

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr R Riley
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Fairweather (Borough)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

None

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the last Council meeting on 11th December 2019 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. That being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Compensation for failure to deliver black bins/caddies & missed collections

Cllr Staples will follow this up with Cllrs Fairweather and Cllr Holden.

Weald Sports Centre

Cllr Vernon reported that, as far as he was aware, Cllr Holden was yet to secure a meeting but a new Sports Centre Manager was now in place.

Safety Railings by Frittenden School

Cllr Cullingworth has responded to KCC's refusal to install railings because they would make the path too narrow but is yet to receive any reply.

Telephone box

Cllr Cullingworth is waiting for the weather to improve before painting the outside of the telephone box.

Councillor Vacancy

Cllr Tuke has launched the Facebook campaign with an initial post advising of the vacancy and inviting interested parties to submit a short statement about themselves to the Clerk. He will follow this up by posting a Councillor profile each week, starting with the newest member and finishing with the Chairman. Once all the profiles have been posted, and subject to the responses received, the Clerk will publish the formal advert required under the procedure for co-opting new Councillors.

Minor works to play area

Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that these works have now been completed.

Parish Field – Gate Locking

Cllr Staples has spoken to one resident who may be able to assist and will approach another who has been suggested to him.

Budget

The Clerk confirmed that the precept for 2020/21 had been requested prior to the 17th January deadline and that request had been acknowledged by TWBC.

6. PARISH CHAIRMEN'S MEETING

Cllr Tuke deputised for Cllr Staples at the meeting on 17th December 2019. He reported that Cllr McDermott was very positive about the new KCC Chairman, Roger Gough. Cllr McDermott confirmed that the Amelia Scott Centre should be ready in mid-January and reported that the Draft Local Plan had attracted 8,000 comments, some of which were over 300 pages long. The review of those comments should be completed by March. In the meantime, 20 new sites (it was not revealed where) had been put forward.

The Community Heartbeat Trust presented to the meeting. That organisation looks after 500 Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and it was agreed that Cllr Tuke would pass on their contact details to those who manage the AEDs installed around the village. Attention was also drawn to a good Red Cross app available for smartphones which guides members of the public through what to do in emergency situations.

The Tunbridge Wells Agreement was discussed and it was, again, suggested that it would be helpful if Clerks were given advance notice if a planning application was refused to allow Councils to prepare for any repercussions.

The new waste collection service was discussed and Gary Stevenson, Head of Housing, Health and Environment at TWBC gave a presentation showing the problems that had been encountered and how these were being tackled. The contractor, Urbaser Ltd, was spending an extra £200,000 per month in taking the action required to address those problems and Mr Stevenson felt that things were improving. Frittenden was mentioned as a 'hot spot' and Cllr Tuke noted that some residents were, at the time of the meeting, still complaining about non-delivery of either black bins or food caddies. Mr Stevenson agreed to circulate an email setting out details of Christmas collections and how non-delivered bins/caddies could be reported. He duly did this and Cllr Tuke published that email on the village Facebook page. Cllr Tuke also raised the fact that operatives had been observed putting the contents of food caddies onto the green bin. He was told that this was only permissible when the contractor was remedying a missed collection and not on scheduled collections. If residents witness this practice, they should report it, giving details of the time, location and waste collection vehicle registration if possible.

7. WEBSITE

Cllr Tuke had circulated a link to what he had done so far and it was agreed that the new website was a considerable improvement on the old website. Cllr Staples suggested adding a page for the Memorial Hall and Cllr Vernon suggested a link to the CLT's website. Links should also be provided to Frittenden Pre-School's website, together with those for the Bell & Jorrocks and Knoxbridge Inn. Cllr Riley asked whether the banner photograph could be changed to one which showed Frittenden as it is today. It was agreed that this would better represent the modern and vibrant village. The photograph could be updated from time to time to show activities such as the annual fun run. It was suggested that the website should also link to the Village Guide. Cllr Tuke has obtained permission for this to be used, but it will need updating. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Cllr Tuke and the Clerk had been looking into what needed to be done to get a .gov.uk domain. It was not entirely straight forward and would incur a cost of c.£60 per year. Cllr Tuke already owns the frittenden.org.uk domain, which could be used at a cost of only £2 per year. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the .org.uk domain be used.

8. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

The Clerk would shortly be sending out invitations to tender for the 2020/21 contracts. Responses are to be requested in time for consideration by the Council at the next meeting. Minor amendments were agreed to the tender documentation to ensure that the work to be carried out under each contract was clear.

9. SPRING LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth agreed to organise the litter pick, which is to take place on Saturday 28th March 2020.

10. ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL GYPSY & TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

The Council had been invited to participate in the above consultation as the Parish bordered Ashford Borough. Cllr Staples had reviewed the documentation produced by Ashford Borough Council and considered the approach being taken to be fairly sensible. Further, there were no Gypsy & Traveller sites close to the Borough boundary at Biddenden. Cllr Vernon agreed that it was hard to see what comments could sensibly be made and it was therefore agreed that the Council would not respond.

11. BUS SERVICE re: NEW SAINSBURY'S

Cllr Staples reported that a resident had written to Sainsbury's asking whether it would be providing a rural bus service to its new store in Staplehurst. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to support the idea of a bus service between Frittenden and the new store. The Clerk was instructed write to Sainsbury's in that regard.

12. SPEEDWATCH

There had been a couple of sessions since the last meeting, with the highest speed recorded being 41 mph. The equipment had been serviced and it had been recommended that the charger unit be

replaced after it was found to be cracked with a loose component inside. Cllr Staples approved that expenditure as it fell within his limit of authority. The equipment is shared with Sandhurst Parish Council and the Clerk has written requesting payment of 50% of the VAT exclusive cost of the service and replacement charger.

13. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Roy Latham will continue with the weekly inspections until the end of the month when Cllr Cullingworth will take over.

14. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The project is still at the feasibility stage. The Steering Group met on 9th January and discussions continue with the Memorial Hall Trust over the legal and practical obstacles that would have to be overcome for the shop to be located on land belonging to a charitable trust. Cllr Vernon noted that, if an established legal entity was required to take a lease from the Memorial Hall Trust, the CLT could be used because a community shop would fit with the purposes for which it was set up.

Berni Cooper has done sterling work in putting together a business plan but, in order to get a shop up and running, help is required at the planning stage from professionals such as solicitors, accountants and retail professionals, as well as from those residents who are willing to give up their time to work in the shop. The Steering Group is therefore considering issuing another survey which will ask for real commitment, either by way of a financial pledge, most likely in relation to the purchase of shares, or a pledge of time. Assuming the level of support needed is received, and the professional help required is volunteered, the Steering Group would look to funding a paid manager (possibly part-time) to run the shop and it was hoped that this position could be filled by a local resident.

15. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Cllr Vernon reported that discussions were still ongoing between the CLT, TWBC and a potential developer of the site allocated in the Draft Local Plan.

Cllr Staples noted that the Council had been invited to submit comments to the Select Committee on Affordable Housing which had recently been set up by KCC. Initial thoughts were that “Affordable” should be with reference to median salaries in the relevant area, rather than property values. A more flexible approach needed to be adopted by KCC when commenting on proposed schemes, as it was known that at least one local scheme was rejected because Highways refused to adopt such an approach to pavement access. Further, sustainable homes could not be built in rural areas without being supported by public transport, particularly rural bus services. Cllr Vernon agreed to circulate some draft comments which could be submitted by the Clerk once agreed.

16. ROAD REPORT – General

Cllr Gosbee reported that he had chased KCC to repair a large pothole by Place Farm, which had caused damage to a number of residents’ vehicles. He had also reported potholes in Grandshore Lane and Sand Lane. The potholes in Biddenden Road were listed for repair, but Cllr Gosbee did not know when that would take place.

The signpost at the end of Dig Dog Lane is broken and this has been reported.

The new salt bins on Grandshore Lane and Biddenden Road (near Ridgefield) are now in place and Cllr Staples thanked Cllr Gosbee for organising this.

Fly-tipping continues to be a problem. The c.35 tyres dumped along Grandshore Lane have been reported to TWBC but are yet to be removed. However, a number of settees dumped on Green

Lane near Bettenham were removed within 24 hours of being reported to KCC Highways because they were blocking the road. If any residents come across fly-tipping on the highway, they should contact Cllr Gosbee because he has a direct line to the relevant officers at KCC Highways.

17. PLANNING

New Applications

19/03507/PNEXT	Hill House, The Street, Frittenden Prior notification for a proposed single-storey rear extension. NOTED (Prior Approval was granted on 20.01.20)
19/03653/FULL	Oaklands, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Proposed change of use of redundant building to dwelling & detached garage with amenity area Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of previous applications

19/03080/FULL	Buckhurst Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Conversion of existing barn to residential use for 2 dwellings PERMISSION GRANTED
19/03081/FULL	Buckhurst Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Conversion of existing barn to residential use PERMISSION GRANTED
19/03404/FULL	Frittenden Memorial Hall, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Demolition of existing storage room & erection of replacement extension. External insulation, re-cladding and fenestration alterations. Installation of raised deck to rear with steps, access ramp & hand rail. Associated landscaping. PERMISSION GRANTED
19/03274/PNQCLA	The Barn at Brissenden Farm, Sand Lane, Frittenden Prior notification of change of use of a building & land within its curtilage from an agricultural use to a use falling within Class C3 (Dwellinghouse) PLANNING PERMISSION/CONSENT REQUIRED

Planning appeals

- None

18. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Nominations for the KALC Community Awards 2020 are to be submitted by 31st January 2020.
- No Councillors are available to attend the KALC Health & Wellbeing Conference on 6th February 2020.

19. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Tuke, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – JANUARY 2020				
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Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102497*	£454.56	£75.76	£378.80	Travis Perkins	Salt bins x 2 & Salt
102498	£40.00	nil	£40.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire – Nov & Jan
102499	£320.00	£53.34	£266.66	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – Nov & Dec
102500	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – Dec
102501	£283.20	£47.20	£236.00	Unipar Services LLP	Serving Speedwatch Equipment
102502	£69.14	nil	£69.14	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – Jan
102503	£211.21	nil	£211.21	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – Jan
102504	WRITTEN	INCORRECTLY			
102505	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Kent Air Ambulance	s137 Donation
102506	£25.00	nil	£25.00	Victim Support	s137 Donation
102507	£50.00	nil	£50.00	High Weald Academy Farm	s137 Donation
102508	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Citizen's Advice Bureau	s137 Donation
102509	£350.00	nil	£350.00	Frittenden Parochial Church Council	s137 Donation
102510	£50.00	nil	£50.00	West Kent YMCA	s137 Donation
102511	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Samaritans	s137 Donation
102512	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Relate	s137 Donation
102513	£75.00	nil	£75.00	Hospice in the Weald	s137 Donation
102514	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Frittenden Pre-School	s137 Donation
102515	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Frittenden School	s137 Donation
102516	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Hawkhurst Community League of Friends	s137 Donation
102517	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Kenward Trust	s137 Donation
102518	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Royal British Legion	s137 Donation
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy – Dec
TOTAL	£2,706.65	£185.04	£2,521.61		

*Signed outside of the meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 18th February 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough) & 1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident spoke in opposition to planning application 20/0068/FULL. He noted that there had been 10 applications concerning this site in the last 40 years and that all requests for a permanent dwelling had been refused. The site was not previously developed land, it should not be built on and should be returned to agriculture to protect the adjacent conservation area and the village. The site had been rejected by TWBC in the Call for Sites and a very similar application had recently been refused as it was fundamentally contrary to the development plan. The resident referred to photographs of the site and stated that it had only become untidy in recent years. He urged the Parish Council to recommend that the application be refused and to back TWBC's efforts to enforce existing planning conditions. The resident stressed that the above objections were purely matters of planning policy and in no way personal.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Tuke, Cllr Riley and Cllr Holden (County).

The Clerk confirmed that the meeting was quorate as the minimum number of members who must be present was three.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

The Clerk briefly reminded Councillors of what constituted an interest that must be declared in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct. Cllr Gosbee noted that, although not a declarable interest, he did assist the current contractor in maintaining the War Memorial and he would not, therefore, participate in any discussion or vote in respect of the awarding of the Grounds Maintenance Contracts for 2020/21.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather had written an article for the Parish Magazine. Although not something he did every month, he felt this was a very good way of keeping in touch with the community.

Cllr Fairweather was pleased to report that the waste/recycling collections were improving, but stated that residents should continue to refer any problems to him. Some residents in Sissinghurst who had agreed special access arrangements, whereby their bins are collected from an agreed place and returned to that place after they are emptied, had had their bins missed. Cllr Fairweather is seeking to resolve this but wished to make Frittenden residents who might otherwise struggle to

put their bins out aware that a special access scheme existed. Those residents could register for that scheme through TWBC.

Cllr Fairweather has been assisting the Community Shop Group with arranging pre-planning meetings with TWBC and he has also been assisting the Church with an application to re-locate a noticeboard. Cllr Fairweather has also had discussions with a few residents in relation to one of the planning applications to be considered at this meeting. He indicated that he is always happy to provide help and assistance with whatever representations the Council may wish to make on planning matters.

Cllr Fairweather is aware that a meeting has now taken place between Cllr Holden and the new management of the Weald Sports Centre, at which Cllr Holden raised the concerns previously highlighted by the Council.

Cllr Fairweather will chase up the relevant officer at TWBC in relation to Cllr Cullingworth's request for equipment for the Spring Litter Pick. Cllr Staples noted that the equipment supplied for the last Litter Pick was insufficient. In particular, no gloves were provided and not enough safety vests.

Philip Mummery was recently installed as the Honorary Mayor of Cranbrook. Sissinghurst and Cranbrook Parish Council was investigating ways to prevent the loss of the 8 parking spaces between the chip shop and dog groomers, which the landowner was looking to replace with 2 retail units.

Cllr Fairweather confirmed that Cllr Holden had signed off a grant of £5,000 towards the cost of the new heating system at the Memorial Hall. Cllr Holden had previously gifted a significant sum to assist the establishment of the community shop at Benenden and Cllr Fairweather will see if funds are available for any community shop which might be set up in Frittenden.

Cllr Fairweather then left the meeting.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the last Council meeting on 21st January 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting, subject to a handwritten amendment made by the Clerk. That being the case Cllr Staples signed them.

18. THE CHAIRMAN ADVANCED CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING APPLICATION 20/00068/FULL

Before commenting on the proposal, Cllr Vernon confirmed that he reviewed and researched in detail every application that, as Consultee, the Council was asked to comment on. When forming his opinions, he applied so far as possible objective planning policy and planning principles. He put to one side any subjective views on the circumstances of the application and whether he liked the proposal or whether he thought it was a good idea or not.

This application was similar to one which had previously been considered by the Council under reference 19/01086/FULL. It was a similar scheme with a different design. The supporting planning statement relied heavily on the concept of replacement of the previous mobile home and development of land that had been the site of a mobile home for over 30 years. However, as the previous mobile home only had a temporary personal permission, the proposal could not be considered as a replacement dwelling or development on previously developed land under the National Planning Policy Framework. The application should be looked at as development on green field agricultural land. It is not correct to make an assumption of previous residential use.

The planning statement also referred to the proposals visually improving the site. However, the original temporary permission TW/83/0451 required that once the temporary permission lapsed, the site was to be reinstated to the condition which existed prior to development and left in a clean and tidy condition. There were therefore existing planning conditions that should be applied to the state of the site.

