted comments which will be considered by the Planning Inspector.

20. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The Council has been asked if it will run the Fun Run, to take place on Easter Monday, again this year, with Rob Addis as the Event Organiser. This event will be raising funds for the Memorial Hall. The Clerk was asked to speak with the Insurance Broker to ascertain whether the Council’s Insurers (who have changed since last year) have any requirements in addition to the completion of a Risk Assessment. An additional premium of £56 was payable last year to cover this event and it was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Clerk should arrange to insure it this year under the Council’s Policy, provided any additional premium did not exceed the above sum by more than £10.
- It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Janet Croucher, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Mrs Emma Nightingale, as the new Clerk to the Parish Council, be named as the point of contact and “Proper Officer” in respect of the Council’s bank accounts.

21. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Croucher, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – FEBRUARY 2019					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102398	£73.32	£1.76	£71.56	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerks expenses – February
102399	£107.82	nil	£107.82	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerks salary – February
102400	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	GM Contract – January
102401	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall hire
102402	£41.60	£6.93	£34.67	Biffa	Service litter bins - January
102403	£115.50	£19.25	£96.25	Streetlights	Repairs – January
102404	£35.58	£5.93	£29.65	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog bags
DD0101	£32.06	£1.53	£30.53	Eon	Street lighting energy - January
TOTAL	£585.88	£62.07	£523.81		

- It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** (Cllr Staples abstained) to make the following donations:

Kent Air Ambulance	£100.00
Victim Support	£25.00
High Weald Academy School Farm	£50.00
Tunbridge Wells Citizen Advice Bureau	£100.00
Frittenden Parochial Church Council	£350.00
West Kent YMCA (Frittenden Youth Club)	£30.00
Samaritans	£50.00
Relate	£50.00
Hospice in the Weald	£75.00
Frittenden Pre-School	£50.00
Frittenden School	£100.00
Hawkhurst Community League of Friends - Cottage Hospital	£100.00
Kenward Trust	£100.00
Royal British Legion	£50.00
Total	£1230.00

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.29pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 19th March 2019 at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: The Clerk - Mrs E Nightingale, Cllr Sean Holden, Mrs H Gosbee and 10 members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident raised concerns about parked vehicles at the end of Mill Lane restricting visibility at the junction with Biddenden Road. Cllr Vernon confirmed that such parking was contrary to the Highway Code, but that Kent County Council was unwilling to take action because no accidents had been registered at that site. Another resident asked whether a sign could be erected warning that parking there endangered lives. Cllr Staples directed that this suggestion be put on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Riley

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

None

6. VILLAGE SHOP

Cllr Staples promoted this item as it was of primary interest to the members of the public in attendance.

Cllr Staples expressed the Council's gratitude for everything done by Mrs Eileen Bridges over the past 12 years. A presentation would take place at the Shop at noon on 30th March 2019, being the last day before Mrs Bridges' retirement.

Cllr Staples noted that a village without a shop, bus route, reliable mobile reception and fast broadband was officially classed as deprived re: Connectivity and Communication. The Parish Council therefore sought to test the waters as to whether there was any enthusiasm for some sort of community shop facility and, if there was, encourage the formation of a Steering Group. The view from the members of public in attendance was that a community shop would be of considerable benefit to the village, but that there were many issues to be considered, such as the form and location of that facility, how it would be managed and whether there would be sufficient numbers of volunteers to staff it.

Mr Mike Fitzgerald reported that, along with Cllrs Staples and Gosbee, he had met with one of the founding members of the Benenden Community Shop and had formed the impression that the

project had become a great success due to the huge amount of effort made by a small number of people in getting it off the ground, and the fact that it was used as a community hub.

Cllr Holden noted that he had been involved in that project and KCC had been able to provide some funding. However, what was key to its success was the enthusiasm of the village as a whole, with a large number of residents investing their own money through buying shares and their time through volunteering at the shop and/or café.

A question was raised as to whether the Memorial Hall and a community shop might be combined in any future rebuilding or refurbishment scheme and it was agreed that this was something to consider. However, in the first instance, a Steering Group needed to be formed to undertake research and a feasibility study. Mrs Judith Addis, Mr Nick Bull, Mr Mike Fitzgerald, Cllr Gosbee and Mr Gill Baker agreed to form that Group and Cllr Staples reported that Cllr Riley also expressed an interest in participating.

A resident asked whether any facilities would be available for those who relied on the Village Shop after it closed. Cllr Croucher advised that there was a bus service which would collect those unable to access public transport, but this had to be booked and paid for in advance. Cllr Staples also noted that a number of residents provided lifts in the local area, particularly through the Ring a Friend in Frittenden Scheme. Contact information for that scheme was published in the Parish Magazine, but Cllr Staples agreed that more should be done to publicise the services that were available. Mrs Judith Addis agreed to coordinate getting relevant information to residents and it was suggested that, if Mrs Bridges agreed, a notice could be put in the Shop window.

3. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden reported that he had attended a meeting of the Environment & Transport Committee, who had recommended that an attempt to deprive Parish Councils of their vote via a representative be rejected.

Cllr Holden also reported that the HGV Group's aim of getting lorries off rural roads was progressing. It had met with both the Department of Transport and the Chief Inspector of the Transport Division of Kent Police, because enforcement powers needed to be transferred from the Police to Local Councils, but progress in that regard was slow.

Cllr Holden again suggested that funding was available for the £500 set up costs of the CLT and requested that Cllr Vernon re-send his email in that regard.

Cllr Holden noted that KCC was undertaking a review of rural transport. He will report to that review what had been said under item 6 about the lack of public transport in Frittenden.

Cllr Holden had attended an exhibition setting out the work of Wellbeing in the Weald in Cranbrook and commended the services it provided to combat loneliness.

Cllr Holden also reported that KCC was working on a pollinator strategy called Plan Bee.

16. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Staples progressed this item for the convenience of Cllr Holden.

Cllr Gosbee noted that the fly tipping on Dig Dog Lane/Bettenham Lane had been reported. Dig Dog Lane had been resurfaced and Cllr Gosbee hoped that this repair would last given the number of large lorries which go down the lane.

KCC had dropped the kerb outside the School but was yet to install a corresponding dropped kerb on the other side of the road. Cllr Holden requested that Cllr Gosbee send him an email and he will see what he can do to get this done. Cllr Cullingworth thanked all concerned for getting the kerb outside of the School dropped.

Cllr Gosbee had requested that all gullies and manholes be sucked and had been advised that this should get attention within 28 days.

No progress had been made in getting coping stones installed on the bridge on Biddenden Road.

No progress had been made in getting the 30 mph signs replaced. Cllr Holden noted that the relevant people had been on holiday, but this should be actioned on their return.

White lines had been painted at the junction with Grandshore Lane, but the area where water collects had yet to be repaired.

Cllr Holden reported that East Kent had run a successful clamping pilot against unlawfully parked lorries. This could therefore be rolled out across other areas in due course.

Cllr Holden then left the meeting.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the minutes from the last council meeting on 19th February 2019 are a true and accurate record and that being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Tax Base

The Clerk reported that calculation of the tax base took into account the number of households claiming a discount. Accordingly, if the number of discounts claimed increased from the previous year, the tax base would reduce, even if the number of taxable residences remained the same.

Phone Box

Cllr Staples reported that the phone box was now weatherproof following repairs. Cllr Vernon expressed the hope that it would be respected if money was spent to put it back into use, but was concerned that limited security would, in practice, restrict the level of that expenditure and the uses to which it could be put. Ms Stephanie Andrews volunteered to look into potential uses and suggested that it could replace the role currently played by the shop as an exchange for information/services following the 'Pay it Forward' model. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Ms Andrews be authorised to work up ideas to be considered at another meeting and Cllr Staples expressed the Council's thanks to Ms Andrews.

Tree for Annie Bull

The tree will be planted at 2.15pm on 6th April 2019.

Dog pooh bag dispenser

The Council gratefully accepted a donation of £110 to fund the purchase and erection of a new dispenser at the bin end of the War Memorial.

Litter Pick

Cllr Croucher noted that, as the sponsor of National Clean Up Week, Coca Cola was providing litter picking equipment to participants. Cllr Staples noted that it would be helpful if the Parish Council had access to its own litter picking equipment.

Winter resilience

Cllr Staples noted that no decision had been made as to whether a salt bin should be purchased for outside Ridgefield. Cllr Cullingworth thought that it was possible to apply to Kent County Council for them to install one and Cllr Gosbee agreed to raise this with them.

7. ELECTIONS

Cllrs Staples and Tuke had attended a presentation by TWBC and reported on the timetable for submission of nomination papers.

8. ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The APA will take place on 8th May 2019. Cllr Staples noted that, if a Community Shop Steering Group was off the ground by then, it could report to the APA.

9. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST STEERING GROUP UPDATE

Cllr Vernon reported that the Steering Group had applied for government funding and funding from KCC, but, as no funding had yet come through, they had agreed to press ahead with registration of the CLT on a self-funded basis. It was hoped that the Community Benefit Society (CBS) would be up and running as a legal entity in 3 to 4 weeks. The next step would be to hold the first public meeting of the CBS, at which the public could join as members and a board would be appointed.

10. STREET CLEANSING CONTRACT

The Clerk reported that, of the four contractors who had been invited to tender, only Urbaser had provided a quote. That quote, of £73 exc. VAT per month, was more than double what was currently being paid. As Biffa would not be emptying the litter bins after 29th March 2019, it was reluctantly proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Clerk attempt to negotiate a lower price, but accept Urbaser's quote if no reduction was forthcoming.

11. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Croucher reported that a new volunteer had been recruited and that 4 sessions had been provisionally booked for this month.

12. PARISH CHAIRMEN'S MEETING

Cllr Staples reported that progress on the Tunbridge Wells theatre complex had stalled while waiting for the Inspector's report following an appeal against certain CPOs. The Tunbridge Wells Borough Strategic Plan would be in the public domain at the end of May 2019. The regime in relation to the Code of Conduct was changing and there would be training for Parish Councils given either by the TWBC Legal Partnership or KALC. The group looking at rural broadband will be providing an update at the next meeting.

13. TUNBRIDGE WELLS TRANSPORT MEETING

Cllr Riley submitted a written report of the meeting on 7th February 2019 (attached).

14. HEADCORN AERODROME REPORT

Cllr Gosbee reported that the AGM took place on 5th March 2019. Concerns had been raised about low flying over a sand school. A meeting had taken place with the owner of the sand school and it had been agreed that pilots would be asked to divert if they spotted horses in the sand school. However, this was not always practically possible. There will be less boot fayres this year, but they were going through the application process to get 3 events streamlined. A group of 3 US Dakota planes will fly over Headcorn at around 2pm on 4th June 2019 to mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day. The Battle of Britain event will take place on 6th and 7th July 2019. Ticket prices will be increased because the event was oversubscribed last year.

The following will be aerobic free days: 4th May, 19th May, 8th June, 23rd June, 13th July, 28th July, 17th August and 25th August.

15. COMMUNITY ASSETS

Cllr Staples noted that the Bell & Jorrocks Pub had been registered as an Asset of Community Value, giving the community a right of pre-emption should the owners wish to sell the Pub. That registration expires on 30th July 2019 and it was proposed by Cllr Tuke, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be instructed to re-register. Cllr Croucher declared an interest and abstained due to a family connection.

17. PLANNING

New Applications

19/00391/FULL	Hollin Root Far, Babhurst Lane, Frittenden Conversion of barn to a two-bedroom house Proposed by Cllr Vernon Seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS NO OBJECTION
19/00035/FULL	Havisham House, Bell Lane, Frittenden Change of use from storage area to residential flat (retrospective) Proposed by Cllr Vernon Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS NO OBJECTION
19/00310/FULL	Elwell, Mill Lane, Frittenden Construction of a single storey side extension plus rooflights Proposed by Cllr Vernon Seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS NO OBJECTION

Outcome of previous applications

18/03851/FULL	2 Junkyard Barn Cottages, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Change of use of existing buildings to ancillary annex and store/carport including associated parking area PERMISSION GRANTED
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Planning appeals

17/504433/FULL – Perfect Place, Frittenden Road, Staplehurst – Appeal will be heard on 16th April 2019. Cllr Vernon has submitted comments which will be considered by the Planning Inspector.

18. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council's membership of Action with Communities in Rural Kent be renewed for 2019/2020.
- KALC Councillors Conference will take place on 18th July 2019.
- The Parish Council had been asked to comment on liaison between it and the PCSO. Cllr Staples noted that the PCSO was Lee Jules. Although he did not attend meetings of the Council, he was seen in the village and was responsive.

- The Clerk noted that the Council’s insurance policy required the playground to be inspected by a “competent person” at least once every 4 weeks. Inspections take place more frequently and should be minuted. Cllr Staples instructed the Clerk to make this a standing agenda item from month to month. The Clerk was also instructed to report at the next meeting on which external contractors might be instructed to undertake the annual inspection for 2019.
- Cllr Croucher reported that the streetlight outside Street Farm was not working.

19. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – MARCH 2019					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102405	£61.56	£0.99	£60.57	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerks expenses – March
102406	£264.86	nil	£264.86	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerks salary – March
102407	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall hire
102408	£41.60	£6.93	£34.67	Biffa	Service litter bins - February
102409	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	GM Contract - February
102410	£118.80	£19.80	£99.00	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Clerk’s training - ILCA
102411	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Kent Air Ambulance	S137 Donation
102412	£25.00	nil	£25.00	Victim Support	S137 Donation
102413	£50.00	nil	£50.00	High Weald Academy Farm	S137 Donation
102414	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Tunbridge Wells CAB	S137 Donation
102415	£350.00	nil	£350.00	Frittenden Parochial Church Council	S137 Donation
102416	£30.00	nil	£30.00	West Kent YMCA	S137 Donation
102417	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Samaritans	S137 Donation
102418	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Relate	S137 Donation
102419	£75.00	nil	£75.00	Hospice in the Weald	S137 Donation
102420	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Frittenden Pre-School	S137 Donation
102421	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Frittenden School	S137 Donation
102422	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Hawkhurst Community LoF	S137 Donation
102423	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Kenward Trust	S137 Donation
102424	CHEQUE	WRITTEN	INCORRECTLY		
102425	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Royal British Legion	S137 Donation
DD	£33.00	£1.57	£31.43	Eon	Street lighting energy - March
TOTAL	£1,929.82	£55.96	£1,873.86		

- It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to authorise the Clerk to investigate ways in which the Council’s bank accounts could be managed without having to attend in person, in light of the closure of local branches.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10pm.

Chairman’s Signature: _____

Date: _____

TWBC Transport Forum, 7th February 2019 – Notes for Frittenden Parish Council.

Roger Blake from the rail campaigning group Rail Future gave details of the matters they have been pursuing, noting first that the new franchise operator for Southeastern Trains should be announced in late February and take control on 23 June. (Since then the government has extended the current franchise to 22 June. Possibly the Transport Minister is rather busy at present.)

A new timetable is expected for 22 December 2022 – a new body called Transport For The South East is developing strategy as far ahead as 2050. This body should gain statutory status in April 2020.

Rail Futures has been campaigning for new routes to be opened up to connect Brighton with Tunbridge Wells; to connect Maidstone and Medway with Tunbridge Wells and possibly Gatwick (noting that rail links to Gatwick are not satisfactory for Kent); and via Canary Wharf to East Anglia. The Brighton route would involve reinstating the Uckfield to Lewes line.

George Patterson from Southeastern trains gave an update: the May timetable change will be minor; and parking charges will be reviewed after the franchise is announced.

Simon Hulse from Network Rail gave details of their Continuous Modular Strategic Planning process, which sounds like jargon but actually came across as a sophisticated, rolling consultancy and development process involving passengers and all stakeholders such as Highways England. Everyone involved seems very invested in the process and it is obviously useful, although complex.

A new company called Condor is being created to sell off extraneous Network Rail land and they are looking for 3rd party investment. I queried what investors might be motivated to invest in, and Mr Hulse seemed to be unofficially sceptical.

12-car trains is the universal aspiration to improve provision, but storing rolling stock is a problem. There are plans to create a new system of 100mph parcel delivery across the UK; there is also to be a new station at a new housing development near Portsmouth, called “Wellbourne”.

A lady from Arriva called Catherine talked about new contactless ticket machines on buses which have made boarding faster and timetabling better. There has been no negative feedback and the timetable is more easily monitored.

Adrian from Brighton and Hove also praised new ticket machines and said they are analysing delay hotspots. Eric from Autocar complained about the lack of parking for buses in Tunbridge Wells and the effect it has on drivers' mandatory breaks.

Sadly the KCC man who was running the Big Conversation bus consultation had to leave the meeting early due to a family emergency, but I was told that there are 5 pilot projects that went out to tender, two of them currently in progress, including a Tenterden taxi-bus service to feed into existing bus networks. They use 9, 12 or 14 seat minibuses and there is a concern that there may be accessibility problems associated with these. None of the tenders is in TWBC itself.

