

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held in the Neighbourhood Centre, Minster

on 5th April 2022 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Mrs. Gimes (Chairman), Jones, Crow-Brown, Day, Quittenden, Torbett, Fleming, Burden, Mills, McCarthy.

Also present: Clare Wilsdon (Assistant Clerk to the Council)

277. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Owen, Kyla Lamb (Clerk to the Council), Cllrs Pugh and Smith (TDC), PCSO Forsyth, Community Warden Karl Aylett.

278. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 1st March 2022 be approved and signed.

279. MEMBERS INTERESTS

No members interests recorded.

280. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Community Warden Karl Aylett was on annual leave, but provided a report read out by the Chairman as follows:

- An increase in incidents of fly-tipping. TDC remain responsive and fly-tipping can be reported via phone or their website.
- Reports of low-level anti-social behaviour. Advice is to report to the police via 101 or 999 when appropriate.
- Will be covering one day per week for Westgate's Community Warden during April.

PCSO Forsyth was not present but reported as follows:

- Theft of a number plate from a vehicle in Tothill Street.
- Two reports of anti-social behaviour at the skate-park.
- An increase seen in anti-social behaviour with youths throwing eggs and stones, kicking doors and graffiti. Unfortunately, these incidents are not being formally reported with times/dates etc so opportunities to review CCTV are missed.
- Suspicious male reported in the village. Found to be collecting litter at the station.
- Fly-tipping incidents still occurring but being cleared promptly by TDC.
- Spontaneous speed-checks being conducted in the village.

281. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Crow-Brown reported as follows;

- Attended the Major Road Network Thanet meeting attended by James Wraight, KCC Highways Planning Officer. James is being seconded for approximately one year to this project. His replacement is Matthew Bembridge.
- Residents are encouraged to share their view on the proposed reduction of KCC's Supported Bus Services. The Supported Bus budget is to be reduced by £2.2M. Importantly, one of the routes that is proposed to be withdrawn is the Regent 954 School bus serving Sandwich Technology School via Birchington, St Nicholas, Monkton and Minster. This consultation is available to view on; <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/bus-funding-reductions>. The consultation closes on 20th April 2022.

Cllr Jones suggested that a letter be written to Sir Roger Gale and Craig McKinlay about the possible removal of this important bus service.

Cllr Pugh was not present as he was attending an Extraordinary meeting at TDC, but provided a report as follows:

- Land at Foxborough Lane – Gladman's have submitted their planning application and this has been called in. Their statement of Community Involvement was terrible. A public meeting is to be held with the Parish Council to allow residents to be made fully aware of the plans.
- Minster Cemetery – Discussed this issue again with TDC Chief Executive and she is looking into it. It seems ludicrous that the Minster cemetery extension was removed from the Local Plan when Margate cemetery is running out of space.
- Call for sites – Seeking an update from TDC to see if the land at Foxborough Lane was offered up as part of this.
- Thanet Local Plan – Minster has been identified as an area that could take more housing, possibly due to its presence of a train station. It would be helpful to know from Network Rail what the future of Minster Station is now that the Parkway Station is being built. It was previously promised to keep the station open for ten years from 2021.

Cllr Smith was not present as she was also attending an Extraordinary meeting at TDC, but reported as follows;

- Westgate and Garlinge Action Group raised questions to TDC about food security and the use of brownfield sites. These were met with consideration and commitment to action by TDC.
- Residents should be encouraged to attend their parish council and/or TDC meetings to make their views known.
- Gladman's have submitted their application for the land North of Foxborough Lane and this has been called in. Comments can be made on their online portal; <https://planning.thanet.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do>.

- A report from the Climate Emergency CAG meeting alarmingly states, 'The cumulative scientific evidence is unequivocal; climate change is a threat to human well-being and planetary health. Any further delay in concerted anticipatory global action on adaptation and mitigation will miss a brief and rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all'.

282. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman reported that there is a vacancy for a member of the local community to become a Governor on the Federated Board of Minster and Monkton Schools. In order to enhance communication between the parish council and the school she would welcome it if one of our parish councillors would like to take up this opportunity. Councillors were asked to consider this and contact her if they were interested.

In March children from the school joined our Groundsmen in planting 450 hedging plants on the bund at the skate park which was kindly funded by a grant from The Tree Council. She thanked the school for their efforts and also thanked Paul Willins and Nik Mitchell who explained to the children how the planting of hedges benefits our environment.

TDC are still working actively to address the problem of fly tipping. They are still unable to recruit sufficient parking enforcement officers so may have to consider out sourcing this role for the Summer months. They have erected 4 roadside signs on the entrance roads to Thanet to help guide visitors to available parking locations.

The Chairman has been asked whether the parish council would wish to join a new project led by the Thanet Community Land Trust to deliver affordable rented housing. Details will be sent to all councillors for consideration.

The planning application to build 115 dwellings on land north of Foxborough Lane arrived at the weekend. The Chairman said that it is important for the parish council to hear the views of the residents on such a large development in the village so a public meeting will take place at 6.30pm on Wednesday 13th April. TDC Councillors Pugh and Smith have agreed to attend, and Sir Roger Gale has been invited. Details of the application are available on line but will also be printed and displayed in the meeting room above the library and in the hall at the meeting.

283. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Assistant Clerk reported that £621 had been received from the Tree Council to pay for the hedging plants that have been planted on the bund at the skatepark. Also, we will be receiving 35 hanging baskets for display on local shops/business premises, funded by the TDC Welcome Back Fund.

284. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

Documents from the planning application for the Land at Foxborough Lane will soon be displayed.