Cllr Vernon noted that the site was outside of the limits to built development and no material considerations had been identified to permit development of this prominent hillside greenfield land. He felt that any development would have a negative impact on the rural character of the locality and would not conserve or enhance the special character of the adjacent conservation area. Frittenden was characterised by clusters of housing separated by green space and those green spaces should be kept development free. Further, the development would not constitute sustainable development as required by planning policy. The site had been rejected by TWBC in the recent Call for Sites and there were highway safety concerns with regard to the access being on to a blind bend at the brow of a hill with no visibility.

For the reasons set out above, Cllr Vernon stated that the Council should recommend that permission be refused.

Cllr Gosbee was concerned about the future of the site if it was not developed in accordance with this proposal. He felt that a small bungalow would be of benefit to the village, which had a shortage of such housing stock. Cllr Cullingworth shared that view and noted that the site had houses on each boundary.

Cllr Staples closed the meeting in order to invite comment from the public. A resident commented that waste was being brought on to the site, not taken away. However, Cllr Staples noted that this was not a planning consideration.

Cllr Staples then re-opened the meeting and commented that, whilst the size of the proposed building went in the application's favour, he had been persuaded by the clear comment from TWBC when rejecting the previous application and the reasons given by the Planning Inspector in rejecting the appeal against TWBC's refusal to grant permission for the development of houses on land adjacent to Ferrers. Both applications went against what the Council was trying to achieve, which was to preserve the dispersed character of the village while being sympathetic to development that included Affordable Housing.

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Staples, that the Council recommend permission be refused for the reasons identified by Cllr Vernon. The vote was split with 2 votes for that proposal and 2 against. In exercising his casting vote, Cllr Staples noted that the Chairman's casting vote should be used to maintain the status quo. In this case, the 'no change' option was to recommend that permission be refused.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Compensation for failure to deliver black bins/caddies & missed collections

This has been raised but ruled out by TWBC.

Weald Sports Centre

Whilst a new Sports Centre Manager was in place, it was felt that the situation was just as bad as before.

Safety Railings by Frittenden School

As the crossing supervisor, Cllr Cullingworth has raised this with her superior but has not yet made any progress.

Telephone box

Cllr Cullingworth is hoping to include cleaning the telephone box as part of the Spring Litter Pick.

Councillor Vacancy

The Clerk has not yet received any responses from interested parties.

Minor works to play area

Cllr Staples commented on how well the new paving stones were working to stop the soil erosion. The Council thanked Mark Plummer for his work in sourcing and installing the stones.

Parish Field – Gate Locking

The Council reviewed the situation and agreed that it would like to continue locking the gate at night if volunteers could be found to lock/unlock the gate on a daily basis. Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that she would take over filling the dog bag dispenser.

Bus Service

The Clerk confirmed that she had notified Sainsbury's of the Council's support, in principle, for a bus service connecting Frittenden with the new store to be built in Staplehurst. No substantive response had yet been received.

KCC Select Committee on Affordable Housing

The Clerk confirmed that the Council's comments had been submitted and acknowledged.

6. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS 2020/21

The Clerk had received three quotes which were considered by the Council. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED (with 1 abstention)** to award the following contracts to Kent Grassland Services:

CONTRACT 1 – to mow the Parish Field grass (a maximum of 16 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) to include mowing the play area and strimming around the play equipment as necessary, with care being taken not to cause any strimmer damage to the play equipment; to trim under trees and surrounding areas including field edges as necessary, paying particular attention to removing any brambles under the weeping birch; to mow/cut the grass mounds within the Parish Field (a maximum of 8 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) at £1225.00.

CONTRACT 3 – to cut the entire length of the Paddock hedges (vertical faces and tops), including hedge on road boundary and hedge between Paddock and Frittenden House (a maximum of 2 cuts per annum to take place in May and September, weather permitting) at £160.00.

CONTRACT 4 – to cut the outer side of hedge between the Parish Field & Laundry Lane, by hand, and to remove all cuttings (2 cuts per annum to take place in May and September, weather permitting) at £125.00.

CONTRACT 5 – to cut all internal vertical faces and tops of hedges within the Parish Field, and to remove all cuttings (1 cut per annum) at £120.00.

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED (with 1 abstention)** to award the following contract to Mr M Ashbee:

CONTRACT 2 – to mow the grass and cut the hedge at the War Memorial (a maximum of 16 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) to Mr M. Ashbee at £100.

Cllr Staples indicated that, now it had been reduced in height to a more manageable level, he would further reduce the vegetation around the electricity pole to normal hedge height once the weather improved.

7. STREET CLEANSING 2020/21

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Clerk should seek to renew the current contract with Urbaser Ltd for the period 1st March 2020 to 28th February 2021 on the same terms.

8. SPRING LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the Spring Litter Pick had been moved to 21st March 2020 because TWBC had advised that no equipment was available on the original date. Cllr Cullingworth has requested the equipment for 21st March 2020 but is yet to receive confirmation from TWBC despite chasing them. Cllr Cullingworth is grateful to Cllr Fairweather for his input on this.

Cllr Cullingworth will aim to include cleaning the play equipment and benches, as well as the telephone box. Cllr Gosbee confirmed that he would stain the benches after they had been cleaned and once the weather improved.

9. ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

It was agreed that local clubs and societies should, once again, be invited to give short presentations on their activities at the Annual Parish Assembly.

10. FUN RUN

Rob Addis has decided to step down after organising 17 events. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council wished to continue this event, that new organisers should be sought and that suggestions for suitable charities to benefit from the funds raised should be invited and submitted to the Clerk. The decision as to which of the charities nominated should be chosen will be delegated to the organisers and ratified at the next meeting of the Council.

11. WEBSITE

The Clerk read out a report from Cllr Tuke, who considered that the new website was now ready to go live. It was therefore agreed that the switch to the new website should be made as soon as possible. The Council thanked Cllr Tuke for his hard work in getting the new website up and running.

The Clerk confirmed that the Council was required to publish an Accessibility Statement by 23rd September 2020. She will work with Cllr Tuke and Hugo Fox to draft and publish the required statement in advance of that deadline.

12. VILLAGE GUIDE

Cllr Staples will work on updating the Village Guide and invited ideas for new content. His intention was to produce an A5 folded booklet which could be distributed to anyone new to the Parish.

13. SPEEDWATCH

There had been 6 sessions in January and Cllr Staples was pleased to report that most drivers appeared to be driving carefully and in accordance with the conditions. Only 10 drivers were recorded exceeding the speed limit, being 4% of passing vehicles, with 43 mph being the highest speed recorded. A new volunteer has also been signed up.

14. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth has taken over the weekly inspections and will continue to provide the Clerk with inspection reports electronically once the spreadsheet previously used by Roy Latham had been set up on her computer.

15. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The Steering Group met on 11th February 2020. It has been researching community funding and meeting with the Plunkett Foundation. Cllr Gosbee noted that they still needed more professional people to volunteer their skills, although he was pleased to report that a new member with a background in marketing had joined the Group.

An Open Day is planned for 17th March 2020, between 2pm and 8pm, at which residents will be invited to complete a questionnaire to indicate whether they would be willing to contribute financially by purchasing £20 non-refundable shares or give their time, either in relation to the work that needed to be done to set up the shop or the day to day running of it thereafter. Cllr Gosbee hoped that there would be a good turnout at the Open Day as this would be a good indicator of the viability of the project. Tea and cake will be provided.

16. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

No further update.

17. ROAD REPORT – General

Cllr Gosbee reported that no properties had flooded as a result of the recent storms, but a large tree had come down taking out the electricity to much of Biddenden Road. Cllr Gosbee was grateful to KCC for doing a good job in clearing that tree.

There had been a lot of water on Biddenden Road by the bridge, but that water did not come from the Hammer Stream. It was running off the land due to a blocked culvert. A resident had cleared the culvert in difficult conditions and this had made a huge difference to the amount of water on the road. The Council was grateful to that resident for his efforts in this regard.

Cllr Gosbee continued to press KCC to replace the missing Frittenden sign on the Biddenden Road gateway and reinstate the signpost at the end of Dig Dog Lane which had fallen down. He had been told that it was the Council's responsibility to undertake this work, but he had disputed this and would be taking the matter up with Cllr Holden.

The pothole by Pillarbox Cottage had been filled.

Cllr Gosbee had requested a major repair to the Biddenden Road as the edge of the road was falling apart. Paul Catt was on holiday and so Cllr Gosbee was waiting for him to respond on his return.

Cllr Staples noted that it had taken a long time for the tyres fly-tipped down Grandshore Lane to be removed. Tyres have to be handled separately from general waste and TWBC had recently changed the contractor they use in that regard. The tyres were collected within a few days of that change and so hopefully we would see a return to the previously good response times.

18. PLANNING

New Applications

20/00068/FULL	The Mobile Home, Pound Hill Field, Biddenden Road Erection of dwelling Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND REFUSAL (Vote: 2 For, 2 Against – Chairman’s casting vote exercised to maintain the status quo)
20/00362/NMAD	Agricultural Barn at Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Non-material amendment in relation to 18/03758/FULL – Additional ground floor window to south elevation and first floor window to west elevation, Alterations to roof detail to west and east elevations Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/00357/TCA	St Marys Church, The Street, Frittenden Trees in a conservation area notification: Yew (T1) Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of previous applications

19/03507/PNEXT	Hill House, The Street, Frittenden Prior notification for a proposed single-storey rear extension PRIOR APPROVAL GRANTED
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Planning appeals

18/03479/FULL	Land adjacent to Ferrers, Sand Lane, Frittenden Development of 1 detached and 2 semi-detached 3-bedroom houses APPEAL DISMISSED
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19. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and **RESOLVED** by all members present to renew the Council’s membership of ACRK for 2020/21.
- The Clerk will circulate details of the upcoming events so Councillors can ascertain whether they wish to attend.
- The Council noted that PSCO Lee Jules has left the police force. The Clerk will circulate contact details for the two PSCO’s based in Cranbrook who will be covering Frittenden in his absence. Cllr Staples wished to record a note of thanks to PSCO Lee Jules for all he had done for the community.
- There will be a public meeting about proposed development at Staplehurst on 25th February 2020 after over 30 sites were put forward for the draft Local Plan. That meeting will be at 8pm at Staplehurst Village Centre North Hall.

20. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – FEBRUARY 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102519	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire – February
102520	£130.00	nil	£130.00	Mark Plummer	Minor works to playground
102521	£35.58	£5.93	£29.65	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog bags
102522	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter bins – January
102523	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – January
102524	£58.10	nil	£58.10	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk’s Expenses – February
102525	£246.25	nil	£246.25	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk’s Salary – February
102526	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Mr M Ashbee	Ground Maintenance – War Memorial
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy – Dec
TOTAL	£828.47	£41.34	£787.13		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.21 pm.

Chairman’s Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 24th March 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr H Cullingworth

In attendance: None.

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Tuke, Cllr Riley, Cllr Gosbee, Cllr Holden (County), Cllr Fairweather (Borough) and Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk).

The meeting was quorate as the minimum number of members who must be present is three.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

None.

4. CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

A. Delegation of Powers

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that:

- i. The Council delegates authority for day-to-day decisions, to include the authorisation of all payments, to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman during any period of restricted activity declared by the Government in respect of the Covid-19 virus. Such delegation is to enable the Council to fulfil its responsibilities to its residents. This is provided for by the Scheme of Delegation at S.101(1)(a) of the 1972 LGA.
- ii. No meetings of the Parish Council shall be held for the foreseeable future.
- iii. A further decision on holding of meetings will be made by the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman at the end of April governed by the advice from local and central Government.
- iv. The RFO/Clerk shall continue to circulate a Cheque List on monthly basis and respond to any financial queries.

- v. Cheques shall continue to be signed by two councillors and the RFO/Clerk will liaise with Councillors by email/telephone to make the necessary arrangements for this to take place.
- vi. As a Statutory Consultee, the Parish Council shall continue to consider and comment on planning applications as follows:
 - a. The Clerk shall publish and circulate on a monthly basis a list of planning applications to be considered by the Council;
 - b. Comments from the public shall be invited via the Parish Noticeboard, the Parish Website and Facebook, such comments to be emailed to the Clerk and received within 3 clear days of the date of publication of the list;
 - c. Comments received from members of the public shall then be circulated by the Clerk and Councillors shall within 3 days of receipt respond by email to the Clerk with their own comments;
 - d. All comments received from members of the public and Councillors shall be published on the Parish Website, with comments of members of the public being anonymised;
 - e. The Clerk shall consult with the Chairman and Councillor Vernon and submit the majority view to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, together with reasons should the majority view be to recommend refusal.
- vii. Councillors may continue to raise issues, via the Clerk, for circulation to the Parish Council by email.

B. Hardship Fund

It was further proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council shall set up and administer a hardship fund to assist residents of the Parish who are in financial need as a result of the COVID19 pandemic and that:

- a. The fund shall be funded entirely by public subscription;
- b. Applications to the fund shall be scrutinised and approved by an authorising committee comprising the Chairman and Cllrs Riley and Cullingworth. That committee shall have the power to co-opt one member from outside the Council to assist in its work;
- c. A dedicated bank account shall be opened with Unity Trust Bank in the name of Frittenden Parish Council to service the fund;

18. THE CHAIRMAN ADVANCED CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 20

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – MARCH 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102527	£20.00	nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire – March
102528	£55.00	nil	£55.00	ACRK	Membership – 2020/21
102529	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter bins - February

102530	£189.60	nil	£189.60	Iden Signs	Tent Team Grant
102531	£59.90	nil	£59.90	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - March
102532	£302.30	nil	£302.30	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – March
102533	£13.64	nil	£13.64	Stationery Express UK Ltd	Stationery
DD	£34.18	£1.63	£32.55	Eon	Street lighting energy – February
TOTAL	£716.62	£8.63	£707.99		

The Chairman then adjourned the meeting on the basis that the remaining agenda points were to be addressed in accordance with the agreed scheme of delegation and the meeting closed at 7.53 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 21st April 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Riley, Cllr Fairweather (Borough), Cllr Holden (County).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

None.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 18th February 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. It was further proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 24th March 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. That being the case Cllr Staples shall sign them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Telephone Box

The telephone box is now up and running as a facility for residents to swap items such as books and toys or to give away surplus produce. It remains a work in progress but already appears to be well used. The planned noticeboard and herb planters are still to be put in place and the telephone box needs a good clean. Cllr Cullingworth reported that these items will be dealt with as soon as practicable in light of the current lockdown. The Council expressed its thanks to Cllr Cullingworth and Steph Andrews for their hard work in getting the project to this stage.

Councillor Vacancy

The Clerk reported that no one had yet expressed an interest in filling the vacancy. Cllr Tuke has put on hold the Facebook campaign, which will resume once COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted.

Parish Field

Cllr Staples reported that, notwithstanding the fact that the Council had resolved not to continue locking the gate on a daily basis, it was recently found to be locked by the Grounds Maintenance contractor. The contractor has now been given the code to the combination lock.

The Clerk reported that TWBC had, in consultation with Kent Police, decided not to take any action against illegal encampments whilst COVID-19 restrictions remained in place. The police will act on reports of criminal behaviour but, in general, encampments will not be moved on. In light of that, TWBC had advised all landowners to secure their land and it was agreed that the gate to the Parish Field should be locked at night during the Summer months. Cllr Staples will approach residents who had previously indicated a willingness to take on the task of locking/unlocking the gate to see if appropriate arrangements could be put in place.

Hedge around telegraph pole

Cllr Staples reported that he had not yet had an opportunity to cut the hedge back due to the wet weather last month, but he hoped to do so shortly.

Website

Cllr Tuke confirmed that the new website had been completed using the URL frittenden.org.uk. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the website should now go live.

Cllr Staples is working on updating the Village Guide and this should be added to the new website once complete.

Safety railings by school

Cllr Cullingworth reported that she was yet to make any progress in getting KCC to review its refusal to erect safety railings.