I enjoyed the meeting and would be happy to go to others in the future.

Cllr Rosalind Riley

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 16th April 2019 at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: The Clerk - Mrs E Nightingale, Cllr Sean Holden, Mrs H Gosbee and Mrs Stephanie Andrews.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

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

None

3. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden is following up on the Council's requests in relation to flushing the drains, replacing the 30mph signs on the gateways and dropping the kerb opposite where it has been dropped by the school. He considers it unlikely that KCC will replace the signs. He was told that anyone caught speeding would have a tough time arguing that they didn't realise they were 30 mph signs because the red border had turned pink.

Cllr Cullingworth expressed the Council's gratitude to KCC for what it had done so far in dropping one of the kerbs outside the school. This was already making life easier for residents and those attending at the school.

At the last meeting, Cllr Holden reported that the HGV Group had met with the Department of Transport and the Chief Inspector of the Transport Division of Kent Police because enforcement powers need to be transferred to enable KCC to take direct action against lorries on rural roads. If this is achieved, KCC will be able to use the number plate recognition technology being developed as part of the Brexit provisions. There would be exemptions for lorries serving local businesses.

Cllr Holden then left the meeting.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the minutes from the last council meeting on 19th March 2019 are a true and accurate record and that being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Tree for Annie Bull

The tree planting on 6th April 2019 was well attended.

Dog pooh bag dispenser

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Croucher, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council purchase a second dog bag dispenser to be situated next to the litter bin by the War Memorial.

Litter Picking Equipment

Cllr Croucher advised that an early application for funding will be made to Coca Cola in advance of next year's Great British Spring Clean.

The Clerk reported that TWBC had acknowledged the Council's application for a share of the funds available to groups engaged in community clean-ups. TWBC was considering how best to apply those funds. At present it favoured bulk buying litter picking equipment and distributing that equipment amongst the groups who had requested funding. The Clerk will follow this up if nothing further is heard from TWBC in the next week or so.

Annual Parish Assembly

Cllr Staples will publish a notice giving details of the upcoming APA. Speakers at the APA will address rural policing and give updates on the CLT and community shop projects. Cllr Staples will, once again, issue the Chairman's report in printed form.

Street Cleansing Contract

The Clerk confirmed that she had agreed a reduction on the quote initially received from Urbaser. The cost of emptying the litter bins for the 2019/20 year will now only increase by a few pounds a month.

Cllr Tuke will publish on Facebook and the website the dates by which residents must opt-in for the new garden waste collection service under the new TWBC contract with Urbaser.

6. TELEPHONE BOX

Mrs Stephanie Andrews has spoken with a number of residents and developed ideas for how the telephone box might be used. Under the plans she presented the top half of the windows would be kept clear, so they could still be used for the advent windows, and a shelf would be inserted to allow temporary displays to be set up, possibly by local groups. A children's book shelf would also be created so children could pop in and borrow a book on their way to/from school. A crate would be placed at the bottom for people to put in things they wanted to share (for example home grown fruit and vegetables) and a community pin board placed on the back wall. In addition, a planter would be placed around the outside of the telephone box to be used as a community herb garden. Cllr Staples thanked Mrs Andrews for her thoughtful ideas and it was agreed that she would liaise with Cllr Riley as to how those plans might be realised. It was also agreed that the Youth Club should be invited to become involved in this project.

The Clerk will contact Town & Country to obtain any permissions that might be required for planters to be situated outside the curtilage of the box.

It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that this project be allocated funds, as needed, up to £50.

7. ELECTIONS

Cllrs Staples, Tuke, Gosbee, Cullingworth, Riley and Vernon have been re-elected to serve on the Council for a further 4-year term by way of an uncontested election. Cllr Croucher will retire at the end of the current term after over 20 years' service. Cllr Staples expressed his disappointed that no new people were prepared to stand for election. With the retirement of Cllr Croucher, the new Council will be one short and will need to consider co-opting at the next meeting.

8. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The newly formed Steering Group, consisting of Judith Addis, Gill Baker, Bernie Cooper, Nick Bull and Cllr Gosbee, will be meeting on 17th April 2019 to discuss the next steps.

Cllr Riley suggested that it would be a good idea to have a joint meeting with members of the Memorial Hall Committee to look at how any shop might be incorporated into their plans for remodelling the Hall.

9. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST STEERING GROUP UPDATE

Cllr Vernon reported that a formal application for registration of the CLT had been submitted to the FCA. That registration should be in place within the next 14 days. In the meantime, they had been successful in getting Government funding of £1,000 to cover the initial set up costs. The next step will be a public meeting, at which the public will be able to sign up as members and a board will be appointed. That meeting will be publicised by way of a mail shot, Facebook, the website and notices.

10. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Croucher reported that there will be four sessions in the next month.

Cllr Croucher is retiring as Speedwatch Coordinator and a replacement is yet to be found. Cllr Vernon suggested that this be raised at the APA. In the meantime, it was agreed that Sandhurst should hold on to the equipment.

11. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Inspections are currently being undertaken weekly with reference to a tick box list and recorded in a book. Any problems identified are reported to the Clerk by email. This system will now be formalised with the dates and results of the inspections being recorded in the minutes. A copy of the tick list will also be appended to the minutes.

The inspections are currently being done by Roy Latham. Cllr Croucher will be also be doing inspections following her retirement from the Council.

The Clerk was instructed to approach Capel Groundcare for an annual independent inspection report. The last independent inspection was undertaken by Capel Groundcare in June 2018.

12. LITTER PICK

Cllr Croucher reported that 50 bags of rubbish, together with car batteries and tyres, were collected by over 40 volunteers, to include a number of children.

13. PARKING

The issue of vehicles parked on the junction of Mill Lane and Biddenden Road was raised by a resident at the last meeting. It was suggested by another resident that a sign could be erected on the side of the neighbouring building warning that parking on that junction endangered lives. Cllr Croucher questioned whether permission would be granted for such a sign as the building was listed.

The Council has tried to address this issue in the past without success. It was yet to try putting a letter through the door of the address where it was believed that the owners of the vehicles most regularly parked on the junction lived. Cllr Vernon will draft a letter for approval by the Council. A copy of that letter will also be sent to the landlord of the property.

14. VILLAGE EQUIPMENT

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the suggested donations remain unchanged as set out in the attached note.

15. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee reported that a caravan was fly tipped on Dig Dog Lane and subsequently set alight. The fire damaged an overhead BT line, the hedge and gateway. Another caravan has now been dumped on Dig Dog Lane. The Police have attended and Dick Munton has offered to move it on to his land pending collection.

The Council put out signs warning of gully clearance work but Cllr Gosbee does not know what has actually been done. Cllr Gosbee will follow this up.

A link has been sent to the Clerk so she can apply to KCC for a salt bin to be placed at the end of Grandshore Lane.

Cllr Gosbee has contacted Whitney Gwillam of KCC in relation to the outstanding dropped kerb at the school.

Paul Catt is still trying to establish when the coping stones will be put on Buckhurst Bridge. Mr Catt has confirmed that three of the 30 mph signs need replacing, but believes that the gateways are too rotten for new signs to be attached.

There is a dip in front of the Robinson's dairy but KCC Highways will not do anything about it as they say it is caused by the milk tanker. Cllr Gosbee will follow this up with Lisa Gillham, Head of Highways.

16. PLANNING

New Applications

19/00755/ELEC	Brissenden Farm, Sand Lane, Frittenden Replacement of the HV overhead lines, installation of new poles and additional stays. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Croucher RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS NO OBJECTION
19/00561/TPO	Rockdene, Rocks Hill, Frittenden Reduction of height and radial spread of 6 silver birch trees with associated pruning to the sides. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS NO OBJECTION

Outcome of previous applications

19/00391/FULL	Hollin Root Farm, Bubhurst Lane, Frittenden Conversion of barn to a two-bedroom dwelling PERMISSION GRANTED
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Planning appeals

None

17. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Cllr Staples has received details of the 'Borough of Fields' scheme by which TWBC proposes to take the poppies knitted as part of the Royal British Legion's 'Big Poppy Knit 2018' on tour, with those poppies being buried at significant locations throughout the Borough. The

knitted poppies will have poppy seeds sown into them, thereby creating a field of real Remembrance poppies across the Borough for future years. Participation will be at the Parish's cost and TWBC has suggested expenditure in the region of £1,000. Cllr Staples has consulted the Historical Society, who were equivocal about participating. It was agreed that Frittenden had done a great deal to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War I at the appropriate time and that the area around the War Memorial was not suitable for this project. It was not, therefore, appropriate to expend funds participating in this scheme.

18. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council fund the Steering Group/CLT's membership of the National CLT Network for 2019/20.
- It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

	FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – APRIL 2019				
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102426	£517.56	£86.26	£431.30	TWBC	Civic Amenity Vehicle
102427	£115.50	£19.25	£96.25	Streetlights	Streetlight repairs – March
102428	£41.60	£6.93	£34.67	Biffa	Service litter bins - March
102429	£52.00	nil	£52.00	ACRK	Membership 2019/20
102430	£363.75	£60.60	£303.02	KALC	Membership 2019/20
102431	£40.00	nil	£40.00	Information Commissioner	Registration 2019/20
102432	£356.75	nil	£356.75	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary - April
102433	£80.86	nil	£80.86	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - April
102434	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire
102435	£75.00	nil	£75.00	National CLT Network CIO	Membership 2019/20
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy - March
TOTAL	£1,699.43	£174.78	£1,524.65		

- It was agreed that the Council's sole employee, the Clerk, was not eligible for automatic enrolment in a workplace pension scheme. That being so, it was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Staples sign and hand to the Clerk a letter advising her of her rights in this regard. Upon receipt of that letter, the Clerk confirmed that she did not wish to join any pension scheme provided by the Council. The Clerk was authorised to submit a Re-Declaration of Compliance to the Pensions Regulator confirming that the Council had complied with its duties in this regard.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.28pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

2019 - BORROWING THE VILLAGE TENTS ETC

In preparation for the 2019 season, herewith an update about these popular village assets, which are available on loan to all villagers and all village organisations. Please read this carefully if you are a potential borrower, as there have been some changes since last year, notably to do with insurance.

We have three tents, two being 12m x 6m – 40ft x 20ft, and the third 6m x 6m – 20ft x 20ft, which are available separately or together, depending on your event and/or garden size. They can be put together in various ways to suit your requirements, and I am happy to visit you well in advance to discuss an appropriate layout. Please note that the tents have a tubular metal ground frame, so a smooth and relatively level site is required.

The rates below include provision of lighting – in the form of garden up-lighters which can be placed within the tents or outside if required. They also include erection and strike of the tents by our team of volunteers, usually a few days before and after your event if you wish it, or if the weather or other bookings dictate it.

Equipment and Rates to borrow:

ITEM	VILLAGE ORGANISATION	PRIVATE BORROWER
ONE LARGE MARQUEE	£85.00	£200.00
THE HALF SIZE ONE	£55.00	£125.00
STAND-BY GENERATOR (1)	£15.00	£30.00
P A SYSTEM	£15.00	£30.00

Items for hire from the Village Hall – Hirer to collect and return (2)

Upholstered chairs	60 off	each per day	£2.00
Folding chairs	100 off	each per day	£1.00
Small folding tables	12 off	each per day	£2.00
Large folding tables	10 off	each per day	£5.00

A deposit of £100.00 is required for the hire of the Memorial Hall

A deposit of £25.00 is required for the hire of tables and chairs

Notes:-

- (1) Borrower to provide fuel – as for a 4-stroke mower engine.
- (2) To protect Village Hall chairs and tables from mud or dampness damage, Borrower is required to obtain hessian or similar matting to put down inside the tent – indeed we recommend this for any event for safety reasons. This and other items such as a chiller trailer are available from Brooks Marquees. The person to contact is Tom Brooks, but in the season he is a very busy man so please be patient if it takes a while for him to respond to your messages. Tel 01622 844874 email info@brooksmarquees.com and website <http://www.brooksmarquees.com> Please tell Tom that you got his details from me, and will be using one of the village tents. Other Event companies may also supply – but check quality before ordering as some hessian on offer is pretty unattractive – and others will refuse your request as they look on the Frittenden tents as unfair competition!

Bookings.

For tables and chairs, contact the Village Hall bookings secretary, Eileen Bridges (563). For all other items contact Mike Cooper (108). At the time of writing we already have five bookings for this season, so if you are planning an event do make a provisional booking as early as you can – there is no charge for doing so.

This comment also applies to booking matting or other peripheral kit from Tom Brooks – the earlier you make initial contact the better.

Insurance.

Given the value of the items - £1500 for the PA system, £1000 for each of the tents - all borrowers are required to confirm that they undertake to pay for any damage to or loss of items borrowed, by way of insurance.

Private individuals can make an arrangement with their own household contents insurers to cover the items for the duration of the hire. When you speak to them be sure to emphasise that you are merely borrowing the kit from the village with approx value of, say, £1000, and you would like this to be covered on your contents insurance. Please ask for confirmation in writing or by Email that the items will be covered for the time they are on your property. You may incur either an administration charge or a small fee, but in our experience most insurers will provide this cover free.

Societies or clubs should either use their existing insurer, or take out event insurance which can cover various liabilities, including the kit.

Finally, and also important -

These items belong to Frittenden, and Frittenden volunteers maintain them, erect and strike them, and generally run the show, free of charge for the benefit of the village. So please, don't be tempted to enthuse to a friend outside of the village about what a great deal you got, as a request from elsewhere will be politely but firmly refused, and may cause ill-feeling.....

Mike Cooper.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held at the Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Wednesday 8th May 2019 at 7.30pm, pursuant to notice.

Present: In the Chair Councillor Anthony Staples, Chairman of the Parish Council, five Parish Councillors, Borough Councillor Andy Fairweather, Lee Jules (PCSO), Adam Osborn (KCC Community Warden) and 27 members of the Public.

In attendance: The Parish Clerk

Councillor Staples welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Chief Inspector Peter Steenhuis and Mrs J Staples.

2. GUEST SPEAKER – DOUGLAS ROBERTSON, Rural Crime Co-ordinator for Kent Police’s Rural Task Force

Mr Robertson gave a short presentation to introduce the Rural Task Force (RTF), which has now been in existence for 2.5 years. It is headed by Inspector Dave Smith and consists of a Sergeant, 12 Police Constables (PCs) and a Co-Ordinator, being the support role undertaken by Mr Robertson. The 12 PCs are divided into 3 divisions, with 4 PCs covering each division. Frittenden falls within the West Division.

The West Division consists of PC Marc Pennicott, PC Tom Smith, PC Nick Lingham and PC Anna Verrall. Each division has a mobile telephone which is carried by an officer from that division and passed over as shifts change. This means that, if a call is not answered immediately, messages should be returned within 24 hours. The mobile telephone number for the West Division is 07580 236308.

The RTF deals with a wide range of issues under the broad headings Rural Crime, Wildlife Crime, Environmental Crime and Heritage Crime. It works closely with partners such as the RSPCA, NFU, Environment Agency and Local Authority Enforcement Officers. An example of this collaborative approach is Operation Assist, through which the RTF has developed, in partnership with Local Authorities, a plan to tackle fly-tipping.

The RTF understands how important good communication is. The East Division has therefore been piloting ‘Farm Watch’, which is a WhatsApp group for the exchange of information. If someone sees something suspicious, they can take details or a photograph and circulate that information to other users and the RTF. This pilot has been very successful and it is hoped that it will soon be rolled out across the County. However, it is not monitored 24/7 and therefore should not be viewed as a replacement for the 999/101 services.

Mr Robertson also recommended the Country Eye App. This App allows anyone who discovers fly tipping to upload a photograph of the dumped waste. The site is automatically tagged using GPS and the incident triaged to the Local Authority and/or the Police through Operation Assist.

Following his presentation, Mr Robertson took questions from the floor.

A resident questioned how Farm Watch could be effective in circumstances where vehicles engaged in suspicious activity used stolen number plates. Mr Robertson acknowledged that this was a problem but stressed that, if such activity was not reported, the Police could not take any action to try to address it. If information about a vehicle is received via Farm Watch, the Police will start work on that vehicle, for example whether it had been involved in other incidents.

A resident expressed frustration at how long it could take to get through using the 101 service. Mr Robertson acknowledged that, as 999 calls were prioritised, there could be delays in 101 calls being answered. He agreed to feedback that frustration to Chief Inspector Peter Steenhuis.

A resident expressed the view that, in light of the high levels of thefts, landowners and businesses with yards were operating under a state of siege. He questioned whether there were “no go areas” for the Police, as it was assumed that they knew where the organised gangs responsible were, but no action appeared to be taken against them. Another resident pointed out that it might be known locally where a stolen item had initially been taken but, by the time action was taken by the Police, that item had been moved on. Mr Robertson stressed that he was not aware of any “no go areas” and confirmed that the RTF did deal with organised criminal activity. However, all cases had to be triaged through a Risk and Threat Assessment, as limited resources meant that any action had to be targeted to maximise the prospects of successful prosecution. Once again, Mr Robertson indicated that he would feed the community’s perceptions back to Chief Inspector Steenhuis.

