

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held via Zoom Remote Meetings

on 12th January 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Mrs. Gimes (Chairman), Crow-Brown, Burden, Day, Quittenden, Owen, Jones, Torbett, McCarthy.

Also present: Kyla Lamb (Clerk to the Council), Clare Wilsdon (Assistant Clerk to the Council), Cllr Roper (TDC), Cllr Pugh (TDC), Cllr Hurst (KCC), Community Warden Karl Aylett, PCSO Adrian Butterworth

199. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Kearns, Mills and Cllr Hart (TDC),

200. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 1st December 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman when able to do so.

201. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None declared.

202. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Roper reported as follows;

- Briefing by Tim Willis confirmed an £840K deficit in the budget for 2021/2022
- Expected shortfalls in collection of Business rates and Council tax due to Covid.
- Additional funding pot of £1M available to businesses affected by Covid including wet-led pubs (including micro-pubs).
- Covid infection rate in Thanet is currently 683 per 100,000.
- Street marshalls are patrolling giving warnings about non-compliance of current restrictions.
- Concerns raised that rules are not being observed and people are becoming complacent.
- Minster surgery have started to roll out Covid vaccinations.
- More Covid testing centres for lorries en route to Dover and the Channel Tunnel are now available so Manston should see a reduction in lorries attending for driver testing.

Cllr Pugh reported as follows;

- Re-iterated that emergency business support grants are available.
- Application for the proposed development West of Tothill Street is waiting for a slot to be called in at a planning committee meeting.
- Some incidences of bin collections being missed have been dealt with.
- A change has been made to Park home rules so that, at the site managements discretion, residents do not need to vacate for the usual period this year.

The Clerk asked if Little Explorers pre-school would be able to apply for a continuation grant. Cllr Pugh responded that they should look at the TDC website to see what may be suitable and what they may be eligible for.

Cllr Hurst reported as follows;

- Manston should now be the last place for drivers to come to get tested now that other centres are available.
- The Covid testing centres are operating very efficiently.
- Anyone in need can contact Kent Together – Open 24hrs – 03000 419292
www.kent.gov.uk/kenttogether
- Symptom free tests are now available by appointment at centres in Birchington and at Ramsgate Port and are temporarily being run by the Army.
- Traffic volumes remain low at Manston.
- Encouraged use of online shopping at local businesses where possible.

203. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

PCSO Adrian Butterworth reported as follows:

- Crimes of note; Numerous scams targeting people in their own homes via email/letter/telephone.
- Anti-social behaviour; Involved in traffic management for vehicles at Manston following the closure of the French border before Christmas. A dedicated policing team is now in place for this.
Door to door salesmen still approaching houses despite lockdown. Unable to locate them.
RTC fail to stop reported in Tothill Street where a vehicle was damaged. CCTV provided details of the offending vehicle and this will be sent to Traffic summons.
A few reports received about the skatepark.
Reports of hare-coursing on Marsh Farm Road.
- Items of good work; Assisted Spitfire Museum staff with a road closure to enable them to move a Nimrod aircraft from the RAF base to the museum.
Assisted with traffic control for the vaccine roll out in December at Minster Surgery, alongside the Community Warden.

Community Warden Karl Aylett reported as follows:

- No reports received about the skatepark.
- Covid restrictions are inhibiting house visits but he is providing a visible presence in the community.

204. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Cllr. Mrs Gimes reported that an email had been received advising that Thanet Community Land Trust are progressing a project to build on the car park in St Mary's Road. Any property built will be for local people and ownership of the site would not be transferred until viability of the project is confirmed.

New Dynamic Councillor training dates are now available for any members wishing to attend.

Due to current Government restrictions, the interviews for the street cleaner vacancy have been delayed for a few weeks. The workload continues to be manageable by existing staff.

The Chairman's chain remains with the jeweller, as due to current restrictions he has been unable to personally transport the chain for gold-plating. In addition, the price of gold is currently high so a delay in progressing this may be beneficial, to avoid additional costs.

The Parish Office remains open with both Clerks dividing their time between the office and working from home.

A gentleman who lives in Hill House Drive and works for Age UK but is currently furloughed, has offered assistance to anyone who may require help with allowance applications.

205. REPORT OF THE CLERK

Nothing to report.

206. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

None.

207. SECTION 106 AGREEMENT

The Clerk reported that the public consultation period for the yellow lines has now ended so these will be progressed to installation. The new signage for HGV's to be placed in Tothill Street has been ordered.

208. AGENCY PAYMENT RENEWAL AND TAKING OVER THE HIGH STREET AND MONKTON ROAD CAR PARKS AND PUBLIC TOILET

Completion of the asset-transfer has not yet reached its conclusion.

209. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS FOR LAND WEST OF TOTHILL STREET OL/TH/18/1488

This application is to be called in to the Planning Committee at TDC when a slot becomes available.

210. POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2021 be received and the recommendations within them be approved, including Minutes 197 FEES & CHARGES 2021/22

RECOMMENDED: That the fees and charges be set at the levels contained within the report attached to the minutes.

