

Minutes of Mersham with Sevington Parish Council
Meeting held in on Monday, 18th June 2018

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| Present | Gavin Murphy (Chair) Jan Oakley Hills Peter Turley | Ken Botfield Henrietta Sawdon |
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In attendance: 4 members of the public and Tracey Block (Clerk)

To be actioned by

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| <p>Presentation of plans prior to submission by Kent Planning re: Village hall development Representatives from Kent Planning attended the meeting. Having previously met with the Parish Council in 2012/early 2013, they have been waiting for the progression of the Local Plan. At the recent meeting of the Planning Inspector in Ashford Borough Council regarding the Local Plan, the Inspector was keen to promote the site and Ian Grundy has approved the plans and suggested they now be submitted to the Council for approval. This will happen sometime in the next 2/3 weeks. Kent Planning have spent the years since 2013 undertaking assessments and writing reports as required for the planning process regarding water on the site, protected trees and access etc. The plans show an additional 20 parking spaces and an extension to the village hall as well as 3 bungalows and 4 houses. The houses are to be built using stock bricks, hanging tiles and clay roof tiles. The parking shown on the plans meets the Kent Highways requirements. Initially Kent Planning will need to divert the pumping main and extend the hall and car park prior to the initial occupation of any of the houses.</p> <p>If the plans are all approved, the build will begin in Spring 2019 with completion taking place in Winter 2020. The plans showed a preference to thicker walls, better insulation and potentially triple glazed windows rather than underground heat sources or other renewable energies.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Kent Planning for attending the meeting.</p> | |
| <p>Apologies for Absence Apologies had been received from: Cllrs Fletcher, Hansen, Stewart, Whitehead and Bartlett</p> | |
| <p>Declaration of interest in items on the agenda There were no declarations of interest to be made.</p> | |
| <p>Minutes of the Meeting on 21st May 2018 were approved as a true record and signed accordingly.</p> | |
| <p>Matters Arising from the Minutes <i>Millennium Green Path – signage, road tape and path destruction</i> Cllrs Murphy/Turley will contact the land owner and Cllr Stewart will undertake the work if permission is granted.</p> <p><i>Parking on the road near T Denne</i> Cllr Turley has responded to the school and T Denne regarding the issues previously raised and the Clerk has contacted Kent Highways re signage and Andy Somerville re: PCSO presence.</p> <p>The Clerk is yet to obtain prices for 2 signs, one saying, “footpath to the Village” and the other saying, “footpath to the A20.”</p> <p><i>Island on A20 for bus access</i> The Clerk had requested this from Kent Highways but as yet has not had a response.</p> <p><i>JPF Trees</i> Cllr Turley had spoken to the Village Caretaker about this and he will cut them down.</p> <p><i>Bus Shelter at Aldington Frith</i></p> | <p>GM/PT</p> <p>TB</p> |