A Councillor raised the issue of fly-tipping and, in particular, whether the RFT found CCTV evidence produced by the use of trail cameras to be useful. Mr Robertson noted that care was required as there was a great deal of legislation around the use of covert cameras. He was unaware that fly-tipping was such a big problem in the Frittenden area and Councillor Staples confirmed that the problem was increasing, both in the amount of waste and the frequency by which it was being dumped. Mr Robertson agreed to raise this with Chief Inspector Steenhuis.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ASSEMBLY

The minutes of the APA held on 9th May 2018 were available to read at the meeting. Acceptance of those minutes was proposed by Councillor Vernon, seconded by Councillor Gosbee, and agreed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

None.

5. TO RECEIVE ACCOUNTS OF CHARITIES

The accounts of the Idenden Charity were available for inspection.

6. PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Council

Since the last Annual Parish Assembly (APA) we have been pleased to welcome Emma Nightingale as our Parish Clerk, following the resignation of Michelle Rumble in January. There have been no changes to Councillors during the year, which was the final year of the Council elected in May 2015. Earlier this month six of the present Council stood for re-election and were elected unopposed. During the year we have held 11 monthly Council meetings, and 1 additional planning meeting. Attendance by Councillors averaged 83%. Attendance by the public varied from 1 to 11. In addition, an open meeting was called on 19th January to discuss Affordable Housing and consider the possibility of setting up a Community Land Trust. This was attended by 92 people including all Council members and four guest speakers.

I have summarised our activities below. These are arranged alphabetically rather than in any order of importance. Although all Councillors are collectively responsible for each of these activities, I have noted the names of Councillors who take the lead in particular areas.

Affordable Housing/ Community Land Trust

Since the last APA progress has been mixed. After detailed and fruitful discussions with the borough Council and our preferred partner, English Rural Housing Association, a suitable site was identified as a "rural exception site", supported by TWBC planners. At a very well attended presentation to the village on Saturday January 19th the proposal was welcomed in principle. In addition, the idea of setting up a Community Land Trust was agreed. Councillor Richard Vernon will report separately on this.

To the great disappointment of the Parish Council and English Rural this site has now been withdrawn. Alternatives will be investigated.

As I remarked in last year's report the process of securing affordable housing can be painfully slow!

Amenities (Lead Councillors Janet Croucher and Heather Cullingworth)

The playing field and children's playground are inspected weekly by one of a team of three local people. The outcome of these routine inspections is presented to the Council and minuted. In addition, a full inspection of playground equipment is carried out annually, most recently in June 2018 by Capel Groundcare, and all significant problems identified have been rectified.

A tree in memory of Annie Bull, kindly donated by the Women's Institute, was planted by the Gardening Society at an agreed location to the South of the children's playground area.

An oak tree in the south east boundary of the field had to be felled.

Amenity Vehicle

The Civic Amenity Vehicle (the Saturday rubbish lorry) continues to operate (at our expense) but will only be taking household waste from September onwards.

The garden waste collection will be an opt-in service from 30th September costing £52 pa **but for those who opt in between now and 2nd August the cost will be £42.** Details can be found on <https://beta.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/new-waste-service/garden-waste>.

Broadband (*Lead Councillor James Tuke*)

The Parish Council is concerned at the inadequacy of broadband provision in the village, reasonable within a short distance of the BT box by the old telephone exchange but poor in the peripheral areas of the village. This together with the poor mobile phone signal strength in much of the village is a significant problem for small businesses in our area as well as a frustration for all.

As a Council we support Lance French's initiative to secure funding and have made representations to our MP expressing frustration over the delays caused by policy changes.

Defibrillators (*Lead Councillor Rosalind Riley*)

Money raised in a public appeal for the provision of defibrillators was donated to the Parish Council for the purchase of three defibrillators for use within the parish. These are located outside the Bell and Jorrocks, outside Acorns and the third, a mobile defibrillator for use at public events, is held at the Bell and Jorrocks. We are very grateful for the generosity of the public and all those involved in fund-raising and procurement of this equipment.

Community Shop (*Lead Councillors Lester Gosbee and Rosalind Riley*)

As a Council we were sorry to see the closure of Acorns Village Stores at the end of March and very appreciative of the service Eileen Bridges and her helpers had provided for so long. Within a few days of the announcement of its closure two of us with two other parishioners visited Benenden's, the community shop set up four years ago in Benenden. At our March PC meeting we invited members of the public to form a steering group to explore the possibility of setting up a community shop in Frittenden. Councillors Gosbee and Riley will give details of progress to date.

Finance

We have had to increase our precept for the year 2019-20 by £1,000 to £16,500, equivalent to £41.91 annually for a Band D property. Frittenden continues to have the lowest rate of precept in the Borough.

Fun Run

You may have noticed that advertising this year showed that the Fun Run was promoted by the Parish Council. I should point out that all the organisation was done as ever by Rob Addis, but for insurance purposes the Parish Council was ultimately responsible. We are very grateful for Rob's enthusiasm in organising this for the last 17 years and for raising thousands of pounds for worthy causes over this period.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

For a small Council these requirements can seem onerous but now that GDPR rules apply we try to ensure that we meet all relevant requirements. LCPAS (Local Council Public Advisory Service) provides the necessary support and review.

Planning (*Lead Councillor Richard Vernon*)

During the year the Council has considered 39 planning applications, including:

- 5 home extensions;
- 7 barn conversions;
- 3 Lawful Development Certificates
- 2 new build applications, one for three houses, one for a sand school
- 1 office conversion

- 18 other matters (e.g. amendments to, or clarification of, earlier applications, new access points, tree preservation issues, etc.).

The remaining three applications concerned properties outside the parish.

The majority of applications within the parish were uncontroversial. Unfortunately, those beyond the parish boundary were not.

Gypsy and Traveller sites

The Gypsy and Traveller (G&T) development of the Maplehurst and Park Wood Lane area immediately adjacent to our parish boundary continues to be of great concern and enforcement action by Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) has been ineffective.

We have continued to oppose these applications where we consider them inappropriate from a planning perspective.

Councillors Richard Vernon, Rosalind Riley and I have represented Frittenden in a group of parishes which is aiming to put pressure on MBC to adopt a more structured approach to the provision of G&T sites.

Roads and verges (*Lead Councillor Lester Gosbee*)

Following KCCs blitz on potholes the problem has been reduced but the state of our roads is poor and many of the concerns I highlighted last year continue.

Some are KCC highways issues:

- Potholes and road edges
- Inadequate warning about closures (not always KCC's fault as some closures are caused by the utilities)
- Inadequate clearing of gullies in the centre of the village
- Continuing failure to get the kerb dropped opposite the school – at the moment the job is only half done

Others are ultimately due to residents or other members of the public

- Thoughtless parking in breach of the Highway Code
- Neglected hedges encroaching on pavement or highway
- Casual littering

Fly-tipping continues to be a serious problem for which there are no easy solutions. The one thing that is essential is to report fly-tipping immediately it occurs.

Councillor Gosbee continues to be a thorn in the side of KCC Highways, trying to get problems resolved for us. We are also grateful for County Councillor Sean Holden's support on specific issues and his campaigning to restrict unnecessary lorry movements and illegal parking on rural roads.

We were also concerned over the provision of salt bins. We have funded the purchase of one at the sharp bend in Headcorn Road and are considering whether we can persuade KCC to fund the provision of other bins at strategic points in the village before next winter.

Speedwatch (*Lead Councillor Janet Croucher*)

We continue to operate Speedwatch but our aim to carry out daily speed checks during two weeks of each month is frustrated by a shortage of volunteers. Speedwatch will not solve all our traffic problems but it does make a valuable contribution to road safety awareness. We need more volunteers and we also need a new co-ordinator now that (ex-) Councillor Janet Croucher has stood down.

If you would like to help as volunteer or co-ordinator please contact me or any Parish Councillor.

Telephone Box (*Lead Councillor Rosalind Riley*)

Damage to the windows in the telephone box has been repaired. We are pleased that Stephanie Andrews has come forward with a proposal to use the phone box and is prepared to take this forward on behalf of the Council. Her proposal includes provision for artistic displays, children's books, local information, home-grown produce, and a small herb planter. The Council has allocated a modest sum to fund this.

The TWBC Plan

Progress on the Tunbridge Wells plan continues slowly and until it is goes out for public consultation* its contents are confidential. TWBC held a series of workshops looking at issues parish by parish. Members of the Parish Council, our Borough Councillor James Hannam, and staff from the planning department attended the two for Frittenden. From the Parish Council's viewpoint we found this was a useful exercise and felt that we had been listened to.

It was made clear at these consultations that the “Garden Village” will not be located in Frittenden and we were free to make that public.

**scheduled for an eight-week period in August and September*

Village Clean-up Days (*Lead Councillor Janet Croucher*)

We have held two Village Clean-Up Days, on 29th September and 23rd March. Once again, the March meeting was particularly successful, with over 40 volunteers, including a number of children. We are very grateful for their help as well as to Sean and Rosie Croucher for providing us with a headquarters, to Ivor and Carol Jauncey for the use of their field, and to Dick Munton for his truck and the many parishioners who pick up litter in their own areas throughout the year.

We have applied for a share of funds for parish litter-picking equipment, offered by Coca-Cola through Borough Councils. We await the outcome.

Finally I'd like to thank:

Our Parish Clerk Michelle Rumble, for her support for the two years she served as our Clerk, and for Emma Nightingale who seamlessly stepped into the role three months ago when Michelle left.

County Councillor Sean Holden and our retiring Borough Councillor, James Hannam
Bernard Millard, our auditor.

Roy Latham, for acting as gate-locker for the Playing Field and inspector of playground equipment.
Hazel Gosbee who attends every meeting and reports our proceedings for the KM.

Lee Jules, our PCSO, and Adam Osborn, our Community Warden, who are regularly in our village and always ready to act on behalf of parishioners.

Janet Croucher, who has stood down as Councillor after 20 years and has served the village in many ways throughout the years she has lived in this village.

And finally, to the many people who in different ways support our village and contribute to the sense of community.

Councillor Staples took questions from the floor. Questions were raised seeking clarification of the new opt-in system for the collection of green waste. Councillor Staples confirmed that the existing brown bins would be repurposed for the collection of glass and that green waste would be collected from those who had opted-in fortnightly.

Questions were also raised about the illegal and inconsiderate parking which persisted at the junction of Biddenden Road and Mill Lane. Councillor Staples shared the frustration expressed by members of the public present, but explained that the Council had no power of enforcement. KCC were unwilling to take action and the Council had, over the years, done what it could to resolve this long running issue, to including writing to the occupants of the property where it was believed that the most regular offenders resided and their landlord. PCSO Lee Jules indicated that he would undertake further investigations upon receipt of the registration numbers of the vehicles in question.

7. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST (CLT)

Richard Vernon spoke as a member of the CLT Steering Group. Following the Public Meeting in January, the Steering Group was established to progress the formation of a CLT and that process has now been completed. The CLT has been formed and registered as a Community Benefit Society. The CLT was one of the first in the country to receive Government funding under a new scheme and this means that the initial set up costs have been met. The next step is to launch the CLT as a community vehicle. A further Public Meeting will take place, at which members of the community can sign up to become Members and a Board will be democratically appointed. Whilst the original intention of the CLT was to respond to the need for affordable housing, it can be used for other community projects, such as the community shop. However, the CLT may still have a role to play in the provision of affordable housing, notwithstanding that the favoured site supported by the village and TWBC is no longer available. Any private development under the new TWBC Plan would include a requirement for affordable housing that could meet the community's need in any event. In the meantime, the Steering Group will seek to identify alternative potential sites

8. COMMUNITY SHOP

Lester Gosbee reported that, following the visit to the Benenden Community Shop and discussions at the PC meeting in March, a Steering Group was formed. Members of that Group have been undertaking research into how the success of the Benenden project might be replicated in Frittenden. Rosalind Riley explained that the Group had been in touch with the Plunkett Foundation, being an organisation that supported community endeavour. They advised that the first thing to do was ask the village what they needed. A community shop can take many forms and there are several ways in which it could be organised. As both a member of the Steering Group and Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee, Rosalind Riley expressed the hope that the redevelopment of the Hall could, in some way, incorporate a community shop. The shop might also include a café, as it was felt that this was important to further its intended use as a community hub. Andrew Dack sits on the Memorial Hall Committee and his architectural experience has been invaluable in assessing the potential for redevelopment. There would be a wonderful view if the back of the Hall was opened up and the little garden area at the rear would make a lovely tea garden. A shop might be accommodated within the building or to the side once the bottle bins have been removed in September. However, the Steering Group would welcome ideas from members of the community at this early stage of the project. With the support of the Plunkett Foundation, the Steering Group is preparing a survey, which they hope will be completed not just by residents, but by other potential users of the shop (e.g. those who use the school or work in the village). The survey will be distributed around the village and will also be on-line.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Gosbee raised concerns about the bridge on the Headcorn Road. KCC Highways have filled the holes that have appeared in the road, but Councillor Gosbee believes that there might be a much more serious problem of subsidence which could, at worst, cause the bridge to collapse on to the railway beneath. Councillor Gosbee has raised his concerns with KCC but would encourage others to email him if they share his concerns. He will pass those emails on to KCC in the hope that the weight of complaints might prompt further action.

Reverend Fred Olney thanked all who had contributed to the completion of the works at the church and confirmed that the dry goods bin was open for donations to the food bank in Hastings. He highlighted that Messy Church was now taking place in Frittenden every other month and thanked the Frittenden Community for their support, both of him and of all that went on in the village.

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending, and there being no further business closed the meeting at 9.00pm

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)
Mr R Vernon
Mrs R Riley
Mr L Gosbee
Mrs H Cullingworth

In attendance: The Clerk - Mrs E Nightingale, Mrs H Gosbee and 1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr L French provided an update on attempts to bring faster broadband to the Parish. KCC and Openreach had been waiting to see if Frittenden would be included in the Contract of Improvement Works. It is now clear that it will not and KCC will therefore issue vouchers to allow residents to claim funding for such work. There is a meeting on 5th June 2019 to discuss how those vouchers are to be issued. Once allocated, the vouchers must be accepted by Openreach and signed by the relevant Government Department. Accordingly, whilst progress is being made, there is some way to go before improvements can be realised.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Tuke

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Staples was nominated by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and it was **RESOLVED** by all members present that he be appointed Chairman. Cllr Staples then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of the office of Chairman.

All members present signed Declarations of Acceptance of the office of Member of the Council. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Tuke shall sign his Declaration of Acceptance at the next meeting of the Council on 18th June 2019.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Tuke was nominated by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and it was **RESOLVED** by all members present that he be appointed to the office of Vice-Chairman, subject to his agreement.

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

Cllr Riley declared an interest in item 19 (proposed s137 donation)

5. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

None

6. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the minutes from the last council meeting on 16th April 2019 are a true and accurate record and that being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Dropped kerb outside School

The work to drop the kerb on both sides of the road has now been completed.

Dog pooh bag dispenser

The new dispenser is now in place next to the litter bin by the War Memorial.

Litter Picking Equipment

The Clerk has chased TWBC for an update but is yet to receive a response.

Telephone Box

Cllr Riley has liaised with Mrs S Andrews and members of the Gardening Society on how the various ideas presented to the Council might be taken forward in practice. Cllr Cullingworth agreed to lead this project.

Speedwatch

There are no new volunteers and nobody has put themselves forward for the vacant position of Co-Ordinator.

Litter pick

The Council will set a date for the next litter pick at the meeting on 18th June 2019.

Parking

Cllr Vernon has produced a draft letter to those residents who, it is reported, regularly park their vehicles on the junction. Cllr Staples has shown that draft to the landlord of the property in question and the Clerk was instructed to send the letter on behalf of the Council.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The strength of feeling on the issue of crime in general was noted. Cllr Staples will follow up on the points raised by residents which Douglas Robertson had agreed to take to Chief Inspector Steenhuis. In the meantime, the Rural Liaison Team regularly publish a newsletter which will be put on the Website and Facebook.

Clarification of the new system of bin collections, coming into force in September 2019, has now been published.

PCSO Lee Jules' offer to investigate vehicles parked contrary to the Highway Code was noted with thanks. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that residents concerned about any inappropriately parked vehicle be encouraged to supply the registration details of that vehicle to PSCO Jules at lee.jules@kent.pnn.police.uk.