And Minute 198 BUDGET PROCESS 2021/22

RECOMMENDED: (i) That the staff's salaries be increased by 2%; and the Clerk's salary be increased in line with NALC pay award for spinal scale point SCP 32 (expected to be 2.75%) the Assistant Clerk's salary be increased to the new spinal point SCP24 on the SLCC salary scale;

and (ii) that Council approves the draft budget as submitted and to request from TDC a Precept sum of £88,100 for the year 2021/22, this would give an increase of £4.32 pence per annum which represents an annual charge of £69.30 pence or £1.33 pence per week on a Band D property or 6.65% increase per annum on a band D property.

211. KALC 2021 COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME

The award for the last years nomination has yet to be presented due to the pandemic and meetings being held via Zoom.

Members were reminded to consider nominations for the KALC Community Award Scheme for 2021. Nominations must be submitted by 12th February 2021. A suggestion was made to nominate Karen Brazil. A decision will be made at February's meeting.

212. CHURCH CLOCK

Cllr Quittenden reported that TDC are withdrawing support for all public clocks. The clock face at St Marys Church needs refurbishment to the value of £8K for which the Church are seeking funding sources.

Cllr Quittenden asked members to consider taking on the annual maintenance of the clock workings at a cost of £300 per annum with a possibility that this may reduce to £150 if other local public clocks are serviced at the same time.

RESOLVED: To approve the annual support contract for the public clock workings up to a cost of £300 per annum.

213. BREXIT AND OPERATION BROCK

The Chairman reported that a cell meeting is to be held this week to provide an update. Issues already raised and sent by email include parking of lorries on the yellow lines along Laundry Road and increased littering on the verges. A response has been received to confirm that these issues will be looked at.

214. PAVILION ROOF REPAIRS

Members considered two quotations for some non-urgent roof repairs required at the pavilion.

AGREED; To put this on hold until further progression is made with the new Parish Office build as it may be beneficial to incorporate this work at the same time.

215. COVID-19 UPDATE ON CURRENT SITUATION

The Chairman reported that in general, people are abiding by the current lockdown restrictions and the Parish Office can still be contacted for anyone requiring help whilst self-isolating. The Chairman encouraged use of the new asymptomatic testing centres.

216. SKATEPARK ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The skatepark is closed at the moment in line with Government restrictions.

The Chairman reported that Kent Sport have been contacted asking them to correct their advertisement that suggests that our skatepark is open as it is not.

Continued wet weather is still delaying the installation of the bund but Cllr Torbett confirmed that Sunningdale have offered a contribution of £2500 for the planting and landscaping of the bund and French drain once it has been installed.

217. PLANS FOR PARISH OFFICE AT THE RECREATION GROUND

The Chairman reported that we are awaiting a design statement in order to submit our planning application. The Clerk is investigating possible funding sources.

Peter Smith has confirmed that he would like to submit a quotation for the build once the specification is ready.

218 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members considered the following applications;

Applications

A/TH/20/1639 - Land South of Laundry Road, Minster

– Erection of 2 no. internally illuminated fascia signs, 1 no. internally illuminated roof sign, 2 no. internally illuminated information sign, 2 no. internally illuminated poster signs, 1 no. internally illuminated totem sign, 1 no. internally illuminated height barrier sign, 1 no. internally illuminated double menu sign, 1 no. internally illuminated exit sign, 1 no. non-illuminated logo sign and 1 no. non-illuminated banner sign. **RESOLVED – NO OBJECTION**

FH/TH/20/1561 - 94 Monkton Road, Minster

Alterations to roof to include increase in roof height, hip to gable proposed rear and side two storey extensions and erection of porch to front elevation.

RESOLVED – NO OBJECTION

FH/TH/20/1718 – Willow Tree Barn, Grinsell Hill, Minster

Erection of a two-storey link attached side extension to provide annex.

RESOLVED – NO OBJECTION

F/TH/20/1746 and 1747 – Garden Cottage, Durlock, Minster

Erection single storey flat roof extension including listed building consent.

RESOLVED – NO OBJECTION

Decisions

F/TH/20/0741 – Land rear of 77 High Street, Minster

Erection of a two storey 3-bed detached dwelling with associated parking and landscaping - **GRANTED**

F/TH/20/1068 - 1 Sevenscore Farm Cottages, Ebbsfleet Lane, Minster

Erection of 1 No. 4 bed detached dwelling with associated parking. - **GRANTED**

FH/TH/20/1459 – 16 Mannock Drive, Manston

Retrospective application for the erection of front porch together with replacement grass with permeable gravel landscaping. **GRANTED**

FH/TH/20/1521 – 5 Cornelis Drive, Minster

Erection of a single storey extension. – **GRANTED**

219. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC

Cllr Quittenden reported as follows;

To date, no meeting has been held

Minster School

Cllr Kearns was not present to provide an update.

Village Hall

Nothing to report

Twinning Assn.

Nothing to report.

220. REPORT OF THE RFO

RESOLVED:

- (a) the Bank balance statement be received and noted,**
- (b) the statement of Receipts and Payments for the month of December 2020 be approved.**

221. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Quittenden asked if any complaints relating to footpaths had been received as a tree has fallen across the PROW close to the level-crossing at Durlock.

Cllrs Burden and Owen are attending Zoom meetings in relation to the Kent Shed project.

222. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No members of the public were in attendance.

Time concluded: 8.03pm

2nd February 2021