

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council
held in Linton Village Hall on 11th November 2019 at 7:30PM.**

***Councillors present: Patricia Burden
Daren Carpenter
Bernard Cresswell
James Smith
Julie Urquhart
Jerry Whitmarsh***

Also, present: Parish Clerk Mrs Sherrie Babington, MBC Councillor Webb.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Cresswell.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Cllrs Firmin, and Carpenter (arrived late to the meeting) MBC Councillor Parfitt-Reid.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all Members. These were proposed by Cllr Whitmarsh as a true record, subject to an agreed amendment, this were seconded by Cllr Cresswell and agreed to by all present.

The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Parish Defibrillator – Cllr Cresswell stated that the label for the Defibrillator still needed to be progressed by Cllr Carpenter.

Action: Cllr Carpenter to action.

Damage to Litter Bins – The Clerk circulated an update from MBC Officer John Edwards confirming that the replacement of the bins was in hand.

5. Clerks Report and Correspondence.

The Clerks Report and correspondence was noted by members.

6. Conservation Area Management Plan.

An update on the Conservation Plan was noted by members and it was agreed that this item would now be removed from the agenda.

Action: Clerk to action.

7. Highways Matters.

Cllr Cresswell referred to a Highways Plan circulated to all members regarding the improvement scheme drawn up by DHA Planning.

He confirmed that this had now been submitted to KCC for costing and he asked members if the proposals were acceptable.

Cllr Whitmarsh sought clarification as to whether the Scheme replaced the previously approved landscaping scheme.

Cllr Cresswell confirmed that the two schemes would be undertaken as separate projects.

Cllr Whitmarsh stated that he would like written confirmation from DHA that the landscaping Scheme would still take place and subject to this he was in favour of the proposals.

Members discussed both schemes and agreed that additional signage should be included to direct pedestrians to use the safe crossing.

Cllr Whitmarsh spoke regarding the planned improvements for Redwall Lane and stated that he was surprised to discover that the new Wares Farm facility was now fully operational, and the old facility was empty.

He stated that he understood that the improvements to Redwall Lane was a condition of planning and this had not yet been completed.

Cllr Webb spoke regarding this matter and stated that he had written to MBC regarding this matter and was awaiting a response.

It was agreed that the Clerk should report this to Planning Enforcement.

Action: Clerk to action.

8. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised

9. Ward Councillors Report.

MBC Cllrs Webb gave his report to the meeting.

He spoke regarding the MBC Local Plan and the Call for Sites.

10. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Stockell gave her apologies to the meeting.

11. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The financial statement was circulated and approved by members (Whitmarsh/Cresswell).

Bank Balances

Lloyds TSB Account 02332818

Opening Balance on Current Account	£24680.51
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00

Less Accounts for payment	£855.43
	£0.00

Closing Balance on Current Account	£23825.08
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b. 2020/2021 Budget.

The Clerk circulated the draft budget and report to all members, she stated that the Precept needed to be approved by the end of January 2020.

It was agreed that the budget would be discussed at the January 2020 meeting.

12. Planning Matters.

New Applications Received

19/505352/FULL Land at Rankins Farm Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AU

Erection of polytunnels with associated soft landscaping and drainage works, including the provision of swales and principle of reservoir.

Members agreed that the Parish Council should submit objections to this application on the grounds that it would blight the views of the GreensandRidge and was out of Character with the countryside.

Action: Clerk to submit an objection for the PC.

19/505475/LBC Rosehill Vanity Lane Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4BP

Listed Building Consent for proposed replacement of non-historic windows on first and second floors and reinstallation of two previously blocked up windows.

No objections.

The Chairman spoke regarding correspondence from the Planning Officer regarding planning application 19/504105/FULL for Stilebridge Kennels. He stated that the PC had agreed to maintain its objection to this despite the Planning Officers decision to recommend approval. He updated members of the communication received from MBC.

MBC Applications Decisions

19/505068/ENVSCR

Land at Rankins Farm Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AU

EIA Screening Opinion - Installation of polytunnels.

