

Cliffsend Parish Council

The Village Hall, Foads Lane, Cliffsend, CT12 5JH
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 23rd November 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Meetings of the Council are recorded. AV recordings are retained only until draft minutes are adopted as a true record.

Present – Cllr G Fricker (Chair), Cllr Harrison, Cllr Barton, Cllr J Fricker, Alison Willoughby-Browne (Clerk), CCllr Shonk, DCllr Rattigan and 14 members of the public.

- 34/22-23 Welcome and apologies for absence** - Chairman welcomed those present, Clerk advised that the meeting was being recorded and indicated the emergency exits.
- 35/22-23 Declarations of interest and appointment of Officer** - no declarations of interest. Appointment of Vice-Chairman postponed.
- 36/22-23 Adoption of the minutes of 4th October 2022 as being a true record** - proposed by Cllr J Fricker, seconded by Cllr Harrison, motion carried. Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.
- 37/22-23 Matters arising from the above minutes** - none other than to be discussed.
- 38/22-23 Working Party & Councillor Reports -**
County Cllr – CCllr Shonk makes KCC aware of lack of amenities in Cliffsend, he attends Coffee Morning regularly. He contacted Paul Valek to see if he could attend meeting but KCC members told not to come out on cold nights, same with TDC. No bus service, aware of bad pothole on Sandwich Road, member of public mentioned some street lights on Cottington Road are not working.

District Cllr – management at top of TDC changed, asked to look at planning a bit more, village overdeveloped. DCllr Rattigan aware of issues in Clive Road, tree felling etc, being investigated. Chairman stated that DCllr Rogers had been looking at the play area lease expiration (February 2022), advised to **contact Mark Peace at TDC**. We have S106 funding for 'Youth' but not going to spend on play area until we have certainty that not going to be taken away.

PCSO – not present, Community Warden had introduced herself and offered help. Report; reduction of PCSOs from 300 to 100.

Meadow and Open Spaces – Cllr J Fricker organised bulb planting on Hugin's Green, despite wettest and coldest weather a good turnout, nice surprise in spring. Held some back for Primrose Way and Earlsmead Crescent, specific type of native Narcissus bulb which will attract bees. Attended Plan Bee summit - what we and farmers can do to plant wildflowers to connect areas of specific interest. Next year the meadow will be left as this year. Should encourage children to use and bring together all members of community. The survey has now closed, although still being returned, approximately 25% response so far. One of questions was the future of meadow; to sort responses and report in January.

Planning and Highways – Chairman written again to KCC reconfirming two major concerns –
1. Sandwich Road; reported that speed survey results from Sandwich Road were meaningless as placed in wrong areas (by Sportsman where cars are slowing down for traffic lights and

where 40mph meets 30mph, average speed mid-30s) requested further surveys at different locations, results showed no impact from traffic light changes. Problems will be exacerbated by new-builds and increased traffic on Hengist Way. 2. The issue of Cliffsend Road/Foads Hill/Lane; the village is growing, will be more affordable houses, therefore, more children to access park on corner. Highways Improvement Plan includes the raised table, just a matter of funding, also raised general safety measures on that corner. Resident asked whether increased traffic to Canterbury Road West development had been considered; all traffic will access from Canterbury Road West with Clive Road as an 'emergency road', asked to email concerns. Cllr Barton had contacted KCC; with Parkway and development on way to Margate, increased traffic will impact our roads, there are no plans to do any alterations at Lord of the Manor. Cllr Barton believes that would need to change signals slightly otherwise will be stuck leaving the village via Sandwich Road, **follow-up email to KCC**. 20mph implementation 12th December. Cllr Harrison had received further concerns re' Chalk Hill, no planning application has been submitted, will visit site. PCSO has encouraged residents to sign-up for Speedwatch.

