

CLIFFSEND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 7th September 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Members Present. -Parish Councillors Blaydes (Chairman), Lyon, Searle, Barnbrook & Hovenden

In Attendance - 19 members of the community, KCC Cllr Paul Messenger and A Stacey Clerk, Trevor Kennett Head of Operational Services, TDC

047/17-18 Welcome & Apologies

Apologies from District Cllr Townend and Cllr Rogers

Cllr Blaydes opened the meeting and explained the safety procedures. **Cllr Blaydes** advised the council that Mr Phil Wendholt former councillor has passed away and would like to pass on the council's condolences to his family.

Trevor Kennett introduced himself and gave a background on the land at Earlsmead Crescent. He confirmed that the land owner no longer exists, and therefore responsibility falls to the PC. The trees on the site are the issue. **Cllr Hovenden** advised that the grass has been cut by TDC since 1990, the trees can be removed. Trevor Kennett confirmed this is correct and that the grass will be cut asap. Resident asked who had H & S responsibility for the trees – TK confirmed it is the PC. **Cllr Hovenden** proposed that TDC continue to mow the grass, seconded **Cllr Barnbrook** all in favour. **Cllr Blaydes** asked Trevor to speak to tree surgeon re removal of trees and costs. Resident asked if they could be made safe rather than complete removal. Then a resident of over 34 years informed the meeting that the development company who owned the land and estate went in to receivership half way through the building of the Old Hall Estate in the late 1970's. The insurance company appointed another builder (Kingfishers) who completed building the estate in 1979. As the land was now not owned it was passed to the borough council at the time for maintenance (Thanet District Council).

TK is therefore satisfied that no responsibility falls to the parish council as they were not formed until 2003 and according to their records TDC have maintained the land through the 80's, 90's and into the 2000's.

048/17-18 Declarations of interest

No one signed the declaration of interests book.

Chair advised that 2 Cllrs Small and Tait have resigned and there are vacancies.

Election of Vice-Chair **Cllr Searle** proposed **Cllr Lyon**, Seconded **Cllr Blaydes**, 4 in favour and **Cllr Hovenden** abstained.

049/17-18 Adoption of minutes of 13th July 2017 as being a true record. **Cllr Searle** proposed minutes be adopted, Seconded **Cllr Lyon** – all in favour.

050/17-18 Matters arising from the above minutes.

Cllr Searle confirmed that the transparency code work has been completed.

Cllr Hovenden suggested that asked what the land beside the garage on the Sandwich Road could be called Viewing Area. **Cllr Hovenden** proposed this, seconded **Cllr Searle** all in favour.

One Sportsman sign remains on the A256.

Cllr Lyon confirmed the first coffee meeting has taken place and it was very successful. **Cllr Lyon** confirmed the hedges down Foads Lane have been cut.

051/17-18 Reports

F & GP Committee Report – as F & GP minutes. **Cllr Searle** proposed 4 costs be paid for the meadow work, Seconded **Cllr Lyon** – all in favour.

No District Cllr present.

County Cllr present- Cllr Messenger advised that he had received a complaint from a resident regarding speed in Foads lane and he has passed this onto KCC. He confirmed the planning application for the parkway railway station will be submitted autumn 2017.

No community warden/PCSO present – update via **Cllr Blaydes** someone was camping the Viking ship area, he has now moved on.

Cllr Reports – Cllr Searle advised the level crossing is closing 10th September, 7am-8pm. Nemo event is taking place 13th September 4-7pm in the village hall.

Cllr Hovenden confirmed she had attended the TRRG and following the last meeting and the resignations which followed, the speedwatch is now all back on track and they would like volunteers to take part.

Cllr Blaydes confirmed that he had attended TAC, representative had attended KALC meeting. The minutes will be on the website.

052/17-18 Public Questions – no decisions made

Weeds/Hedges are overgrown by Sportsman and along the buys lay-by on the Sandwich Road – clerk to email KCC.

