

NETTLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 1st DECEMBER 2022 IN NETTLESTEAD VILLAGE HALL at 19:45

PRESENT:

Cllr David Meredith - Chairman
Cllr Anita Van Hensbergen – vice chair
Cllr Emily Corfe
Cllr Alison Green
Cllr Martin Evans
Cllr Rebecca Pullen
The Parish Clerk Mrs M Rumble,
Borough Councillor C Russell

1. Apologies

Cllr Bennett
County Councillor Simon Webb,
PCSO Nicola Morris

2. Councillor Declarations

No interests declared

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on the NOVEMBER 2022

The minutes of the meeting had been previously distributed. The Chairman signed off the original copy as a True and Accurate Record

4. Councillors Report

Neighbourhood Watch Report

Cllr Corfe was in attendance but had previously circulated the Neighbourhood Watch Report.

Between 00:30 on Tuesday 27th of September and 09:30 on Monday 24th of October. Somebody damaged an electric fence by cutting the cable. Crime Report No. 46/210597/22

Chatterbox Report

Cllr Bennett was not in attendance and but had sent the Clerk a report prior to the meeting.

The sleigh will be coming round the village on Sunday 11th December and Father Christmas will distribute presents to Chatterbox members at the Railway Pub at 4 pm or at the Hop Pole later in the evening. He will also be making deliveries in the village and to children at both pubs. Our Christmas Lunch will be at the Hop Pole on Tuesday 20th December.

Can I just add that if there are any enquiries regarding the sleigh, we are unable to deliver in Wateringbury. Wateringbury residents would of course be welcome to see Santa at either the Railway pub or Hop Pole.

Parish Magazine

Cllr Van Hensbergen was in attendance and gave her report.

5. EXTERNAL REPORTS

County Councillor Report

Cllr Webb was not in attendance, and no report had been received.

Borough Councillor Report

Cllr Russell was in attendance and gave her report.

Local Plan Review

The Local Plan review continues to progress, and the stage 1 hearings are now complete. We await further information from the inspector who will write to MBC before Christmas or in January at the latest to see whether it proceeds to the stage 2 hearings.

Other Consultations

The Air Quality Management Area consultation runs until the 29th of January 2023. The Design and Sustainability Development Plan consultation is open and runs until the 12th of December – responses received will help to inform a more detailed document about design and sustainability in our borough.

Annual Rough Sleeper Count

This was carried out by the Homelessness Prevention Support Service in the early hours of Thursday 24th November, no rough sleepers were found, and this was verified by an independent officer from Homeless Link. If anyone should find a rough sleeper please email outreach@maidstone.gov.uk there is so much that MBC offers for support into accommodation, including community health services, help to access benefits or employment and much more.

Creative Communities Grant

The grants are to support events and activities encouraging art engagement and community cohesion in Maidstone. The first-round applications close on the 5th of December so be quick!

Boundary Review

The recommendations for the boundary review changes are complete. Our ward (Marden and Yalding Ward) will now include Linton as well and will still be a 3-councillor ward. Overall MBC is reducing from fifty-five councillors to forty-eight.

The MP Constituency boundary is now being consulted on for a second time. This has caused some worry but if you are in MBC you will remain in MBC and if you are in TMBC you will remain in TMBC – however your MP may change. Representations can be submitted into the process online, using evidence of community links etc will make representations of a greater quality.

Parish boundaries will be subject to change in the parish review which will commence in 2023.

TMBC Local Plan

The TMBC Regulation 18 consultation ended on 3rd November.

Events

The Maidstone xmas trail is now open. Enjoy a festive hunt around Maidstone this Christmas for your chance to win. Twenty-four locations across the town and the prize are £150 of shopping vouchers. The trail closes on the 6th of January. For more information and the trail map visit.

www.onemaidsstone.com/events/christmas-trail/

Santa's post box is also open at Lockmeadow this Sunday 4th December 10am -4pm and includes craft making – a free event.

PCSO Report

PCSO Nicola Morris was not in attendance, but a report had been received and circulated prior to the meeting.

22nd Nov - Arson – Nettlestead village hall – grass set light to – 2 persons identified and dealt with – local – parents spoken to

No other crime in the village since last meeting

Lots of vehicles being stolen in the areas – Marden/Laddingford – Ford Transit – Suzuki Jimny

Catalytic converter stolen recently – Vicarage Lane Yalding

Boat stolen from Little Venice

6. **KGV Field**

KCC Trees Grant

Cllr Green is working on this and has emailed the Trees members grant, asking when the next round if funding will be available, she is awaiting a response.

Cableway

The Clerk reported that the new seat had been installed.

Oak Tree

The Rabbit fencing was installed but Cllr Van Hensbergen reported that there are some sharp edges on the fencing, the Clerk will contact the Grounds maintenance contractors and ask if they could look.

Maintenance Inspection.

It was noted that a main inspection takes place every 12 months, but there are interim inspections. The Clerk will forward this to all members again.

Grounds maintenance

It was **RESOLVED** by all members to approve a ride on mower cut for the KGV field at a cost of £60.77. The Clerk was also asked if the bin could be emptied at the same time. It was also agreed that at the start of the new cutting season they will look at the cuts and see if they could be more spaced apart through the summer season. The contract is due for renewal in 2024 but will go out to tender in December 2023.

