



Rolvenden Parish Council

In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held as a virtual meeting.

Minutes of the virtual meeting conducted at 7.30pm on 20th October 2020.

Present: Cllr Mrs D Curtain (Chairman), Cllr E Barham, Cllr S Bryant, Cllr Mrs F May, Cllr A Johnstone, Cllr Mrs I Newman, Cllr Mrs T Turner, and Cllr Mrs L Walker

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk and Responsible Officer

454. Apologies for absence:

Cllr G Tiltman

455. Declarations of interest:

1. Declarations of Members' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Cllr E Barham declared an interest in minute number 464 Planning matters as family connection to neighbouring property

2. Declarations of Members' Other Significant Interests:

Cllr Mrs D Curtain, Trustee of War Memorial Trust

Cllr E Barham, Trustee of Basil Russell Trust, Windmill Trust, Royal British Legion

Cllr Mrs I Newman, Trustee of War Memorial Trust

3. Declarations of Members' Other Interests:

Cllr Mrs I Walker, Rolvenden Village Fete, Secretary Rolvenden Football Club

Cllr S Bryant, Chairman Rolvenden Football Club

456. Minutes:

The minutes of the virtual meeting held on 17th September 2020 were submitted, agreed as a true record and were approved for signature at a time when restrictions placed on meetings by the Government have been removed.

457. Finance:

Schedule of payments:

Tompsett landscaping	£1,380.00 (VAT £230.00)
Staff costs	£873.31
Litter picking	£120.00
Playsafety Ltd	£189.60 (VAT £31.60)
D Curtain (reimbursement)	£128.66
Rolvenden War Memorial Trust	£20.00

Care Bears scheme £200.00

Councillors Curtain and Newman verified the transactions through the bank account.

Resolved:

- 1. To receive and note report RPC/20/07**
- 2. To receive and acknowledge the financial movements for the period 1st April 2020 to 30th September 2020.**
- 3. To authorise the payment of the invoices presented at the meeting.**

458. Budget 2020 / 2022:

Ashford Borough Council have advised that the precept demand for the municipal year 2021 / 2022 has to be submitted by the 11th January 2021. Therefore the Parish Council will be asked to determine its budget for next year at its December 2020 meeting.

459. Business Plan:

The Parish Council's proposed business plan was attached to the agenda, it sets out the Parish Council's vision for the Parish, its purpose, values, objectives and key priorities for the next three years.

The aim of the business plan is to give parishioners' a clear understanding of what the Parish Council does and what it is trying to achieve.

460. Missing Funds:

The latest correspondence from the loss adjuster and the Solicitor were shared with councillors prior to the meeting. Lloyds Bank have supplied two pages of the online mandate which had not been seen before by council and on inspection the Cllrs signatures appear to be forged.

Further comments have been made to the Solicitor regarding this mandate to take forward with the Bank, and the outcome of the Insurance is awaited.

Councillor Bryant requested that an article be placed in the Parish Magazine explaining the situation regarding the missing funds.

461. S106 funds and projects:

The legal agreement from Ashford Borough Council in respect of the Streyte Play area has been received and returned. The order has been placed for the play equipment however, due to the length of lead time it will not be possible to instal the equipment prior to Christmas but the Company have quoted this to be the first installation following the Christmas break, week commencing 11th January 2021.

462. Pavilion project:

Now that the development at Halden Field has been completed and the developer invoiced for the Section 106 contributions, work can now begin to progress the project.

Advice has been sought as to the best way forward to manage the build and the future day to day running of the pavilion whilst protecting the interests of the users and the Parish Council.

The land on which the proposed pavilion will sit on is owned by the War Memorial Trust.

The preferred operating model for the new pavilion is a Community Interest Company whose membership to be made up of representatives from the Parish Council, War Memorial Trust and other user groups. Rolvenden Cricket Club and Rolvenden Tennis Club have already expressed a keen interest and other sports users groups are being contacted by the

Rolvenden War Memorial Trust. As the land owner the War Memorial Trust will be asked to grant a 25 year lease to the Community Interest Company who would be able to use this as security for grants from major funders.

The War Memorial Trust have considered this approach to the project and wish to proceed with the establishment of a Community Interest Company.

The Parish Council is asked to consider, as the Statutory body, if it wishes to undertake the establishment with the Clerk being appointed as Company Secretary with no voting rights. The establishment does not require the involvement of a solicitor and can be dealt with online at a cost of £29. Once established the Community Interest Company would be required to establish its own banking arrangements and be responsible for raising the funds required to build the pavilion and provide for its future maintenance. The War Memorial Trust have already agreed that the Clerk acts as the Company Secretary.

After discussion no decision was made as it became apparent that the War Memorial Trust had not contacted all of the potential user groups. The opinion was expressed that a meeting of all the potential user groups and the village hall should take place before any decisions were made or the Community Interest Company established. It was also suggested that the pavilions at Smarden and Egerton were looked at as examples.

463. Land bequest:

There has been no progress in the dealings with the executors.

464. Planning matters:

1. **20/01238/AS – Pooh Corner, Benenden Road, Rolvenden** – Erection of a detached annexe.

Resolved: The Parish Council object to the application on the grounds that no consideration has been given to the Rolvenden Neighbourhood Plan and that it does not conform to Policies RNP1, RNP3 and RNP4 of that plan. In addition the application does not comply with sections b, d and f of Policy HOU5 of the Ashford Local Plan.

2. **20/01274/AS & 20/01275/AS – Maytham Farmhouse, Maytham Road, Rolvenden** – Installation of like for like replacement windows within the southwest elevation.

Resolved: The Parish Council supports the application.

465. War Memorial Trust:

The Parish Council is asked to nominate a replacement trustee to the Trust as a replacement for the late Brian Hindley.

Resolved: to nominate John Ralph to be the representative from the Parish Council.

466. Merrington Park:

Councillor Bryant advises that there is a deep water concrete tank still visible amongst the undergrowth at Merrington Park shaped as a landing craft. This was used by a Canadian Army unit to practice driving through after sealing their engines prior to the D Day landings. There are a number of residents that wish to see this structure preserved. Councillor Bryant is seeking the backing of the Parish Council with this project.

After discussion it was agreed that Councillors Bryant and Barham would liaise to establish ownership of the land and the level of works required. This will be added to the November Agenda for further discussion.

467. Road Safety and inconsiderate parking:

Speedwatch has now resumed following delays in the repair of the equipment, this is proving effective in reducing speed when in operation.

The school now have a crossing patrol person commencing after half term.

It was reported that vehicles are being parked in the turning circle and next to the fire hydrant in Gybbons Road, Councillor Walder will take this up with the parking team at Ashford Borough Council.

468. Other items for information:

A request has been made to Taylor Wimpey to take down the flags and advertising signs as all the properties are now either sold or under contract.

New dog fouling signs have been installed by the football field and Bagit / Binit logo sprayed onto the footpaths, this is a trial if successful will be remarked in paint.

Councillor Bryant wished to record a vote of thanks to Chris Lowry as he regularly picks up all of the litter between Wittersham Road Station and Maytham Road.

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