9. FLY TIPPING - CAMERAS

Mr L French has been coordinating a community initiative to combat fly tipping in Frittenden, which has been increasing both in frequency and the amount of rubbish deposited. He is trialling the use of trail cameras, which, if effective, could be made available for individual landowners to borrow. It is a legal requirement that notice is given of any surveillance measures on private land

and notices are therefore being printed warning of the use of CCTV. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council support this initiative without becoming directly involved. Cllr Staples thanked Mr French for his work on this issue.

10. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Staples confirmed that, in the short term, the Council can operate with a vacancy. However, he expressed concern that the west end of the Parish (e.g. Knoxbridge) is currently unrepresented and that no one from the younger generation has come forward to serve. It was agreed that social media should be used to try and attract interest, particularly from the groups identified above, with a view to co-opting. Each member will prepare a short profile for consideration at the next meeting. Those profiles will be put on Facebook to give the community a better understanding of the work done by the Parish Council, the people who serve as Councillors and the time commitment the role requires.

11. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported that the Steering Group was hoping to visit some container shops to get a better feel for how they work. He noted that Smarden was also looking to establish a community shop, as their village shop is due to close at the end of the month. They have reportedly already received funding pledges in excess of £100,000 from local residents.

Cllr Riley advised that the first step for Frittenden is to carry out a survey. This had been drawn up and would be included as a pull-out section in the next edition of the Parish Magazine. It would also be available in the Pub and Church. An on-line version was being put on both the Parish and School Websites. The deadline for responses was 10th June 2019.

12. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST STEERING GROUP UPDATE

The CLT has been registered and a Board of Directors has been appointed, consisting of all members of the Steering Committee, save for Cllr Vernon who, as a Parish Councillor, cannot sit on the Board. He will continue to work closely with the CLT in an advisory capacity. They are currently working on the best timing for the Special General Meeting at which members will join the CLT and a new Board of Directors will be democratically appointed. In the meantime, the Board has approved payment of the fees charged by Wessex Reinvestment Society Ltd and the Financial Conduct Authority. Those fees will be paid from the funds currently held on trust by the Council. The Board is working with National Westminster Bank to set up its own bank account. Once this is done, any funds still held on trust by the Council will be transferred to that account.

13. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

The Clerk reported that Capel Groundcare were unable to provide an Annual Inspection Report as they were only qualified to undertake Operational Inspections. The Clerk reported on appropriate alternatives and it was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) be retained to provide Annual Inspection Reports on a year by year basis. Their first inspection will take place in July or August 2019.

14. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

The Clerk reported that KCC Highways had introduced a new initiative whereby requests for highway improvement works were to be made by way of an agreed Highway Improvements Plan (HIP). Council are to submit a list of the works required in their Parish in an agreed format. KCC Highways will then provide costings and agree who will fund each item of work. It was made

clear that KCC would only fund improvements if there was evidence that they were required to address high risk areas (e.g. sites with a high incidence of crashes, injuries to pedestrians etc.). Cllrs Gosbee and Vernon will form a Working Party to consider what items of work should be included in the HIP.

15. LOVE WHERE WE LIVE AWARDS

Cllr Staples encouraged Councillors to consider who might be nominated in relation to the various categories of awards. The deadline for nominations was 5pm on 26th July 2019.

16. ROAD REPORT - General

Cllr Gosbee reported that 4 fridges have been fly tipped in Parkwood Lane and another fridge has been dumped in Grandshore Lane. He has been successful in getting the chassis of the burnt-out caravan removed, but TWBC will not take the rest of the debris.

The rotten wooden village gateways can be replaced with plastic at a cost of c.£900 per gateway. KCC will not meet this cost and the Council does not currently have the budget for such an expensive project. Likewise, Cllr Gosbee has been advised that KCC will not fund the replacement of the faded 30 mph signs.

The pothole that was mended by the railway bridge of Headcorn Road has already sunk. Cllr Gosbee remains concerned that the road is subsiding due to water getting underneath the surface and will do some research to see if South East Water will survey the area. He will also liaise with Headcorn Parish Council on this issue.

Works to the bridge on Biddenden Road have now been completed with the installation of the missing coping stones.

17. PLANNING

New Applications

19/00463/FULL	Pullen Farm, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Erection of single storey rear/side extension with roof lantern, and alterations to fenestration to rear and side elevations. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/00772/FULL	Inver, Headcorn Road, Frittenden Conversion of existing loft space with 3 dormer windows; new rooflights; alterations to fenestration inc. installation of bi-fold doors to existing window/door opening on west elevation and new window to south elevation. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/00971/TCA	Glebe House, The Street, Frittenden Felling of 1 conifer in Conservation Area because of excessive shading and low amenity value. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/01157/COUNTY	Knoxbridge Farm, Knoxbridge, Frittenden Consultation from KCC – Details of external finish & colour of the buildings & structures pursuant to Condition 12 of TW/18/3830. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/01087/FULL	Tolehurst Farm, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Demolition of two existing poultry rearing sheds and the erection of two

	new larger poultry rearing sheds and a small associated welfare/store building. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Cllr Gosbee abstained having declared an interest)
19/00983/PNQCLA	Buckhurst Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Prior notification for change of use of an agricultural building and land within its curtilage into a single dwelling (Use Class C3) Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS TO NOTE THIS APPLICATION WITH NO COMMENT
19/00881/FULL	Poundlands Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Demolition of former barracks building; construction of (1) single storey outbuilding (2) swimming pool (3) tennis court. Re-application for planning permission TW16/502/464/FULL (expiring 02/08/19). Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED BY ALL MEMBERS TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of previous applications

19/00035/FULL	Havisham House, Bell Lane, Frittenden Change of use from storage area to a residential flat (retrospective) PERMISSION GRANTED
19/00310/FULL	Elwell, Mill Lane, Frittenden Construction of a single storey side extension, plus rooflights PERMISSION GRANTED
19/00561/TPO	Rockdene, Rocks Hill, Frittenden Reduce radial spread of 6 silver birch trees by 1.5m-2m and reduce height by 2m, with similar side pruning NO OBJECTION RAISED
18/03402/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Retrospective change of use of land to garden, bin storage, swimming pool, brick wall enclosures and creation of an additional access onto Staplehurst road and associated driveway and landscaping APPLICATION PERMITTED

Planning appeals

- 18/03280/FULL – Wellwood Park Farm, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden, Variation of Condition 4 of 74/00427 – Removal of occupation use – Appeal to be determined on the basis of written representations. The Council has nothing to add to its previous recommendation for approval.

18. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the insurance renewal quote of £621.60.
- The Clerk reported that the lamps in the streetlights were becoming obsolete. The maintenance contractor had suggested that, given their age, it would be more economical to replace the lanterns rather than attempt to modify them to fit new lamps. They had quoted £375 per streetlight for this work. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that a rolling programme of replacement should be followed, whereby lanterns were replaced as and when each streetlight required work.

- The Clerk has been contacted by English Rural Housing who want assistance in advertising the availability of a shared ownership property in Benenden. It was agreed that such assistance should be provided.

19. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** that proceeds of the 2019 Fun Run be donated to the Frittenden Memorial Hall pursuant to s.137 (Cllr Riley abstained having declared an interest).
- It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

	FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – MAY 2019				
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102436	£319.99	£53.33	£266.66	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – March & April
102437	£621.60	nil	£621.60	Came & Company	Insurance Premium 2019/20
102438	£165.96	£27.66	£138.30	JRB Enterprise	Dog bag dispenser & Bags x 2
102439	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire - May
102440	£1,113.99	nil	£1,113.99	Frittenden Memorial Hall	S137 Donation
102441	£316.28	nil	£316.28	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary - May
102442	£57.20	nil	£57.20	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - May
102443	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Street Cleansing - April
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	Eon	Street lighting energy - April
TOTAL	£2,692.38	£89.67	£2,602.71		

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 be approved. Being so approved, it was duly signed by Cllr Staples as Chairman and the Clerk as the Responsible Financial Officer.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.42pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 18 June 2019 at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: Mrs H Gosbee, Borough Cllr Fairweather and 1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

No members of the public spoke.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Riley, Cllr Holden and the Clerk, Mrs E Nightingale

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

No interests declared.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

County Cllr Holden not present.

Cllr Fairweather updated the meeting on activity since he has been in office as of 2 April 2019. Cllr Fairweather explained that within the Council post-election the general feeling is that there is a huge sway of public sentiment against the Civic Project and the debt that goes with it which he feels resulted in the loss of Conservative seats in the election. As the leader of the Council lost his seat in the election, an emergency leader meeting has been held where four candidates stood and Alan McDermott was elected leader. On 17 June there was an Extraordinary Full Council Meeting specifically to consider the Civic Project. The Tunbridge Wells Alliance proposed a motion to terminate the Project and this motion was challenged by the Conservative Group which changed the motion to the effect that the motion which was voted on and passed was that all new expenditure on the Project should be stopped with no further financial commitments and that a new cross-party group should be set up to consider alternative proposals. A separate motion was passed led by the Lib Dem group which was a motion to the effect that the "Cabinet are requested to require full Council approval to proceed to the construction phase of the Civic Centre Project".

Cllr Fairweather was of the view that although the Cabinet could take its own decision to proceed without full Council backing this is unlikely to happen. Cllr Fairweather also mentioned that £10m of taxpayers' money has already been spent to date on the Project. Cllr Fairweather at this stage is sitting on both the Communities and Environmental Management Cabinet Advisory Board and the Licensing Committee.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth seconded by Cllr Gosbee and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the last Council meeting on 21 May 2019 (as amended for two minor changes) are a true and accurate record and that being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES:

Litter picking equipment

No update on the TWBC application.

Telephone box

It was noted that Mrs S Andrews has continued to take things forward with a post on the Community FB page. It was agreed that Cllr Cullingworth would liaise with Mrs S Andrews and Cllr. Riley to take this forward

Fly tipping - cameras

Mr L French updated the meeting that a new camera has been acquired and is being tested. Mr French also mentioned that Dick Munton has offered to be part of the test programme. It was noted that following a recent fly-tipping event in the Village where the number plate, name and address was captured, the Police said that no action would be taken and TWBC said that no action could be taken as there was no evidence of actual fly-tipping taking place. Mr French suggested that there could be a net of residential cameras that could aim to spot fly tipping in progress and to alert relevant members of the Village so that fly tipping could be "caught in the act" to allow action to be taken. Cllr Fairweather reported that under the new systems in place, where fly-tipping is reported on line this is immediately notified to the central office at North Park Farm which hopefully will make clearance more efficient.

Cllr Vacancy

Each member of the Council is to complete their own profiles which should be circulated to the Clerk.

6. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported that the survey within the Parish has been completed and the results are being reviewed and the steering group are meeting on 24 June to consider the results. In the event that the results are positive in that a Community shop is a requirement for the Village then the steering group will seek further advice from the Plunkett Foundation.

7. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Cllr Vernon updated the meeting to report that Cllr Staples and Cllr Vernon met with the Board of the CLT to brief them on the current status of possible land within the Village that could be considered for the development of Affordable Housing. Cllr Vernon mentioned that the CLT Board is meeting with Alison Thompson of English Rural Housing and Tessa O'Sullivan of Action with Communities in Rural Kent on 8 July. The special general meeting of the CLT is due to take place at 3.00 p.m. on 21 September 2019 in the Village hall. Further detail to be advertised in due course.

8. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the ongoing inspections are being carried out by Roy Latham. It was noted that one of the wooden slats on the wood and metal bench has been vandalised and that Cllr Gosbee would ask Mike Ashbee to consider repairing this. This action was proposed by Cllr Staples and seconded by Cllr Cullingworth.

The area beneath the weeping silver birch tree has regrown and Cllr Staples would raise with the Clerk as to whether the groundworks contract includes provision to clear under both the weeping birch and the oak. It was noted that these areas would be cut back on the Village clean-up day in September.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that the hedge of the paddock now needs cutting and Cllr Staples will raise this with the Clerk to ensure that the groundworks contractor carries this out.

9. NOT USED

10. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that three sessions had been held in the last fortnight with five volunteers out of the ten on the list. 13 vehicles were recorded exceeding the speed limit. Cllr Staples noted that more people are required to continue the operation of Speedwatch and specifically an individual is needed to run Speedwatch.

11. ULTRAFAST BROADBAND

Cllr Tuke reported that new grant funding has now been secured with the only caveat to securing funding being that homeowners need to sign up to a one year contract. Cllr Tuke asked the Council to acknowledge and thank Mr L French for his hard work over many years in continuing to pursue broadband for the Village. Mr L French reported that 40 homes have committed to the project and approximately 100 out of 350 on the exchange do need to sign up to ensure the viability of this. There is a meeting with OpenReach and KCC at 6.30 p.m. on 2 July 2019 for a presentation regarding the proposals which is a public meeting. The intention is that homes should sign up to the project by the end of July 2019 and Mr L French thought it would be approximately 12 months for the new infrastructure to be installed. The capital cost to set up the infrastructure to each home would be grant funded and each homeowner would then be required to sign up to a one year contract and pay the relevant monthly fee.

12. HEADCORN AERODROME

Cllr Gosbee reported that the latest airfield meeting was held on 11 June. Cllr Gosbee reported that there was no change on the planning permission situation. There have been two recent complaints regarding an early flight out of the airport to Scotland and also aerobatics flight too close to houses in the Headcorn/Smarden area. Cllr Gosbee noted that there is due to be a Red Arrows flypast on 30 June and the next airshow is to take place on 6/7 July where up to 2,000 people are expected to attend with the RAC assisting with vehicles. The ticket price for the event is £35 per person.

13. LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that she will take the lead in arrangements for the litter pick which is planned for 28 September 2019. Cllr Gosbee offered to source some bulbs for bulb planting in the field. Cllr Cullingworth will report back once the date has been confirmed and the litter picking equipment secured from TWBC and will make all necessary arrangements.

14. ROAD REPORT - General

Cllr Gosbee reported that builders rubble has been dumped in Bettenham Lane/Green Lane which has been reported to TWBC.

The tipping of cannabis plants and heaters in the Village has been cleared.

The abandoned car in Sand Lane has been reported to Lee Jules.

Cllr Gosbee confirmed that Southern Water has capped the water leak on the Headcorn Road by the railway bridge and that this has now been resurfaced.

A 40cm pothole has been reported by Buckhurst Bridge which is being inspected by the Highway Department.

Cllr Gosbee reported on the current proposal for the highway improvement list for the Village to be passed to KCC which is currently for gateway signs, coloured carriageway surfacing, vehicle activated sign, speed indicator device and a rumble strip. Councillors were encouraged to make further suggestions where appropriate.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that the school has written to all parents asking them to consider how and where they park in a sensible fashion. It was noted that the additional car abandoned on Biddenden Road has also been reported to PCSO Lee Jules.

15. TUNBRIDGE WELLS AGREEMENT

Cllr Staples asked for any comments on the proposed agreement to be passed to him by 25 June 2019 which is when Cllr Staples is attending a meeting to review the agreement.

16. PLANNING

New Applications

19/01237/FULL	Whitsunden Farm, Oast, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Erection of single storey extension and two storey extension Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth THREE MEMBERS IN FAVOUR, ONE AGAINST AND ONE ABSTENTION. RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/01404/TCA	Mill Lane Burial Ground, Mill Lane, Frittenden Tree in conservation area notification Noted.
19/01420/19/01419	Little Manor, Staplehurst Road Single storey extension Agreed to be considered at the next meeting as no details on the portal
19/01693	Knoxbridge Farm Variation to condition 2 Agreed to be considered at the next meeting as no details on the portal
19/01310	5 Brickwall Cottages Extension Agreed to be considered at the next meeting as no details on the portal

Outcome of previous applications

19/00772/FULL	Inver, Headcorn Road, Frittenden, Cranbrook, TN17 2EJ Conversion of existing loft space PERMISSION GRANTED
TW/18/3830/R12	Details of the external finish and colour of the buildings and structures in Oxbridge Farm. APPROVED
19/00971/TCA	Glebe House Tree in conservation area NO OBJECTION RAISED

Planning appeals

-

17. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The renewal of membership of Weald of Kent Protection Society was approved proposed by Cllr Staples and seconded by Cllr Cullingworth at a cost of £25.

18. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS - JUNE 2018		£43,252.00			
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102446	£40.00	nil	£40.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire - APA & June
102447	£25.00	nil	£25.00	Mr R C Kemp	Telephone Box Repairs
102448	£201.20	nil	£201.20	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary - June
102449	£57.10	nil	£57.10	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - June
102450	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds maintenance - May
102451	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Bin emptying - May
102452	£25	nil	£25.00	WKPS	Membership renewal
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy - May
TOTAL	£586.84	£35.41	£551.43		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 16th July 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)
Mr J Tuke
Mr R Vernon
Mrs H Cullingworth
Mrs R Riley
Mr L Gosbee

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Mrs H Gosbee and Mr L French

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr L French reported that the use of trail cameras to address fly-tipping was not working out. Mr French has been speaking with Mr M Ballantyne about the work he has been doing with Goudhurst Parish Council (GPC) on establishing a local CCTV network. Mr Ballantyne is putting together a case study for GPC, with a view to rolling out the proposed system across other villages and, thereafter, publicising the existence of a widespread CCTV network to dissuade fly-tippers from coming to this area. Mr Ballantyne will finalise that case study and present his ideas to the Council at the next meeting.