Scheme of Delegation

Cllr Staples noted that a Scheme of Delegation had been put in place at the meeting on 24th March 2020 to allow the Council to continue to function while the Council was unable to meet. Since then, emergency legislation had been put in place to allow Parish Councils to meet remotely, but the Scheme of Delegation continued to provide a useful back up.

6. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that the Fund was now up and running. A dedicated account had been opened with the Unity Trust Bank and donations totalling £19,050 had been received to date. The Council expressed its gratitude to those who had so generously donated to the Fund.

Cllr Staples reported that the Authorising Committee held its first meeting on 20th April 2020, at which Garry Lawrence had been co-opted to serve as the non-Council member. The committee had considered two applications and approved grants of £500 to each applicant.

7. PARISH RESERVE FUND

Cllr Staples noted that it had been suggested that the Tunbridge Wells Parish Reserve Fund be distributed to all member parishes to assist in their efforts to support those effected by the current lockdown. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that any sum received from the Parish Reserve Fund should be paid into the designated COVID-19 Hardship Fund account and distributed by that Fund.

8. ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Clerk reported that the status of the Annual Parish Assembly was uncertain, because it was not covered by the recent emergency legislation. It was agreed that holding an Assembly would be a good way to get the community together after the COVID-19 restrictions had ended and the Annual Parish Assembly should therefore be postponed to a date to be decided.

9. FUN RUN

Cllr Tuke reported that the Fun Run had been postponed. It was hoped that the event could be run this year, perhaps on a Saturday in September, but no decision could be taken at this time.

10. SPRING LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the Spring Litter Pick had been cancelled. She will look to arrange the Autumn Litter Pick on the last Saturday in September, but no firm plans could yet be made. The Clerk was instructed to put this on the agenda for when the Council met in June.

11. TREE PLANTING

Cllr Gosbee reported that the Parish had been offered c.100 silver birch trees as part of Cllr Holden's tree planting initiative. Any tree planting would now have to wait until the Autumn and the Clerk was instructed to put this on the agenda for when the Council met in July.

12. VILLAGE GUIDE

Cllr Staples will update the Village Guide as far as possible and ask local clubs and societies to contribute.

13. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that Speedwatch had been suspended during the lockdown. The equipment had sustained some minor damage whilst in the possession of Sandhurst Speedwatch, but this had been repaired. The cost of the repairs had been met, in the first instance, by the Council and it was agreed that Sandhurst Parish Council would be asked to contribute 50% of the net amount in the usual way.

14. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the playground had been closed in accordance with COVID-19 restrictions and it would appear that residents were respecting that closure. She had, however, noted that a bolt had fallen off the swing and the giro seemed to be moving awkwardly. Cllr Cullingworth will provide the Clerk with details so replacement bolts can be sourced. In the meantime, Cllr Gosbee will ask Mike Ashbee to look at the giro and advise on the next steps.

15. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Nothing to report.

16. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Nothing to report.

17. ROAD REPORT – General

Cllr Gosbee reported that KCC had been doing repairs to the road from Satin’s Hill towards Sissinghurst and would shortly be starting work on the stretch from Satin’s Hill to Park Farm. A mattress had been fly-tipped at the bottom of Bettenham Lane/Dig Dog Lane. It had been reported and would hopefully be removed by next week.

The rubbish dumped on Grandshore Lane had been cleared.

Cllr Gosbee noted that potholes were already appearing where repairs had recently been carried out to Biddenden Road. He had notified Paul Catt because, in his view, the appearance of potholes so soon after the road had been resurfaced suggested that this work had not been done correctly.

18. PLANNING

New Applications

20/00807/FULL	Tolehurst Farm, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Three-year temporary consent for the retention of a mobile home for use as agricultural workers accommodation Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Tule RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/00857/ELEC	Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Road, Frittenden Electricity Notification. To install an additional high voltage electricity pole and pole mounted transformer NOTED – This application had been determined at the date of the meeting with no objection being made by TWBC Planning
20/00952/LBC	Lake House, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Alterations to fenestration and internal features of modern extensions to listed building Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/00974/LDCEX	Great Water Barn, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Lawful Development Certificate (Existing) Use of the building as a single dwellinghouse and use of land as a garden APPLICATION NOTED

Outcome of previous applications

20/00362/FULL	Agricultural Barn at Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Minor Material Amendment (Variation of Condition 2) in relation to 18/03758/FULL – Additional ground floor window to south elevation and first floor windows to west elevation; Alterations to roof detail to west and east elevations. PERMISSION GRANTED
20/00386/PNQCLA	Broadlake Farm, Mill Lane, Frittenden Prior Notification for the Change of Use of a Building and Land within its curtilage from an Agricultural Use to a Use falling within Class C3 (Dwellinghouse) and Building Operations reasonably necessary to convert the building. PRIOR APPROVAL GRANTED

Planning appeals

None.

19. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- It was agreed that the Clerk shall submit an article for publication in TWBC's Local Magazine outlining how Frittenden had responded to the challenges of the current COVID-19 crisis. Cllr Riley had circulated a draft article and it was agreed that this should be submitted by the Clerk.

20. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – APRIL 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102534	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - March
102535	£390.00	£65.00	£325.00	Streetlights	Lantern Replacement
102536	£534.49	£89.08	£445.41	TWBC	Civil Amenity Vehicle 20/21
102537	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance - March
102538	£50.00	Nil	£50.00	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - April
102539	£248.25	Nil	£248.25	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary - April
102540	£408.26	£68.04	£340.22	KALC	Subscription 20/21
102541	£40.00	Nil	£40.00	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Fee
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy – March
SIGNED BEFORE THE MEETING					
102542	£91.80	£15.30	£76.50		Speedwatch equipment repairs
TOTAL	£2,001.34	£272.83	£1,728.51		

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Cullingworth noted that the Idenden Charity would ordinarily present its accounts at the Annual Parish Assembly. Cllr Staples suggested that the accounts be forwarded to the Clerk so they could be noted at the next meeting of the Council.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.38 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 19th May 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr Riley

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough), Cllr Holden (County)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllr Riley declared an interest in planning applications 20/01150/FULL and 20/01151/LBC.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that the Town Hall had not shut down, but a lot of resources had been redirected to ensure the continuation of key services. Only Cabinet and Planning Committee meetings were taking place.

The CAB was dealing with c.300% more cases than normal, mainly with reference to issues around employment, utilities and evictions. The TWBC Safety Team had also seen a significant increase in the number of cases of serious domestic violence it was dealing with.

Tennis courts can now reopen, but sports centres must remain closed.

Garden waste collections had resumed this week and municipal tips were open, however, you could not just turn up at the tip. 10 minute slots must be booked on line in advance and the booking system currently in place, being a joint venture with other Borough Councils in Kent, was massively oversubscribed.

Cllr Fairweather reported that local networks delivering support and assistance during the lockdown were working well.

As Cllr Holden was yet to join the meeting, the Chairman moved on to the next agenda item.

4. CWP FENCING

Cllr Gosbee noted that a complaint had been made against CWP Fencing on Dig Dog Lane. It was suggested that it had been operating in breach of planning conditions, in particular working

outside of permitted hours, to include on Sundays and Bank Holidays, and operating machinery outside.

Cllr Fairweather reported that he had undertaken some preliminary investigations in respect of that complaint, but had not observed any breaches when he passed the site on Sunday 17th May 2020. At that time, the site was not operating and the gates were locked.

Cllr Vernon suggested that the complainant be advised to keep a log of all alleged breaches, which could then be passed on to TWBC's Enforcement Team if necessary. Cllr Fairweather agreed that this was the correct course of action and offered to liaise with the Enforcement Team should the matter be referred to them in due course.

In the first instance, it was agreed that, unless the complainant objected, the Council should write to CWP Fencing asking that all planning conditions be observed.

Cllr Fairweather then left the meeting.

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED (Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention)** that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 21st April 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting, save that the reference to "seesaw" at item 14 should read "large swings". That being the case Cllr Staples shall so amend the minutes and sign them.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parish Field

Cllr Staples reported that Colin Bullock had kindly agreed to unlock the Parish Field gate each morning and he will liaise with another resident who had previously indicated a willingness to lock the gate every evening.

Hedge around telegraph pole

Cllr Staples reported that he not an opportunity to cut the hedge back but would do so shortly.

Village Guide

Cllr Staples confirmed that he had updated the Village Guide as far as he could but needed the contributors from local clubs and societies to check, and update where necessary, their own entries. Cllr Staples will ask them to do so. However, it was agreed that the Village Guide would be published on the Website as amended by Cllr Staples and further updated as and when requests were received from the contributors. The Council thanked Cllr Staples for the work he had done on this.

Parish Reserve Fund

The Clerk had received notice from TWBC that the agreed distribution would be paid into the Council's General Fund with the first tranche of the 2020/21 precept. Once the Clerk had received confirmation of receipt, she will raise a cheque in order to transfer the funds received from the Parish Reserve Fund into the COVID-19 Hardship Fund in accordance with the resolution made at the last Council meeting.

7. COVID-19 HARSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that the Authorising Committee had met every week for the last 4 weeks. To date, it had paid out grants of £3,460. 8 individual grants had been made to 6 applicants.

Continuing support was therefore being provided where needed. Donations totalling £20,420 had been received, leaving £16,960 to be distributed.

Cllr Staples noted that one of the residents who had been helped by the Fund was not aware that TWBC was offering Council Tax payment holidays to those adversely affected by the COVID-19 lockdown. It was agreed that information in that regard would be posted on Facebook.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden then joined the meeting and so the Chairman returned to agenda item 3.

Cllr Holden reported on the battle KCC had faced in getting enough PPE into social care situations. He described the worldwide market for PPE as akin to the Wild West but was pleased to advise that c.1.5 million items had been provided in over 1,700 deliveries across Kent. KCC had been acting as the supplier of last resort for private nursing homes who were unable to source PPE anywhere else. KCC had, to date, not been charging private facilities for the PPE it provided, but it was unclear for how long that could continue.

In the meantime, Cllr Holden confirmed that the £1,000 offered to the Council for tree planting was still available. Cllr Staples will send Cllr Holden an email formally requesting that those funds be released, albeit no planting will now take place until the autumn.

Cllr Holden asked whether the £5,000 he had agreed to contribute to the Memorial Hall renovation project had been received. Cllr Riley advised that it had not. Cllr Riley also noted that an application had been made to KCC for match funding. An indication had been given that the application would be successful, but nothing more had been heard on this. Cllr Holden advised that the relevant funds should still be available, because they would have been ring fenced. He invited Cllr Riley to send him an email so he could follow this up with the relevant officers.

8. IDENDEN CHARITY ACCOUNTS 2019/20

The accounts had been circulated to Council members in advance of the meeting and were noted.

Cllr Cullingworth is a trustee of the charity, which distributes money to eligible people just before Christmas each year. More details of who was eligible to receive such a payment can be found at [xxxxx].

9. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

The playground remains closed in accordance with Government restrictions, but Cllr Cullingworth continues to check it on a weekly basis.

Cllr Gosbee reported that Mike Ashbee had looked at the giro and advised that it is likely to need new bearings. This is not something he can do.

The Clerk noted that RoSPA would be carrying out an Annual Inspection of the playground in July. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk should instruct a contractor to inspect and repair the giro, as well as replace the missing bolt on the large swings, in advance of that inspection.

10. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported that members of the Community Shop Steering Group were working with Rosie and Sean from the Bell & Jorrocks to learn all they could from their experience of running the pop-up shop. It was hoped that the invaluable service Rosie and Sean were providing at this

time would encourage residents to support the Community Shop project once lockdown conditions were lifted.

Cllr Staples noted that the delivery service being provided by the Bell & Jorrocks had been extremely well received and was something the Community Shop should consider continuing.

11. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Nothing to report.

12. ROAD REPORT – General

Cllr Gosbee reported that potholes had been mended on Biddenden Road and Mill Lane. Repairs had also been done to the A229 at Knoxbridge.

Fly tipping had once again occurred on the lane between Bettenham Lane/Dig Dog Lane and Hareplain Road. There had also been fly tipping on Grandshore Lane and someone had then set the rubbish dumped alight.

A tree or large branch had been blown down blocking London Lane, but this had been cleared.

Residents should report any issues with the roads or incidents of fly tipping to Cllr Gosbee and he will inform the relevant authority.

13. PLANNING

New Applications

20/01110/SUB	The Stables, Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Submission of Details in relation to Condition 10 (Outbuilding external materials), Condition 13 (Outbuilding joinery), Condition 14 (Brickwork details) & Condition 16 (Fencing details) of 19/02360/FULL Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING COMMENT: “With regards to the Site Plan 07-20-203 dated April 2020 submitted with this application the Council is asked to consider whether the red line drawn on that plan is correct compared to the Approved Plan 19/02360 which shows a smaller area of land. The comment relates to ensuring the correct residential curtilage is being referred to” (Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention)
20/001112/FULL	Broadlake, Mill Lane, Frittenden Proposed three bay garage building and extension to driveway, to serve existing house. Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention)
20/01150/FULL & 20/01151/LBC	Broad Oak House, Mill Lane, Frittenden Demolition of front ground floor lean-to oak frame structure; Replacement with new oak frame structure; Proposed new side oak frame porch. Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Gosbee

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Cllr Riley did not participate in the discussion of or vote on these applications having declared an interest)

Outcome of previous applications

20/00932/TWORK	The Old Hopperhut, Frittenden Telecommunication Notification: Installation of wooden pole NO OBJECTION RAISED
20/00540/FULL & 20/00541/LBC	Willow Cottage, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Two storey rear and side extension with roof lights and solar panels PERMISSION/CONSENT GRANTED
20/00354/FULL	Land adj. Hall Barn Farm, Biddenden Road Proposed 25m x 10m general purpose agricultural building PERMISSION GRANTED
20/00807/FULL	Tolehurst Farm, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Three year temporary consent for the retention of a mobile home for use as agricultural workers accommodation. PERMISSION GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None.

14. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- None

15. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS - MAY 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102543	£35.58	£5.93	£29.65	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog bags
102544	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter bins - April
102545	£57.80	nil	£57.80	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's expenses - May
102546	£249.25	nil	£249.25	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's salary - May
102547	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance - April
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	Eon	Street lighting energy - April
TOTAL	£579.99	£41.28	£538.71		

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.41 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 16th June 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Holden (County)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Riley, Cllr Fairweather (Borough)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden reported on KCC's continuing success in maintaining the supply of PPE to nursing homes in Kent. Whilst sourcing a reliable supply of PPE has been a challenge, the cost has now dropped substantially from where it was in March. For example, masks cost c.£2 each in March, but can now be purchased for c.49p each, which is back to the pre-pandemic level. KCC is also taking steps to get a 'test & trace' system in place.

Central Government has pledged £6.3m to support the work being done by KCC in response to the pandemic and further support will be provided for projects such as those supporting mental health in schools.

Cllr Holden has stepped in to prevent Cranbrook High Street from being closed for c.3 weeks to enable work to be carried out to gas pipes. That closure was due to take place only a few days after non-essential shops re-opened and Cllr Holden felt very strongly that it was more important to aid the recovery of local businesses than carry out routine repairs at this time. The necessary permits for the gas work will be deferred until October, unless urgent works are required for safety reasons.

Kent has seen an increasing number of unaccompanied migrant children coming over in boats. They go into the care system and become the responsibility of KCC until they are 25 years old and Central Government has pledged £5m to KCC to assist with that cost.

Cllr Holden will chase the officer administering the grants for tree planting because the Clerk is yet to receive a response to the Parish Council's application.

