



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2022 IN THE ASTOR PAVILION, KENT SHOWGROUND, DETLING**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** H. Baker-Anderson, I. Bowie (Chairman), G. Bryant J. Clayton, J. Coles & R. Finn

**ALSO PRESENT:** K. Bell (Locum Clerk to the Council) & 11 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. C. Evenden

The Chairman, Cllr. Bowie opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

Prior to the commencement of the formal proceedings the Chairman announced that the Village of the Year as chosen by the community was Sally Howells and that it gave the Parish Council great pleasure to present Ms Howells with her award in recognition of the huge amount of volunteering, she did within the community and her work with the Making Miracles Charity. Residents presents were then invited to put questions to the Parish Council. Questions received related to the following issues: Tree Planting, Litter Picking, Maintenance of Jade Crossing, Grounds Maintenance, Fibre Optic Cabling, Open Spaces and Highways Issues. Residents were thanked for bringing the issues to the attention of the Parish Council, most of which the Council had in hand and was progressing with the relevant authorities and agencies.

**2022/001 Procedural Motion:** Following the **departure** of the former Clerk, guidance had been obtained from KALC regarding the legality of the meeting and the signing of the meeting summons. KALC had advised that the meeting had been convened lawfully and legally and could therefore proceed. The council was however required to consider and approve a Procedure Motion regarding the interim appointment of an acting Clerk and RFO.

It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That it be formally approved and minuted that Cllr Bowie had acted as Clerk until the appointment of a Locum Clerk. **Unanimous**

It was further proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That it be formally approved and minuted that Cllr Bryant had acted as RFO until the appointment of a Locum Clerk **Unanimous**

**2022/002 Apologies, Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**

**2022/002.1 Apologies:** It was reported that apologies for absence had been received from and Cllr Evenden. It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That the apology and reason be accepted  
**Unanimous**

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**Signed:** ..... **Chairman**      **Date:** .....

**2022/002.2 Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests:** Cllr. Bowie advised that there had been a change to her Register of Interests and that she had registered the amendment with MBC.

**2022/002.3 Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs Baker-Anderson, Clayton and Finn declared interests in the CIC Community Shop Lease.

**2022/002.4 Requests for Dispensations:** There were none

**2022/002.5 Declarations of Lobbying:** Cllr. Bryant declared that he had been lobbied in respect of Lynch Bank Farm

**2022/002.6 Declarations of Intention to Record:** No Councillor was intending to record.

**2022/003 Consideration of Items to be taken in Private (Exclusion of the Press and Public):** There were none

**2022/004 Appointment of Interim Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That Mrs K Bell be appointed as Locum Clerk / RFO to the Council with immediate effect. **Unanimous**

It was further, proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That the Locum Clerk would keep a record of hours worked and tasks completed **Unanimous**

It was further, proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That following the appointment of Mrs Bell, Cllrs. Bowie and Bryant would step down from covering the roles of Proper Officer and RFO. **Unanimous**

**2022/005 Minutes of Meeting held on 02 November 2021**

**2022/007.1** A minor amendment was made to the minutes, following which, it was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of those proceedings. **Unanimous**

**2022/007.2 Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda**

**Minute 7b – Highways:** The current log for Detling was copied to members, it was pleasing to note that Detling was an active community with many issues being reported directly to KHS through the Parish Portal. The Parish Council would be encouraging more use of the KHS Parish Portal by residents.

**Minute 8 - MBC Local Plan Regulation 19 Consultation:** The council's response had been submitted

**Minute 11 – Princes Way Alleyway:** As only 10 representations had been submitted; this might not be enough for the issue to be progressed by KCC PROW.

**2022/006 Financial Matters**

**2022/006.1 Financial Statement:** Cllr Bryant advised that although the amended mandate had been sent on 18 December 2021 it had not yet been processed and the Co-op Bank had not therefore been able to provide him with access to bank account or financial data. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council would consider changing accounts to Unity Trust **Unanimous**

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**2022/006.2 Finance Working Group Report:** There was no report

**2022/006.3 2022/2023 Budget Requirement and Precept:** A budget had been prepared by Cllr. Bryant and copied to members. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

**RESOLVED:** That the 2022/2023 budget be set at £51,670 with a £1,721 contribution from reserves resulting in a net budget of £49,949 which required a precept of £38,358. **Unanimous**

It was further proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That the Chairman and Locum Clerk would return the 2022/2023 Precept Request Form to MBC. **Unanimous**

It was further proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That at a future meeting the Parish Council would consider its long-term priorities **Unanimous**

It was further proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That quarterly budgetary monitoring reports would be presented to council **Unanimous**

It was further proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That the council would look to make savings in its 2022/2033 budgetary provisions **Unanimous**

**2022/007 Chairman & Councillor Reports**

**2022/007.1 Chairman’s Report:** Cllr Bowie drew attention to the following

- She had met with KCC, the main issue arising was the possible amendment to ward boundaries and the reduction in the number of county councillors from 55 to 48 which would take effect from 2024. It was not yet known if Detling would be affected.
- She read out an email which had been received from the former Clerk regarding her resignation. It was noted that the former Clerk had asked for her email to be read out.
- She read out a statement.