Mr French also reported that a sufficient number of residents have signed up for the fast broadband project to go ahead once a final quote has been received.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Holden and Fairweather

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllrs Gosbee and Cullingworth declared an interest in planning applications 19/1739 & 19/01450 (item 17).

Cllr Vernon declared an interest in planning appeal 18/03479 (item 17).

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

None.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the last Council meeting on 18th June 2019 (as amended for two minor changes) are a true and accurate record and that being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES:

Telephone box

Cllr Cullingworth will be taking this forward over the summer and liaising with Mrs S Andrews and Cllr Riley.

Parish Field – Area under weeping birch

The Clerk confirmed that this area should be regularly mowed or strimmed under the terms of the Grounds Maintenance Contract. She has raised this with the contractor.

Paddock Hedge

Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that the face of the hedge has been cut, but not the top. Cllr Staples queried whether the hedge had been cut back far enough from the edge of the road. The Clerk will raise this with the contractor and ask that the top of the hedge be cut at the earliest opportunity.

The Clerk reported that a resident had commented on the brambles growing through the hedge and across the footpath between Laundry Lane and The Street. Cllr Cullingworth will raise this with the land owner.

Tunbridge Wells Agreement

Cllr Staples explained that this was a statement setting out how TWBC will, amongst other things, interact with Parish Councils. It was not considered at the last Parish Chairmen's meeting because the relevant person was not available. The Clerk reported that the new Leader of TWBC, Cllr McDermott, and his Deputy, Cllr Mackonichie, will be attending the next Parish Council meeting on 17th September 2019 as part of an initiative to improve dialogue between the Borough and Parish Councils. Cllr Staples noted that this should be advertised well in advance of that meeting to give residents an opportunity to attend and meet Cllrs McDermott and Mackonichie.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Cllr Staples has followed up three points raised at the APA with reference to the presentation on rural policing. Chief Inspector Peter Steenhuis has commented that (i) more resources have been applied to speed up response times for calls to the 101 number; (ii) he has not seen any evidenced reports of 'no go areas'; and (iii) whilst fly tipping is a matter for the Local Authority, if any resident catches someone in the act of fly tipping, they should immediately ring 999.

7. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Council will look to fill this vacancy by co-opting. Cllr Tuke will work with Mr L French to devise an online advertising campaign in a bid to generate interest. The Council would, in particular, like to encourage representation from both the younger generation and those living in the Knoxbridge area of the Parish.

8. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN / TRAFFIC CALMING

Cllrs Gosbee and Vernon have been looking at the measures which might reasonably be applied at the three main entry points to the village to discourage speeding. It was felt that the use of speed humps or chicanes would be problematic and prohibitively expensive. They therefore recommended that the Council submit a request to KCC Highways for the installation of vehicle activated signs and red rumble strips, and also for 30mph roundels to be painted on the road surface. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to submit a Highway Improvement Plan making those requests.

Councillor Riley then left the meeting.

9. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that four sessions had been held. 15 vehicles had been recorded exceeding the speed limit. The highest speed recorded was 47 mph, but those exceeding the 30mph limit represented less than 10% of all vehicles recorded. Cllr Staples again noted that more people and,

in particular, a new coordinator were required for the continued operation of Speedwatch. A further appeal for volunteers will be made via Facebook.

10. PARISH CHAIRMEN'S MEETING

Cllr Staples reported that the Visit Tunbridge Wells Website was discussed. Most parishes in the Borough have a slot on this website, but Frittenden does not. Councillors were encouraged to view the website and consider whether it would be useful to include the village on it.

Glass bottles from events held in the Memorial Hall as considered to be commercial waste and should not, therefore, be placed in the bottle banks which are provided for residential use only. It is the responsibility of the hirer to take the bottles away and recycle them.

An independent forum is being set up to consider the future of the Calverly Square development. That forum will include two representatives from the villages. This will not impact on the ongoing redevelopment of the library and museum.

The Local Plan will be going out to public consultation from 20th September to 1st November 2019. Residents should look out for local exhibitions where they will have the opportunity to view the Plan.

Proposed changes to parking in Cranbrook are also going out to public consultation.

11. KALC BRANCH MEETING

Frittenden Parish Council is hosting this meeting at the Memorial Hall on 20th August 2019.

12. LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that arrangements were in place for the litter pick on 28th September 2019. At the end of the last financial year, TWBC indicated that funding was available for groups engaged in village clean-ups and the Council duly requested funding to allow it to purchase 40 sets of litter picking equipment. That request was acknowledged by TWBC, who indicated that its preferred option was to purchase such equipment in bulk and then distribute it between those who had requested funding. Nothing more has been heard from TWBC. The Clerk has chased and will continue to do so.

13. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The survey went well with the greatest number of responses being via the link put on Facebook. The numbers are being crunched and the Steering Committee will meet on 4th September 2019 to consider the results. They will then liaise with the Plunkett Foundation as to the next steps. In the meantime, members of the committee have been visiting other Community Shops.

14. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

The CLT met with English Rural Housing for the purposes of sharing information, but will await the publication of the Local Plan before exploring potential options. It is vital that the meeting to be held at the Memorial Hall at 3pm on 21st September 2019 is well attended by the community. At that meeting, a new Board of Directors will be democratically elected and residents will be able to become members of the CLT by signing up and paying £1. Members will then have a direct say in any future projects run through the CLT.

15. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Weekly inspections are undertaken by Mr R Latham and a record of the results of those inspections is maintained by the Clerk.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents will be undertaking an independent Annual Inspection in July and will provide a written report of its findings.

16. ROAD REPORT - General

There was a serious accident at the top of Satins Hill involving a motorbike and van. That accident was caused by an overhanging branch being dislodged by a lorry or tall trailer. Cllr Gosbee has liaised with the Road Steward, Paul Catt, who has ascertained the ownership of the land on each side of the road. KCC has issued letters to the landowners requiring them to cut back all overhanging trees within 28 days. If any fail to do so, KCC will undertake this work and invoice the landowner(s).

There has been a lot of flytipping, with the worst incident being on the unnamed lane between Bettenham Lane and Hareplain Road. It appears that someone had dismantled a greenhouse and dumped it on the road. Cllr Gosbee considered the large amount of broken glass across the road to be highly dangerous and reported it to both the Local Authority and the Police. He has asked that the road be closed until the glass is cleaned up and will continue to press for the area to be cleared as a priority.

The potholes on Buckhurst Bridge have been mended.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that she had followed a large agricultural vehicle which scrapped along the sides of the Bridge and went on to damage a vehicle outside Larchmere House. If the bridge continues to be used by such vehicles and lorries it will get damaged again. Cllr Gosbee will speak to Cllr Holden about getting a width restriction on the bridge.

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the streetlight opposite Hill House was not working. The Council previously resolved to replace, rather than repair, any streetlight that became faulty as the lanterns are now obsolete. The Clerk will contact the contractor to make the necessary arrangements.

17. PLANNING

New Applications

19/01310/FULL	5 Brickwall Cottages, The Street, Frittenden Erection of 1.5 storey and single storey rear extension; boiler room extension Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/01739/FULL & 19/01450/FULL	1 Junkyard Barn Cottage, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Change of use of existing building to ancillary annex (retrospective) Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL. TWO COUNCILLORS DID NOT VOTE HAVING DECLARED AN INTEREST
19/01419/FULL & 19/01420/LBC	Little Manor, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Demolition of conservatory; single storey rear & side extension; internal alterations Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/1675/FULL	Ayleswade Hopper Hut, Ayleswade Lane, Biddenden Installation of domestic heating oil tank (retrospective) Proposed by Cllr Staples. Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL IF NO PLANNING GROUNDS TO OBJECT. IF SUCH GROUNDS WERE IDENTIFIED FOLLOWING FURTHER RESEARCH BY CLLR VERNON, OBJECTIONS TO BE SUBMITTING CITING THOSE GROUNDS.
19/01693/COUNTY	Knoxbridge Farm, Knoxbridge, Frittenden Variation of Planning Condition Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of previous applications

19/00881/FULL	Poundlands Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Demolition of former barracks; construction of outbuilding, swimming pool & tennis court PERMISSION GRANTED
19/00463/FULL	Pullen Farm, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden, Erection of single storey rear/side extension & alterations to fenestration WITHDRAWN

Planning appeals

- 18/03479/FULL – Development of 1 detached and 2 semi-detached 3-bedroom houses on land adjacent to Ferrers, Sand Lane, Frittenden – This appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations. The Council previously objected to the application on a number of grounds. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would make further representations to address factual errors in the documentation supporting the appeal, restate the objections previously made and raise an additional objection arising from the Planning Conditions applied when permission was granted for the construction of Ferrers. **ONE COUNCILLOR DID NOT VOTE HAVING DECLARED AN INTEREST AND ONE COUNCILLOR ABSTAINED.**

18. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- None

19. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS - JULY 2019					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102453	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire - July
102454	£76.03	nil	£76.03	Mr M Cooper	Tent Team – Replacement items
102455	£142.14	nil	£142.14	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary - July
102456	£59.60	nil	£59.60	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - July
102457	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - June
102458	£28.16	nil	£28.16	Mr M G Ashbee	Bench Repairs
102459	£60.00	nil	£60.00	A.C. Services	Signwriting
102460	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – June
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	Eon	Street lighting energy - June
TOTAL	£623.29	£35.35	£587.94		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.14 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Planning Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 6th August 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr R Riley
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr J Tuke

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Cullingworth and Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk)

2. PLANNING APPLICATION 19/01826/FULL

Oasthouses South West of Cherry Tree Farm, Mill Lane, Frittenden, TN17 2DT – Conversion of a pair of oast buildings into two dwellinghouses, consisting of one four-bedroom dwelling and one three-bedroom dwelling, plus formation of previously removed ‘lean-to’ on western elevation into a bin store, with associated hardstanding, boundary fencing, alterations to walls and floors, changes to fenestration and repair and refurbishment to existing building fabric.

It was noted that this application was extremely thorough, well-supported and completed. Cllr Vernon supported the appropriate conversion of old buildings whose agricultural use had long gone. Planning policy is to re-use rural buildings in a sensitive way. Councillors agreed that if such buildings are not converted, they may be lost or become an onerous charge on the owner, due to being listed.

It was noted that the floorplans shown online did not include the 2nd floor of the 4-bedroom dwelling, but the 4th bedroom could be inferred from the staircase on the plan of the 1st floor and the window on the drawing showing the planned finished exterior.

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to recommend approval.

There being no further applications to consider, the meeting closed at 7.43pm.

Chairman’s Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Thursday 19th September 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley
Cllr L Gosbee

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Mrs H Gosbee and 4 members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident spoke on planning application 19/01086/FULL – The Mobile Home, Pound Hill Field. He strongly objected to that application, which he believed to be misleading. He observed that there is no longer a mobile home on the site, it having been removed following enforcement action by TWBC. The mobile home was only there for the benefit of Mr G Murrell, who has sadly died. The proposed bungalow cannot, therefore, be said to be for his benefit. The resident further commented that the site was outside of the Limits to Built Development and raised issues for Highways due to limited sight lines and the bend on Biddenden Road. He also noted that the condition of the site had deteriorated over the last 3 years.

Another resident also spoke in opposition to the above planning application. He commented on the deterioration of the site, in particular in relation to what he considered to be the trash deposited there, the unsociable working hours and noise emanating from the site. He believed the application to be fallacious because it was said to be for the benefit of Mr Murrell, but was submitted after his death. He also noted that the site fell outside of the Limits to Built Development, which had not been changed in the recently published TWBC Draft Local Plan.

A further resident endorsed the comments made by the above residents.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Vernon and Cllr Fairweather (Borough)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr S Holden (County) confirmed that he had approved a grant of £5,000 from KCC to the Memorial Hall Frittenden Trust to be put towards the refurbishment of the Memorial Hall. Cllr Riley thanked Cllr Holden for his generous support of that project.

Cllr Gosbee had asked whether speed cameras could be put on the A229 at Knoxbridge because there was a problem with speeding, particularly speeding motorbikes, on that stretch of the road. Cllr Holden has taken this up with the Safety Camera Partnership, but advised that their policy for the siting of cameras is entirely driven by casualty statistics. He has checked the Crash Map for the stretch of road in question and notes that no fatalities are recorded. Cllr Holden has tried to

argue that it would be better to put speed prevention measures in place where there was a clear and obvious danger before any fatalities occurred, but he is not optimistic that this argument will be accepted.

KCC has received £29m from Central Government to assist in its preparations for Brexit. Those preparations are well advanced and are focused on keeping the motorways through Kent open. The number plate recognition technology developed as part of the planning for Brexit could be transferred to keeping lorries off Kent's rural roads more generally and a pilot will be run south of Maidstone, in particular the road through Leeds.

KCC's voucher scheme for broadband went live last week. The Government will now only fund 'fibre to premises' and the KCC scheme has been reworked to accommodate that. Cllr Staples noted that Frittenden was leading the way in this regard, as it had a well-developed scheme to bring fibre to all c.300 premises thanks to the hard work of local resident, Mr L French.

Cllr Holden reported that the controversial Tunbridge Wells Theatre Project would be the subject of a vote at a meeting of TWBC on 25th September 2019 and, in his view, was likely to be voted down.

Cllr Staples thanked Cllr Holden for his continued support of the work of the Parish Council. Cllr Holden then left the meeting at 7.55pm

ADVANCED FROM ITEM 16 - PLANNING

Cllr Staples advanced consideration of the following planning application due to it being of primary interest to those members of the public in attendance.

19/01086/FULL – The Mobile Home, Pound Hill Field, Biddenden Road – Replacement of mobile home with bungalow & associated landscaping

Cllr Staples noted that the plans submitted with the application were dated February 2019 and therefore predated Mr Murrell's death, though submitted after his death. However, as the mobile home was given to Mr Murrell personally, this application was in respect of a green field site. The condition of that site was not a planning issue. As an application for a small 2-bedroom property in a village which was lacking small properties, Cllr Staples believed it had some merit, but the site was problematic. Pound Hill Farm was put forward in the call for sites, but was not considered by TWBC due to geographical issues.

Cllr Staples then read out the written comments of Cllr Vernon, who also noted that the site was outside of the Limits to Built Development and, as the mobile home previously on the site only had a temporary personal permission, the proposal could not be considered as a replacement dwelling. It was Cllr Vernon's view that no material considerations had been identified that should permit development of this green field site and that any such development would not conserve or enhance the special character of the adjacent Conservation Area. Cllr Vernon did not feel that development on this site could be said to be sustainable and believed it would have a negative impact on the rural character of the location and village. He also considered the site unsuitable due to highway safety concerns and it was therefore his view that refusal should be recommended.

Cllr Riley queried whether, as a matter of fact, traffic from any new dwelling on the site would be substantially different from that which existed when Mr Murrell resided in the mobile home. Cllr Cullingworth was concerned that, whilst not a planning consideration, the condition of the site could continue to deteriorate if it was not developed, as it was no longer farmed. She considered it beneficial for a small property to be built in a village which was lacking housing of that type and questioned whether a worse situation could arise in the future if this small development was not permitted. Cllr Gosbee noted that, in 1994, Frittenden Parish Council had approved an application to build a very similar bungalow on this site and that it was only not built because TWBC did not accept that Mr Murrell could successfully run an associated agricultural enterprise.

Cllr Riley noted that the proposed bungalow and associated garden would only be on part of the site and asked what would happen to the rest of it if that development was permitted. Cllr Staples understood that the rest of the land would retain its status as green field agricultural land.

This matter then moved to a vote, the result of which is recorded under item 16 of these minutes.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee seconded by Cllr Tuke and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the last Council meeting on 16th July 2019 are a true accurate record of that meeting. It was further proposed by Cllr Riley and seconded by Cllr Tuke and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Planning Meeting on 6th August 2019 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. That being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES:

Telephone box

Cllr Cullingworth is liaising with Mrs S Andrews and will report at the next meeting.

Parish Field – Area under weeping birch

The brambles will be cleared as part of the upcoming Village Clean Up.

Paddock Hedge

The top of the hedge has still not been cut. The Clerk confirmed that she had taken this up with the Grounds Maintenance contractor and will press again for it to be done.

The Council are grateful to the land owners for cutting back the brambles growing across the footpath between Laundry Lane and The Street as soon as this was raised with them.

6. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Tuke reported that he has been working with Mr L French to put together a Facebook campaign to promote interest in the vacant position on the Council. The Council will fill the vacancy by co-opting and it is hoped that under-represented groups, such as the younger generations and those from the Knoxbridge area of the Parish, might come forward to be considered for the role. Cllr Tuke will report to the Council with final wording for approval before the adverts are run.