The first remote full meeting of KCC will take place on 17th June 2020. That meeting will be broadcast live for members of the public to view. The Transport & Environment Group chaired by Cllr Holden will be meeting remotely next week.

At the Borough level, Cllr Holden reported that there was talk of the Calverly Theatre Project being revived after Central Government indicated that a grant of c.£80m might be available. This was part of a drive by Central Government to inject funds into the local economy through capital projects. Cllr Holden felt that the lockdown had shown that it was possible for people to work from home productively and that this could lead to more people continuing to do so after lockdown restrictions had been lifted. He therefore felt that any investment by Central Government would be better applied to improving the broadband infrastructure.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 19th May 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting, save that the sentence at item 8 shall be deleted. That being the case, Cllr Staples shall so amend the minutes and sign them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

CWP Fencing

The Clerk had written to the owner of CWP Fencing asking that he remind staff of the need to comply with the planning conditions by which the business was permitted to operate from the Weald Business Park. No further complaints had been received.

Parish Field

Cllr Staples reported that the gate was locked. Whilst a resident has agreed to unlock the gate on a daily basis, he will not start doing so until someone is in place to lock it at night. The Grounds Maintenance Contractors has the code to the combination lock and, in light of lockdown restrictions, there is no need for the gate to be unlocked at this time.

Hedge around telegraph pole

Cllr Staples will attend to this later in the year, once nesting season is over, so as not to disturb any birds nesting in the hedge.

Village Guide

Cllr Tuke confirmed that the updated Village Guide is now on the Website.

Parish Reserve Fund

£531 had now been received from the Parish Reserve Fund and would be transferred to the COVID-19 Hardship Fund as agreed.

6. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that 13 grants had been made to 8 applicants totalling £5,860. With the money received from the Parish Reserve Fund, the total received into the fund was c.£20,950. As the weeks have gone by, more people have come forward asking for help and the Committee is very pleased to be able to offer support thanks to the generosity of the Frittenden community.

The Committee had decided that it needed an additional member to ensure that it remained quorate even if members were unable to attend meetings due to sickness etc. A member of the public had agreed to be co-opted, but the Committee was unable to do this without a change to the rules of the Fund. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and

RESOLVED by all members present that Rule 2 be amended to allow the Committee to co-opt up to two members of the public. Cllr Staples advised that the Committee had agreed to co-opt Mr Phil Betts.

7. AUTUMN LITTER PICK

As it remained uncertain as to when the easing of COVID-19 restrictions would allow this event to go ahead, it was agreed that consideration of this item should be deferred to the next meeting.

8. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth carried out an inspection on 15th June 2020. She noted that the area underneath the weeping birch had not been cut back allowing the brambles to grow and that the top of the old mound had not been cut. The Clerk will raise these things with the Grounds Maintenance Contractor and ask that they be dealt with as soon as possible.

The Council considered the quotations received for the minor repairs required, being the replacement of a missing bolt on the large swings and the bearings on the giro spiral. It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the quotations received from Safeplay at £237.00 plus VAT. That quotation was for labour only, on the basis that the Council will source the parts directly from Proludic, who manufactured and installed the play equipment. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to approve the payment of £274.19 to Proludic immediately upon that payment being required.

9. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported the Bell & Jorrocks will continue to operate the pop-up shop even if pubs are allowed to re-open in July. The Council formally recorded its appreciation and thanks for all that Sean & Rosie had been doing to provide a vital service to the community at this difficult time.

10. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Cllr Vernon reported that discussions with the potential developer of the site identified in the Draft Local Plan continued. In the meantime, it appeared likely that the CLT would receive some additional grant funding to meet its operating costs.

11. ROAD REPORT – General

Cllr Gosbee reported that potholes were being repaired on Frittenden Road and at the end of Sand Lane.

Grass verges had been cut but, unfortunately, this had exposed the litter left on the verges. This was particularly bad along Staplehurst Road, but was not something that Cllr Gosbee could ask TWBC to remove.

Cllr Gosbee had reported the water leak adjacent to Peach Tree Cottage. He has also reported that the top of Grandshore Lane was now in a very bad state of repair in the hope that repairs could be carried out before winter.

12. PLANNING

New Applications

20/01303/FULL	6 Weald View, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Removal of existing WC and storage area; Two storey side / rear extension. Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01352/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Proposed construction of swimming pool outbuilding (Retrospective) Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01397/FULL	The Stables, Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Erection of single storey rear extension Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01421/FULL	Pound Hill, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Retention of agricultural timber shed/outbuilding Proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 3 For, 2 Against) [In considering this application, Cllr Vernon commented that, if viewed as a green field site, there was no justification from a purely planning perspective for the erection of this building on that site. Cllr Staples did not object to the building in principle, but rather its size, which he considered to be excessive. Cllrs Gosbee and Cullingworth commented that the building was ancillary to and necessary for the horticultural use of the land, as it was for the storage of equipment.]
20/01493/TWORK	1 Brickwall Cottages, The Street, Frittenden Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1 x 9m pole APPLICATION NOTED
20/01526/TWORK	Gread Wadd Farm, Grandshore Lane, Frittenden Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 2 x 8m and 2 x 9m poles APPLICATION NOTED

Outcome of previous applications

20/00952/LBC	Lake House, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Listed Building Consent: Alterations to fenestration and internal features of modern extension to listed building CONSENT GRANTED
20/00974/LDCEX	Great Water Barn, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Lawful Development Certificate (Existing) – Use of the building as a single dwellinghouse and use of land as a garden area APPLICATION PERMITTED

Planning appeals

- None.

13. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- TWBC Local Plan Preparation – It was agreed that Cllr Vernon and Cllr Staples will meet with TWBC to discuss the issues raised in response to the Draft Local Plan as far as they are relevant to the Frittenden area. Prior to that meeting, the Clerk will raise with TWBC the fact that the comments made by the Parish Council via the DLP Portal have not been recorded and should also be taken into consideration prior to the next stage of the process.
- Telephone box – A resident had offered to paint the outside of the telephone box. It was agreed that Cllr Cullingworth would liaise with that resident. The Council was grateful for the offer of assistance in this regard and would be prepared to cover the reasonable costs of materials if the resident was not proposing to charge for their labour.

14. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – JUNE 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102548	£549.00	nil	£549.00	Frittenden Parish Council	Transfer of funds rec'd from Parish Reserve Fund to COVID-19 Hardship Fund (£531) & reimbursement of bank charges (£18)
102549	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter bins - May
102550	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance - May
102551	£78.78	nil	£78.78	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - June
102552	£152.15	nil	£152.15	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary - June
102553	£638.75	nil	£638.75	Came & Company	Insurance Premium 2020/21
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	Eon	Street lighting energy – May
TOTAL	£1,657.22	£35.51	£1,621.81		

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20 be approved. Being so approved, it shall be duly signed by Cllr Staples as Chairman and the Clerk as the Responsible Financial Officer.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:01 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 21st July 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
 Cllr J Tuke
 Cllr R Vernon
 Cllr L Gosbee
 Cllr H Cullingworth
 Cllr Riley

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that very few TWBC staff were working out of the Town Hall. Most staff continued to work from home and resources were still being redirected at essential services. This meant that there continued to be delays in issues or enquiries being dealt with.

No evening meetings were taking place, notwithstanding a feeling amongst a number of Councillors that TWBC should be getting back to holding meetings as normal as much as possible. This was particularly difficult for Councillors who had other jobs and meant that many were unable to attend meetings.

Several small businesses in the Parish that have been adversely affected by the Covid-19 lockdown had received grants under the TWBC scheme. There remained c.£170,000 of the grant fund to be distributed, but those funds would only be applied in exceptional circumstances.

In April, TWBC suffered a £1m shortfall in its income as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown. Central Government had initially indicated that it would cover 100% of any shortfall, but it has now announced that only 75% will be covered. TWBC has sufficient reserves to make up any shortfall this year, but there will be a knock-on effect on subsequent years.

A meeting recently took place at which the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor were appointed. There has also been a rebalancing of political representation on Committees after the death of one Councillor and a change of political affiliation of another Councillor.

Cllr Fairweather reported that there was growing concern amongst some Councillors about the overall leadership of TWBC. There may shortly be a vote of no confidence proposed by one of the opposition parties. The leadership will be discussed at the Conservative's AGM in August.

Cllr Staples raised the case of a Frittenden resident whose application for a small business grant had been refused for what appeared to be unfair reasons. Cllr Staples will provide further details to Cllr Fairweather on a confidential basis so he can look into it.

Cllr Staples also commented that it was very unsatisfactory that evening meetings were not being held. It went against basic principles of democracy if that policy was preventing elected Councillors from attending and representing their constituents at meetings. It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council should write to TWBC expressing its concerns in this regard.

Cllr Fairweather then left the meeting.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED (1 Abstention)** that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 16th June 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. That being the case, Cllr Staples shall so amend the minutes and sign them.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

CWP Fencing

Nothing further has been heard on this issue.

Telephone Box

A resident had kindly offered to organise a working party to paint the telephone box. The Council was pleased to accept that offer, but noted that this could not take place until social distancing restrictions had been lifted.

6. CCTV FOR THE PREVENTION OF FLY-TIPPING

Cllr Tuke reported that a resident had suggested putting a CCTV camera on each of the four roads into the village in an effort to prevent fly-tipping. Cllr Tuke had spoken to the company who had supplied CCTV cameras of the sort proposed to Marden Parish Council, but was advised that those cameras had been installed to monitor car parks and not for the prevention of fly-tipping.

The Council considered the pros and cons of investing in cameras as proposed. The Council agreed that fly-tipping was a major concern and was grateful for any ideas as to how it might be prevented. However, it was difficult to see how four cameras could cover a wide enough area to be effective. Whilst they might capture footage of suspicious vehicles, unless they recorded rubbish actually being dumped in sufficient detail to identify the perpetrators, it was unlikely that they would assist in achieving successful prosecutions.

The Clerk confirmed that she would speak to the Clerk to Marden Parish Council to ascertain whether fly-tipping had been recorded on those cameras and whether this had led to any successful prosecutions. The Council will revisit this issue on receipt of that information.

7. KCC BUDGET CONSULTATION

The Clerk advised that she would circulate the information received in this regard and Councillors were encouraged to lodge their own comments. The Consultation had already been publicised by on the Community Facebook Page.

8. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that 21 grants had been made to 11 applicants totalling £9,160. That represented just short of half of the fund, with £11,791 still to be distributed. Cllr Staples noted that no applications had been turned down to date and that a number of recipients were in need of continuing support. Cllr Staples was pleased to say that the applications received had been very sensible as to the support sought and all grants paid out had been gratefully received.

Cllr Staples confirmed that Mr Phil Betts had been co-opted on to the committee.

9. AUTUMN LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that she was happy to organise this event and it was agreed that it should be diarised for 5th September 2020, subject to Cllr Cullingworth receiving confirmation that the litter picking equipment would be available on that date.

Cllr Gosbee agreed to provide more bulbs for planting, as this was a particularly well-received part of last year's event.

10. TREE PLANTING

Cllr Holden had confirmed that the Council would receive a grant for this purpose, but it was required to complete and submit a detailed application form before funds could be released. Cllrs Staples and Gosbee will liaise in relation to completing that form.

11. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples advised that Speedwatch remained suspended. Whilst it had been confirmed that groups could begin operating on a restricted basis, those restrictions were onerous. It had therefore been agreed to defer re-starting operations, particularly as a number of volunteers were in the 'vulnerable' category.

12. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

The Clerk confirmed that the essential maintenance work had now been completed but, before the playground could be re-opened, we needed to have received the RoSPA Play Safety Annual Inspection Report and carried out a Covid-19 Risk Assessment in accordance with Government Guidelines. This was a requirement of the Council's Insurers.

The Annual Inspection was due to take place before the end of July and the report usually followed within a few days of the inspection.

The Clerk had previously circulated the Government Guidelines, which were extensive. The Council did not have the resources to instigate all measures referred to therein. The Clerk would therefore complete the Risk Assessment with reference to what was reasonably practicable. It was agreed that the onus would have to be on users to sanitise the equipment and their/their children's hands before and after use. The only additional measure which could reasonably be put in place was one-way entry/exit system using the two gates to the playground. It was agreed that those gates should not be tied open to prevent users from having to touch them, because they were an essential safety feature to separate the playground from other users of the Parish Field, eg dog walkers.

Additional signage would need to be erected and the Clerk would circulate the text of those signs, together with the draft Covid-19 Risk Assessment for approval.

13. REPLACEMENT/REPAIR OF POST AT ENTRANCE GATE TO PARISH FIELD

Cllr Staples reported that the post between the vehicular and pedestrian gates was very loose and could probably be lifted out of the ground. Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that she would look at this when she next inspected the playground.

14. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Riley advised that a small steering group had been formed to consult with the Plunkett Group over issues such as funding. It was hoped that the Consultation Day postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic would be rescheduled for a date in September.

15. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Nothing to report at this time.

16. ROAD REPORT – General

Cllr Gosbee reported that the top end of Grandshore Lane had been repaired. The closure to facilitate that work had caused problems, because it coincided with the closure of Staplehurst Road. Cllr Gosbee raised this with Paul Catt of KCC who had explained that the repairs to Grandshore Lane had been organised at the last minute, because he wanted to get this work done before funding ran out. Cllr Gosbee had also reported the fact that the signage relating to the closure of Staplehurst Road was initially very confusing. This has now been resolved.

Cllr Gosbee had also reported a delivery of paving slabs that was on the road at the top of Park Hill. He reported this to the Police because it was obstructing the highway and not lit at night, but the Police decided to take no action.

The fly-tipping at the end of Dig Dog Lane had been reported. Cllr Vernon noted that there was now a second incident of fly-tipping on Dig Dog Lane, with some tyres and pieces of wood having been dumped by the entrance to the footpath just after the houses at the Cranbrook end of Dig Dog Lane.

The Clerk reported that a resident had raised concerns over the lack of notification prior to the closure of Staplehurst Road. The Clerk noted that, recently, the notifications of road closures issued by KCC were being received either less than 24 hours before the scheduled closure or after the closure had taken place. Cllr Gosbee will raise this with KCC.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that the side of Paddock Hedge had now been cut, but the top had not. The Clerk will raise this with the Grounds Maintenance Contractor.

17. PLANNING

New Applications

20/01647/FULL	East Barn, Appleton Farm, Frittenden Minor Material Amendment in relation to 9/02653/FULL (Conversion of existing Dutch barn to create a single residential dwelling & change of use of land, together with new driveway & landscape/ecological enhancement) – Amendments to roof detail and fenestration Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01325/FULL	Dene House, Frittenden Road, Biddenden

	Removal of 4 meters of hedge; replace with two fence panels and pedestrian access gate all 1.8 meters high Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01767/FULL	The Old Hopperhut, Frittenden Change of use of land and existing huts to residential garden and storage sheds including associated parking Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL FOR CHANGE OF ACCESS, BUT COMMENT THAT IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO REMOVE 4m OF HEDGING FOR THE PROVISION OF A PEDESTRIAN ACCESS GATE. THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED WITH ONLY c.1m BEING REMOVED.
20/01869/SUB	Broadlake Farm, Mill Lane, Frittenden Submission of details in relation to Condition 3 (External Materials) of 17/03329/LBC Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01926/FULL	3 Park Cottages, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Removal of existing glass sun lounge; replacement with single storey rear extension Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01584/SUB	East Barn at Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 3 (Details of Materials); 5 (Scheme of Enhancement for birds and bats); 8 (Details of hard and soft landscape works); 9 (Landscape Management Plan) of 19/02653/FULL Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01457/FULL	Pearsons Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Addition of a first floor side extension above existing garage; alterations to fenestration including additional ground floor window to east elevation and east facing skylight to existing roof Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/01696/FULL & 20/1697/LBC	Beale Farmhouse, Sand Lane, Frittenden Change of use of land for new outside swimming pool; accompanying pool house within existing curtilage Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of previous applications

20/01150/Full & 20/01151/LBC	Broad Oak House, Mill Lane, Frittenden Demolition of front ground floor lean-to oak frame structure; Replacement with new oak frame structure; Proposed new side oak frame porch PERMISSION / CONSENT GRANTED
20/01112/FULL	Broadlake, Mill Lane, Frittenden Proposed three bay garage building and extension to driveway, to serve existing house

	PERMISSION GRANTED
20/00232/TPO	2 Coach Gate Cottages, The Street, Frittenden Trees: T1 (Oak) – Reduce the height of the upper crown by up to approximately 2-2.5 meters PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01303/FULL	6 Weald View, Cranbrook Road Removal of existing WC and storage area; Two storey side/rear extension PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01352/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Proposed construction of swimming pool outbuilding (Retrospective) PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01421/FULL	Pound Hill Field, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Retention of agricultural timber shed/outbuilding PERMISSION REFUSED

Planning appeals

- None.

18. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Aircraft from Headcorn Aerodrome – Cllr Vernon reported that there had been increased activity out of the Aerodrome since the lifting of lockdown restrictions and this had led to a complaint by a resident. There were two issues, (i) the increase in activity and (ii) where planes should and should not be flying. Cllr Gosbee advised that he had spoken to Jamie Freeman, who explained that the increased activity was due to the need for pilots to make up flying hours lost during lockdown. Wind conditions meant that the flight path took planes over the East side of Frittenden on Saturday 18th July 2020, but the planes should have been at 700ft or more. He emphasised that if residents could read the registration number of any plane, it was too low and should immediately be reported to the Aerodrome Air Traffic Control. Steps would then be taken straight away to address this with the pilot. Cllr Tuke noted that, if the correct flight path was being followed, planes should not be directly above the village. He had gone to two points in the village on Sunday 19th July 2020 to monitor the situation and, for the most part, the planes he saw were on the correct path. He is aware that the circuit was reversed today as a response to complaints from the village. Whilst this took planes away from Frittenden and over the North of Headcorn, it put them on the same flight path as helicopters, which was a safety issue. This was not, therefore, a sustainable solution. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mr Freeman acknowledging the goodwill he has shown and requesting that, in the spirit of neighbourliness, he ensure that all pilots using the Aerodrome were advised of the correct flight path and the need for that flight path to be followed. The Council would encourage residents to report any obvious infringements as requested by Mr Freeman.
- Football on the Parish Field – Cllr Staples had been advised that a group of people playing football on the Parish Field did not appear to be correctly social distancing. Cllr Vernon noted that the Council did not give permission for informal games of football and had no way of controlling this.
- Memorial Hall – As a point of information, Cllr Riley provided an update on re-opening of the Memorial Hall. At this time, it was open only for the Post Office service. The Committee had received copious guidance on what had to be done to safely re-open for other activities and what activities could and could not take place. That guidance was very onerous and beyond the resources of the Committee. They were meeting on 22nd July 2020 to discuss how

they might progress the re-opening the Hall and Cllr Riley would update the Council as soon as any decision had been made. In the meantime, Cllr Riley was sad to report that KCC had turned down the Committee's application for match funding for the renovation of the Hall. This was a major blow, because other funding applications had been predicated on that match funding being received after initial favourable responses from KCC. They are considering using the funds currently available to start some of the renovation works, for example to the roof, cladding and far end of the Hall, but they do not have sufficient funds to complete the project.

19. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – JULY 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102554	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – June
102555	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – June
102556	£66.19	nil	£66.19	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – July
102557	£139.37	nil	£139.37	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – July
102558	£34.80	nil	£34.80	HMRC	PAYE
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	Eon	Street Lighting Electricity – June
Total	£477.72	£35.35	£442.37		

- The Clerk reported that enquiries with the Unity Trust Bank had confirmed that the Council could open another current account, in addition to that held in respect of the Covid-19 Hardship Fund, and two deposit accounts in order to move its banking away from HSBC. A monthly fee of £6 was charged, payable quarterly, in respect of each current account, but no fees were charged in respect of deposit accounts. No interest was currently paid on Unity Trust Bank deposit accounts, whereas HSBC paid 0.01%, but this needed to be offset against the additional costs that were incurred whenever the Clerk had to travel to an HSBC branch to arrange transfers between accounts etc. Those actions could be completed by way of the online banking service provided by the Unity Trust Bank. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to transfer all accounts from HSBC to the Unity Trust Bank at the earliest opportunity, subject to the Clerk confirming that there was no legal issue with capital funds not being held in an interest bearing account.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:52 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Planning Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Thursday 20th August 2020 at 7.00pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr Riley

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES - Cllr Vernon

2. PLANNING

New Applications

20/02028/FULL	Land To The Rear Of 2 Marsh Cottages, Mill Lane, Frittenden Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of Planning Permission 19/02395/FULL - Design changes including; North East elevation fenestration changes and addition of porch; South West elevation fenestration changes; South East elevation changes to and additional fenestration; North West Elevation part infilling of overhang; Internal layout – extended footprint and reordered in part Proposed by Cllr Staples, Seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL subject to the developer being required to ensure satisfactory screening is put in place up to first floor level to preserve the privacy of the neighbouring property
19/01087/FULL	Tolehurst Farm, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Demolition of two existing poultry rearing sheds and the erection of two new larger poultry rearing sheds and a small associated welfare/store building. Application includes an Environmental Statement. Proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, Seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 4 For, 1 Against)
20/01964/FULL	Lake House, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Outdoor swimming pool Proposed by Cllr Riley, Seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:24 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 15th September 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough), Cllr Holden (County) & 3 members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident raised concerns about cars speeding through the Village. This was of particular concern now that more young families were moving in to the Village. The resident would be grateful for any measures the Parish Council could put in place to tackle this problem.

A second resident endorsed those comments and added that it was not only the speed of some vehicles that was of concern, but also the quality of the driving. Cars were often observed driving on the wrong side of the road round bends, even though the roads are narrow and used by lorries and large farm vehicles. The resident also raised what he considered to be the huge increase in traffic from Headcorn Aerodrome and the overflying of the Village. He reported that he'd recently had to call the Aerodrome to complain about the Spitfires repeatedly flying over his garden.

A third resident echoed the concerns already raised about speeding in the Village, in particularly the speed at which some drivers were taking the corners at the Headcorn Road end of the Village and around the junctions between The Street, Biddenden Road, Headcorn Road and Mill Lane. He felt that the speeding issue had got worse over the last 12 months.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Riley

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllr Gosbee declared an interest in agenda item 19. Cllr Cullingworth declared an interest in agenda item 20.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather thanked the Parish Council for the letter it wrote to TWBC raising its concerns about the failure to reinstate evening meetings. He was shocked and upset by the reply the Parish Council had received, which he considered to be unnecessarily curt and rude. He was, however, pleased to report that TWBC would begin holding meetings at the usual times from October, to include evening meetings, albeit those meetings would be attended remotely.

Cllr Fairweather reported that a new PCSO team had been formed to cover Cranbrook, Sissinghurst, Frittenden and other villages over as far as Paddock Wood. It was hoped that the team would be based at Cranbrook Police Station.

Cllr Fairweather had visited the Community Shop Display and had been extremely impressed by the work which had clearly gone in to it.

There had been more incidents of fly tipping, one on Sand Lane, one on Dig Dog Lane and two in Sissinghurst.

The Weald Leisure Centre reopened on 2nd September 2020 and the swimming pool reopened on 4th September 2020. Originally, there were no changing facilities available, but two cubicles have now been opened up. Those cubicles are cleaned after every use. TWBC has given Fusion financial support and will continue to do so until March 2021 to ensure that the leisure centre stays open. This is important because 13,000 people per month used the leisure centre before the Covid-19 restrictions were put in place. Fusion's contract is up for renewal in April 2022.

Cllr Fairweather commented that Helen Grant MP and a number of other MPs had got together to write a letter to the relevant Minister expressing their concerns over the new planning system proposed by the Government. Cllr Fairweather will provide the Parish Council with a copy of that letter.

Cllr Holden reported that the Leader of KCC had also written to the Government on that issue. Cllr Holden felt that this was a matter of great concern, because the proposals were weighted in favour of developers and the distribution of new housing appeared to prejudice London and the South East. Cllr Holden felt that recent events had demonstrated that people did not necessarily have to live within commuting distance of London and there was therefore no reason why other area, such as the North, could not take a higher proportion of new developments.

Cllr Holden also reported that KCC had submitted a revised budget to take account of the drop in income and increase in expenditure caused by the pandemic. There was a £34m gap in the budget for this year and a £138m gap for next year. KCC had put measures in place to fill the gap this year, but that would prove more difficult in subsequent years.

KCC is now failing in its duty to care to unaccompanied child asylum seekers, because all its facilities are full. There is a voluntary scheme whereby other authorities can agree to take children, but very few are coming forward. KCC is therefore lobbying to have that scheme made mandatory.

Cllr Holden is liaising with the Weald Leisure Centre and relevant cabinet member at TWBC in relation the booking system which has been put in place. Bookings can only be done online, not by phone or in person, and Cllr Holden thinks this is preventing those without the internet or experience in using online booking from accessing the Leisure Centre's facilities.

Cllr Holden attended the recent Community Shop Display. He was extremely impressed and was wholly supportive of the project.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 21st July 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. It was further proposed by Cllr Tuke, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED (1 abstention)** that the Minutes from the Planning Meeting on 20th August 2020

are a true and accurate record of that meeting. That being the case, Cllr Staples shall sign the Minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

CWP Fencing

Nothing further has been heard on this issue.

Telephone Box

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the telephone box had had a spring clean. A resident will get a team of volunteers together to paint the exterior when Covid-19 restrictions allow.

Litter Pick

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the turnout was considerably lower than usual, only 12 people compared to c.40 in previous years. However, the volunteers still managed to fill c.22 bags with rubbish and they enjoyed a lovely ploughman's lunch at the Bell & Jorrock's afterwards.

Cllr Gosbee planted some bulbs at the War Memorial, but was hampered by the fact that the ground was very hard. Cllr Cullingworth hoped to be able to plant some more bulbs along the new fence at the Parish Field when conditions allowed.

Cllr Staples felt that this event had been badly let down by TWBC. In previous years TWBC had provided up to 40 sets of litter picking equipment, but this year it only provided 10. It also failed to collect the bags of rubbish in a timely manner. This was unacceptable and presented a considerable inconvenience to the landowner who had kindly allowed the bags to be stored in his field.

6. SPEEDING

Cllr Staples acknowledged the concerns expressed by the residents who had spoken in the public forum and confirmed that this was an issue which had concerned the Parish Council for many years. The Parish Council had tried to get better signage and had pressed for the 30mph speed limit to be extended further up the Headcorn Road, but without success.

KCC had asked the Parish Council to produce a Highway Improvement Plan (HIP) and this had been done. Cllr Vernon reported that the HIP had sought to put measures to combat speeding in place on the three main routes into/out of the village, being the Headcorn Road, Biddenden Road and Cranbrook Road. Those measures included areas of red tarmac, rumble strips and 30mph roundels on the road, together with a Speed Indicator Device (SID) which could be moved between the three locations and flashed up the actual speed of passing cars. KCC's response had been that these works could be done, subject to appropriate traffic surveys being carried, but the Parish Council would have to fund all works. The costs of the SID alone would be c.£10,000, given the need for traffic surveys to be carried out for each of the three sites where the sign would be placed at a cost of c.£1,000 per survey. This meant that cost of the proposed works was a long way in excess of the resources available to the Parish Council.

Cllr Vernon noted that KCC would not change the speed limit on the Headcorn Road because there had been no fatal accidents on the relevant section of road.

The Parish Council had supported the Speedwatch group by funding and investing in the equipment, which was shared with the Sandhurst Speedwatch group.

Cllr Tuke asked whether it would be worth trying to fundraise in the community and it was agreed that he would put something on the Frittenden Community Facebook page to see what interest there might be.

Cllr Cullingworth observed that speeding through the Village was a daily occurrence and Cllr Vernon agreed with the comments made in the public forum that it was not just the speed of the vehicles, but the poor quality of the driving. He stressed that, whilst the Parish Council had already explored a number of options, it was always open to suggestions.

Cllr Vernon asked whether there was any process by which the Police could be asked to set up a mobile speed camera in the Village. Cllr Holden had experience of this in relation to the work he had done to get the speed limit lowered on sections of the A229 and in liaison with the Hawkhurst Speedwatch group. In his view, the only real deterrent for the worst/repeat offenders was enforcement action by the Police but, sadly, they had in his view abandoned taking enforcement action. The Police won't support any change to a speed limit without speed surveys first being undertaken which demonstrated that the current average speed was close to what the new limit would be. Whilst you might get a few drivers far exceeding the limit, if the majority of drivers were driving at or around the relevant existing limit, the average speed recorded would be too low for any action to be taken. Further, the Police will only send the mobile unit to areas where there has been high rates of incidents/fatalities. In his view, the only way to see any action in relation to speeding was to lobby the Kent Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) to get the law enforced by the Police.

Cllr Staples notes that the Kent PCC was undertaking a consultation on road safety. He had issued a survey which anyone could respond to. He therefore encouraged all residents to complete the survey and express their concerns on this issue. A link to the survey will be put on the Frittenden Community Facebook page by Cllr Tuke.

Cllr Fairweather noted that if anyone saw a vehicle speeding or being driven dangerously and was able to take down the registration number or details of any signwriting on that vehicle, they could report it via the Kent Police Website. Cllr Staples urged residents to do this whenever possible.

Cllr Staples noted that the Speedwatch group held 6 sessions in the first two months of the year before lockdown. Incidents of speeding recorded on The Street were low, however, up to 25% of all vehicles recorded on Biddenden Road were speeding. However, traffic flow was quite low, with up to 72 vehicles passing in one hour during rush hour on The Street and up to 50 in Biddenden Road. Of the 20 offenders recorded, 7 had letters sent to them and 5 were multiple offenders. Cllr Staples advised that it was proving difficult to reinstate the Speedwatch sessions as many of the volunteers were within the age group deemed vulnerable to Covid-19 or shielding. He encouraged the younger generation to volunteer.

7. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Clerk reported that she had received expressions of interest from a number of residents. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Clerk formally advertise the vacancy, with a view to the Parish Council considering whether to co-opt any interested party at the next meeting.

8. TWBC LOCAL PLAN

Cllrs Staples and Vernon had attended an update meeting. The Draft Local Plan would be going through a second phase of consultation giving a further opportunity for residents to make comments/submissions. Cllr Vernon reported that the new draft would be available to the public early in 2021 with a deadline for submissions in April 2021. The draft would then go to the Inspector in July 2021, with a view to it being implemented in 2022.

Cllr Staples felt that, on the whole, the concerns expressed by the Parish Council had been listened to. The Parish Council had highlighted the need for a car park in Frittenden and made comments about the community's priorities when it came to the use to which contributions from developers should be put.

9. GOVERNMENT PLANNING WHITE PAPER

Cllr Staples noted that the current consultation set out 26 different questions which all residents were invited to comment on by the end of October. Cllr Vernon will put together the submissions to be made on behalf of the Parish Council and circulate a draft for approval at the next meeting.

Cllr Staples echoed the concerns raised by Cllr Holden on this matter. He commented that the increase in housing allocation in Tunbridge Wells Borough was of particular concern.

10. TUNBRIDGE WELLS AGREEMENT

Cllr Staples noted that there had been one or two tweaks to the draft Tunbridge Wells Agreement. It was generally felt that the Agreement was a good idea as long as it was followed.

