

- receive prior warning of planned work which may interrupt their water supply
- get priority treatment should their water supply be interrupted – this can include hand-delivering bottled drinking water to some customers
- nominate somebody else to deal with their water bills

Further details are at: <https://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/news-info/publications/>

FINBERRY VILLAGE CENTRE

The Church Commissioners held a public meeting on Thursday 6 June at Ashford Business Point. The proposals are illustrated below.



Residents raised a number of issues including the height of the buildings and possible anti-social behaviour from the pub. A major concern is through traffic on Avocet Way if the route to Bridgefield is opened to busses and how cars will be prevented from using the route.

HOSPITAL SERVICES IN EAST KENT

The NHS in east Kent is developing proposals to improve hospital services alongside improving the quality and range of care available closer to where people live. There are two medium list options for making improvements to our hospitals. The Hospital Trust are holding a public meeting on Thursday 18 July on how to evaluate these options before deciding which go forward to public consultation.

The workshop will be in Canterbury from 9.30am-4pm. There will be lunch and refreshments provided, and travel expenses can be reclaimed. They are looking for 40 members of the public from across east Kent who represent the diverse population. Further details if you want to be involved are at <https://kentandmedway.nhs.uk/latest-news/invitation-to-nhs-workshop-on-hospital-changes-in-east-kent/>

WATERBROOK

This is a picture of a Little Ringed Plover see in Waterbrook in May. It has been reported to the ecology team at ABC and KCC. This is a protected bird species. There are reports of a territorial Cetti's Warbler and at least one pair of Nightingale, both also rare. If anyone has other photos or reports please let me know as the area is scheduled for development and protection for these species needs to be organised.



Report from PCSO

A report had been received and circulated.

Clerks Report – June 2019

The Clerk reported that there has been no further news on the Planning Enforcement Issues in the Parish

Correspondence

Harlequin Mast – Last communication on 29/05/2019 stated, “Thank you for your response, I will now inform my client with the recommendation to progress this alternative site and await instructions from them.” Alternative site being away from all houses and not the Hanover Mill Site as was previously suggested. A planning application is expected.

New Councillors – I have received 3 expressions of interest and invited all to the meeting in June with the intention to co-opt if all parties are happy to do so.

Following the meeting on 6th June, Sarah Hartles has sent through a copy of a previous consultation for information, forwarded to all Councillors. I am still awaiting confirmation from her regarding Parish Councillor numbers but on 27th March Sarah stated, “It may assist to know that if the parish councils were

to exist separately then the recommendation would be that each parish council would have 7 parish councillors.”

Meeting with Sarah Hartles on 6th June to discuss de-coupling of Parish Council

Three Parish Councillors and Clerk met with Sarah Hartles on 6th June at 10am.

If the Parish Council de-groups, this can be done as soon as possible without the need for a Community Governance Review. If the de-grouping is part of the boundaries review it will take longer.

To go ahead with a de-grouping which would appear to be the Parish Council’s preference, the following is required:

1. A minuted resolution to pursue a de-grouping of the Parish Council
2. A consultation undertaken to parishioners asking for feedback on the idea.
3. A collation of results of the consultation and, if appropriate, a minuted resolution to de-group.
4. A formal request sent to Ashford Borough Council (Sarah Hartles) along with a copy of the minuted resolution, the consultation and the results of the consultation.
5. A clear financial plan for each of the new parish councils
6. A list of assets for each of the new Parish Councils
7. Precept amounts for 2020-21 agreed
8. The names of the new Parish Councils agreed
9. Confirm the numbers of Parish Councillors for each Parish Council and begin advertising for them.

NB. 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 need to be in writing to Sarah Hartles by 1/12/2019.

For Thought

I have been considering the litter-pickers following the recent resignation by the Sevington Litter picker. I realise that they need a separate Risk Assessment and have been considering this but in so doing, I have also wondered whether any new employed Litter picker should have some sort of health and safety training on handling waste. I am not sure how we can find such training but I believe it is a bigger issue than we had at first considered for insurance purposes if nothing more.

I think it would be beneficial to add this as an item for discussion in forth coming meetings as, at present, the only expression of interest we have received was from a 14 year old whom we cannot employ for insurance reasons, each employee must have an NI number not allocated until after 16 years of age.

The Councillors suggested contacting ABC/KALC for advice on this.