Environmental Impact Assessment Not Req.

19/504777/NMAMD

Land South of Heath Road Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4NU

Non-material amendment application in relation to planning permission 18/500618/FULL - 1. Addition of transoms to windows. 2. Handing of bay fenestration/ window relocation. 3. Reduction in bay projection to Southern Elevation. 4. Addition of Louvre Panels to plant room and above GF Windows. 5. Addition of AOV Roof lights over staircases. 6. Increase in size and revised siting of external refuse/ plant enclosure. 7. External sub-station.

Application Permitted

Other Planning Matters.

MBC Call for Sites

Members discussed the Call for Sites submitted for Linton. The Chairman stated that no further information of timings had been received.

Cllr Webb stated that he would seek further details and clarify matters, however he did think that MBC were currently gathering information with a view to consider the evidence in February 2020 and determine what sites would be accepted for the Local Plan.

A general discussion took place regarding the Call for Sites process and it was agreed that a meeting with MBC should be arranged for members.

Action: Clerk to arrange a meeting with MBC to discuss the sites for Linton.

13. Member Reports.

a. Parish Allotments.

A written report from the allotments manager was noted as follows:

Tenancy Agreements

Advertisements for vacant plots were placed in Staplehurst and Marden at a cost of £3.50. One plot has been re-let; two more applicants are now on the waiting list. The plot holder mentioned in the previous report attempted to start cultivation, having allegedly already paid the rent by BACS. The banking system does not show credit payments until the following month so to give the benefit of doubt the tenancy has been renewed. Close attention will be paid to any lack of cultivation and failure to observe the conditions.

**All the outstanding tenants have now returned their forms and paid their rent.*

Drainage Works

Concerns over damage to crops and property caused by the works have been expressed, also anxiety as to the removal and replacement of topsoil. If there are any claims for compensation, this will be handled by the Parish Council. Photographs of the areas potentially affected will be taken before, during and after the works. As yet no start date has been given beyond "December" which begins in less than three weeks' time. Further concerns have been expressed regarding digging under the rabbit fence and how damage to the wire netting sunk below the surface can be avoided. No answer has been received.

Autumn Tidy-up

This was scheduled for 2 November but owing to high winds and torrential rain had to be cancelled. It is planned to hold it on Saturday 16 November instead. The main project is to clear the boundaries of brambles and ivy, remove any unwanted plastic from the site and check the state of the rabbit fencing.

Jane Sawyer

10.11.19

Members discussed the Easement work and the legal document. The Clerk confirmed that this was a confidential document as it was legally active.

The Chairman spoke regarding a gate from the Play Area onto the Vicarage Field site. Cllr Whitmarsh spoke regarding the history of this.

b. KALC.

No matters were reported.

c. Playground.

No matters were reported.

d. Parish Website.

Cllr Whitmarsh spoke regarding the website and stated that there was some question regarding the future of the EIS website. He stated that he would look into this and report back to a future meeting.

e. Speed Watch.

Cllr Cresswell reported on Speed Watch.

f. Neighbourhood watch.

Cllr Burden reported that the NHW AGM was due to take place on 27th November 2019, she confirmed that she would attend.

g. Linton Village Hall.

Cllr Burden reported on the progress of the Village Hall. She stated that major work had recently been undertaken in the hall roof.

h. Litter Pick

Cllr Urquhart reported that a litter pick had been undertaken on 9th November 2019, starting at Berry Gardens and 48 bags of rubbish had been collected. She thanked Berry Gardens for their refreshments.

She stated that MBC had indicated that there may be an issue with picking up the rubbish bags from several locations. She stated that she would liaise with MBC to try to resolve this matter.

She reported that the next litter pick had been agreed for Saturday 8th February.

14. Urgent Items.

Cllr Whitmarsh spoke regarding the Parish News and recorded thanks to math Cooper for producing the newsletter on a regular basis with the printing support of the Parish Council.

15. Date of next Meeting.

13th January 2020.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.35pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Date _____