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the Tunbridge Wells Agreement as amended.

11. FRITTENDEN HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples noted that the Authorising Committee had not received many applications over the Summer, but it anticipated that applications would increase as the Government's furlough scheme was unwound. Up until now, the beneficiaries of the fund were generally self-employed residents who had fallen through the cracks in respect of the help provided by the Government. The rules of the Fund stated that it would be wound up 6 months after lockdown ended. Given the ongoing restrictions, and the potential for greater restrictions over the Winter months, it was anticipated that the Fund would be continuing for the foreseeable future.

12. HACC FEEDBACK

Cllrs Tuke and Gosbee attended an Extraordinary Meeting of the HACC on 25th August 2020, which was also used as the Annual General Meeting.

Cllr Gosbee reported that the Aerodrome had been very quiet over Winter/Spring because it had been very wet and windy. After lockdown ended, traffic increased sharply due to the need for aircraft to undergo maintenance flights and for pilots to make up lost flying hours for certification purposes. It was also necessary for the runway being used to be changed due to the prevailing wind direction. The combinations of these factors caused an increase in complaints, albeit a number of complaints came from the same person. After that busy start, the number of flights has now returned to a more normal level.

Cllr Gosbee noted that it had been asked whether the Chairman had a conflict of interest because he was also the owner of the Aerodrome, but it was felt that his expert knowledge was required and there were other independent members of the Committee to ensure that any issues were scrutinised and dealt with effectively.

Cllr Gosbee noted that the Aerodrome employed over 80 people, more in the Summer, and had been voted one of Kent's top visitor attractions. It was therefore an asset that should be supported.

Cllr Tuke noted that many of the complaints had related to Spitfire flights and he hoped that activity would now normalise. He commented that pilots may have been a bit rusty when flights first resumed which meant that they strayed off the approved flight path. He hoped that this would no longer be an issue.

Cllr Staples noted that noise was particularly annoying, particularly for those who lived in what should be the abatement zone. He was particularly concerned to hear that one resident had twice complained to the Aerodrome, but had not received a response. This was unacceptable. Further, flight paths needed to be followed and he noted that Cllrs Tuke and Gosbee had made representations in that regard.

Cllr Staples noted that the Aerodrome needed to operate within the constraints placed on it for the benefit of residents and it needed to be courteous in dealing with complaints. Cllr Tuke confirmed that records were kept of complaints and discussed at HACC meetings.

13. NEW PCSO

Cllr Staples reported that he had met with the new PCSO for Frittenden, PCSO Simon Humphreys, who is looking for ways to engage with residents. Cllr Staples raised with him some of the issues which are of particular concern to the Village, being speeding, parking, small scale burglary and fly tipping. PCSO Humphreys indicated that there was little he could do in respect of speeding. Fly tipping was a matter for the local authority unless a resident had evidence of someone doing it which could be passed on to the police. KCC was not prepared to make any changes in respect of parking restrictions in the Village. PCSO Humphreys indicated that if a parked vehicle was causing an obstruction, residents could report it using the 111 non-emergency number.

PCSO Humphreys recognised that small scale burglary was a source of frustration. 70% of reported crimes were simply filed with no action being taken. However, he stressed that those crimes should continue to be reported, because the Police needed to have crime reports in order to ascertain trends or patterns of crime which, in turn, fed in to resourcing decisions.

Cllr Staples had asked PCSO Humphreys whether CCTV cameras on key roads into/out of the Village might have any value in the fight against fly tipping. PCSO Humphreys' view was that they would not. CCTV footage needed to actually catch someone in the act of fly tipping for it to have any evidential value. It was not enough to have footage of suspicious vehicles coming in/out of the Village.

14. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth has been continuing with the weekly playground inspections, but would appreciate help with this task. It was felt that the ideal would be to have a team of inspectors working on a rota system. Cllr Gosbee had volunteered but Cllr Cullingworth thought it would be nice if other members of the community, for example parents of the children who use the playground, were involved. She will post something on the Frittenden Community Facebook page to see if any volunteers came forward.

Cllr Cullingworth asked the Clerk to order more dog bags as, once again, they were disappearing very quickly. She will put a small amount in the dispenser at any one time in the hope that this would discourage anyone from taking more than their fair share.

The Clerk reported that she had invited three contractors to quote for replacing the rotten gate post at the entrance to the Parish Field. Only one quote had been received from R.May Fencing &

Landscape, being in the sum of £169.00. It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept that quote.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that the leg of a picnic table near to Annie's memorial tree had been broken in what appeared to be an act of vandalism. The Clerk confirmed that she would ask R.May Fencing & Landscape to look at it when replacing the gate post. In the meantime, it had been taped off.

Cllr Staples noted that Annie's tree was not looking very happy. If it did not survive the Winter, he suggested that the Parish Council provide a replacement.

15. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Berni Cooper had provided Cllr Vernon with an update which is appended to these Minutes.

Cllr Staples noted that the steering committee had decided to set up a Community Benefit Society through which the shop project will be financed. They needed access to a bank account until such time as the CBS has been formally established and its own bank account set up. The Equipment Fund had agreed to issue the CBS a grant of £1,000 to be applied to the initial set up costs. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to transfer that £1,000 from the Equipment Fund's deposit account to the Parish Council's current account, where it would be held to the CBS' order pending the establishment of its own bank account. Those funds would be ring fenced in the Parish Council's accounts.

16. COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

Cllr Vernon reported that discussions were taking place between the site promoter engaged by the land owner, TWBC and the CLT. One of the issues causing problems was the lack of a pavement on the road leading to the potential site and the Highway Authority's concerns in that regard. This was a long-standing problem which they were working to resolve. Cllr Vernon observed that the Secretary of the CLT was doing a great job in pulling everything together and ensuring that all parties understood the CLT's wish to be involved in any affordable housing element on the site.

17. ROAD REPORT – General

Cllr Gosbee noted that roadworks were due to begin on the Street on Monday 21st September 2020. They were supposed to be completed in 3 days. Thereafter, repair works would start on Headcorn Road.

A large pothole had been filled by Maidstone Borough Council.

There had been further incidents of fly tipping as noted by Cllr Fairweather.

Cllr Staples noted that there appeared to be a water main leak on the Cranbrook Road, between Dig Dog Lane and Grandshore Lane.

At this point Cllr Staples noted that the time was 9:30pm. He therefore extended the meeting beyond the two hour limit to allow the remainder of business on the agenda to be dealt with.

18. PLANNING

New Applications

None

Outcome of previous applications

19/03653/FULL	Oaklands, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Proposed change of use of redundant building to dwelling and detached garage with amenity area. PERMISSION/CONSENT GRANTED
20/01647/FULL	East Barn, Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Minor Material Amendment in Relation to 19/02653/FULL (Conversion of existing Dutch barn to create a single residential dwelling and change of use of land, together with new driveway and landscape/ecological enhancement) – Amendments to roof detail and fenestration APPLICATION PERMITTED
20/01584/SUB	East Barn, Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 3 (Details of Materials); 5 (Scheme of Enhancement for birds and bats); 8 (Details of hard and soft landscape works); 9 (Landscape Management Plan) of 19/02653/FULL APPLICATION PERMITTED
20/01325/FULL	Dene House, Frittenden Road, Biddenden Removal of part of hedge adjacent to Ayleswade Lane and installation of new 1.8 metre high pedestrian access gate and replacement planting PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01767/FULL	The Old Hopperhut, Frittenden Change of use of land and existing huts to residential garden and storage sheds including associated parking PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01697/LBC	Beale Farmhouse, Sand Lane. Frittenden Listed Building Consent: Change of use of land for new outside swimming pool; accompanying pool house within existing curtilage PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01696/FULL	Beale Farmhouse, Sand Lane. Frittenden Listed Building Consent: Change of use of land for new outside swimming pool; accompanying pool house within existing curtilage APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
20/01457/FULL	Pearsons Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Addition of a first floor side extension above existing garage; alterations to fenestration including additional ground floor window to east elevation and east facing skylight to existing roof PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01926/FULL	3 Park Cottages, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Removal of existing glass sun lounge; replacement with a single storey rear extension PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01964/FULL	Lake House, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Outdoor Swimming Pool PERMISSION GRANTED
19/01087/FULL	Tolehurst Farm, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Demolition of two existing poultry rearing sheds and the erection of two new larger poultry rearing sheds and a small

associated welfare/store building. Application includes an Environmental Statement. PERMISSION GRANTED
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Planning appeals

- None.

19. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Cllr Staples had circulated risk assessments received in relation to the proposed dog agility event to be held on Cllr Gosbee's field off Dig Dog Lane. Cllr Vernon asked whether the event was to be open to the public. Cllr Staples confirmed that it was not and that a system would be in place whereby competitors arrived shortly before their allotted start time and left immediately thereafter to ensure that numbers on the field were limited. In the circumstances, it was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** to grant permission for the event to go ahead in accordance with the risk assessments provided. (Cllr Gosbee did not participate in this discussion or vote as he had declared an interest under agenda item 2).

20. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** (Cllr Cullingworth did not participate in any discussion or vote having declared an interest under agenda item 2) to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
102559	-	-	-	-	CHEQUE RETURNED
102560	£284.40	£47.80	£237.00	Safeplay Playground Services Ltd	Playground repairs (Labour)
102561	£329.03	£54.84	£274.19	Proludic Ltd	Playground repairs (Parts)
102562	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – July
102563	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – July
102564	£111.60	£18.60	£93.00	ROSPA Play Safety	Playground Annual Inspection
102565	£64.39	nil	£64.39	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - August
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street Lighting Energy - July
Total	£1,027.96	£156.25	£871.71		
102566	-	-	-	-	CHEQUE WRITTEN INCORRECTLY
102567	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – August
102568	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – August
102569	£72.19	nil	£72.19	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – September
102570	£195.25	nil	£195.25	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – August & September

102571	£68.60	nil	£48.60	HMRC	PAYE
102572	£23.99	nil	£23.99	Mrs H Cullingworth	Expenses – Playground Clean
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street Lighting Energy – August
Total	£578.57	£35.41	£543.16		

- The Clerk confirmed that relevant forms had been submitted in order to put into effect the switch of the Parish Council's banking facilities from HSBC to Unity Trust Bank. The Clerk hoped that this would be completed by the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:46 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 20th October 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough), Cllr Holden (County) & 3 members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident noted that a message had been posted on the Frittenden Community Facebook page asking if residents would be prepared to contribute to the cost of traffic calming measures. He felt that the community should not have to pay for such things and questioned where their Council Tax was going if funds were not available from KCC. He also asked why the law on speeding was not being enforced.

Cllr Staples referred to the Council's extensive discussions on the subject of speeding at the last meeting. This was an issue which the Council had been trying hard to get action on for many years, but it had, time and again, come up against a brick wall. The situation was now made considerably more difficult by the budget deficits caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, which KCC had projected could be as much as £130m next year. KCC had made it clear that no funds were available for speed mitigation measures that were not part of its existing critical safety plan. Frittenden was not part of that plan because it did not have a record of multiple accidents on its roads causing deaths or serious injuries.

Cllr Gosbee advised that he had asked Cllr Holden of KCC whether he had any evidence that polite signs reminding drivers of the need to drive slowly or carefully were effective in reducing speeding. Cllr Fairweather of TWBC thought that, whilst they might have some effect on the usually careful driver, they were unlikely to deter the serial speeders, who just didn't care how their driving might affect others.

Another resident thanked the Council for all that it did for the community. He observed that he had found it difficult to find the dates of the Council's meetings and suggested that these be advertised on Facebook. Cllr Tuke agreed that he would do this.

He also queried why members of the public were only given 3 minutes to speak at the beginning of the meeting and could not participate in the discussion of issues after that. Cllr Staples explained that the structure of the Council's meetings followed the framework set out by law. Whilst the meetings were meetings of the Council, and not general public meetings, residents were encouraged to attend and the public forum was included to ensure that they had an opportunity to comment on any agenda item or other issue of concern. The Council would then take those comments into account in its discussions. Cllr Staples stated that it was very gratifying to have members of the public attending the meetings currently being held remotely by Zoom. The resident asked if the Zoom link for each meeting could be published along with the agenda.

The resident raised whether clear enough information had been provided on how those interested in applying to become a Parish Councillor could go about applying. Cllr Staples noted that the relevant

information had been published on the Council's website, on Facebook and on the noticeboard. If anyone wanted further information, they should contact any member of the Council or the Clerk.

On the issue of speeding, the resident asked whether a mobile unit could be purchased to record incidents of speeding on the particular roads, or at the particular times of day, where the problem was most evident.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Vernon

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather noted that the majority of TWBC's income was not generated by Council Tax, but by fees and charges (for example parking charges or fees for planning applications) and rents. TWBC had been suffering losses of £1m per month during lockdown. These losses had reduced but were still running at around £500,000 per month. TWBC had reserves to cover some of those losses, but it was clear that savings would also have to be made, albeit the Parish Council's precept was protected by law.

Cllr Fairweather noted that the cinema site in Tunbridge Wells was up for sale again, but that TWBC was prevented from bidding because it is not able to pay more than the current market value. TWBC had been advised that the price currently being sought was in excess of that value.

Cllr Fairweather reported that he had raised with the relevant officers at TWBC issues around the cleanliness of the Weald Sports Centre. He was, however, pleased to confirm that it was now taking booking by telephone as well as via its online booking system.

Cllr Fairweather was also pleased to report that evening meetings of TWBC had resumed remotely and he was grateful to the Council for its support on that issue. Cllr Fairweather counselled against making the access details for remote meetings public because Zoom meetings held by other authorities had, in the past, been disrupted by malicious parties. It was therefore preferable for the Clerk to control who was given access, being the system currently in place.

Cllr Holden came to the meeting late because he had been attending a funeral. He therefore gave his update following discussion of agenda item 11.

In response to questions asked by Cllr Gosbee, Cllr Holden confirmed that the Tunbridge Wells theatre had received £500,000 in funding from the Government. Cllr Holden believed that it was planning to open later in the year for the pantomime.

Cllr Holden confirmed that he had, in the past, looked at the effectiveness of polite signs asking drivers to drive slowly or carefully. It was his view that they were effective in the beginning, but became less and less so over time.

Cllr Holden commented on the ongoing reassessment of KCC's budgets. It was his view that it would be very difficult to address the expected budget shortfalls while still protecting services. A five-year plan had been developed, but this has been shelved as a result of the pandemic. An interim plan is now being developed, which must take into account what will happen if there is another lockdown.

Cllr Holden continues to express concerns over the management of the Weald Leisure Centre by Fusion. He will not support the renewal of its contract.

Cllr Holden noted that gas main work had begin on Cranbrook High Street. This had initially been tabled to last 3 weeks, but Cllr Holden pressed for the works to be reduced to 7 days to limit the impact on retail businesses.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 15th September 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Telephone Box

Cllr Cullingworth reported that there had been no further developments due to the current Coronavirus restrictions.

Speeding

Cllr Staples confirmed that he had now got clearance to restart the Speedwatch sessions. This would happen once the coordinator from Kent Police had delivered the necessary PPE. Cllr Staples was very pleased to note that a request for volunteers through the Facebook page had resulted in two new volunteers coming forward within only 24 hours of the request being made. Speedwatch will include sessions around pick up time from the school to deter people from driving unsafely when children were around.

HACC

No issues of aircraft noise had been reported to the Council in the last month. Cllr Tuke noted that traffic would now be reducing, but it was his sense that noise was still an issue for residents. He was also aware that those calling the aerodrome to report concerns were not getting proper feedback and so this will be raised at the next HACC meeting.