053/17-18 Financial Matters

Payments checked by Cllr Blaydes and Cllr Hovenden

Chqs signed Cllr Searle and Cllr Lyon

Proposed Cllr Blaydes and Seconded Cllr Lyon. All in favour.

Chq No 749	A Stacey £386.54 -Wages
Chq No 750	A Stacey £386.54 -Wages
Chq No 751	HMRC £92.14
Chq No 752	HMRC £92.14
Chq No 753	A Stacey £ 38.30 Expenses
Chq no 754	CVHF £6.00 Committee Room Hire
Chq no 755	Landscape Services £1108.37 – meadow maintenance
Chq no 756	TDC £684.00 – new bench
Chq No 757	Donna Price - £75.00 - website work
Chq No 758	Donna Price - £108.75 – website work
Chq No 759	Donna Price - £253.75 – website work

Clerk gave the outcome of the audit. They had raised queries with the amount of reserves, which was clarified and the support grant differed to the amounts confirmed by TDC. Clerk has clarified this for next year. Cllrs acknowledged the audit feedback.

054/17-18 Current Topics

Standing orders adopted with no amendments Proposed **Cllr Blaydes** seconded **Cllr Searle** all in favour.

Financial Regs adopted with no amendments Proposed **Cllr Blaydes** seconded **Cllr Lyon** all in favour.

FOI policy adopted with no amendments Proposed **Cllr Blaydes** seconded **Cllr Lyon** all in favour.

Press & Media Policy no amendments Proposed **Cllr Blaydes** seconded **Cllr Lyon** all in favour.

Risk Management Statement – review next month

Asset Schedule – updated –Proposed **Cllr Blaydes**, Seconder **Cllr Lyon** all in favour.

Ground Maintenance Officer - Cllr Hovenden advised that the Job description had been done however, it has not been received. **Cllr Blaydes** will get the information from Mr Small for next meeting.

Meadow Lease – Cllr Blaydes read the response from the solicitor regarding the issue of a fence around the HA-HA, which has come from the land owner. **Cllr Blaydes** proposed the words on the revised lease are accepted seconder **Cllr Lyon, 4 in favour – Cllr Hovenden** abstained. As no decision was reached last meeting **Cllr Hovenden** proposed an open meeting be set up with Mr Chapman chaired by an independent body seconded by **Cllr Barnbrook**. Two cllrs in favour, three against. Not carried.

Cllr Blaydes proposed the meeting be extended for 15 mins, seconded **Cllr Hovenden** all in favour

Storage for Parish Council – Cllr Hovenden advised there is no storage for the council paperwork or public toilets within the village. **Cllr Hovenden** proposed a discussion take place at the next meeting regarding this, seconded **Cllr Searle**, all in favour.

Christmas lights –Cllr Barnbrook advised that he had spoken to an electrician who can put the lights up – 80m of lights and new box and labour £546.00. Seconded **Cllr Hovenden** – all in favour. **Cllr Barnbrook** will take this forward and arrange.

Cllr Allowances - Cllr Barnbrook advised that he will not use any of his personal funds for PC. **Cllr Barnbrook** proposed that an allowance be payable to each cllr, **Cllr Hovenden** advised him that the item will come up within the budget discussions in October/November.

Cllr Barnbrook advised that he thought that members should have ID badges. Proposed ID badges, photographs on the website, and official telephone numbers on the website. No seconder. Not carried.

Bus Shelter in Canterbury Road West – Cllr Hovenden advised that the residents cannot be seen by the bus now and can't see it coming – clerk to speak to Stagecoach.

055/17-18 Clerks Report
None

056/17-18 Correspondence

057/17-18 Any other business

Meeting closed at 10.00 hrs.

Date of next meeting 13th October 2017 at 7.30pm,

**Clerk to the Council: Mrs Ashley Stacey, 3 Rossetti Road, Birchington CT7 9ER,
Tel 01843 848473**