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| <p>This requires some maintenance on cutting back vegetation. The Clerk has contacted the Caretaker co-ordinator about this and it has been agreed.</p> | |
| <p>Public session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item. There was no further comment from the public.</p> | |
| <p>Report from Borough Councillor In Paul's absence, the following was circulated to all Councillors: Can you ask for Councillors' views of the diversions used on Saturday? Traffic for South Ashford was directed through Willesborough (huge congestion in Church Road Willesborough) and traffic for Sevington went via the village / Cheesemans Green Lane. The only problem I have with this was the lorries for the Lorry Park getting stuck on the bridge between Cheesemans Green Lane and Church Road Sevington. I think these lorries should have gone via J9/Chart Road/Victoria Way etc. What do you think? Not sure how often these closures will happen but I dare say it will not be the last one.</p> <p>I expect the M20 to be closed when Highfield Lane bridge is demolished and this will cause big congestion on A20 up to J10 as the whole of the traffic that would use the M20 will use the A20. Again, any ideas?</p> <p>The other thing is the trigger point to replace Orbital roundabout with traffic lights is 500 houses at Finberry. This is approaching but the Church Commissioners would like to put this up to 650 houses. I think that Finberry people will be grumpy about the delay as the traffic lights will allow them a right hand exit on to the A2070. The application number is 11/00473/AM02/AS. Worth Jan spreading the word on Finberry FB, I will do the same.</p> <p>Cllr Oakley-Hills agreed to contact Finberry residents</p> <p>Finally, rural bus services will be discussed at an open meeting at Homewood school, Tenterden on 17 July at 7pm. Any views can you let me know.</p> <p>BRIDGEFIELD / FINBURY BUSES</p> <p>ABC and KCC will ask Stagecoach to reconsider the withdrawal of "little and often" busses to Bridgefield, the "B" line. The longer busses have caused difficulty for residents to exit from their allocated parking spaces and noise and vibration to houses. There are delays at the traffic lights in Bluebell Road and traffic engineers have been asked to ensure that the lights change to green quickly when safe to do so.</p> <p>LORRY PARKING STRATEGY</p> <p>There will be a public information exercise from Monday 11 June 2018 until Sunday 22 July 2018 to set out options to provide a permanent solution to Operation Stack. The proposal is to develop one or more lorry holding areas to reduce congestion caused by cross-Channel disruption. Views are also sought on the provision of everyday 24-hour lorry parking.</p> <p>To take part and find out more, visit www.highwaysengland.co.uk/kentlorryarea; email K kentlorryarea@highwaysengland.co.uk.</p> <p>A public event is being held at Ashford Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Ashford Business Point, Sevington, on Tuesday 26 June 2018 between 2pm and 8pm.</p> <p>J10A CONSTRUCTION WORK</p> <p>Work has started in earnest on this project with Highfield Lane closed, Kingsford Street now a dead end and the new traffic lights at Barrey Road installed in 2019. Signage is being ordered by KCC for Kingsford Street.</p> <p>Councillors met with Highways England on Tuesday 12 June to find a way to keep the disruption over the next 18 months to a minimum. Piling, augering and groundworks around the structures will start shortly following stump removal and services diversion.</p> | |

The site contains water voles, badgers, bats, dormouse, great crested and smooth newts as well as kingfishers. Ecologists will minimise disturbance to wildlife. Over 70 newts and 20 fish have been relocated to a new permanent pond.

A temporary pedestrian footbridge will be located near Pilgrims Hospice over the stream adjacent to the A20. A temporary pelican crossing will replace the footbridge at Church Road, Sevington until the new bridge is built.

The communication channels for complaints during construction are direct to Highways England Customer Contact centre via email info@highwaysengland.co.uk or 0300 123 5000, or to the project team via email M20J10AImprovements@highwaysengland.co.uk. Please copy me in on your complaints so I can track issues and their resolution.

Paul Bartlett
Weald East Ward
01233 500667 / 07739293502
paul.bartlett@ashford.gov.uk

Report from PCSO

No report had been received this month. The Clerk had made contact with DCI Andy Somerville but was awaiting a response.

Planning Matters:

A list of Planning Applications was circulated as Appendix A with the agenda, those requiring a response were:

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| 18/00680/AS | L Artisan du Chocolat Site G, The Long Barrow, Sevington, Ashford, TN24 0GA | Erection of a new warehouse |
| The Parish Council raised no objections | | |
| 18/00722/AS | Rose Cottage, Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6NT | Change of use of outbuilding to a self contained unit for 1no. resident supported by care staff, in association with attached Registered Care Home as C3(b) |
| The Parish Council raised no objections but ask that the Planning Officer takes into account any comments raised by the neighbours | | |
| 18/00752/AS | Orchard Lodge, Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6NS | Lawful development certificate - proposed - single storey rear extension; conversion of garage to habitable accommodation |
| This application had already been deemed unlawful by Ashford Borough Council | | |
| 18/00806/AS | Chequer Tree Equestrian Centre, Chequer Tree Farm, Mersham | Extension to existing agricultural building |
| The Parish Council raised no objections but ask that the Planning Officer takes into account any comments raised by the neighbours | | |
| 18/00652/AS | Land south of Park Farm East, Hamstreet Bypass, Kingsnorth, Kent | Full planning application for 353 dwellings, new accesses from Finn Farm Road, Cheeseman's Green Lane and Brockman's Lane and creation of a T junction between Finn Farm Road and Rutledge Avenue. Creation of a new access serving 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 Finn Farm Road. On site highway works together with associated parking, infrastructure, drainage, open space, landscaping and earthworks. |
| The Parish Council raises objections including the separation of settlements, unsustainable development due to lack of infrastructure: ie schools, hospitals etc, concerns over increased traffic on Cheeseman's Green Lane, Merging of villages and over-development of the area. | | |
| 18/00725/AS | Broadoak, Stone Cross Road, Bilsington, Ashford, Kent, TN25 7JL | Removal of Condition 2 on planning permission 15/00443/AS to allow permanent use of the site. |
| The Parish Council felt that there was no change since the previous application. The principles remain the same and reasonable conditions were given and therefore such conditions should be complied with. | | |