Youth – waiting for TDC to come back for permission to use skate park in play area, weekend a month. Ramsgate Town Council took out for first time a month ago into a school car park, about 40 users. Cllr Fricker reported that the Halloween events were very successful – pumpkin carving in Village Hall and then scare walk on Halloween, families dressed up, teenage boys were stars of the show, helped everyone move through, desperate to do another and want to help. Thanks to Village Hall Management for use. More things coming up in December. Will continue to put things on to meet needs of all demographics e.g. camping in meadow, nature trails etc.

39/22-23 Financial Matters -

Cllrs Harrison and Barton checked payment schedule and supporting documents. Contractual payment: Clerk's salary. Payment schedule proposed by Cllr Harrison, seconded by Cllr Barton, all in favour.

November Payments

Payee	Description	Invoice No	Method	VAT	Ex VAT	Total
HMRC	Tax/NI	-	Transfer	-	67.00	67.00
Harmer & Sons	Meadow maintenance	20524	Transfer	20.00	100.00	120.00
Thanet Leaflet Distribution	Survey delivery	311022	Transfer	-	85.00	85.00
Cllr J Fricker	Reimburse event supplies	-	Transfer	17.54	179.58	197.12
Clerk	Reimburse stationery	-	Transfer	2.33	11.67	14.00
St Laurence-in-Thanet	Survey printing	-	Transfer	-	56.31	56.31
Clerk	Mobile phone top-up	-	Transfer	-	10.00	10.00
Clerk	Reimburse printer cartridge	11-09351-83224	Transfer	-	12.57	12.57
Village Hall	Hire – January meeting	-	Transfer	-	24.00	24.00
Total for Month				39.87	546.13	586.00

40/22-23 Planning Applications -

F/TH/22/1327 Land East of 40 Canterbury Road West (erection of substation, landscaping, following removal of existing substation).

FH/TH/22/1347 21 Foads Hill (side/rear single storey extension/garage conversion).

F/TH/22/1338 Land adjacent to 2 Clive Road (erection of a 2 bedroom single storey dwelling with accommodation in the roof).

Any objections can be made on TDC Planning portal. Parish Council can make a comment but have no powers to block applications.

Resident suggested that information isn't reaching residents, where can it be found? Clerk advised website. CCllr Shonk recommended to use Ward Councillors for issues.

Cllr J Fricker admitted communication is still a problem despite (too) many noticeboards. Resident felt that social media is the answer, however, Cllr Barton said doesn't always work well, certain demographics may miss information. The Council doesn't have the physical resources, need more Cllrs.

F/TH/22/1474 2 King Arthur Road (Variation of F/TH/19/1029 to allow changes to facade and alterations to layout).

41/22-23 Current Topics -

Councillor vacancies – 3 vacancies; we have received some interest, if interested then please get in touch, most of the burden is falling on limited shoulders, restricting ability to do things. Working Party membership is also an option, please contact Clerk – clerk@cliffsendpc.org.

Ongoing review of Council procedures – Standing Orders and Risk Management Statement. Chairman to overhaul latter, one change to Standing Orders; meeting day. To accept in January.

Grant applications/funding – four applications; distributed to Cllrs. Cliffsend Arts and Crafts Club approached Parish Council at last meeting for contribution towards cost of wool etc. Subject to receipt of the Grant Application Form, a grant of £100 will be awarded, proposed by Cllr Harrison, seconded by Cllr J Fricker, all in favour. Christmas Fayre – donation towards gifts for children; £125, did same last year, any surplus will go to Salvation Army, proposed by Cllr Barton, seconded by Cllr Harrison, all in favour. Father Christmas needed.

Request for funding from Village Hall; £1000 towards cost of replacing kitchen, total cost of around £9k. Informed that there would be an additional request for a further £5000 towards repair of the roof (total cost of around £30k) balance from Village Hall funds and/or other grants, brought forward to now rather than next year as applying for matched funding with a deadline until the end of year. Therefore, need to give approval for next year, to vote on principle of providing funding. The Application states that the roof has gone into a state of disrepair over a number of years, evidenced by water ingress, also rest of roof, and not insulated. Application discussed amongst Council. Chairman of Village Hall Management gave a passionate account of why work has to be done.

