

POSTLING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Postling Parish Council meeting held at Postling Village Hall on Tuesday 28 March 2023 at 6.30pm

1. Attendance: Chairman Frank Hobbs, Councillors Helen Calderbank, Christine Hobbs, Yvonne Mumford, John Patrick, Daniel Shaddick, Charlie Wilkins, and two members of the public.
Apologies: Parish Clerk Clare Hamilton.
2. **It was resolved** unanimously to accept the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2023.
3. There were no members' declarations of interest on Agenda items.
4. Public Participation
Speeding on Cuckoo Lane and The Street, see item 7.
Solar farm proposal, see item 6b.
5. Matters arising from previous meeting not included on Agenda
Phone box light has been repaired at no cost to the council. Councillors thanked Cllr Dan Shaddick.
6. Planning Applications received since last meeting, circulated to Councillors for comments, outcomes of those deliberations, and to consider any applications received since this agenda was published:
 - a. **23/0297/FH Haslemere, Loughborough Lane, Lyminge CT18 8DG**
Single storey rear & side garage extension with workshop, including removal of existing chimney, new wall / roof finishes & associated landscaping
PPC No objection. Awaiting decision from FHDC.
 - b. **22/2118/SCO Pent Farm, Pilgrims Way, Postling CT21 4EY**
Consultation request in respect of EIA Scoping Opinion under regulation 15 of the Town and Country Planning (environmental impact assessment) Regulations 2017
FHDC 'Advice given'.
Further to the consultation held in December 2022 on a proposed new solar project at Pent Farm, any further information will be circulated to parishioners as and when it becomes available.
 - c. **19/1258/FH Postling Lodge, Farthing Common CT18 8DQ**
Retrospective planning permission for a grounds maintenance building and entrance gate accessed from Loughborough Lane at Postling Lodge.
PPC Objection. Awaiting decision from FHDC. *(Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee is expected to meet with head of planning to raise this and other planning matters)*
 - d. Other planning matters
Otterpool: A suggestion was made to the FHDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the Otterpool land be sold off to a private developer. A letter strongly opposing this suggestion is being prepared by Stanford Parish Council for signature by parish councils adjoining the development area. Four out of five councils have so far agreed to sign and Chairman Frank Hobbs will sign the letter once finalised. Otterpool Park outline planning application is being decided at a FHDC Planning Committee meeting on 4 April.

Chairman Frank Hobbs

Parish Clerk/RFO Clare Hamilton | 14a Elmstead Place, Folkestone CT20 1QU | 01303 257321 / 07890 248601

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7. Highways

- a. Potholes marked on Cuckoo Lane: Some potholes have been marked, but worst pothole is still unmarked. Chairman will meet with Highways engineer and the new parish Highways Steward on 30 March to discuss a plan of action for Cuckoo Lane and the parish as a whole. Councillors thanked Keiron Greenaway, previous parish Highways Steward.
- b. Concerns about the increasing amount of street parking in The Street: a letter has been received from a parishioner about the increasing amount of street parking in The Street and was read to councillors. The resident's understanding was that parking was not allowed on The Street, and although this is not the case, all road users should be considerate of each other when driving and parking. Double yellow lines on The Street was suggested but this is costly, unsightly, and difficult to police.
Concerns were also raised about parking near Pent Villa and a councillor will enquire when building work is expected to finish.
Nursery parking has been raised with the nursery by the Village Hall committee.
- c. Stone Street, Monks Horton will be closed between the junctions of Woodland Road and Blindhouse Lane between 17-22 April at night for safety critical scheme works - kerbing, road signs and road markings (rescheduled from 6 March).
- d. A letter has been received from Highways promoting a Highways Improvement Plan (HIP). Work listed under a HIP is to be financed by the parish council (eg. a reduction of speed limit from 30mph to 20mph would cost in the region of £8,000 including a risk assessment, road traffic order and signage). Any speed reduction would not be policed.

8. Finance

- a. Balance of account at 28 March 2023: £5,050.53.
After payments to be approved, the end of year balance is predicted to be £4,580.86.
- b. Payments and Receipts since last meeting:
Payments

C Hamilton	Salary Dec Jan	395.89	
	Travel exp Jan meeting	7.20	
123.reg	Annual domain name renewal	14.39	£2.40 vat
HSBC	Bank charges Feb Mar	16.00	

Receipts *none*
- d. Expenditure due before next meeting:

C Hamilton	Salary Feb Mar	395.89	
	Annual expenses	73.78	
HSBC	Bank charges Mar Apr	16.00	

It was resolved to approve expenditure. Proposed by Cllr John Patrick, seconded by Cllr Helen Calderbank, all in favour, approved by the Chairman.
- e. End of financial year on 31 March: Clerk/RFO to prepare end of year accounts for review by the Internal Auditor and presentation to councillors at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 23 May.

9. Reports from District and County Councillors not received

10. Elections 2023

Nomination papers information circulated to parishioners and papers provided for councillors. Deadline for return of nomination papers to FHDC is 4pm on 4 April 2023. A Proposer and Secunder is required and their elector numbers can be found on polling cards or can be requested from the clerk.

New legal requirement for voters at the polling station from 04 May 2023: voters to present a valid form of photographic ID to be issued a Ballot Paper (information on website).

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11. Coronation events

Residents applied for a road closure to allow a street party to take place and this has been approved.

A small oak sapling will be planted in front of the village hall. Costs for a suitable tree guard are being sought.

Costs and wording for a commemorative tree plaque were discussed - aluminium plaque £128.80+vat plus £12.50 delivery, or brass plaque £104.45+vat plus £10.95 delivery. A brass plaque on a wooden plinth with metal ground stake will be purchased.

12. Bus shelter at Newbarn corner

This matter was discussed at a Lyminge Parish Council meeting and a Lyminge parish councillor contacted the Chairman. A parishioner had offered to provide the foundations for a bus shelter, but it is understood that Pentland Homes has now offered to provide the foundations. Councillors suggested that Pentland Homes instead provide a complete timber shelter.

It is understood that Pentland Homes will be submitting an application for more but smaller homes, and that access to the site via New Lyminge Surgery is being investigated to avoid a closure of the main road.

13. For Information

- Farthing Common Fire Hydrant: still waiting to hear back from KF&RS. Councillors expressed concern that this unmarked hydrant is taking a long time to resolve with KF&RS.

- The Outlook, Pilgrims Way: concerns were raised about the eyesore caused by protracted building works. Some progress appears to have commenced at rear of the plot and trees should provide screening when in leaf. Councillor to make enquiries as to the time scale of building works.

- 2023 meeting dates, Tuesdays at 6.30 pm:

23 May (please note new date) 6.30pm Annual Meeting, 7.30pm Annual Parish Meeting;

25 July; 26 September; 28 November.

Chairman thanked councillors for their work over the four years since the last election.

Meeting closed at 7.20pm

Chairman Frank Hobbs

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