

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at The Memorial Hall, The Street, Frittenden on Tuesday 19th July 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr Murray

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Holden (County), Cllr Fairweather (Borough)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Vernon, Tuke & Riley

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

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden reported that there was a troubled meeting of the Environment and Transport Committee where the proposed removal of bus subsidies was discussed. KCC does not run any bus services but it provides £6m of subsidies to the bus companies to support services which would otherwise not be commercially viable. KCC is not obliged to provide those subsidies and Cllr Holden noted that no other County Council did so. KCC intends to cut £2.2m from the above £6m budget. The bus companies have chosen to announce cuts to the services they provide to coincide with this budget cut. However, Cllr Holden noted that the services being cut by the bus companies were not services that were currently being subsidised. KCC has received funding from Central Government under its Bus Services Improvement Plan but they are required to use those funds on infrastructure such as the installation of bus lanes and cannot use it to subsidise services. The rules of the scheme do, however, allow the funds to be applied to support new bus services and so it may provide an opportunity for restoring some services.

KCC has received applications from c.3,800 Ukrainians and c.1,000 potential sponsors. The scheme requires sponsors to commit to providing a home for their Ukrainian guests for 6 months but it is not clear what will happen at the end of that period.

New regulations came into force at the beginning of July which are intended to bring together the NHS and care sectors into local integrated care partnerships for the provision of adult residential care.

Cllr Holden noted that KCC Children's services had been rated outstanding by Ofsted.

Cllr Holden continues to liaise with the Community Shop Steering Group and the relevant officers at KCC in an effort to ensure that the £10,000 he had pledged to the project remained available.

Cllr Staples noted that he was pleased to see that the Kent Carrier service would continue to be supported by KCC. The Council felt that this service should be better publicised and will do what it can in that regard.

Concerns were raised over cuts to bus services that were used by children to get to school. Cllr Holden noted that any child who lived more than 3 miles from school was entitled to free home to school travel (Unless they attend a Grammar School and there is a nearer all abilities school) and KCC would ensure that this obligation was met.

Cllr Fairweather reported that he was working to obtain funds for the hearing loop which it was hoped could be installed at the Memorial Hall.

Activity at TWBC remained limited whilst the new administration was bedding in, but it had announced that parking charges would be increased by 20% at all TWBC owned car parks in the Borough. This will not affect the free car park in Cranbrook as they have been adopted by the Parish Council.

Cllr Fairweather noted that waste collections were suspended at 1:30pm due to the extreme heat. Residents should leave their bins out as operatives would be catching up on the rounds over the coming days.

Finally, Cllr Fairweather noted that there appeared to be a lot of misinformation going around about TWBC financial management. It has been suggested that the last administration had left the finances in a mess, but this was not at all true.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST JUNE 2022

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 21st June 2022 are a true and accurate record of that meeting, subject to a handwritten correction to a typographical error. That being so, the Chairman signed the Minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Village Guide

This has now been updated by Cllr Murray.

Dog Fouling/signs for dog bag dispensers

The Clerk is yet to order any signs given the concerns recently expressed by residents about dog fouling in the Parish Field. The Clerk questioned whether any signs should address that issue as well as reminding residents not to take more bags than are required for immediate use.

Cllr Staples had been looking at how other Parish Councils were tackling this problem. He noted that Antisocial Behaviour Orders could be made against those who allowed their dogs to foul on land used by the public under a Public Space Protection Order put in place by TWBC. He will liaise with TWBC to see how this might be used to prevent dog fouling in the Parish Field and other public spaces in the Parish and report back to the Council when it next meets in September.

Parish Chairmen's Meeting

Cllr Staples had circulated a letter he sent to TWBC in support of the representations made by Cllr Harrison (Goudhurst Parish Council) opposing the proposed change to multi-councillor wards. It was proposed by Cllr Murray, seconded by Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all

members present that the contents of that letter accurately reflected the views of the Parish Council.

Paddock Hedge

The hedge has now been cut.

Village Clean Up

Cllr Cullingworth has put all the arrangements in place for this event, to include undertaking the required risk assessment.

Headcorn Aerodrome Consultative Committee Meeting

Complaints had been received from residents in the Bletchenden area regarding Spitfire flights. The residents believe that the aircraft are flying overhead, but the pilots insist that they are not. Complaints had also been received from other areas too, but in nothing like the number from Bletchenden which is in direct proximity to the airfield.

The Battle of Britain Air Display was deemed a success with over 20,000 people attending. There was some discussion about people watching from adjoining areas without paying, but the only place where something could be done about this was on the public rights of way, of which one crossed the runway. Next year there will be more signage on those rights of way.