7. LITTER PICK

The Village Clean Up will take place on 28th September 2019. Cllr Cullingworth has requested another 20 sets of litter picking equipment from TWBC. Cllr Gosbee confirmed that he will be providing bulbs for the children taking part to plant.

8. DRAFT LOCAL PLAN AND CHAIRMEN'S MEETING

The Calverly Park development was discussed at the meeting, together with the Amelia Project (refurbishment of library and museum) which is independent of any other project and should be completed by 2021.

The Draft Local Plan was explained and a full set of papers, including supporting documents, was supplied to each Parish. Those papers will also be on-line from 20th September 2019. Cllr Staples commented that what has been published is only a draft and will be revised before the final Local Plan is adopted in 2021. The Draft has now gone out to public consultation and will be exhibited at the Vestry Hall in Cranbrook on 27th September 2019. Cllr Staples urged everyone to go along and respond with their comments via the TWBC website. Residents should consider the whole of

the plan (e.g. policy themes) and not just the relatively modest development proposed for Frittenden. The Council will consider its own response at the next meeting on 15th October 2019. Cllr Staples noted that the requirements for incorporating affordable housing into any development scheme of over 10 houses will be stricter under the Draft Local Plan. The split between market and affordable housing will now be 60/40 and TWBC will be focusing on the provision of affordable rental properties (with rents at 60% of market value) and shared ownership.

Cllr Staples also commented that TWBC is close to achieving 5 years' housing supply. Once reached, planning arguments based around the lack of supply will fall away.

9. ANNUAL POLICING SURVEY

This can be found on the Kent Police Commissioner's website. It is a short survey that should only take around 5 minutes to complete. It provides residents with an opportunity to have their voices heard on policing matters.

10. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that 1 new recruit has now been fully trained and there are 2 new volunteers in the process of being trained. They are seeing much higher hit rates during the early sessions, with 26% of cars travelling at more than 35 mph some way into the village. However, that percentage represents [25] out of only [98] cars, which does show that the volume of traffic passing through the village is relatively small.

11. USE OF MEMORIAL HALL LAND

Plans to refurbish the Memorial Hall are moving forward. However, as Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee, Cllr Riley wished to clarify that the Memorial Hall is owned by a Charitable Trust and run through the above Committee. It is not owned or operated by the Parish Council. The Committee must be satisfied that any use to which the Hall and/or its land is put accords closely with the charitable objectives set out in the Deed by which the Trust was established, being "to perpetuate the memory of the men of Frittenden... who lost their lives in the service of their country during the Second World War". The Deed stipulates that the Hall is to be used for the purposes of "physical and mental training and recreation and social moral and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms library lectures classes recreations and entertainments or otherwise as may be found expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants of Frittenden... and its immediate vicinity without distinction of sex or of political religious or other opinions".

12. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported that members of the Steering Group had been visiting various community shops to see how they are run. In particular, they have been to a shop set up in a shipping container at Chart Sutton, which looked pretty good. It has been suggested that the Group should focus on establishing a coffee shop first before looking to expand into commodities, as this would address the village's most pressing need for an informal social hub. That idea and all others will be considered at a Public Meeting which will take place at 7.30pm on 14th October 2019 at the Memorial Hall. The purpose of this preliminary meeting is to present the results of the survey and get ideas from the floor.

13. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

The first meeting of the Frittenden Community Land Trust (FCLT) will take place at the Memorial Hall at 3pm on 21st September 2019. At that meeting, residents will have the

opportunity to pay £1 to become members. FCLT now has a website and, for those unable to attend the meeting, a subscription form can be downloaded from that website.

14. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS – ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Inspection Report carried out independently by ROSPA Play Safety in July 2019 did not find very much wrong with the playground. This is in very large part thanks to the work done by Mr R Latham on a weekly basis and the Council wished to express its great appreciation for all that he does. Cllrs Staples and Cullingworth met with Mr Latham to go through the report and identify any remedial works required and a number of those works have already been completed by Mr Latham or organised by him.

A recurring problem is strimmer damage and the Clerk will raise this with the Grounds Maintenance contractor.

Cllr Cullingworth has obtained a quote for the provision and installation of paving slabs to prevent soil erosion at the gates, as well as top soil to fill holes on the mound. Cllr Riley suggested that she might have some spare slabs which could be used and, as this work had not been identified in the Annual Report as urgent, it was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Cullingworth would investigate alternative sources of paving slabs, liaise with the Clerk to ascertain whether alternative quotes should be obtained and report back to the Council at the next meeting.

15. ROAD REPORT - General

Cllr Gosbee reported that there had been a lot of fly tipping over the Summer. The pickup truck supplied by TWBC only comes out if there are multiple fly tips and Cllr Gosbee has discovered that reports of fly tipping submitted online are not getting fed back to the relevant team at TWBC. When Cllr Gosbee telephones them to discuss a fly tipping incident he knows has been reported by a member of the public online, he is often told that TWBC has no record of it.

The fallen branch in London Lane was reported via the emergency line and to the Police and was dealt with very quickly.

Cllr Gosbee has asked KCC Highways for a sign to be erected setting out the width of Buckhurst Bridge as it suffers repeated damage from wide vehicles scrapping along its sides. Unfortunately, KCC Highways did not think that additional signage was necessary.

As noted above, there is an ongoing problem with motorcycles speeding on Knoxbridge Road which Cllr Gosbee has been trying to get addressed.

Cllr Gosbee has cut that part of the Paddock hedge which is not cut under the Grounds Maintenance Contract.

Cllr Staples then waived the Standing Order requiring meetings of the Council to last for no more than 2 hours to allow consideration of the remaining items on the agenda.

16. PLANNING

New Applications

19/02517/FULL	Knoxbridge Farm, Knoxbridge, Frittenden Consultation with Adjoining Authority – Construction of an access road for agricultural and residential use. Change of use of land from agricultural to residential use and landscaping (19/504289/FULL) Proposed by Cllr Staples. Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/02395/FULL	Land to rear of 2 Marsh Cottages, Mill Lane, Frittenden Erection of a dwelling with associated parking, private amenity, landscaping & biodiversity enhancements

	Proposed by Cllr Cullingworth. Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 3 in favour of Approval, 1 Against, 1 Abstention)
19/01086/FULL	The Mobile Home, Pound Hill Field, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Replacement of mobile home with bungalow & associated landscaping Proposed by Cllr Gosbee. Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 3 in favour of Approval, 2 Abstentions)
19/02546/LDCEX	Beale Farmhouse, Sand Lane, Frittenden Lawful Development Certificate (Existing) – Use of land as domestic garden in excess of 10 years NOTED As the documents relating to this application were yet to be published, it will be considered at the next meeting of the Council
19/02490/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Construction of swimming pool outbuilding (retrospective) NOTED As documents relating to this application were not published until late afternoon on the day of the meeting, it will be considered at the next meeting of the Council

Outcome of previous applications

19/01310/FULL	5 Brickwall Cottages, The Street, Frittenden Erection of 1.5 storey and single storey rear extension, boiler room extension PERMISSION GRANTED
19/01675/FULL	Ayleswade Hopper Hut, Ayleswade Lane, Biddenden Installation of a domestic heating oil tank in the garden and change of use of land to provide a larger residential curtilage (retrospective) PERMISSION GRANTED
19/01450/FULL	Junkyard Barn Cottages, 1 Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Change of use of existing buildings to ancillary annex (retrospective) PERMISSION GRANTED
19/01419/FULL & 19/0420/LBC	Little Manor, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Demolition of conservatory, proposed single storey rear and side kitchen extension, internal alterations and external alterations including porch canopy PERMISSION / CONSENT GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None

17. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Asset of Community Value – The Clerk reported that the Council’s application to have the Bell & Jorrocks re-registered as an Asset of Community Value had been accepted.
- Web Accessibility Regulations 2018 – It was agreed to hold this item over for consideration at the next meeting of the Council.
- Metal Detecting – The Clerk reported receipt of a request from an individual for permission to metal detect on the Council’s land. As the only land which might be suitable for such an activity was the Parish Field, it was felt that metal detecting was not compatible with the other, primary, uses of that land (e.g. playing field, football pitch etc.). It was therefore

proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the request be politely declined.

- Polling Place Review – The Clerk reported that TWBC are required to consult on their plans for the location of polling places in future elections. Given that they have no plans to change any of the current polling places, and the Memorial Hall will continue to be used as the polling place for Frittenden, it was not considered necessary to provide any comment.

18. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows, save that payment of TWBC's invoice for election costs will be held back pending receipt of its response on how the printing and postage costs claimed have been incurred:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2019					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102463	£35.58	£5.93	£29.65	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog Bags
102464	£390.00	£65.00	£325.00	Streetlights	Replacement of lantern
102465	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins _ July
102466	£54.95	nil	£54.95	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – August
102467	£182.22	nil	£182.22	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – August
102468	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – July
102469	£111.60	£18.60	£93.00	Playsafe Ltd	Annual Playground Inspection
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy – July
102470	£214.13	£35.68	£178.45	TWBC	Election Costs
102471	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – August
102472	£57.20	nil	£57.20	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – September
102473	£156.16	nil	£156.16	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – September
102474	£60.00	nil	£60.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire (3 x meetings)
102475	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Mr B Millard	Honorarium
102476	£350.00	nil	£350.00	Frittenden PCC	Replacement of lost cheque (18/19)
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy – August
TOTAL	£1,978.92	£169.36	£1,809.56		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.58 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 15th October 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Mrs H Gosbee, Cllr Holden (County) and Cllr Fairweather (Borough).

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None. Cllr Tuke noted that one of the planning applications to be considered related to a site next door to his home. However, as he had no personal or financial interest in the application, that did not constitute a declarable interest pursuant to the Code of Conduct.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that an Extraordinary Meeting of TWBC had been held on 8th October 2019 and, after much debate, it voted to cease the Calverly Square Project. 28 voted against continuing the Project, 12 voted for and 8 abstained. Cllr Fairweather felt that this result reflected the views of the majority of residents in Sissinghurst and Frittenden, particularly given the recent rise in total projected costs from £90m to c.£108m. It was not yet clear what would now happen to the Town Hall and Theatre as various options were being considered, to include refurbishing the existing buildings. A cross-party group would also look at what to do with the redundant office space that was to have formed part of the Project.

Cllr Fairweather recognised that there had been huge problems with the roll out of the new waste collection and recycling service, particularly, but not exclusively, for rural addresses. He said that it was unacceptable that black bins had not yet been delivered and extremely unhelpful that the online reporting system did not accept reports of collections that had been missed for more than 2 days. He had spoken to the relevant officers at TWBC and encouraged residents to report any continuing problems to him by email (Andrew.Fairweather@tunbridgewells.gov.uk).

Cllr Fairweather noted that the recently published Draft Local Plan (DLP) had only a limited impact on Frittenden, because only one site had been allocated in the Parish. However, it could experience a knock-on effect from the proposed development of 900 new houses in Sissinghurst & Cranbrook or, indeed, the development plans for the wider area. He therefore encouraged residents to submit comments on the DLP. The deadline for doing so had been extended to 5pm on 15th November 2019 and various workshops and advice sessions were being held to help

residents draft their responses. Workshops were to take place at the Vestry Hall in Cranbrook on 23 October (8pm), 25 October (3pm) and 30 October (8pm). Drop-in advice sessions were to take place at the Sissinghurst & Cranbrook Parish Office on 24 October (11am to 3pm) and at the Milk House on 21 October (4pm to 5pm) and 22 October (7pm to 8pm).

Cllr Fairweather reported that he continued to press for speed cameras to be deployed on the A229, particularly in light of the recent succession of accidents. Cllr Holden (County) noted that he and Helen Grant MP had set up a Speeding Committee in 2014 to try and address the problem of speeding and they had had some success in getting the Police to support Speedwatch. However, it appeared to him that there had been some back sliding and pressure now needed to be put on the Police again to prioritise anti-speeding measures.

Cllr Holden reported that Paul Carter had stood down as Leader of KCC. The newly elected leader of the Conservative Group was Roger Gough, who currently had the Education Portfolio. Cllr Holden continued with his struggle to get lorries off rural roads and hoped that there would soon be progress on the pilot scheme, whereby lorries would be banned from using routes other than the A229 or A274 in the area south of Maidstone except when delivering to local businesses. Cllr Holden confirmed that preparations for Brexit were well underway. KCC was comfortable that the arrangements made for lorries travelling to the Kent ports would keep the motorways open.

4. SAFETY RAILINGS AT FRITTENDEN SCHOOL

Cllr Cullingworth reported that she had made an urgent request to KCC for safety railings to be installed outside Frittenden Primary School. She had been told that the request needed the support of the Parish Council and Borough/County Councillors. Cllrs Fairweather and Holden confirmed their support and Cllr Holden agreed to follow the request up with the relevant officers at KCC. It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council strongly urge KCC to provide railings as an urgent safety measure.

Cllrs Holden and Fairweather then left the meeting.

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the last Council meeting on 19th September 2019 are a true accurate record of that meeting. That being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES:

Telephone box

Cllr Cullingworth is meeting with Mrs S Andrews to measure up and discuss the way forward.

Parish Field – Area under weeping birch

Some of the brambles have been cleared and a resident has very kindly offered to trim the rest.

Paddock Hedge

The hedge has now been cut.

7. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Tuke is finalising the adverts and Councillor profiles that will be put on Facebook. The initial advert will explain the process that must be followed for a Councillor to be co-opted on to the Council and it is hoped that the Facebook campaign will encourage residents, particularly those from under-represented groups, to put their names forward for consideration.

8. DRAFT LOCAL PLAN (DLP)

Councillors had attended the recent exhibition in Cranbrook and expressed some concern at the level of housing allocated to some areas in light of the lack of infrastructure. Cllr Vernon noted that the DLP represented a long-term strategy which broadly made sense when considered against the number of new houses central government required the Borough to deliver by 2036. In his view, it made sense to focus development on larger more sustainable settlements such as Paddock Wood and Cranbrook, or the Garden Village, where new infrastructure would be built in to the development. However, he felt that Sissinghurst and Hawkhurst had come off badly, because the lack of infrastructure rendered those sites unsustainable. However, it was felt by all that the allocation of a single site of c.28 houses in Frittenden was fair. Cllr Vernon noted that TWBC had confirmed that 40% of any new homes built on that site would have to be affordable (i.e. c.11 of 28) and, of that 40%, 60% would have to be rented at 60-65% of open market rents (i.e. c.7 of 28). This would go some way towards meeting the Parish's need for affordable housing. The DLP set out how financial contributions made by any developer of that site could be applied for the benefit of the Parish and it was therefore important that the community's priorities were accurately reflected. As drafted, Cllr Vernon felt that the 'wish list' looked rather generic. Cllr Staples agreed that there were inaccuracies which needed to be corrected and that some of the items were clearly not relevant. For example, the Parish was reasonably well placed for primary education and residents went all over the Borough, and beyond, for secondary education. Further, the project spearheaded by Lance French meant that, when implemented, improvements to broadband connectivity would no longer be a priority for the Parish. However, the Memorial Hall and the provision of more parking and bus routes serving the Parish were clear priorities. Cllr Staples asked whether the Council should also consider commenting on the wider impact of the DLP as, whilst not directly impacting on Frittenden, the policies and themes set out in the DLP could concern residents, e.g. if the traffic routes they used to commute to work were overloaded by any new development. As a general point, Cllr Staples considered it inaccurate for the DLP to refer to Tunbridge Wells as a cultural centre given that the Calverly Square Project would not now be going ahead. He also felt that a Park and Ride scheme should be introduced for Tunbridge Wells.

It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Vernon would draw together the points discussed in relation to the proposals for Frittenden, draft the comments to be submitted on behalf of the Council and consider whether that response should also make wider comment.

9. WEB ACCESSIBILITY REGULATIONS 2018 / WEBSITE

Cllr Tuke commented that the use of personal email addresses by Parish Councillors was perceived as a risk in relation to GDPR. The Clerk will research ICO guidance in this regard and report back. Cllr Tuke noted that if a new website was created in order to meet the Council's obligations under the above regulations, a domain could be set up to give Councillors designated Parish Council email addresses and thereby eliminate this risk. In the meantime, Councillors should ensure that any personal devices used to access emails relating to Parish Council business are password protected.

Given that the current website provider will be charging for its services from September 2020, Cllr Tuke considered it worth investigating the cost of designing a new website that would comply with the regulations. He will obtain three quotes and report back. In the meantime, the Clerk will investigate what providers are being used by other local parishes and whether grant funding could be available for the cost of updating the website.

10. LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth reported that 43 volunteers attended the Village Clean Up and c.30 bags of rubbish were filled. This is an improvement on the number of bags filled in previous years. TWBC provided litter picking equipment but, sadly, not enough high visibility jackets were

included and TWBC failed to provide gloves. However, the bags of rubbish were cleared relatively quickly. The Council is extremely grateful to Ivor and Carol Jauncey, Rosie and Sean Croucher and the geocachers for their help and support in making the day a success.

11. CIVIL AMENITY VEHICLE (CAV)

The Clerk reported that a number of Parish Councils are reconsidering the need for, or frequency of visits by, the CAV in light of the fact that the new waste collection regime has expanded the range of items which can be collected from the kerbside. Parish Councils are required to pay for this service and some are considering whether that cost can still be justified. There is a risk that TWBC could withdraw the CAV if it is felt that it is not being sufficiently well used. Councillors felt that the CAV is well used by Frittenden residents and the Council will therefore keep this matter under review.

12. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that there had been 4 sessions with 18 vehicles out of 198 being recorded at 10% above the 30mph speed limit. The level of offenders in Biddenden Road was 20% on one occasion with a top speed of 52 mph being recorded.

13. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported that c.35 people attended a meeting on 14th October 2019 to discuss plans for the community shop. It was felt that the meeting was positive and there have been some useful offers of help arising from it, but Cllr Gosbee would have liked to have seen more of the younger generation in attendance. The next step is to seek the involvement of the Plunkett Foundation, after which a further public meeting will be held.

14. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

The first meeting of the Frittenden Community Land Trust (FCLT) took place on 21st September 2019. They exceeded their target of getting 100 members of the FCLT signed up. There are currently 111 members and it is hoped that this will rise to 150 by Christmas. The next meeting will be to reappoint the Board and find new Board members. Details of that meeting will be publicised in due course.

15. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the quote obtained by Cllr Cullingworth for the installation of paving slabs at the gateways, subject to possible reduction if suitable alternative slabs can be sourced. Cllr Cullingworth reported that she has pruned overhanging branches of the oak trees. Cllr Cullingworth also reported that she had recently been approached by a parent who said that, sometime before the summer holidays, their son had fallen off the monkey bars and broken his arm. Cllr Cullingworth advised the parent to report this incident to Cllr Staples. Cllr Staples confirmed that he had not received any such report to date and the Clerk confirmed that she had not been notified of any incident either. Cllr Staples questioned whether anything could be done to mitigate such incidents in light of the fact that the playground is inspected weekly and the Annual Report undertaken by RoSPA did not raise any relevant concerns. The Clerk will review the guidance given by RoSPA on signage. In the meantime, the Clerk was instructed to notify insurers of a circumstance which could give rise to a claim in accordance with the Council's obligations under the terms of its public liability insurance policy.

16. ICY ROADS

Cllr Staples questioned whether a salt bin was needed where water runs across the road by Ridgefield. Cllr Gosbee had already raised this with KCC and stated that, if a bin was to be installed, it would have to be provided by the Council as KCC would not fund this.

17. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (HIP)

Cllr Vernon reported that a first draft had been put together which asked for rumble strips to be installed and 30mph roundels to be painted on to the road surface at each of the village gateways. It also requested a sign that flashed up the speed of any vehicle exceeding 30 mph. That sign would be portable, powered by a rechargeable battery, and moved between three poles positioned around the village at least every two months. Once the HIP had been finalised with the proposed positions of the poles, it would be submitted to KCC who would cost the work and confirm whether it would meet any of those costs. It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that this be taken forward by Cllr Vernon.

18. ROAD REPORT - General

Cllr Gosbee reported that two trees had come down on to the road after being hit by high lorries. Those trees had been cleared.

Potholes through the village and some of the potholes on Biddenden Road had been mended. Tree work had been done up Satin's Hill. Paul Catt had advised Cllr Gosbee that the Inspector had looked at what had been done and would shortly report on whether that work was satisfactory.

Fly tipping continued to be a serious problem with a large number of tyres being dumped on both Grandshore Lane and Staplehurst Road. Some of those tyres had been collected but not all. The reference number for this incident is 148987169. Unfortunately, online reports of fly tipping were still not getting through to the relevant officers.

The new salt bin for Grandshore Lane would be arriving in November.

There was still a problem with water on the road at Ridgefield and Cllr Gosbee would continue to follow this up.

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the streetlight by Street Farm was not working. The Clerk confirmed that the contractor will be instructed to replace the lantern in accordance with the Council's policy of replacing, rather than repairing, the streetlights which are now obsolete. The Clerk had received a report of blocked drains opposite the door to 2 Bakery Close and by the Parish Noticeboard. Cllr Gosbee would raise this with KCC.

Cllr Staples waived the Standing Order requiring meetings of the Council to last for no more than 2 hours to allow consideration of the remaining items on the agenda.

19. PLANNING

New Applications

19/02546/LDCEX	Beale Farmhouse, Sand Lane, Frittenden Lawful Development Certificate (Existing) Use of land as domestic garden in excess of 10 years Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/02490/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Construction of swimming pool outbuilding (Retrospective) Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/02360/FULL	The Stables, Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden

	<p>Removal of Condition 16 (Use as Holiday Accommodation) of Planning Permission 15/503622/FULL Cllr Vernon commented that, while this proposal was for a modest dwelling, it was remote from the village centre. The site was not considered sustainable when the planning condition was imposed and nothing had materially changed since that date.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO OBJECT (Vote: 2 in favour of objecting, 1 against, 3 abstentions)</p>
19/02653/FULL	<p>East Barn, Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Conversion of existing Dutch barn to create a single residential dwelling and change of use of land, together with new driveway and landscape/ecological enhancement.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 5 in favour of approval, 1 abstention)</p>
19/02682/AGRIC	<p>Brissenden Farm Land & Buildings, Sand Lane, Frittenden Prior notification for new track/road to create a new stretch of farm/road linking both sides of a large farmyard complex for year round access, together with formation of hard access area.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Gosbee. RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL</p>

Outcome of previous applications

19/01237/FULL	<p>Whitsunden Farm Oast, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Erection of single storey extension and two storey extension.</p> <p>PERMISSION GRANTED</p>
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Planning appeals

- None

Cllr Staples addressed comments made to TWBC in opposition to a planning application which the Council had recommended be approved. Some of those comments suggested that proper procedure had not been followed when the Council resolved to recommend approval. Cllr Staples wished to make it clear that the meeting was quorate and the issues were fully discussed before the matter was put to the vote. In particular, it had been pointed out that the proposal amounted to development of a green field site and, in his absence, Cllr Vernon's comments on the application had been read out in full. Personal friendships were not relevant to the Council's consideration of applications and did not amount to disclosable interests. Cllr Staples considered the comments made to be a slight on the Council and a slight on him personally as Chairman of the Council, which he took objection to. Cllr Riley commented that it had been a very difficult meeting, but that Councillors were required to set aside any personal feeling and consider what was in the interests of the Parish.

20. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The Clerk reported that TWBC had asked for details of any Christmas events taking place in the parishes so they could be publicised in the next edition of Local Magazine. It was noted that Frittenden Christmas Market would take place on the first Saturday in December.

21. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – OCTOBER 2019					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102478	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire - October
102479	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - September
102480	£35.58	£5.93	£29.65	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog Bags
102481	£62.40	nil	£62.40	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – September
102482	£341.38	nil	£341.38	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – September
102483	£320.00	£53.34	£266.66	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – September
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	Eon	Street lighting energy – September
TOTAL	£856.72	£67.95	£788.77		
TENT TEAM					
102484	£275.00	nil	£275.00	Mr M Cooper	Refund of cost of moving container
TOTAL	£275.00	nil	£275.00		

- The Clerk reported TWBC's response to her challenge to the printing costs claimed as part of the election costs payable by the Council. Those costs were incurred because polling cards are printed before it is known whether an election will be contested or not. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to meet the costs claimed, because the Council is obliged to do so, but to notify TWBC that it is not happy about the above policy.

22. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Riley noted that an event was being planned for the Memorial Hall around VE Day as the Hall was established in memory of those lost in World War II. Further details will follow in due course.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.06 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at St Mary's Church, Upper Room, Frittenden on Tuesday 19th November 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), William Benson (Chief Executive of TWBC), Cllr McDermott (Leader of TWBC), Cllr Mackonochie (TWBC Cabinet Member for Communities) Cllr Holden (KCC) and Cllr Fairweather (TWBC), Mrs H Gosbee & 1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None.

3. CLLR ALAN McDERMOTT & CLLR MACKONOHIE Q&A

The meeting was also attended by William Benson, the Chief Executive of TWBC, who gave a short presentation on the challenges faced by the Borough Council, summarised under the headings Finance, Centralisation, Growth & Infrastructure and Changes to the High Street. Mr Benson highlighted that funding from Central Government had reduced from £4.6m to nil over the last 10 years. For every £1 paid in Council Tax, 10p goes to TWBC and it gets 4p in every £1 of Business Rates. In order to meet Government targets, TWBC is substantially increasing the number of new homes being delivered to 692 per year, but it recognises that this growth needs to be supported by improvements in infrastructure. It is also delivering key projects such as The Amelia Cultural & Learning Hub in Tunbridge Wells, Dowding House in Paddock Wood and community hubs at Cranbrook, Southborough and Paddock Wood.

Cllr Mackonochie then spoke about how TWBC and community initiatives had succeeded in reducing rough sleeping in the Borough from 21 recorded individuals in 2017/18 to 7 in 2018/19. This fall is thought to be due to the holistic approach being adopted, with a range of help and resources being offered to such individuals. However, homelessness, as distinct from rough sleeping, remains high. TWBC has opened Dowding House to provide temporary accommodation for homeless individuals and families with access the help referred to above, and they have already been successful in getting residents back into permanent accommodation. The Draft Local Plan provides that the affordable housing element of new developments will have to

be made up of 50% Affordable Housing (at 80% of market rent) and 50% Social Housing (at 60% of market rent).

Cllr McDermott then addressed the new waste/recycling collection service. He acknowledged the widespread problems experienced by residents and stated that TWBC was working very hard with the contractor to address those problems, with some Town Hall staff going out to collect waste themselves. In response to questions from Cllrs Vernon and Staples, Mr Benson confirmed that lessons had been learned and that the problems were being rectified entirely at the contractor's expense. TWBC is also liaising with KCC to ensure a better flow of traffic at the tip in the future as this has been one of the causes of delay.

Cllr McDermott also addressed the Draft Local Plan. Comments submitted as part of the recent consultation were being considered and a new Local Plan would be drawn up in light of those comments. The Council would then have an opportunity to resubmit any comments it felt had not been taken into account in the new Local Plan. Cllr Staples noted that, before the Draft Local Plan was drawn up, there had been consultation as to where new houses in the Parish might go and the Council felt that it had been listened to. However, there appeared to be a mismatch between the limited employment opportunities in the East of the Borough and the number of new houses to be built in Cranbrook, Sissinghurst and Hawkhurst. This meant that new residents would have to travel to work, particularly to the train stations at Marden and Staplehurst, thereby increasing the pressure on local roads.

Cllr Staples also asked how TWBC could promote Tunbridge Wells as a cultural centre in light of the cancellation of the Calverly Park project. Mr Benson confirmed that a cross party group was looking at what else might be done out of the failure of that project but, in the meantime, the Amelia Project was going forward, work would start on the cinema site in early 2020 and the landowner was putting £1.1m into refurbishing the shopping centre.

Cllr Vernon raised the issue of the Weald of Kent Sports Centre, which has suffered from underinvestment and poor management for some time. It was becoming dirtier, more broken and was not fit for purpose. He stated that the East of the Borough needed a quality facility, particularly in light of the extent of the new housing planned for the area. Mr Benson agreed to investigate the complaints made about the current state of the Sports Centre.

Cllr Staples highlighted that fly tipping was an issue of very considerable concern locally. TWBC used to be very good at removing fly-tipped waste but the response time was getting worse. Cllr McDermott pointed out that if waste was fly tipped on the highway it was KCC's responsibility to remove it and if it was on private land, it was the landowners' responsibility to do so. However, Cllr Staples noted that the waste was often dumped on the verges, which were something of a grey area. TWBC had previously cleared such waste within 24 to 48 hours. At the end of the discussion, Cllr Staples thanked Cllrs McDermott and Mackonochie and Mr Benson for taking the time to come to the meeting and giving the Council an opportunity to vent some of the frustrations of local residents. Cllr McDermott stated that he was happy to come back any time as he understood how important it was to engage with the Parishes.

Cllrs McDermott and Mackonochie and Mr Benson then left the meeting.

4. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather noted that the issues on which he intended to report had already been covered off in the discussions with Cllrs McDermott and Mackonochie and Mr Benson. However, he reiterated that any ongoing problems with the waste/recycling collection service should be reported to him by email (Andrew.Fairweather@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) and he would continue to press the relevant officers to address those problems. Cllr Staples expressed the Council's great appreciation for all that Cllr Fairweather had done to help and support residents on this issue.

Cllr Holden advised that he had been appointed Chairman of the KCC Committee for the Environment and Transport. He would continue to press for the London Lorry Scheme to be brought into Kent and reported that he had received a very favourable response when meeting with Central Government on that issue. On the environment side, Cllr Holden will look to develop initiatives to address the problem of plastics.

Cllr Vernon noted that, apart from fly-tipping, the biggest issue for local residents was speeding on the Parish's roads. The Council is developing a Highway Improvement Plan which will shortly be submitted to KCC. Given that they have made it clear that speed mitigation measures will only be funded where crash data confirms there is a history of casualties, it is unlikely that KCC will fund the improvements sought and the cost is likely to be well outside the budget available to the Council. Cllr Holden confirmed that, regrettably, he had no funds available for speed mitigation projects and could not, therefore, offer the Council any assistance in that regard.

Cllrs Holden and Fairweather then left the meeting.

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the last Council meeting on 15th October 2019 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. That being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Safety Railings by Frittenden School

Cllr Cullingworth has been advised by David Weller at KCC that her request for safety railings is being considered and that a response should be received within the next few weeks.

Telephone box

Cllr Cullingworth reported that she has obtained a noticeboard from the school and has cut the shelves. Cllr Riley has donated a basket which will be lined and Cllr Cullingworth hoped that the installation would be completed by Christmas.

Icy Roads

Cllr Staples noted that KCC will not fund a salt bin outside Ridgefield and asked whether this was something the Council would consider funding, given the ongoing problem of water flowing across the road. It was agreed that this would be considered further under agenda item 15 (Road Report).

Election Costs

Cllr Staples asked whether TWBC had replied to the Council's comments about the wasteful nature of the decision to print polling cards before it was known whether Parish elections would be contested. The Clerk confirmed that no response had been received.

7. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Tuke reported that the first Facebook advert would be ready to publish once the copy had been amended as previously discussed. Cllrs Staples and Riley will review the copy and provide suggested amendments.

8. WEB ACCESSIBILITY REGULATIONS 2018 / WEBSITE

Cllr Tuke reported that he had gone through a list of website providers sourced by the Clerk and reviewed their products. He had also costed a 'home made' system with Lance French. Cllr Tuke

had asked one provider, Hugo Fox, to point him to what they had done for a small Parish Council. They had directed him to the website of Little Marlow Parish Council, which Cllr Tuke felt was easy to use and could be recreated to meet the Council's needs. Hugo Fox had confirmed that a similar website could be provided to the Council at no cost, as such pro bono services were funded by the commercial work it did. This would mean that the only potential cost in creating a new website which complied with the 2018 Regulations would be those incurred in registering a domain. However, Lance French advised that this could also be done at no cost and he was happy to assist the Council in that regard.

9. SPEEDWATCH

There had been 5 sessions planned for the last month, but one was cancelled due to the lack of available volunteers and one was cancelled due to the weather. In the sessions which took place, 17 out of 109 vehicles were recorded exceeding the 30mph speed limit, with the highest speed being 46mph. Another 5 sessions are planned over the next 2 weeks.

Cllr Staples noted that the equipment needed to be recalibrated and he would arrange for this to be done in December.

10. TENT TEAM END OF YEAR REPORT

Mike Cooper had provided the Clerk with an end of year report which recorded that the Tent Team had grossed £1,490 from 10 bookings this season. Only £76.03 had been spent on maintenance, together with £275 on moving the Tent Team container to accommodate the planned renovation of the Memorial Hall and surrounding land. However, expenditure would need to be incurred before the start of next season to replace some of the tent panels. The net income was therefore £938.97 and the Equipment Fund held a total of £4,855.69 as at 31st October 2019. That healthy balance was largely due to there having been a couple of years (2017 and 2019) without donations being made from the Fund. Mr Cooper therefore encouraged any local organisations who might benefit from a donation to come forward. The Tent Team usually offered to fund 50% of large expenditures, on the basis that the organisation would match the donation, but that was negotiable.

The Tent Team would also be grateful for any new volunteers who wished to join them.