TB

Planning Matters:

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

[19/00682](#)

Little Ranworth, Kingsford Street, Mersham
Single Storey rear extension

The Parish Council raised no objections to this application

[19/00838](#)

4 Bower Road, Mersham

Proposed two storey extension and first floor extension to the rear; proposed high level windows along the north west and south east elevations; Alterations to existing front dormer windows; removal of existing porch to be replaced with enclosed porch with overhang to principle elevation; Changes to external materials. Driveway extension and landscape alterations to the front of the property; Part demolition of the detached garage building with alterations of roof form to remaining structure.

The Parish Council raises no objection to this application providing there is no material degradation of amenity to the immediate neighbours.

[19/00490](#)

Land east of Mersham Sports Ground, Flood Street, Mersham

Change of use of land to recreational and the creation of two additional football pitches

The Parish Council supports this application

[14/00793](#)

Integrated Care 24 Limited, Kingston House, The Long Barrow, Sevington

Construction of 7 additional car parking spaces (3 staff car parking spaces and 4 fleet parking spaces) and relocation of a bin store.

The Parish Council raises no comment on this application

[19/00843](#)

Tavis House Business Centre, 3 Hall Avenue, Orbital Park, Sevington

Installation of a window in the front elevation

The Parish Council raises no comment on this application

[19/00702](#)

Highmead House, Hythe Road

Reserved matters application for the construction of 28 dwellings, including details of layout, appearance, scale landscaping and access within the site pursuant to outline approval 15/01550

The Parish Council raises no comment on this application

Financial Matters

a. To note/authorise the following:

i. To note the Parish Council's Financial position

The Parish Council bank balance as at 31/05/2019 was £21896.82.

ii. To authorise any payments

Cheque No:	Payee	Amount
501932	Mersham Village Caretaker	£ 106.73
501933	Came and Co. Insurance	£ 557.38
501934	HMRC	£ 38.80
501935	Clerk's salary	£ 621.65

A copy of the budget v expenditure was distributed to all Councillors.

Cllr Turley is to review the Caretaker Scheme finances with Susan Wood at the end of June and will report back at the next meeting.

A request had been received for £400 towards the Finberry Fete. This was approved subject to receiving a Risk Assessment for the event.

PT

To consider any changes to the Risk Assessment

There were no changes to the Risk Assessment at this time

Separation of the parishes

It was resolved that the Parish Council would pursue a de-grouping of the Parish Council to form 2 separate Parish Councils with effect from 1st April 2019.

Consultation with all residents is required and it was agreed that draft consultation questionnaires would be finalised at the July meeting. Cllr Turley to draft.

PT

<p>Co-option of New Councillors</p> <p>One of the potential Councillors asked to clarify what work is expected of a Councillor. It was suggested that about 3 or 4 hours per month would be expected.</p> <p>The 2 new Councillors agreed to be co-opted to the Council and were welcomed by the current Council. Declaration of Interest Forms and Acceptance of Office Forms were completed.</p>	
<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>The Parish Council had to withdraw their comments on planning application 18/01016/AS as they discovered they were the sole trustee to the Village Hall and there had been allegations that their comments could be considered biased.</p> <p>Cllr Turley had viewed the planning applications with discharge of conditions discussed following the previous meeting and he proposed that the Village Alliance should be made aware. The applications are not easily viewed or understood and in order that we may comment intelligently, the Parish Council would request a formal presentation so the Parish Council can comment properly. The plans are largely incomprehensible and very difficult to view.</p> <p>The Village Caretaker had messaged to say that he had enjoyed the Fete and would like to express thanks for the field being left spotlessly tidy.</p> <p>A solar panel for the speed sign was discussed and it was agreed that as this would cost circa £200, Cllr Murphy would obtain a quote and bring to the next meeting.</p> <p>Trees are over-growing round the flag-pole. Cllrs Murphy, Fletcher and Turley will look at this job together.</p> <p>The Clerk is to ask Crest Nicholson when the Community Centre will be built. It was agreed the next meeting would be at the Chamber of Commerce.</p>	<p>TB TB</p> <p>GM</p> <p>PT/GF/GM</p> <p>TB</p>
<p>Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council</p> <p>Monday 15th July 2019 – At the Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Monday 16th September 2019</p> <p>Monday 14th October 2019</p> <p>Monday 18th November 2019</p> <p>Monday 20th January 2020</p> <p>Monday 17th February 2020</p> <p>Monday 16th March 2020</p> <p>Monday 13th April 2020</p> <p>Monday 18th May 2020</p>	
<p>The meeting closed at 9.40pm</p>	