285. SECTION 106 AGREEMENT

Kent Highways have approved adding SLOW marking on the road in Foxborough Lane approaching the Bedlam Court Lane/ Laundry Road junction from both directions. These will be funded from section 106 monies as it relates to traffic calming.

286. THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE WEEKEND 2ND-5TH JUNE 2022

Cllr Gimes updated members. Catering has now been organised and some Morris-dancers. Arrangement are progressing well.

287. REPAIRS TO CHAPEL EXTERIOR WOODWORK AND AROUND WINDOWS

Members were asked to consider a quotation for £4749 from Sam Cornwall – Carpentry to carry out repairs to defective pillars and hardwood to the exterior of the Chapel.

RESOLVED: That the quotation for £4749 be accepted.

Cllr Quittenden abstained from the members vote.

288. ALL WEATHER PITCH USE BY MINSTER SCHOOL

Members were asked to consider a request for consent for Minster Primary School to use the all-weather pitch for additional time between 08:30am to 08:45am.

RESOLVED: That additional times of use could be approved, subject to a full review of the terms and conditions of the schools use of the pitch being carried out. This should be followed by an annual review. Also, the gates should remain open during the above times to allow clear passage for other users of the recreation ground.

289. NEW PARISH OFFICE BUILDING

Cllr Torbett reported that the build has been delayed by one week due to illness. The steel frame is now in place and brickwork is on-site. Concrete pouring will be carried out this week and the location of the electric and water meters has been agreed.

290. MINSTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr. Fleming asked members to consider the benefits of having a Neighbourhood Plan. This has been considered and rejected in the past but with the ongoing pressure of house building, which is affecting all parts of the area, it was suggested that it is time to reconsider this decision. It will not address the immediate pressures on the village but may be important for the future of the parish. Members discussed the benefits and disbenefits and it was agreed that additional information was required before a decision could be made to embark on this significant piece of work. This will be on the agenda for the September meeting.

291. PLANTING A TREE FOR THE JUBILEE AND THE QUEENS GREEN CANOPY PLAQUE

The Queens Green Canopy is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. Members considered whether to plant a tree and PIN it on

the map of all trees planted. In addition, members considered purchasing a Queen's Green Canopy plaque from RBLI (approved suppliers of the plaques) at a cost of £120.
RESOLVED: That a tree should be planted as part of the Queens Green Canopy. Species and location of tree to be agreed.

RESOLVED: The purchase of a Queens Green Canopy Plaque from RBLI for £120.

292. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications

Cllr Crow-Brown provided an update as follows;

F/TH/22/0169 – Charles River Uk Ltd, Manston Road
Erection of Security gatehouse
NO OBJECTION

F/TH/22/0321 – 8A St Mildreds Road, Minster
Erection of a detached 2 storey 3-bed dwelling
NO OBJECTION

OL/TH/22/0414 – Land on the North side of Foxborough Lane
Outline planning application for the erection of up to 115 dwellings with all matters reserved except for access
Public meeting to be held at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 13th April 2022 at the Village Hall for residents to view details of the application.

Decisions

FH/TH/21/1980 – 85 Monkton Road, Minster
Tree work
GRANTED

F/TH/22/0096 4A St Marys Road, Minster
Erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension following demolition of existing garage and conservatory.
GRANTED

FH/TH/22/0120 – 68 Cheney Road, Minster
Erection of a single storey rear extension linking house to garage
GRANTED

FH/TH/22/0048 – 42 High Street, Minster
Installation of 2 no. timber sash windows within front elevation.
GRANTED

L/TH/22/0065 – 42 High Street, Minster
Application for Listed Building Consent for installation of 2 no. timber sash windows within front elevation.
GRANTED

TCA/TH/21/1831- Car Park High Street Minster
Tree Work
GRANTED

F/TH/21/1365 & L/TH/21/1366 – Minster Abbey, Bedlam Court Lane
Installation of solar PV panels within the grounds of the Abbey
GRANTED

293. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC	<p>Cllr Quittenden reported that the AGM was held on 21st March. All officers remain but Iris Osbourne, Secretary has stood down and is being replaced by Gill Gray, Clerk of Westgate Town Council.</p> <p>Guest speaker was James Wraight, KCC Development Highways Officer attending to answer questions over highways issue in East Kent including the A28 link and the Thanet Ring-road. This plan has passed 2 of its 3 stages with MP Sir Roger Gale also in support.</p> <p>James Wraight was asked whether the two proposed large developments in the village would put Minster in a better position for a contribution from developers to help with traffic issues in Tothill Street.</p> <p>Matt Bembridge is to stand in for James Wright for a year to concentrate on the A28 project.</p> <p>A suggestion was made for Minster Parish Council to contact KCC Highways over concerns about planning applications, in order to make clear any local issues that may not be immediately apparent.</p> <p>Date of the next meeting is to be arranged.</p>
Minster School	Nothing to report.
Twinning Assn.	Nothing to report.

294. REPORT OF THE RFO

RESOLVED:

- (a) the Bank balance statement be received and noted,**
- (b) the statement of Receipts and Payments for the month of March 2022 be approved.**
- (c) The Budget income/expense report to 31/12/2021 be received.**

295. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Two residents from Tothill Street are concerned at the volume of graffiti being carried out in the village particularly at the bus stops at the top of Tothill Street. The Chairman responded that we are aware of this and the PCSO is investigating any information provided.

In addition, a request was made for a mini-roundabout in Tothill Street at the entrance to the planned development West of Tothill Street. The Chairman responded that Kent Highways have stated that there is no requirement for this based on current traffic forecasting but she is hoping to negotiate with the developers.

Time concluded: 8.54pm

3rd May 2022