7. **Churchyard**

Nothing to report

8. **Highways and Footpath Matters**

Speedwatch

Please see report below from the Speedwatch Coordinator

Saturday 19th November –

Eight speeders (total 207 cars) in Nettlestead Green. One driver referred to the police for an unacceptable gesture to the Speedwatch volunteers.

Saturday 26th November –

Zero speeders (266 cars) in Nettlestead village. This was the first time that this milestone has been achieved in the area.

The Clerk was asked to contact Kent Police Speedwatch coordinator to ask if the site opposite the Village Hall where the Bollards have been installed could be used as a potential new site for the Speedwatch.

The members asked about Lorry Watch as there does seem to be a lot of lorries coming through the Village, this would need a group of volunteers to report lorries seen, they will place an advert in the Parish magazine.

Footpaths

There were no items highlighted.

Dog Poo Bins

The Clerk received a letter from Maidstone Borough Council stating that no bins could be moved, the Clerk was asked to forward this onto the Borough Councillor.

Parking – Bishops/Bryant Close

Cllr Evans was still working on but would like to amend the wording of his letter, the Parish Council need to find out who owns and maintains the grassed areas in Bishops and Bryant Close, Golding Homes owns the car parks. Cllr Russell stated that she would try and find this out from Golding Homes.

Cllr Pullen asked if perhaps an advert could be placed in the Parish magazine asking residents to park more considerately.

Highways

The Clerk was asked to report the following:

National Speed Limit sign Maidstone Road – Report ref 670535

Bus Stop sign Maidstone Road damaged – Report ref 670534

Fence fallen near Zebra crossing – Report ref DIG469524019.

Noticeboard

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had been trying to put some posters in the Noticeboard when it fell off the wall and onto the Clerk, it will now need to be replaced, the Clerk will investigate this and get some prices.

Flooding

The Clerk had been contacted by residents of Hampstead Lane asking about the flooding and why after three weeks it was still flooded. The Clerk was asked to contact KCC Highways about this and ask for an update.

Speed Indicator Device (SID)

The Clerk circulated prior to the meeting papers relating to Speed Indicator Devices and various types and how to proceed with this. The Clerk has updated the HIP and will circulate this to all members and also forward to KCC Highways Improvement Team.

The Members discussed the issue of Speeding through the Village especially where the Zebra crossing is and that many vehicles do not stop, this Zebra crossing is used by an awful lot by parents dropping off and collecting children from the Pre-School, and people using the Playing Field.

The Parish Council would like to have another Speed Indicator Device within the Parish. There used to be one outside Honeys Oast on the main road, but this was removed when it stopped working. To proceed with this the first port of call is to have a Speed Survey carried out. The Clerk will contact KCC re this and find out how much it costs and if the Parish Council have to pay for this.

9. Old School House

The Clerk had circulated prior to the meeting a quote for the service of the Old School House Clock at a cost of £185 plus VAT, any extra work at the time of the service would need to be authorised by the Parish Council. It was **RESOLVED** by all members to accept this quote. The Clerk will inform the owner of Old School House and Gillett and Johnson that they accept the quote.

10. Planning matters

No new applications

Decisions made by MBC since last meeting

22/504365/FULL	1 Old School Cottages, Maidstone Road, Nettlestead, Maidstone, Kent, ME18 5HD Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a part single storey, part two storey rear extension. APPLICATION GRANTED
Appeal Ref: APP/U2235/D/22/3290842	The Three Pines, Gibbs Hill, Nettlestead, Maidstone ME18 5H APPEAL DISMISSED

11. FINANCE

To note Budget monitoring report to DECEMBER 2022

The Budget monitoring report was **Noted**

To note Expenditure

				NPC CHEQUE LIST - DECEMBER	
				Supplier	
Cheque No	Gross	VAT	Nett	Details	
622290	£98.44	£1.07	£97.37	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Expenses - October/November
622291	£396.00	£0.00	£396.00	Hadlum Design	Parish magazine printing - previous
622292	£428.54	£71.42	£357.12	CAPEL GROUND CARE	GM CONTRACT
622292	£393.00	£65.50	£327.50	CAPEL GROUND CARE	Cableway seat fitting
622293	£25.18	£4.20	£20.98	Ms Michelle Rumble	Go Daddy Domain Renewal
622294	£76.51	£3.64	£72.87	Npower Business Solutions	Streetlightin energy
DD1201	£8.40	£1.40	£7.00	Sage Payroll	Payroll fee - December
SO1201	£815.10	£0.00	£815.10	Ms michelle Rumble	Salary - December
	£2,241.17	£147.23	£2,093.94		

Bank Reconciliation

The Chairman and the Clerk signed the Bank Reconciliations.

To receive the first Draft of the Budget for 2023/24

This was circulated to all members and was briefly looked at; it will be approved at the meeting in January.

12. SOCIAL MEDIA

Cllr Pullen reported that the Facebook page for Nettlestead now has 41 Followers, and more items are added as and when.

13. Correspondence

The members noted all of this.

GH Community Groups

MBC Parish News

KALC Annual Report 2021-22

New Flood Warden Training Dates 2022-23

14. Future agenda items

15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday the 5th of JANUARY at NETTLESTEAD VILLAGE HALL, starting at 7.45pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.18pm