| 11/00473/CONU/AS | Land at Cheesemans Green, Cheesemans Green Lane, Kingsnorth, Kent | Discharge of condition 7 (village centre phase) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 15/01586/CONB/AS | Land at Cheesemans Green, Cheesemans Green Lane, Kingsnorth, Kent | Discharge condition 6, 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11/00473/AM02/AS | Land at Cheesemans Green, Cheesemans Green Lane, Kingsnorth, Kent | Revision to wording of Condition 32A to increase the cap on the number of dwellings that can be occupied prior to the completion of the Bellamy-Gurner Junction on the A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road from 500 dwellings to 650 dwellings. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Financial Matters | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>a. To note/authorise the following:</p> <p>i. To note the Parish Council's Financial position <i>The Parish Council bank balance as at 31/05/2018 was £29755.70.</i> <i>Cllr Turley noted that the deficit showing is a one-off due to the under-payment of Caretaker fees last year.</i></p> <p>ii. To authorise any payments</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cheque No:</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>501867</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>£ 3.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>501868</td> <td>Mr I King – Mersham litterpicker</td> <td>£ 93.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>501869</td> <td>Mr Thomas Saint – Sevington Litterpicker</td> <td>£ 116.13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>501870</td> <td>Mrs T Block – Clerks salary</td> <td>£ 445.30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>A copy of the budget v expenditure was distributed to all Councillors.</p> | | | Cheque No: | Payee | Amount | 501867 | HMRC | £ 3.00 | 501868 | Mr I King – Mersham litterpicker | £ 93.60 | 501869 | Mr Thomas Saint – Sevington Litterpicker | £ 116.13 | 501870 | Mrs T Block – Clerks salary | £ 445.30 | |
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| Consider adoption of a Recruitment Policy | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The Council agreed to adopt the Recruitment Policy as circulated by the Clerk. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| To consider any changes to the Risk Assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| There were no changes to be made to the Risk Assessment. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Any Other Business | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Correspondence had been received with regard to the signs at Kingsford Street. Cllr Bell was aware and is looking into it. Cllr Turley has followed this up with Cllr Bell. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Following the resignation of Cllr Smithers, the Clerk will obtain the necessary vacancy posters. | | | TB | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Communication had been received regarding irritation caused by a neighbour, the resident sending the communication did not want the matter taken any further, Cllr Turley had visited the area and agreed no further action at this time. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cllr Oakley-Hills suggested an article in The Villager about being a "Good Neighbour." | | | TB | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The Commemoration of the end of World War I offer of silhouettes via a grant for the Parish Council was discussed, the Clerk has applied for the grant. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cllrs Murphy and Botfield will attend the "Big Conversation" meeting regarding buses. Cllr Murphy is to put something on "Nextdoor" to encourage residents to attend the public meetings. | | | GM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Date of the next meeting: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Monday 16 th July 2018 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Monday 17 th September 2018 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Monday 15 th October 2018 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| Monday 19 th November 2018 Monday 21 st January 2019 Monday 18 th February 2019 Monday 18 th March 2019 Monday 15 th April 2019 Monday 20 th May 2019 | |
| The meeting closed at 9.30pm | |