Parish Field

The rotten gate post had now been replaced and the Council felt that R.May Fencing & Landscaping had done a very good job. The Clerk noted that she had asked them to also look at the damaged picnic bench to see if it could be repaired. She will follow this up.

General Correspondence – Dog Agility Show

The organisers were very grateful to the Council for their support of this event.

Switch to Unity Trust Bank

Cllr Staples commented that UTB had been very helpful and efficient so far. Whilst a small fee was charged by UTB (£6 per month), this was a small price to pay for the improved service and accessibility.

Annie's Tree

Cllr Gosbee had looked at the tree and did not think it could be saved. He suggested that it be replaced this autumn to give the new tree a chance to get established. It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Staples approach the WI to see if they wanted to provide the replacement tree and, if not, the Council will do so.

6. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Clerk reported that she had received three expressions of interest and, to date, two of those three individuals had provided, by way of application, short statements setting out (i) who they were; (ii) how they complied with the eligibility criteria published with the vacancy advert; and (iii) what they could bring to the Council. All applicants would be invited to attend the next meeting of the Council to briefly present their application for consideration at that meeting.

7. PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE – SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

Cllr Staples expressed the Council's gratitude for the work done by Cllr Vernon in producing a very comprehensive and impressive response to the Consultation on the proposed reforms to the Planning system. He acknowledged the professional expertise and skill Cllr Vernon brought on planning issues, for which the Council was extremely grateful. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the responses as circulated by Cllr Vernon and amended in accordance with members' comments.

8. FRITTENDEN HARDSHIP FUND

Cllrs Staples reported that the Fund had now made 24 grants totalling £11,160 to 10 different applicants. The Committee had met two or three times since the last Council meeting and there was still a demand for support.

9. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth has been undertaking the regular weekly inspections and had nothing to report. Cllr Gosbee had agreed to assist with the inspections and Cllr Cullingworth will shortly be putting out a call for volunteers on the Frittenden Community Facebook page. It was agreed that it would be preferable if there was a team of at least three carrying out the inspections.

Cllr Cullingworth reported that a 9-year old girl had broken her arm falling from the monkey bars. She was recovering well and her mother did not want to formally report the incident. Cllr Staples emphasised that all such incidents should be reported to the Clerk, who kept a record. No issues had been raised about the safety of that piece of equipment when it was inspected by RoSPA in July or during subsequent weekly inspections.

10. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee read an update from Berni Cooper. She reported that an amazing £52,000 had been pledged to date and that the official share issue would take place in early 2021. Progress was being made in setting up the Community Benefit Society through which the project would be run and a business plan was being finalised, as this was an essential tool in obtaining external grant funding. The Steering Group was exploring building options and hoped to have some sketch plans available later in the year. In the meantime, Rosie Robinson was helping with layout ideas and insight on how a village shop worked.

Sara Cremer had joined the Steering Group and brought extensive and invaluable marketing experience. With her help, the Group will be looking at putting on additional fundraising/community events to increase awareness of the project in the community.

A meeting will take place with representatives of the Memorial Hall Committee on 21 October 2020 to discuss the legal and practical issues associated with having the shop on the Memorial Hall's land.

Cllr Riley stated that she really admired what the Steering Group was doing with this project and the extensive efforts being made by Berni Cooper in particular.

11. GRANT TO COMMUNITY SHOP

Cllr Staples reported that he had been asked by Berni Cooper whether the Council would be prepared to make a grant to the Community Shop project. Cllr Staples thought it was important that the Council demonstrated its support of this project in a concrete way, but noted that it was constrained by both the legal and practical limits on what it could give under s137. It was important that any grant now made did not prejudice the Council's ability to support other organisations over the rest of the financial year. It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Staples, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to make a grant of £500 to demonstrate the Council's support, with a view to discussing any further support that the Council might be in a position to provide as the project progresses.

12. ROAD REPORT - General

Cllr Gosbee reported that there had been a spate of water leaks which had all been repaired. Cllr Cullingworth noted that a new leak appeared to have sprung up on the Street near to the telephone box. Cllr Staples considered the problem to be caused by the poor state of the water main running through the village. It needed to be replaced and, until it was, whenever a leak was fixed in one place the increase in pressure along the pipe would simply cause a new leak in another part of the pipe. Cllr Staples encouraged residents to report all leaks.

Cllr Gosbee has checked all the salt bins, which are full.

Potholes had been marked for repair and Cllr Gosbee had asked that the hedge be cut back on the approach to Buckhurst bridge because it was obscuring the signs for the bridge.

Cllr Gosbee reported that there had been quite a lot of fly tipping. One lot of waste had again been set on fire and so this was a continuing problem.

13. PLANNING

New Applications

20/02607/FULL	Broadlake Farm Mill Lane Frittenden Cranbrook Kent Replace the existing barn building with a new barn building to comprise of a 3-bed dwelling; associated car parking and landscaping Proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/02446/FULL	Brissenden Farm Sand Lane Frittenden Conversion of an Agricultural Barn into a Residential 2 bed dwelling and inclusion of part of an existing Cart Lodge as covered parking and storage space, serving dwelling Proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of previous applications

20/02028/FULL	Land to the rear of 2 Marsh Cottages, Mill Lane, Frittenden
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	Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of Planning Permission 19/02395/FULL - Design changes including; North East elevation fenestration changes and addition of porch; South West elevation fenestration changes; South East elevation changes to and additional fenestration; North West Elevation part infilling of overhang; Internal layout - extended footprint and reordered in part PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01964/FULL	Lake House Staplehurst Road Frittenden Outdoor swimming pool PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01980/SUB	Little Manor Staplehurst Road Frittenden Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 4 (Proposed Roof Lights Details) and Condition 5 (Detailed Elevation and Section Drawings of New Windows and Doors) of 19/02903/LBC APPLICATION PERMITTED
20/02188/SUB	Little Manor Staplehurst Road Frittenden Submission of details in relation to Condition 3 - (External Materials); Condition 6 - (Full Details) of 19/02903/LBC APPLICATION PERMITTED

Planning appeals

- None.

14. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The Clerk noted that a resident had made a complaint to the CEO of TWBC about the Weald Leisure Centre, but the issues to which this related had been dealt with in the updates provided by both Cllrs Fairweather and Holden.
- HSBC in Maidstone had contacted the Clerk to advise that it held an item for safekeeping and, as the Council's relationship with HSBC had now ended, they wished to return it. Cllr Staples had arranged to collect it but HSBC required a letter of authority signed by two Councillors before they would release the item, thought to be the deeds to the Parish Field, to him. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that he be authorised to collect the item and pass it to the Clerk for safekeeping. The Clerk will ascertain whether the land has been registered because, if so, the deeds are now obsolete.

15. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – OCTOBER 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS

BACS	£35.58	£5.93	£59.65	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog bags
BACS	£169.00	nil	£169.00	R. May Fencing & Landscapes Ltd	Replacement of gate post – Parish Field
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – September
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – September
BACS	£174.72	nil	£174.72	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – October
BACS	£80.59	nil	£80.59	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – October
BACS	£43.60	nil	£43.60	HMRC	PAYE
TRF	£18.00	nil	£18.00	Hardship Fund	Refund of bank charges (£18 per quarter)
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	Eon	Street lighting energy – September
Total	£758.85	£41.28	£717.57		

- The Clerk confirmed that the switch from HSBC to Unity Trust Bank had now been completed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:24 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 17th November 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Holden (County) & 2 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr A Fairweather (Borough)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden reported that the Kent Plan Bee launch summit had been a great success with over 200 people attending. Cllr Holden felt this showed the importance people attached to the need to protect pollinators and more summits were being planned for the future.

Cllr Holden confirmed that KCC had carried out budget analysis over the last week. The existing 5-year plan had been cancelled. It would be replaced with an interim recovery plan. The impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on KCC income had left a large hole in this year's budget and would create an even greater shortfall next year.

The Weald Leisure Centre was receiving financial support from TWBC, but that support was conditional upon Fusion obtaining loan funding. Cllr Holden confirmed that the required loan funding was now in place.

Cllr Holden was encouraged by press reports which indicated that the Government would be looking again at the proposed reforms to the planning system and, in particular, the algorithm by which new developments would be allocated across the Country. Cllr Holden had read the submissions made by the Parish Council as part of the consultation process and considered them to be very good.

Cllr Holden believed that the £1,000 funding to be made available for the planting of trees in the Parish had now been signed off.

Cllr Gosbee asked whether the budgetary shortfalls referred to by Councillor Holden meant that the Parish's roads would not be gritted this winter. Cllr Holden confirmed that no spending cuts

had been approved and so, as far as he was aware, the roads would continue to be gritted as normal this winter.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED (1 Abstention)** that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 20th October 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parish Field

The picnic bench was yet to be repaired. The Clerk had asked a contractor to take a look at it and would chase them for a response.

Annie's Tree

Cllr Staples had spoken with the WI and had received confirmation that its members would like to contribute to the cost of a replacement tree. Cllr Riley was liaising with the Chair of the Gardening Society in relation to the purchase of a new tree.

Item held by HSBC for safekeeping

This item was the Deeds to the Parish Field. Cllr Staples collected them from HSBC in Maidstone and they have been handed to the Clerk for safekeeping.

6. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Staples commented that it had been disappointing that not enough people had stood at the last election to fill all 7 Parish Council seats. It was therefore very pleasing that 3 people had put their names forward when the vacant seat had been advertised. One of the applications had had to withdraw, but there remained two candidates.

Both candidates had submitted a short statement about themselves and what they thought they could bring to the Council. All members confirmed that they had seen and considered those statements. The candidates were given an opportunity to speak to the meeting, but only one was available because technical difficulties had prevented the other from joining the remote meeting. The candidate in attendance reiterated the comments made in their statement and Cllr Staples directed that members should not be influenced by the fact that the other candidate was not available to speak.

Members voted by way of a secret ballot and Mrs Sarah Murray was duly co-opted to serve as Parish Councillor. Cllr Staples spoke on behalf of all members in welcoming her to the Council.

7. FOOTPATH WARDEN

Cllr Staples noted that the Parish used to have a footpath warden who kept an eye out for problems with the public footpaths in the Parish and liaised with KCC to resolve any issues that arose. It was agreed that it would be helpful to have a footpath warden and that the role should be advertised on the Parish website and the Frittenden Facebook page. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Gosbee would make enquiries of the widow of the last footpath warden to get a description of what was involved and, thereafter, Cllr Tuke would place an appropriate advertisement on the website and Facebook page.

8. APPOINTMENT OF NEW DEPUTY LIEUTENANT

Cllr Staples congratulated Mr Tim Bull on his appointment as a Deputy Lieutenant of Kent. Cllr Staples was very pleased that Mr Bull's contribution to Frittenden and the wider community had been recognised.

9. KALC AGM

The Clerk reported that the KALC AGM would be taking place remotely by Zoom on 28 November 2020. Up to two representatives from the Parish Council could attend and places must be booked by 20 November 2020.

10. FRITTENDEN HARDSHIP FUND

Cllrs Staples reported that the Fund had now made 27 grants totalling £12,660 to 10 different applicants and there remained £8,401 in the Fund for distribution. Cllr Staples noted that the Fund was supporting a small group of people who had been most badly affected by the Covid-19 restrictions and that the need for that support continued, as demonstrated by the fact that the Committee had approved two grants when it last met on 16 November 2020.

11. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the regular inspections had not revealed any new issues. She is liaising with the Clerk to obtain spare bolt caps and to get the damaged picnic bench repaired.

Cllr Cullingworth will reduce the number of inspections, which are currently carried out weekly, over the next few months to reflect the reduced hours of daylight and the fact that the playground is not so well used during the Winter. However, regular inspections will continue. Cllr Gosbee will assist with inspections and Cllr Murray also volunteered to join the inspection team. Cllr Cullingworth will liaise with Cllrs Gosbee and Murray to provide training on the inspection system.

12. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee confirmed that a meeting between members of the Steering Group and Memorial Hall Committee had taken place on 21 October 2020 and progress was being made in working out the legal and practical details of having a shop on the Hall's land. Cllr Riley attended that meeting as Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee and remained impressed at the good work being done by the Steering Group.

Mrs B Cooper had provided the Parish Council with an update from the Steering Group which is appended at page 1969 of the minutes.

13. ROAD REPORT - General

Cllr Gosbee reported that the recent high winds had brought a tree down on London Lane.

There continued to be a great deal of fly tipping in the Parish. A large amount of rubbish at The Hatchin Tan, Grandshore Lane had now been cleared and a fence had been put across the access in an attempt to prevent further incidents of fly tipping. A number of jumbo bags had been dumped around the Village and a large amount of rubbish had recently appeared in two places on Dig Dog Lane. All had been reported.

The rubbish dumped by Frittenden Road (Biddenden) had been tapped off because it contained asbestos. TWBC was arranging for it to be removed by a specialist contractor.

Cllr Riley asked whether a record was kept of the number of fly tipping incidents in the Parish. Cllr Staples thought that TWBC would have that data and suggested that it could be obtained through the Borough Councillor. The Clerk will ask Cllr Fairweather to request that information.

Cllr Gosbee reported that most of the potholes around the Village had now been repaired. There was concern about possible flooding during the recent heavy rain due to drains being blocked by leaves. Cllr Gosbee indicated that he had a box of inflatable sand bags, which he was happy to provide to anyone who needed them.

14. PLANNING

New Applications

20/03002/FULL	Buckhurst Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Demolition of an existing concrete agricultural barn; Change of use and conversion of an agricultural Oast House Ban building and surrounding area to provide a single residential dwelling and garden area; Provision of car parking area for the proposed new dwelling Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley, RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03102/FULL	Old Hungerden Green Lane Frittenden Cranbrook TN17 2EG Conversion of existing garden workshop to ancillary residential annexe; Erection of new garden shed and associated hedging Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03304/COUNTY	Knoxbridge Farm Knoxbridge Frittenden Cranbrook Kent Consultation from Kent County Council - A Section 73 application to vary condition 2 of planning permission TW/15/504981, as amended by TW/15/508499, TW/18/3830 and TW/19/1693, to alter the design and layout of the approved anaerobic digestion scheme Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley, RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of previous applications

- None.

Planning appeals

- None.

15. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The Grounds Maintenance contractor had suggested that verti draining be carried out in the Parish Field and had quoted £150 plus VAT for that work. Cllr Cullingworth noted that the area adjacent to Larchmere did get boggy in bad weather, but her inspections had not suggested that there was a particular problem with drainage. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask the Grounds Maintenance contractor for further details on what verti draining would involve, what parts of the field were to be drained and the effectiveness of that process.

- The Parish Council had been asked to help publicise the Mayor's Christmas Toy Appeal, whereby residents were invited to purchase a small gift, either in person or online, and deliver it to the Town Hall for distribution to children who might otherwise not receive a gift this Christmas. Cllr Staples will place a copy of the poster advertising the Appeal on the Parish Noticeboard and Cllr Tuke will publish it on the website and Facebook page.

16. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – NOVEMBER 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - October
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance - October
BACS	£64.39	nil	£64.39	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - November
BACS	£213.88	nil	£213.88	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary - November
BACS	£53.40	nil	£53.40	HMRC	PAYE
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street lighting energy - October
Total	£570.21	£35.41	£499.80		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:57 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Project update for the Parish Council meeting on 17 November 2020

We expect to receive our CBS (Community Benefit Society) incorporation details this coming week together with a FCA (Financial Conduct Authority) stamped and signed copy of the Model Rules that we submitted. Once we have our CBS we will apply for a bank account and submit our grant application to KCC.

