

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16 November 2017 at the New Ash Green Village Association Meeting Room, Centre Road, DA3 8HH, commencing at 7.45pm

Present: Cllr Mrs Brammer (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs Clark
Cllr Mrs Clucas
Cllr Mrs Connell
Cllr F Cottee
Cllr Mrs Hobbs (arrived 7.56pm)
Cllr Mrs Howie
Cllr J Kelly
Cllr I Mann
Cllr V Ngwenya
Cllr P Nightingale

In attendance: Alison de Jager – Parish Clerk
Cllr D Brazier – Kent County Council

- 7236/17 Apologies Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Brown (prior commitment), J Crane (ill), J Scott (family commitment). The apologies and reason for absence was accepted. Apologies were also received from District Councillors C Clark and A Pett.
- 7237/17 Declarations Of Interest a. None
b. No changes to the Register of Interests. Members were reminded that any alteration or new interests must be registered with the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.
- 7238/17 Dispensations No requests received
- 7239/17 Minutes It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19 October 2017 be approved and signed as a true record. PROPOSED: Cllr P Nightingale SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Connell and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.
- 7240/17 Casual Vacancy It was NOTED that the closing date for applications for the Casual Vacancy is 13 December 2017 for selection at the Parish Council meeting on 21 December 2017
- 7241/17 Annual Parish Meeting Cllr Mrs Brammer PROPOSED that the date for the Annual Parish Meeting is set for 10 May 2018 and will be held at Hodsoll Street and Ridley Village Hall. SECONDED: Cllr J Kelly and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.
- 7242/17 Planning a. Applications
The following applications – FOR INFORMATION ONLY were NOTED.
TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS
SE/17/03542/WTPO: 58 Redhill Wood, New Ash Green, DA3 8QP – Fell Cherry tree to ground level.

- 7242/17
Planning
- SE/17/03467/WTPO: 11 Ash Croft Court, New Ash Green, DA3 8HJ – Oak crown reduction no more than 30%. Removal of climbing plant and deadwood.**
- b. Decisions
The decisions, as set out in Appendix A to Agenda A/11/17 were RECEIVED AND NOTED.
 - c. Appeals - None at time of Agenda. NOTED
 - d. Enforcements - None at time of Agenda. NOTED
 - e. It was NOTED that as there were no applications to consider, the Planning Committee meeting of 02 November 2017 was cancelled.
- 7243/17
Finance
- a. The current financial position and accompanying reports were NOTED. Cllr V Ngwenya took members through the current income and expenditure against the budget.
 - b. The cheques signed since the last meeting were authorised.
PROPOSED: Cllr I Mann SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Howie.
 - c. The minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 07 November 2017 were NOTED.
 - d. Cllr V Ngwenya took members through the Sports Centre budget and PROPOSED that the Sports Centre budget for 2018/19 as recommended by the Finance Committee is APPROVED. SECONDED: Cllr J Kelly and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.
 - e. Cllr V Ngwenya took members through the draft budget noting that a reserve would be required for the greenlands contract as our current contractor would be retiring next year. The grant from Kent County Council for the Lunch Provision has been withdrawn and the full cost will be funded by the Parish Council, the other proposed budget increases were explained. To balance the draft budget an increase of 13.4% on the precept would be required. In previous years a proportion of the income required was taken from General Reserves, however, the Finance Committee felt that no further draw should be made on the General Reserves. Cllr F Cottee PROPOSED that the that the draft 2018/19 budget be APPROVED with a precept increase of 13.45% to £107,828, being an increase of approximately £5.27 on a Band D property. SECONDED: Cllr I Mann and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.
 - f. Cllr Mrs Brammer PROPOSED that the decision of the Finance Committee to have an additional Youth Worker added to the Service Level Agreement with West Kent Communities in the amount of £1,4.01. SECONDED: Cllr J Kelly and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.
- 7244/17
Sports Centre
- a. The minutes of the meeting of the Sports Centre Management Committee held on 30 October 2017 were NOTED.
- 7245/17
Barnfield Park
- a. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Liaison Group will be held on 04 December 2017.
- 7246/17
Northfield
- a. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Northfield Management Committee will be held on 13 December 2017.
- 7247/17
Burial Ground
- a. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Burial Ground Committee will be set upon receipt of information from the architect.
- 7248/17
- a. 8 – 12's –no report.

- Youth
- b. Youth – the Youth Club continues to attract young people and they are making good progress developing communications with the young people.
- 7249/17
Highways
- a. It was NOTED that the hand-over of the Speed Indicator Device has taken place and the rotation has started with the New Ash Green site.
b. It was NOTED that the traffic safety mirror has been ordered.
c. Cllr Mrs Connell and the Clerk attended a Highways Seminar on 20 October and Cllr Mrs Connor gave a report, a copy of which will be emailed to all members.

The meeting was suspended at 8.43pm to receive reports from the County and District Councillors.

The report from the District Councillor is attached to these minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 8.56pm

- 7250/17
Footpaths
- No report
- 7251/17
Transport
- a. It was NOTED that the next meeting of Arriva and the Parishes will be held on 13 March 2018.
b. Cllr Mrs Connell reported that another incident of vandalism to an Arriva bus had been reported and that 22 incidents of rocks being thrown at buses in the Gravesend area have been reported since August 2017 and Arriva are offering a £200 reward. Cllr J Kelly reported that the London Commuter coach had stones thrown at it at the Olivers Mill bus stop.
- 7252/17
Ash, Hodsoil Street, Ash & New Ash Green
- a. Ash – The village hall committee held a successful fund-raising event, The Backroom Band, on Saturday 21 October 2017 and raised £1,110.
b. Armistice Day Service – the service was very successful with between 50 and 60 people attending. The tea, coffee and cakes were much appreciated, and next year the donations for the Poppy Fund will be advertised.
c. Hodsoil Street – Cllr F Cottee advised that the Carols on the Green will be held on 22 December.
The Hodsoil Street and Ridley Village Hall Committee Calendar for 2018 is available at a cost of £5.
d. Ridley – Cllr Mrs Howie reported that large lumps of concrete had been fly-tipped on Rectory Road, The Ridley Christmas Carol service would be held on 10 December at Ridley Church, followed by mulled wine and mince pies at Ridley Court Farm.
- 7253/17
Bulletin and Website
- a. Bulletin – delivery of the Bulletin has been completed. The deadline for the next edition has been set for 18 January 2018.
b. Website – no report
- 7254/17
Focus Group and Police
- a. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Focus Group will be held on 08 January 2018.
- 7255/17
Lunch Provision
- a. It was NOTED that the Christmas lunch will be held on Thursday 07 December 2017.

- 7256/17
KALC
- a. It was NOTED that the next Sevenoaks Area meeting will be held on 01 December 2017.
- 7257/17
Reports,
Circulars and
Correspond.
- The reports, circulars and correspondence as set out in A/11/17 were NOTED.

The meeting closed at 9.17pm

Signed: Date:
Chairman