Present   Peter Webb in the Chair   Erica Forbes
        Jim Benson   John Tomkins

To be actioned by

The meeting started at 7.00pm	
Cllrs Howard and Martin, PCSO Andrew Huckstepp, Richard Bartley from Wye and 42 additional residents of Brook attended the meeting.	
Declaration of interest in items on the agenda There were no declarations of Interest.	
Minutes of the Meeting on 16th January 2014 were approved as a true record.	
Matters Arising from the Minutes Gratitude was expressed to William Howard for his financial support of the Pantomime. The tree will not be collected this year. The signs have not yet been cleaned and the twisted sign still requires attention.	
Planning Proposal The Parish Council consulted the residents of Brook about the proposed site for 8-9 dwellings, this consultation raised the following points which will be submitted to Ashford Borough Council: • The plan of the site shows the drainage pumping station as "Pump House" and the submission document talks continuously of there being development on 3 sides of the site. There is no development on the third side other than the pumping station which is NOT a residential dwelling. • The site is prone to flooding. • Drainage and sewerage are already an issue for Brook, the pump has been on full capacity of late and is still not able to cope with clearing the capacity of water flowing into it. More houses would exacerbate an already difficult situation. • The village of Brook is a ribbon development, a village where previous applications for back-fill developments have been refused as they would be against the structure of the village. This development would alter this. • Brook is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and such a development would destroy the beauty of Brook by taking some of the agricultural land to the road. • The site is also within 100m of a Site of Special Scientific Interest. • The residents of Brook have concerns that such a development would set a precedent for further additional building within the Parish. • There is absolutely no public transport available in Brook. To travel by bus or car residents must first travel to Wye by car. The school in Brook already creates a huge parking issue, a potential additional 18 cars can only aggravate this difficult situation. • There is no infrastructure to support a 7% increase in the number of properties within the parish boundary, there being no local shop, post office or doctor's surgery within the village.	TB

- The Parish Council would question the sustainability of additional houses in Brook, with the pumping station at full capacity and no public transport or facilities immediately available. - We also understand that the proposed development at The Old Brickworks, Naccolt, which is located on one of the main roads into Brook, was refused by Kent County Council Highways due to the road already being at full capacity. Mr Bartley from Wye explained that Phase 1 of the house building process in Wye would be for 45 houses and would be built by 2016. Phase 2 is under discussion with Imperial wanting 36% village footprint of 200 houses but the Parish and public only want 50 additional houses. The impact of this additional building will be on the roads particularly the railway crossing and Junction 10a.	
Extension to the Village Hall Alan Joynson presented the proposal for the expansion to the Village Hall. The Parish Council fully support this application. A member of the public asked if parking space would be reduced, Mr Joynson replied that the extension would not be taking parking space, it would instead be the small strip of grass verge behind the hall.	TB
Neighbourhood Watch Martin Lee runs the local Neighbourhood Watch. PCSO Andrew Huckstepp introduced himself to the meeting and spoke about recent burglaries and how to keep your property secure.	
Parish Council Vacancy Following the advertisement of the recent vacancy, Janet Jessop has agreed to join the Parish Council, it is intended that she will be co-opted on to the Council at the next meeting.	
Finances The Financial Statement was circulated.	
Tree Wardens Report The next tree wardens report will be presented in March.	
Any Other Business The parishioners asked whether the speed limit can be reduced through the village to 30mph, the Clerk is to contact Andrew Wickham about this. The railings at Myowna Lodge are reported to be loose and dangerous, this was discussed again and the Clerk will ask Highways what is to be done about this. Troy Town Lane is in need of some repair, the road surface is breaking up. The Clerk will report this. The possibility of changing the playground ground cover was discussed. It was reported that when this was looked at before, the climbing tower no longer met the industry standard for safety and therefore it had been decided not to continue with the resurface. The Clerk will investigate other options. The Clerk was asked to contact KCC/Environment Agency about expanding the culvert, clearing	TB TB TB TB

the top end of the brook because the brook has over-floed and the pump is at full capacity. The Borough Councillors explained that the Borough council have voted 32-5 in favour of freezing Council Tax for this April and hopefully next. The recycling programme is working very well. 50% of waste is recycled, 1500 tonnes of food waste has already been recycled. The Borough Council extends gratitude to the residents for recycling. Both of the Borough Councillors enjoyed the pantomime and were surprised by the strength of community spirit in Brook.	
The next meeting was confirmed as Thursday, 20th March 2014, the Clerk would like any items for the agenda by Monday 10th March, please.	All
There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.55 PM.	