The next meeting will be on 8th October 2022.

6. RESCHEDULING SEPTEMBER'S COUNCIL MEETING

September's Council meeting will now take place on Thursday 22nd September 2022 in order to avoid a clash with the next Parish Chairmen's Meeting.

7. ASH TREE OVERHANGING LAUNDRY LANE

A resident has raised an issue around an ash tree which forms part of the Parish Field hedge overhanging Laundry Lane and casting shadow in their garden. It was felt that it would be expensive to cut back any overhanging branches, because they were quite high up, and therefore the cost of doing so would be disproportionate to the benefit. It was noted that the tree was currently healthy, but would be carefully watched. If it showed signs of ash dieback it would have to be felled.

8. SPEEDWATCH

There had been 5 sessions in the last fortnight. During the last session traffic was light but there was a 25% offending rate.

9. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Gosbee is undertaking the regular inspections in July. Cllr Murray will take over in August.

Cllr Gosbee had nothing to report, save that he was concerned that the metal parts of the equipment and the swing seats got very hot in the current sunny weather.

The clerk had circulated the Annual Inspection Report compiled by RoSPA Playsafety. It had made some recommendations for repairs, but none were considered urgent. The clerk will go through the report and prepare a schedule setting out the recommended repairs in the order of priority for the Council to consider when it next met.

10. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Murray noted that a meeting had been held to discuss the future of the project. They did not have sufficient funds to move the project forward in its current form and were therefore looking at whether it could be scaled down. The Council restated its support for this project.

11. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee reported that there had been fly tipping along Sand Lane and London Lane, as well as green waste dumped along Park Wood Lane.

Cranbrook Road had been resurfaced and pot holes filled along Green Lane (between Bettenham Lane and Hareplain Road).

A water leak had been reported on Sand Lane/Biddenden Road and the missing finger post on the A229 was being replaced.

Cllr Staples reported that a resident had raised with him the stones that were placed on the grass verge opposite Ferrers. Cllr Gosbee is looking to get them removed and will speak to the new owner of Ferrers before doing so.

12. PLANNING

New Applications

22/01780/NMAND	Land to rear of 2 Marsh Cottages, Mill Lane, Frittenden Non-material amendment in relation to 19/02395/FULL (Addition of roof light to South West elevation) NOTED - PERMISSION GRANTED
22/01910/SUB	The Forge Garage, The Street, Frittenden Submission of Details in relation to conditions 9 (Landscape) and 11 (Biodiversity). With application 22/00622/FULL NOTED
22/02047/TCA	Glebe House, The Street, Frittenden T1 Horse Chestnut - Thirty percent reduction with a proportional width reduction cutting to appropriate branch axials, T2 Lilac Tree - Reduce and formative pruning, T3 Portuguese Laurel - Cut back and reduce in size away from garage, T4 Ash - Fell, T5 Common Laurel - Prune back to drive edge and reduce top to shape to become hedge screen NO COMMENTS

Outcome of Previous applications

22/01630/NMAND	Pearsons Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Non-material amendment in relation to 20/01457/FULL (Moving east elevation wall back at first floor level, amending brickwork) PERMISSION GRANTED
----------------	--

Planning appeals

- None

13. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- None

14. FINANCE

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

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – July 2022					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£20.00	Nil	£20.00	Memorial Hall	Hall Hire
BACS	£50.40	£8.40	£42.00	Urbaser Ltd	Rubbish Collection – Litter Bins - June
BACS	£131.40	Nil	£131.40	Mr M Cooper	Refund re: purchase of tent team supplies
BACS	£117.60	£19.60	£98.00	RoSPA Playsafety Ltd	Annual Playground Inspection
BACS	£117.59	Nil	£117.59	Bell & Jorrocks	Refund re: purchase of defibrillator pads
BACS	£58.10	Nil	£58.10	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – July
BACS	£80.27	Nil	£80.27	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – July
BACS	£53.60	Nil	£53.60	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£213.00	£35.50	£177.50	Kent Grassland Services Ltd	Grounds Maintenance – June
DD	£45.61	£2.17	£43.44	Npower	Street lighting energy – June
Total	£887.57	£65.67	£821.90		

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Cllr Staples noted that KCC had opened a consultation on KCC's budget proposals.
- Cllr Staples also noted that TWBC was asking Parish Council's to publicise their efforts to get people to register to vote. Cllr Tuke will put something on the Frittenden Community Facebook page in this regard.
- Cllr Staples noted that the KALC Parish Chairmen Group would be meeting at Frittenden Memorial Hall on 6th September 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:12 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____