11. MEMORIAL HALL UPDATE

Cllr Riley reported that the Memorial Hall AGM was attended by 35 residents, who provided comments on the draft plans for the renovation of the Hall. Those comments had been incorporated into the plans to be submitted to TWBC for Planning purposes. The Committee had obtained pro bono legal advice on the implications of having a community shop, in the form of a pre-fabricated wooden building, on the Hall's land and it was working through the issues raised by that advice.

Cllr Riley noted that it had been hoped that private funding from residents could be matched by grant funding from KCC, but it was not clear whether the relevant documentation could be prepared in time. In any event, a very generous donation of £50,000 had been received from a local resident, which gave the committee a platform when seeking alternative grant funding. Cllr Riley expressed the Committee's immense gratitude to Andrew Dack, who has led the discussions with KDS. His input had been invaluable in getting the plans to the stage they are now.

12. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported that, as a result of the recent public meeting and positive local response, the Plunkett Foundation had accepted the project as one it can give assistance to. A few more people had expressed an interest in joining the committee and it had received an offer of help from someone who had set up a shop locally in a prefabricated wooden building. The committee will

be meeting again on 20th November 2019. Cllr Gosbee expressed his thanks to Berni Cooper, who has been doing a great deal of work on this project and has been particularly helpful in providing focus and direction.

13. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Cllr Vernon reported that over 120 members had been signed up, which was well in excess of the target of 100. The CLT hopes to be able to report before Christmas on discussions which are currently taking place. Cllr Vernon noted that Stewart Hagerty is doing a very good job heading up the CLT and is putting a great deal of time and effort into it.

14. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth had spoken to Roy Latham, who confirmed that he was happy to continue carrying out the weekly playground inspections. The Clerk confirmed that no issues had been identified with the equipment, but Mr Latham had noted that c.100 dog bags had been taken from the dispenser and simply flung around the field.

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the slabs offered by Cllr Riley were, unfortunately, too big and it was therefore proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Mark be instructed to go ahead with the installation of new slabs at the gateways as per his quote.

The Clerk reported that Kent Grassland Services had quoted £120 for rolling the Parish Field, together with £75 for improving the drainage by slitting or £200 by verti draining. Given that the work is unlikely to be able to be completed until the Spring, Cllr Staples suggested that this matter be considered further when dealing with tendering for the 2020/21 Grounds Maintenance Contract.

15. ROAD REPORT - General

Cllr Gosbee reported that KCC are no longer prepared to supply a salt bin for Grandshore Road. However, all existing bins have been filled with salt. Cllr Gosbee has reported the damage to the salt bin at the end London Lane, as well as a damaged tree branch which is hanging dangerously low on London Lane. He has been told that the branch will be removed.

Cllr Gosbee had requested that the lines on the edge of the road be renewed from the Sissinghurst crossroads to the village, but was told that this work is only done in the summer. Cllr Gosbee pointed out that it was in the winter, particularly on foggy nights, when the edges of the road needed to be clearly seen.

Cllr Gosbee has also requested Give Way signs at the bottom of London Lane and this is being considered.

Potholes have been mended on Biddenden Road, but Cllr Gosbee did not know whether his request for sludge-gulping had yet been actioned.

Cllr Vernon reported that the Council's Highway Improvement Plan was being finalised.

PLANNING

New Applications

19/02603/FULL	Havisham House, Bell Lane, Frittenden Change of use from redundant offices to two residential flats with no external alterations Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
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19/02902/FULL & 19/02903/LBC	Little Manor, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Proposed single storey rear and side kitchen extension; internal alterations and external alterations including porch canopy. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/03080/FULL	Buckhurst Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Conversion of existing barn to residential use for 2 dwellings Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/03081/FULL	Buckhurst Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Conversion of existing barn to residential use. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
19/03274/PNQCLA	The Barn at Brissenden Farm Land, Sand Lane, Frittenden Prior notification for the Change of Use of a building and land within its curtilage from an agricultural use to a use falling within Class C3 (Dwellinghouse) APPLICATION NOTED.

Cllr Staples waived the Standing Order requiring meetings of the Council to last for no more than 2 hours to allow consideration of the remaining items on the agenda.

Outcome of previous applications

19/02397/FULL	Knoxbridge Farm, Knoxbridge, Frittenden Construction of an access road for agricultural and residential use; change of use of land from agricultural to residential use, plus landscaping PERMISSION GRANTED
19/02546/LDCEX	Beale Farm House, Sand Lane, Frittenden Lawful Development Certificate (Existing) – Use of land as a domestic garden in excess of 10 years APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
19/02360/FULL	The Stables, Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Removal of Condition 16 (Use as Holiday Accommodation) of Planning Permission 15/503622/FULL) PERMISSION GRANTED
19/02490/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Construction of swimming pool outbuilding (Retrospective) PERMISSION REFUSED
19/01086/FULL	The Mobile Home, Pound Hill Field, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Replacement of mobile home with bungalow & associated landscaping PERMISSION REFUSED
19/02653/FULL	East Barn, Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Conversion of existing Dutch barn to create a single residential dwelling and change of use of land, together with new driveway and landscape/ecological enhancement PERMISSION GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None

16. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The Clerk reported that the council had been given notice of a Tree Preservation Order (ref: 0022/2019/TPO) in respect of an oak near the eastern boundary of Burnt House Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden and a sweet chestnut near the eastern boundary of Foxearth Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden.
- The Council had also been given notice of a One-Way Order made by KCC to introduce one-way traffic flow at the entry points to Bell Lane at the junction with Headcorn Road (A274). This will create a south arm entry lane on which traffic will only flow in a southerly direction and a north arm entry lane on which traffic will only flow in an easterly direction. The Clerk noted that work was already underway to make these changes to the junction layout.
- Cllr Staples advised that he was unable to attend the KCC Highways Parish Seminar on 20th November 2019. Unfortunately, none of the other Council members were able to attend.

17. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – NOVEMBER 2019					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102485	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - October
102486	£61.61	£11.87	£69.54	Stationery Express UK Ltd	Stationery – April to October
102487	£65.40	nil	£65.40	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk’s Expenses – November
102488	£417.42	nil	£417.42	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk’s Salary – November
102489	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance - October
102490	£390.00	£65.00	£325.00	Streetlights	Replacement Lantern
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy – October
TOTAL	£1,192.97	£112.28	£1,080.49		
TENT TEAM					
102491	£200.00	nil	£200.00	Bell & Jorrocks	Contribution to Tent Team Lunch
TOTAL	£200.00	nil	£200.00		

- Cllr Staples indicated that there was insufficient time for proper consideration of the draft budget and it was agreed that this item would be postponed to the next meeting of the Council.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.48 pm.

Chairman’s Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Wednesday 11th December 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Holden (KCC), Cllr Fairweather (TWBC) & Mrs H Gosbee

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllr Riley declared an interest in planning application 19/03404/FULL as Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee.

Cllr Staples declared a family connection to one of the proposed recipients of a s137 donation.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather noted that the new waste collection service continued to be an issue. Last week 125 households were missed due to rounds not being completed. The number of vehicles that could be used on rural roads remained an issue, together with queuing times at the tip. Cllr Fairweather is pressing for the Chief Executive of TWBC and the officers in charge of waste collection to attend a public meeting to explain to residents how this situation had arisen and what was being done about it. In the meantime, residents should continue to report any problems they have to Cllr Fairweather and he will liaise with the relevant officers to get them resolved as quickly as possible. Cllr Fairweather is aware that the fines being incurred by the contractor for failures in the service it is providing currently amount to c.£250,000. He understands that spot checks are carried out at the tip and, if it is found that operatives are emptying food caddies into the general waste, further fines will be incurred.

Cllr Holden has suggested that there should be a system of compensation paid to residents by the contractor for missed bin collections, along the same lines as the 'delay and repay' scheme applied on the railways.

Cllr Fairweather has also spoken to officers at TWBC to get fly-tipping removed. This was actioned within 24 hours of his request but he noted that it should not take an intervention by him to get this done. Once again, residents should contact him if they have any difficulties getting fly tipped waste removed by TWBC.

Cllr Holden has asked for a safety audit of the A229 at the junction with Heartenoak Road, Hawkhurst, following the recent fatal crash. He has chaired his first meeting of the Environment and Transport Committee and set out the themes he wants to focus on over the next year, being getting heavy goods vehicles off rural roads and tree planting. Cllr Holden hopes to involve Parish Councils in the latter.

Cllr Holden advised that he cannot support TWBC's Draft Local Plan because of the number of houses allocated to Sissinghurst & Cranbrook and Hawkhurst. He believes that development on the scale proposed will have a detrimental effect on surrounding parishes, to include Frittenden. Cllr Holden is trying to get a meeting with Senior Management at the Weald Sports Centre to address the issues raised at the last Council meeting and he invited Cllr Vernon to attend that meeting.

Cllrs Holden and Fairweather then left the meeting.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the last Council meeting on 19th November 2019 are a true and accurate record of that meeting, subject to the handwritten amendment of the date of the meeting from 21st to 19th November 2019. That being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Safety Railings by Frittenden School

Cllr Cullingworth's request for safety railings has been refused. KCC have suggested that the addition of safety railings would mean that the path would be too narrow to meet current regulations. Cllr Staples commented that this was not satisfactory and that there must be a way around this problem to ensure the safety of children. Any potential minor obstruction of the footpath must be safer than doing nothing. Cllr Cullingworth will respond setting out the Council's dissatisfaction and copy in Cllrs Holden and Fairweather.

Telephone box

Cllr Cullingworth reported that this project is moving forward and should be completed early in the New Year.

Councillor Vacancy

Cllr Riley made some helpful comments on the wording of the adverts to be posted on the Frittenden Facebook page and Cllr Tuke will now be taking this forward to publication.

Website

Cllrs Tuke and Staples commented that they were impressed by the website put together by Hugo Fox for Little Marlow. The quality of the product is very good, particularly considering it was produced at no cost to that Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Tuke contact Hugo Fox to instruct them to start work on a new website for the Council which complied with the 2018 regulations on accessibility. Cllr Tuke confirmed that Hugo Fox would not charge for this service but modest costs might be incurred in securing the relevant domain name.

Minor works to play area

Cllr Cullingworth reported that slabs would be laid at the gateways on the weekend of 14/15 December 2019, weather permitting.

6. MEETING DATES 2020

Meeting dates for 2020 were agreed. They will follow the usual pattern of the third Tuesday in every month, except for August when no meeting is held and December when the meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month.

7. SPEEDWATCH

There had been 5 sessions typically recording c.15% offenders. Cllr Staples reported a particularly worrying incident in which a vehicle towing a trailer swerved towards the Speedwatch volunteers and aggressively sounded its horn. This incident has been reported to PCSO Lee Jules who will investigate.

8. PLAYGROUND

Inspections

Cllr Cullingworth will take over the weekly inspections from Roy Lathan in January. Cllr Staples suggested that the Council advertise on Facebook for volunteers to assist with those inspections.

Gate locking

As Roy Latham no longer felt able to continue unlocking and locking the gates on a daily basis, the Council considered whether it would be practicable to find someone else to perform that service and/or whether it was necessary for the gate to be locked every night. It was agreed that, in the absence of a volunteer or a specific reason to lock the gate, it should be kept unlocked. Cllr Staples instructed the Clerk to write to Roy Latham to express the Council's thanks for everything he has done in locking the gates and inspecting the playground over many years.

Plaque

Cllr Staples had received a request from Charlotte Hope to put on the playground fence a small plaque in memory of her late husband. As there were no objections from the members present, Cllr Staples will tell Mrs Hope to go ahead but let him have details for approval.

9. SALT BINS – RIDGEFIELD / GRANDSHORE ROAD

Cllr Staples asked whether the Council felt that it should purchase salt bins for these sites now that it was clear that KCC would not do so. Cllr Gosbee had ascertained that the cost would be £142.50 plus VAT for a 6 cubic foot bin and £4.69 plus VAT for a bag of salt. He estimated that each bin would need 10 bags of salt. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council buy and fill salt bins to be located in appropriate places close to Ridgefield on Biddenden Road and on Grandshore Lane.

10. MEMORIAL HALL UPDATE

Cllr Riley reported that a fund-raising campaign had been initiated and that they had already received several very generous individual gifts. In addition, funds raised by the Christmas Fayre and theatre evenings were very gratefully received. Cllr Riley was pleased to report that Bernard and Tor Millard would be joining the Committee to provide representation from the British Legion and Historical Society. A planning application has been submitted in relation to the proposed refurbishment of the Hall. That application did not address any work that would be needed to locate the proposed Community Shop and café on land belonging to the Hall. This was to ensure that completion of the refurbishment project was not dependent on the shop and café moving forward.

11. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported that the Committee had met on 20th November 2019. The manager of the Benenden Community Shop had been very helpful, as had Mike Cooper. Andrew Dack is helping to design the shop. It will be in a prefabricated wooden building and Skinners Sheds had come up with some very good ideas in that regard.

12. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Cllr Vernon reported that the CLT continued to look at how affordable homes could be delivered on the site identified for development in the Draft Local Plan. Discussions were ongoing, but the CLT was making a strong case for having direct involvement in the affordable homes aspect of any such development. Stewart Hagerty was spending a lot of time liaising with TWBC on this.

13. ROAD REPORT - General

Cllr Gosbee reported that the fly tipping had now been cleared as reported by Cllr Fairweather. He was continuing to chase KCC for a Give Way sign at the bottom of London Lane.

Cllr Gosbee had reported the gradual break-up of the road surface outside the Bell & Jorrocks. Whilst outside of the Parish, Cllr Gosbee had also reported a very large and deep pothole on Fosten Lane, as he considered it to be a danger to traffic, particularly motorcyclists. He had been told that this would be dealt with as an emergency.

Cllr Vernon noted that the Frittenden village signs on the Biddenden Road gateway had disappeared and Cllr Gosbee will look into this.

Cllr Gosbee reported that the gullies had been sludge-gulped but this had not been done properly. Cllr Vernon confirmed that the Highway Improvement Plan agreed by the Council had been submitted to KCC. The Clerk reported that she would be liaising with KCC in that regard, but that KCC had already indicated that they would not fund the measures requested. She will speak with the officer allocated to deal with the Highway Improvement Plan and get an indicative costing for the works proposed.

PLANNING

New Applications

19/03404/FULL	Frittenden Memorial Hall, The Street, Frittenden Demolition of existing storage room and erection of replacement extension. External insulation, re-cladding and fenestration alterations. Installation of raised deck to rear with steps, access ramp and hand rail. Associated landscaping. Proposed by Cllr Vernon. Seconded by Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 4 For, 2 Abstained)
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Outcome of previous applications

19/01826/FULL & 19/01827/LBC	Oasthouses South West of Cherry Tree Farmhouse, Mill Lane, Frittenden Conversion of a pair of oast buildings into one four-bedroom dwelling and one three-bedroom dwelling plus associated works PERMISSION GRANTED
19/02902/FULL & 19/02903/LBC	Little Manor, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Proposed single storey rear and side kitchen extension; internal alterations and external alterations including porch canopy PERMISSION GRANTED

19/02603/FULL	Havisham House, Bell Lane, Frittenden Change of use from redundant offices to two residential flats with no external alterations (Retrospective) PERMISSION GRANTED
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Planning appeals

- The Clerk had requested an update on the appeal relating to the development of land adjacent to Ferrers, Sand Lane, Frittenden (18/03479/FULL) and reported that TWBC were still awaiting a decision from the Planning Inspectorate.

14. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- None

15. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – DECEMBER 2019					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102492	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – November
102493	£62.84	nil	£62.84	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – December
102494	£181.14	nil	£181.14	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – December
102495	£507.30	£84.55	£422.75	Streetlights	Replacement Lantern & Photocell
102496	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire - December
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	Eon	Street lighting energy – November
TOTAL	£848.64	£93.23	£755.41		

- Budget 2020/21 – Cllr Staples noted that the tax base had risen very slightly this year and suggested that the Budget be amended to raise the recommended precept from £16,500 to £17,000. This would ensure sufficient reserves were in place. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Budget, as amended, be accepted and that the Clerk apply for a precept of £17,000 for 2020/21.
- Donations - It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** (Vote: 5 For, 1 Abstained) to make the following donations:

Kent Air Ambulance	£100.00
Victim Support	£25.00
High Weald Academy School Farm	£50.00
Tunbridge Wells Citizen Advice Bureau	£100.00
Frittenden Parochial Church Council	£350.00
West Kent YMCA (Frittenden Youth Club)	£50.00
Samaritans	£50.00
Relate	£50.00
Hospice in the Weald	£75.00

Frittenden Pre-School	£50.00
Frittenden School	£100.00
Hawkhurst Community League of Friends - Cottage Hospital	£100.00
Kenward Trust	£100.00
Royal British Legion	£50.00
Total	£1250.00

- *Mandate* – The Clerk noted that a new Bank Mandate was required to reflect the fact that a new Council was constituted following the elections in May. She is liaising with HSBC to obtain the relevant form.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____