Insurance Company would not cover general deterioration. CCllr £1000 grant from KCC. Cllr Harrison wondered whether acoustics could be looked at, may benefit from intended insulation. Grant Applications proposed by Cllr Barton, seconded by Cllr J Fricker, all Cllrs in favour. Thanks expressed.

B17 bomber information board – remains of B17 bomber came to surface after a storm in 2017, between Pegwell and Sandwich bays, pictures circulated. The plane tried to land at Manston, ran out of fuel and crashed, tyres and bent propellers can be seen. A video presentation has been made by a contact of Cllr Harrison, and the draft design of an information board. Chairman researched – reference to crash in Sandwich Bay not Pegwell Bay, doubt to relevance in Cliffsend. However, a resident brought the tank traps, pillboxes and armament storage to the attention of the Council, could look at the bomber in a wider context and consider a historical review of what is around us, possible Working Party.

42/22-23 Clerk's Reports

- made aware of rubbish and belongings Earlsmead Green, cleared by residents, also fly-tipping behind Earlsmead garages.
- mosquito autumn check – no larvae present, noticeable adults at far end but none petrol station area. As no larvae, no further action.
- Sea Link proposal – very well presented at meeting, webinars coming up. Location of converter station; north of solar panel farm. Unlike Nemo cabling will be underground; two holes and the cable is fed through (under mud flats). Clerk has information. Work starts in 2026 for 2030.
- Thanet Parkway due to open 22nd May 2023, PowerPoint presentation: <https://network-rail.wistia.com/medias/fl49qvazeu>
- run-off basins, Cottington Rd, Community Warden checked and will monitor. Orbit Homes requested a RoSPA report through WW Martin, satisfied with safety advice. Ring now present. Could be checkpoint for mosquitoes, balance between personal comfort and feeding wildlife e.g. bats.

43/22-23 Correspondence Received -

- Residents – objection to further funding for Village Hall; noted.
- Cliffsend Arts and Craft Club – funding towards costs; see Current topics.
- TDC – Net Zero Climate Change Strategy engagement survey; published, now closed.
- Kent Coast Volunteering – volunteer driver recruitment; published.
- Cliffsend Village Hall Management – cost of living crisis, warm hub/space; Chairman advised that better to use somewhere that is already open, St Augustine's Golf Club? Cllr Barton said should ascertain need, might not be a need in this community.
- Resident – benches/maintenance; responded.
- Future resident – advice on area; responded.
- The Planning Inspectorate – Sea Link proposal consultation.
- Resident – Grant Application for Christmas Fayre support; see Current Topics.
- TDC – launch of new community engagement platform: [YourVoice.Thanet.gov.uk](https://yourvoice.thanet.gov.uk)
- Cliffsend Village Hall Management – Village Hall roof funding; see Current Topics.
- KCC Community Warden – introduction; replied and discussed current issues.
- TDC – Sustainable Warmth Grant; published on website.
- Sun Rentals UK – Canterbury Road West road closure between Cliff View Road and Foads Hill 16/12/22. Current closure – gas main leak.
- Resident – information re' Grade II listed anti-tank pimples & pillbox; to contact English Heritage and include in historical information for village.

44/22-23 Public Questions -

Residents of Clive Rd – Cllr Harrison had visited earlier that day. Problems over 18 months; boundary hedges and fences removed without consultation, also trees. Planning permission has expired, intention to build five houses (Maybank Homes) and knock down an existing building to make a roadway into gardens. Owner of land unknown, land registry should be contacted. Cllr Harrison contacted a solicitor and TDC Planning officers, looking into issue. Health and Safety is biggest concern as no fencing, children have access directly to tunnel. Police involved as hedges removed in bird-nesting season. Asbestos and other rubbish present on site. Planning Enforcement visiting 24th November.

Chairman advised residents to email Parish Council with summary of each issue, also useful to go to TDC meeting so that problems are minuted, they will have to do something about it. Landowner, not contractor, ultimately responsible in law.

Meeting concluded at 21:15