**2022/007.2** Cllr Coles read out a statement.

**2022/008 Committee and Working Group Reports**

**2022/008.1 Highways Working Group:** Cllr Coles reported and drew attention to the following:

**Highway Improvement Plan:** The councils top two priorities were likely to be taken forward by KHS; these were as follows

Pilgrims Way, The Street, Hockers Lane and Church Lane: Speeding traffic from A249 contravening restricted access to the village

Pilgrims Way between Cock horse Public House and Old School Playing Field and The Street where commuter parking was causing an obstruction of Pilgrims Way and A249 access and was also impeding traffic exiting A249 and parking causing an obstruction of the footpath

**Speedwatch:** 4 volunteers, 10 required to progress

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- A249 Junctions & Crossing with Pilgrims Way:** KHS, the Police and MBC all aware of the illegal manoeuvres occurring at this location
- The Street, Bus Shelter light:** This had been resolved
- Dog Warden:** Would be invited to the village and focus on specific hotspots such as Hockers Lane
- Barrier Removal:** MBC had agreed to remove the barrier on the pavement by the school at it was now closed.
- Flytipping:** Residents were being urged to report any unusual activity as there was a persistent offender IN Church Lane.
- White Lining:** The crash barrier had been repaired and the middle white lining refreshed at Hockers Lane junction with Church Lane. The potholes had also been repaired and the "Give Way" junction white lining refreshed
- Pedestrian Access to the new schools in Bearsted:** No new information had been received.
- 2022/008.2 Open Spaces Report:** Cllr Coles reported and drew attention to the following
- Sewage Spills** An official complaint had been submitted to SW regarding their lack of communication during the two sewage spills which occurred during summer 2021.
- COP 26** It was hoped that a resident might be interested in reporting on the subject in the next newsletter
- Queens Green Canopy** The Rowan tree was scheduled for delivery in November 2022, the Lord Lieutenant had been informed, the plaque had been ordered and crocus planting throughout the village had been completed by children from Bluebells.
- The Old School Playing Field** The replacement memorial benches had been installed and a new bench was in the process of being installed.
- Monks Meadow** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That the MVCP Management Plan circulated in November 2021 be adopted and a contract issued effective from 01.04.2022. It was noted that new agreements including risk assessments were to be signed by volunteers and that a lone working policy had been circulated.

**Unanimous**

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It was further

**RESOLVED** That all volunteers would be consulted and if there were any changes to existing arrangements the matter would be brought back to council for consideration **By Majority**

**Horish Wood**

An update from MVCP had been published in the newsletter

**V1 Doodlebug**

A response and update had been circulated for inclusion in the newsletter

**2022/010.3 Communications Group Report:** The Report was received and noted

**2022/010.4 Staffing Committee:** There was no report

As the duration of the meeting was about to exceed the two hours permitted as per Standing Orders, it was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That Standing Orders would be suspended to allow the continuation of the meeting so that all the business listed on the agenda could be considered.

**2022/011 Planning Matters:**

**2022/011.1 Planning Applications:** It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** To comment as follows to MBC

**Unanimous**

**21/506795/FULL**

Demolition of front porch, rear extension, and garage. Erection of front porch, two storey rear extension, internal and external alterations including roof at 45 Hockers Lane, Detling

**NO OBJECTION**

**21/506461/FULL**

Erection of single storey side and rear extension at 75 Hockers Lane, Detling

**NO OBJECTION**

**21/506328/FULL**

Retrospective application for erection of an implement store for the storage of machinery and garden implements and construction of a driveway at Land adjacent to The Alpines, Pilgrims Way, Detling

**NO OBJECTION**

**21/506063/FUL**

Demolition of existing buildings within the site and construction of 2 no detached 4-bedroom dwellings with associated access, parking, drainage and landscaping (resubmission of 21/205967/FULL)

**OBJECTION**

**21/505961/FULL**

Conversion of three agricultural buildings to create a dwelling and garage. Erection of a first-floor side extension and a link extension to the dwelling.

**NO OBJECTION**

**21/500200/SUB**

Submission of details pursuant to condition 1 (Site Development Scheme) of application 21/505066/FULL

**NO OBJECTION**

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- 2022/011.2 Planning Decisions:** None received between November 2021 and January 2022.
- 2022/011.3 Planning Appeals:** It was noted that the following appeals had been dismissed  
**21/500063/REF** Change of use of former primary school to 1 no dwelling including erection of single storey rear extension, demolition of existing timber building and erection of 2 no detached dwellings and 3 no associated garages including creation of new access road at Hall at former Detling Church of England Primary School, The Street, Detling
- 21/500059/REF** Erection of a detached 3-bedroom dwelling with ancillary parking facilities, cycle storage and bin storage at Land Rear of 7 The Street, Detling
- 2022/011.3 Planning Committee Report:** Parish Council representatives had attended a meeting on 18 January 2022 regarding the proposed development at Hockers Farm. It was noted that although there had been several changes the fundamental problem relating to access to the site had not been addressed and therefore the Parish Councils objections to the development remained.
- 2022/012 Reports from External Parties**
- 2022/012.1 County Councillors Report:** No report
- 2022/012.2 Borough Councillors Report:** No report
- 2022/012.3 PC Maintenance Report:** Report received and noted. The councils' thanks were extended to TONY TAYLOR for his time and hard work which had been dedicatedly carried out on behalf of the village.
- 2022/013 CIC Community Shop Lease:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That this item be deferred **Unanimous**
- 2022/014 Review the frequency of Parish Council Meetings:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That this item be deferred **Unanimous**
- 2022/015 KALC Community Award:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and  
**RESOLVED:** That the Parish Councils nominee for 2022 was Mr Derek Lawrence. A citation would be forwarded to KALC. **Unanimous**
- 2022/016 Item for the Next Agenda:** Jubilee Celebrations'
- 2022/017 Date and Time of Next Meeting:** Confirmed as 01 March 2022 at Detling Village Hall

There being no additional business, the meeting concluded at 21.45 hours

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