

Monkton
Parish Council



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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
18th September 2017 at 6.30pm at Monkton Village Hall.**

Present Parish Councillors John Way [JW], Teresa Brown [TB], Ken Gregory [KG]

In Attendance Sara Archer (Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer) [SA], KCC Councillor Emma Dawson, District Cllr Derek Crow-Brown plus 11 members of the public.

23/17-18 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Cllr Kevin Knight & Cllr Chris Ransom

24/17-18 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None.

25/17-18 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
It was resolved to accept the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th July 17. These were proposed by Cllr Gregory, seconded by Cllr Brown and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

26/17-18 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
Cllr Way reported that a number of thefts from vehicles and criminal damage had occurred in the village recently. These had been reported to the Police, however, residents were reminded to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity using 101.
Due to a new Policing Model being introduced by Kent Police, New Horizons', the PCSO's for Thanet Villages had been transferred to different Unit. It is envisaged that new Officers will be appointed as soon as possible. The Thanet Area Committee would be inviting the Police Commander to attend their next meeting.

27/17-18 **RECREATION GROUND**
a) The Clerk advised that the repairs to the Play Area would be carried out in the next two weeks. Unfortunately, due to the weather, the equipment could not be repainted, however, this would be completed in Spring.
Cllr Knight was not present, however, he had reported that a number of plastic bottles had been left on the pitches following a training session, and dog fouling continued to be a problem.

28/17-18 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**
a) Members resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments which had been previously circulated. Cheques signed as appropriate
b) It was felt that the Parish Council were not in a position to make a firm decision on the location of the flag pole as they were awaiting confirmation of land ownership and potential insurance complications. The matter would be deferred to the next meeting.

29/17-18 **PLANNING**
a) A list of current Planning Applications had previously been circulated to the Cllrs. Decisions were noted and no further issues were raised.
Cllr Gregory advised there was an application being submitted for change of use of the land previously used as a petrol station between Monkton and Minster Roundabout, to be used for Car Sales.

30/17-18 **HIGHWAYS**
a) Cllr Gregory confirmed that the mini roundabout would be repainted together with road markings at the bottom of Willets Hill in the Autumn.
- A consultation was available online regarding the M2 Junction 5 (Detling Hill) Improvement Scheme. It is proposed that the layout of the roundabout is changed with additional lanes to increase

Signed..... *Date*.....

the flow of traffic between Maidstone and Sittingbourne. Residents were encouraged to complete the consultation if possible.

31/17-18

INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) County Councillor – Cllr Emma Dawson reported that Kent Fire & Rescue Service had completed a review on the external cladding at 155 sites within the area and none of the buildings failed the regulations. A recent fire in Snodland involving a three storey block of flats resulted in no injuries. 15 Fire Engines attended the fire, alternative accommodation was found for those evacuated. Cllr Gregory advised that KCC were in the process of purchasing the Deaf School at Margate and developing it into a Secondary School. No housing would be built on the site.
- b) District Councillor - Cllr Crow-Brown reported that the Isle had welcomed over 120,000 visitors during the summer period and although this was good for local businesses, it also caused issues for the District Council with regard to litter, antisocial behaviour and associated problems. Cllr Crow-Brown had attended a meeting with regard to the 24 hour licence granted to McDonalds to represent the Parish Council. Conditions had been put in place surrounding the licence which would be continued to be monitored.
The Local Authority were dealing with severe cuts to their budget, however, several locations in the Isle had been used for film crews which brought some revenue to the area.
The Chief Superintendent had reported that there had been a reduction in domestic crime, however, mental illness and drug gangs were a big issue for the local area.
An app had been introduced by TDC – ‘Thanet App’ which could be used for reporting flytipping, graffiti and such problems. Residents were encouraged to use the app, further information is available from the Thanet District Council website.
- c) Village Hall Committee – Nothing to report, the Hall had been repainted internally and externally. It was suggested the Village Hall Committee considered installing CCTV cameras.
- d) Thanet Rural Regeneration Group – A new speedwatch co-ordinator had been appointed. The Community Wardens were able to carry out speedwatch and could be contacted to arrange a session in the Village.
- e) Thanet Area Committee – Next meeting to be held 21/9/17.
- f) Parish Council Forum – No meeting held.
- g) MFC – The Parish Council were looking to improve the security at the Recreation Ground.

32/17-18

DATE/TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting would be held on 20th November 2017 at 6:30pm in the Village Hall.

Future dates: 15 Jan 2018

The meeting closed at approximately 19:10hrs.

The Public were then invited to raise any issues of concern.

- It was questioned whether there was any progress with the Parkway Station. It was confirmed that the funding was in place for the development. The lines would be upgraded between Ramsgate to Ashford and completion was anticipated by 2021.
- The situation with Manston Airport was discussed. The DCO process was underway with RSP (previously known as Riveroak) submitting an application in the final quarter of this year. The final process would be approved in 2019 followed by a consultation.
- The erection of advertisement signs along the roadside was discussed. It was confirmed that if the sign is on private land and is permanent it requires planning permission. However, temporary signs do not need planning permission. Highways remove anything deemed hazardous. Cllr Dawson advised that the offending signs were photographed and sent to her direct. She would then take the necessary action to get the signs removed.
- It was suggested MFC were contacted and asked to write to visitors, managers and parents to remind them it is their responsibility to remove their litter.
- The problem of dog fouling at the Recreation Ground was discussed and it was suggested signs were installed to act as a deterrent.
- The issue of litter in and around the village was raised. It was felt that much of the litter was from McDonalds and the Manager should be contacted to request assistance with the litter collection.
- The final draft of the Local Plan was expected on 19th January 2018 and would then go to the Planning Inspectorate for examination.

The meeting closed at approximately 19:30hrs.

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Date.....