Our business plan has been looked at by a local Community Shop and they have given us some positive feedback. Our business plan is an essential tool in our forthcoming applications for external grant funding. We submitted an Expression of Interest to the Community Shares Booster Programme for a development grant and have been called to make a full application. The total amount we can apply for is £5k. We would like to thank the Parish Council for their kind offer of a development grant of £500 in addition to potential further funding of a capital item. We have also had an initial conversation with Kent Community Foundation to explore our eligibility for their KSELF loan/grant package (Kent Social Enterprise Loan Fund).

We have progressed building options and build costings and hope to have sketch plans available within the coming weeks. Rosie and Sean have submitted their recommendations re the proposed shop layout that we worked on earlier in the year and we will take their suggestions on board. We will be liaising with the Memorial Hall Committee regarding our build and whether we can coordinate some of planned work on both projects. Once we have finalised our build plans we will apply for planning permission.

We met with two members of the Memorial Hall Committee on 21 October to further discuss the legalities of having the shop on MH land. We will be working on a ground lease agreement with them in the coming weeks. Getting clarity and certainty on these items is a necessary pre-requisite to any application for Planning Permission.

We will be organising a further communication with the village this year to increase awareness of the project throughout our community.

Berni Cooper

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Wednesday 9th December 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley
Cllr S Murray

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough) & 1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident commented that he had researched what the local MP had been doing in relation to the tier system and how it had been applied to Kent. In doing so, he had looked at how active she had been in parliament generally and was disappointed to note that she appeared not to have been very active at all.

The same resident asked what the Parish Council was planning to do in the exercise of its duties in the future and whether it had a 1-year or 5-year plan. Cllr Staples noted that the Parish Council was extremely mindful of its duties and obligations and always strived to fulfil them in the best way possible. However, that didn't mean that the Parish Council wouldn't try to do things better. The Clerk noted that the Parish Council reported to the community on its activities over the past year and plans for the next at the Annual Parish Assembly. Cllr Staples noted that the Annual Parish Assembly was usually held in May, but that it had been cancelled this year due to the pandemic. He very much hoped that it would be held next May.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Vernon

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that there hadn't been a full meeting of TWBC since September. The next meeting was due to take place on 16 December 2020.

The Weald Leisure Centre was open and taking bookings online and by telephone.

Rubbish collection rounds would be starting at 6am. This is because a fire at Sevenoaks tip meant that Sevenoaks BC and TWBC were now both using the Tunbridge Wells tip, causing a backlog of vehicles at the tip. The tip remained open to members of the public, but you did need to book. However, trailers of a certain size could now be used at Tunbridge Wells tip.

Cllr Fairweather felt that it was unlikely that Tunbridge Wells Borough would be moved out of Tier 3 when the Covid-19 restrictions were reviewed on 16 December 2020. This is because,

whilst numbers of cases were relatively low in the Borough, they were still rising. There was also pressure on the hospital, which was taking patients from Medway.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 17th November 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parish Field

The Clerk is liaising with the contractor who recently replaced the rotten gate post at the entrance to the Parish Field to identify whether the broken picnic bench can be repaired economically.

Annie's Tree

Cllr Staples reported that the WI had asked whether the Parish Council would be prepared to make a donation of £25 to the cost of purchasing a flowering hawthorn. It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Staples and **RESOLVED** by all members present to make such a donation.

Footpath Warden

Cllr Gosbee reported that Carol Wilken had agreed to take up this post. The Clerk will establish whether there is any guidance or instructions for Footpath Wardens. Cllr Staples suggested that the Warden be invited to submit periodic reports to the Parish Council.

KALC AGM

The Clerk confirmed that no one from the Parish Council attended this event.

Grounds Maintenance

The Clerk confirmed that she had asked the Grounds Maintenance Contractor for more information on the verti draining he suggested be carried out on the Parish Field, but she was yet to receive a response.

Mayor's Christmas Toy Appeal

Cllr Staples had established that the Parish Council was able to nominate potential recipients of gifts collected through this appeal, but that the process was lengthy. He therefore suggested that this be included as an agenda item for the Council's meeting in October 2021 to ensure that it had an opportunity to make nominations for the 2021 appeal.

6. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Murray signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the Clerk.

Cllr Staples noted that the book containing the declarations of all Councillors since 1894 had been filled up and the Clerk had been unable to locate anyone who sold such items. A bespoke book would therefore need to be ordered if the Council wished to continue this tradition. It was agreed that the Clerk should make further enquiries to try to identify someone who could produce a bespoke book.

7. DRAFT BUDGET

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Tuke and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Budget be accepted as drafted and that the Clerk apply for a precept of £17,000 for 2021/22.

8. MEETING DATES

Meeting dates for 2021 were agreed. They will follow the usual pattern of the third Tuesday in every month, except for August when no meeting is held and December when the meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month.

9. PARISH CHAIRMEN'S MEETING

Cllr Staples provided a report of the meeting held on 8 December 2020 which is appended to these minutes.

One of the items discussed was the need for Parish Councils to ratify the final version of the Tunbridge Wells Agreement, which had been amended slightly from the version previously agreed. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the Tunbridge Wells Agreement as amended.

10. PCSO UPDATE

Cllrs Staples has met with PCSO Simon Humphries, who is currently unable to attend Parish Council meetings because Zoom is not compatible with the Police's IT system. PCSO Humphries reported that:

- A number of uninsured and untaxed vehicles had been reported in Dig Dog Lane;
- He was getting training on a speed device which would allow him to undertake some speed checks in or around the village;
- There had been an outbreak of poaching in the area which were linked to organised criminality and conducted with aggression. Residents were encouraged to report poaching via the 101 non-emergency number;

Cllr also reported that there had been a serious theft in the village during the night of 8/9 December. A resident's van had been broken into and his tools stolen. Cllr Cullingworth reported that she had been driven at in a threatening way by a vehicle on Dig Dog Lane. She had reported the incident to the Police via 101. Cllr Staples commented that PCSO Humphries was taking a proactive approach and he was very keen for residents to play their part by reporting any issues via 101.

11. TWBC LOCAL GREEN SPACES DESIGNATION

It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to exclude members of the public from the meeting for the duration of the council's discussions on this agenda item, because it related to one of the inputs on the Draft Local Plan not yet in the public domain and the Council wished to respect TWBC's request that the information provided be kept strictly confidential at this stage of the process.

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to obtain external planning advice prior to submitting the Council's comments on TWBC's proposals.

12. DONATIONS

Following a discussion around the principles by which the Parish Council should select the organisations which were to receive donations, it was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to make the following payments:

Kent Air Ambulance	£100.00
Victim Support	£25.00
High Weald Academy School Farm	£50.00
Tunbridge Wells Citizen Advice Bureau	£100.00
Frittenden Parochial Church Council	£350.00
West Kent YMCA (Frittenden Youth Club)	£50.00
Samaritans	£50.00
Relate	£50.00
Hospice in the Weald	£75.00
Frittenden Pre-School	£50.00
Frittenden School	£100.00
Hawkhurst Community League of Friends - Cottage Hospital	£100.00
Kenward Trust	£100.00
Royal British Legion	£50.00
Total	£1250.00

Cllr Staples commented that if any member of the Council or resident became aware of other local organisations which might be deserving of support, they should make the Council aware of them.

13. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that there had been no applications to the Fund for the past 3 weeks.

14. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth reported that regular inspections continue to take place. Whilst carrying out an inspection on 7 December 2020, Cllr Cullingworth was informed by a resident that people had, once again, been observed taking large amounts of dog bags from the dispenser at the Parish Field. Cllr Cullingworth has been limiting the number of bags in the dispenser at any one time.

Cllr Tuke observed that the wooden steps up to the slide were slippery in damp weather. The Clerk will make enquiries of Proludic as to whether any products are available to prevent this.

15. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The Steering Group had provided an update which is appended to these minutes.

Cllr Staples noted that the project had now got to the stage where an application needed to be made for planning permission for the proposed shop building. The Steering Group had asked the Council to make the relevant application so that the 50% reduction in fees available to Parish Council's could be applied. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council would act as Principal and the Community Benefit Society (CBS) established to administer the shop project would act as its agent in respect of the relevant planning application, subject to the CBS agreeing to indemnify the Council for all expenses and liabilities arising in respect of that application and any permission subsequently granted. The Clerk will draft an appropriate letter setting out the indemnity required.

16. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee reported that KCC Highways had dealt with the trees that were very close to the road on London Lane.

There is a problem with the drains at the top of Mill Lane. Cllr Gosbee has requested that the drains be cleared.

Cllr Gosbee commented that most of the potholes he had reported to KCC Highways had been repaired. If any resident spots any large potholes, they should let him know and he will report them to the relevant officers at KCC.

The salt bin on Grandshore Lane has been knocked over. It is not yet known whether it has been emptied. Cllr Gosbee has bags of salt if it needs refilling.

Cllr Gosbee reported that he had not had a lot of luck getting the fly tipping on Dig Dog Lane collected. It had been there for 3 weeks and was growing. Cllr Fairweather stated that he would speak to the relevant officer and ask for this to be dealt with as a priority.

17. PLANNING

New Applications

20/0336/FULL	Buckhurst Farm Buildings, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Change of use and conversion from Agricultural Barn to two residential units and change of use of curtilage from agricultural land to provide residential gardens and parking spaces Proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/02995/LBC	Maplehurst Mill Mill Lane Frittenden Listed Building Consent - Remove the Perrymatic boiler and its high-level chimney flue and replace this with a High-Efficiency A-rated Grant Vortex Eco 26-35kW condensing boiler and provision of a round Low-Level balanced short flue; Install a wood burning stove. Proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03012/FULL	Gould Farm Mill Lane Frittenden Temporary consent to use part of stable store as car store (Part Retrospective) The Council considered the planning history of the stable building which was the subject of this application. In 2011 an application to erect a building for use as both a stable and garage had been rejected by planners because they did not consider the site suitable for any form of residential use. Permission was subsequently granted for the existing building which was to be used as stabling only. The Council did not consider that anything had changed which would allow the planners to deviate from their previous refusal to allow a stable building on the site to also be used for garaging. Proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke, RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND REFUSAL for the reasons set out above.
20/03500/TCA	Lakeside Farm, The Street, Frittenden Trees in a Conservation Area Notification: Horse Chestnut NOTED

20/03471/TCA	Charity Farm House Headcorn Road Frittenden Trees in a Conservation Area Notification: LIMES (G1) lapsed pollards and pleached 6 No - Carry out restoration works to re pollard and repair the pleaching; POPLARS (G2) 5 No - Re pollard to previous points leaving approximately 12 inches of new wood NOTED
20/03446/TCA	Hollenden Headcorn Road Frittenden Trees in a Conservation Area Notification: SYCAMORE – Fell NOTED

Outcome of previous applications

20/02446/FULL	Brissenden Farm, Sand Lane, Frittenden Conversion of an agricultural barn into a residential 2No. bedroom dwelling and inclusion of part of existing cart lodge as covered parking and storage space serving dwelling PERMISSION GRANTED
20/01397/FULL	The Stables, Great Hungerden Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Erection of a single storey, rear extension PERMISSION GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None.

18. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- KALC Community Award Scheme 2021 – Nominations are to be received by 12 February 2021. The Clerk had very recently received the certificate awarded to the Council's nomination under the 2020 Scheme. Cllr Staples will present the certificate to the recipient, Mr L French for his work getting fibre broadband to the village.
- Annual Policing Survey – This an opportunity for all residents to have their say on policing in Kent. The deadline for submissions is 5 January 2021. Cllr Tuke will put the relevant link on the Parish Council's website and on the Frittenden Facebook page.
- Change of MP Constituency Office – The address from Helen Grant MP's constituency office has changed. Cllr Tuke will put the new address on the Parish Council's website.

19. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Murray, and **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – DECEMBER 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - November

BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance - November
BACS	£64.39	nil	£64.39	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - December
BACS	£120.14	nil	£120.14	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary - December
BACS	£30.00	nil	£30.00	HMRC	PAYE
300001	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Mr B Millard	Honarium
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	EON	Street lighting energy - October
Total	£501.89	£35.35	£456.54		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parish Chairmen's Meeting

8 Dec 2020

Key points of interest

1. Council Tax Precepts

Tax base has shrunk in virtually all parishes as the effect of an increase in number of people claiming Single Person's Discount or Council Tax Support outweighs the growth in tax base due to new build

No legal restriction on varying the parish precept. Parish precept is protected from the impact of an anticipated fall in council tax collection (ie unpaid tax)

£3m shortfall anticipated in the current year (£2m due to lower car parking receipts). It is meeting this from reserves rather than reducing services.

2021/2 will be difficult: consultation on budget options is available on:

https://tunbridgewells-self.achieveservice.com/service/consultation_budget

Consultation closes on 4 January

2. Economic development

Key points

Two types of grants available (Government funded, distributed by TWBC)

Local Restriction Support Grants. 583 applications, 455 paid out so far. Details found at:

<https://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/coronavirus/advice-and-support-for-businesses/local-restrictions-support-grant>

Additional Restrictions Grant. These are open to businesses which do not pay business rates and are discretionary. 98 applications, 34 paid out so far. Details found at:

<https://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/coronavirus/advice-and-support-for-businesses/additional-restrictions-grant>

3. Planning

White House Development – outcome of the Judicial Review

Hawkhurst PC, which opposed this development, took TWBC to Judicial Review HPC lost on all three counts contested. Significantly it was ruled that it was up to TWBC as planning authority to decide the weight to be given to KCC Highways' comments re traffic. A statutory consultee's role is advisory only.

[Extract from the judgment: "A local planning authority can ultimately disagree with a consultee (subject to the normal principles of administrative law to which I have already referred). It may then have to defend that disagreement at appeal. But equally, it is entitled to agree with a consultee of this kind. It is axiomatic the weight it chooses to attach to such views is a matter for its own judgment." Para 122]

Update on the S106 process –

When suggesting project to benefit from S106 contributions the beneficiary project must be:

- necessary,
- directly related to, and
- proportionate in scale to the development.

Local Plan

Goes to full Council on Feb 3rd then should be open to consultation

4. TW Agreement

We need to formally agree the revised wording and confirm this to Mark O Callaghan at TWBC

Project update for the Parish Council meeting on 8 December 2020

Our application to become a Community Benefit Society (CBS) was approved by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) on 17 November 17 and **Frittenden Community Stores Limited** is now registered and legal. We have also joined the Plunkett Foundation which is an organisation dedicated to helping Community enterprises succeed.

We have a set of Rules which has been approved by the FCA and have adopted a Code of Conduct, an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy and a Confidentiality Agreement. These documents are on our website. Our next step is to open a bank account so that we can start to receive funds.

We are in discussions with the Memorial Hall Committee and are working together on the terms of an agreement that will cover the lease of the site.

Stewart Hagerty has been working hard with a supplier to design a suitable timber framed building that will be affordable and provide a lovely home for our shop and café. The estimated cost for the target design is £160k but if that proves too ambitious, we could have a similar but smaller premises for less. We are finalising these estimates as part of the business plan. We are planning to submit drawings to TWBC for planning permission this coming week and will also put drawings on the website. Once our planning application has been approved, we can submit our grant application to KCC.

We will hear by 16 December whether our application to the Community Shares Booster programme for a development grant has been successful. This is an important milestone as a positive outcome means we can also be considered for an equity share matching grant. However, we are aware that areas in greater need may get priority.

Our funding target is to raise a minimum of £60k through shares. We've only touched about a fifth of the households in the village so we'll be delivering response cards to every house before Christmas.

We have started preparing the Share Offer documentation. This will be 'Standard Marked' as an external certification, to ensure that it meets best practice and the legal requirements for Community Share schemes. Our target is for our Share Offering to be launched in the middle of March and for it to be open for six weeks.

John Stansfeld & Berni Cooper