

Cliffsend Parish Council

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

Held on Thursday 12th November 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Please be aware that meetings of the Council are recorded. AV recordings are retained only until draft minutes are adopted as a true record.

Present – Cllr Rogers (Chair), Cllr Ashley, Cllr Harrison, Cllr Mortimer, Cllr Forrest, Cllr Lyon, Cllr Pooley, Alison Willoughby-Browne (Clerk), DCllr Rogers and 3 members of the public.

- 67/20-21 Welcome and apologies for absence** - PCSO Litchfield sent his apologies, he could not access the meeting. Cllr Rogers advised that the proceedings were being video-recorded.
- 68/20-21 Declarations of interest and appointment of officer(s)** - no declarations. Appointment of officers not usual at this time of year, because of many other voluntary commitments the Chairman wondered if it might be an opportune moment to source a replacement in case he was unable to give the Parish Council the input required.
- 69/20-21 Adoption of the minutes of 15th October 2020 as being a true record** - 15th October minutes proposed by Cllr Forrest and seconded by Cllr Harrison, all in favour. Chairman to sign the minutes as a true record.
- 70/20-21 Matters arising from the above minutes** - Cllr Forrest is awaiting a response from DCllr Rattigan regarding any proposed development between the railway line and Clive Road. Flooding in Cottington Road has been reported; drainage will be investigated.
- 71/20-21 Working Party & Councillor Reports** -
DCllr Rogers – TDC has an £840,000 budget gap due to COVID, looking to make savings to bridge gap. As KCC acquired a grant towards Thanet Parkway, TDC will expect a reduction in the £2 million that was offered. There is no charge to the Government for the hosting of the COVID testing station at Manston. The Sportsman appeal has not gone to committee as yet, if they decide to approve, it will be called-in. Cllr Forrest said that the retrospective planning application for network rail showed decision pending; how do we find out when decision will be made? DCllr Rogers suggested contacting the Senior Planning Officer.

PCSO – Clerk had forwarded the 'antisocial events log', PCSO Litchfield had checked the reported crimes - unfortunately none of the incidences had been reported to the Police. This can be done by phoning 101 or on the Kent Police website where an instant report number will be given, 999 for a crime in progress. PCSOs have been spending time in the village during shifts; 08.00-18.00 and 13.00-23.00 late shift. Villagers are asked to look out for any suspicious activities now the evenings are drawing in e.g. persons with torches etc and report as above. COVID breaches can be reported by the same means, or Crimestoppers for anonymity. Cliffsend has not had many issues but prevention is better than cure. Once COVID is no longer a problem then looking to restart Speedwatch; just need volunteers to do the training. Cliffsend incidences include – youths trying car doors, ringing doorbells etc. If people are witnessing then they should be reporting such behaviour. Smoking of cannabis appears to be a growing issue. Suggested that adults are responsible, medicinal? Whether it is adults or older children it sets a bad example to younger residents.

Meadow and Open Spaces – proposed that we relinquish the Countrywide contract and accept the estimate from Harmer & Sons for cutting the meadow (8 cuts per year) and hedges - £1660 plus VAT, one year contract. Proposed by Cllr Mortimer, seconded by Cllr Rogers, all in favour. **Clerk to contact both parties and ensure contracts do not overlap.** Resident has raised the issue of the location of the Jubilee bench and the antisocial behaviour it attracts (smoking of cannabis). Cllr Lyon has spoken with TDC with regard to moving to the playground vacant plinth (after extending) this wouldn't be a problem. **Mr Barton to quote.** Do we move a suitable bench for older residents in the meadow to an area in the playground which might encourage younger people to congregate there? Antisocial behaviour elsewhere in the village.

Highways – (report circulated) Cllr Forrest reported that the new road-name signs have been installed; one missed to be placed shortly. Southern Water completed the pipework between the petrol station and junction with Foads Lane, unfortunately a pressure test indicated a leak, which they are having to locate. The trunking for the traffic lights was damaged when digging and the phasing is not working properly, anyone entering village would have to wait for 60 seconds. KCC aware of this but will take 'a while' to fix the trunking. Cllr Forrest suggested sensor lights as a temporary measure.

Finance – meeting between now and 10th Dec to discuss budget for next year. **Councillors to let Clerk know of any ideas for spending.**

Youth – Cllr Pooley - COVID has put everything on hold. A poll was put on Facebook, which generated a lot of interest; suggestions for a swimming pool, gaming sessions at hall, basketball/tennis court etc.

72/20-21 **Financial Matters –**

Cllrs Lyon and Harrison had previously checked the following payments with supporting documents. The KALC invoice was originally included in September, subject to verification, further investigations confirmed that the payment is outstanding from 2019.

Payee	Description	Invoice No	Method	VAT	Excl VAT	Total
Clerk	Key	-	Transfer	0.00	5.00	5.00
KALC	Conference 2019	899979810	Transfer	12.00	60.00	72.00
Total for Month				12.00	65.00	77.00

Cllr Rogers proposed that the Council accept the payments, Cllr Ashley seconded, carried unanimously.

73/20-21 **Public Questions -**

Resident advised of issues with parking at west side junction of Clive Road/Foads Hill, creating havoc as vehicles park on left and larger vehicles cannot pass. Shouldn't park that close to the junction, would it be possible to have double yellow lines there as well?

Cllr Mortimer reported problems with other areas such as Clive Road towards Seaview Road; cars parking on the path, preventing access by disabled person. Also, cars parking at the bottom of Windsor Road in front of houses but not on driveways, visibility greatly reduced.

74/20-21 **Planning Applications -**

F/TH/20/1133 23 Foads Hill (change of use - nursery to residential) – no comments. Cllr Ashley advised that the Infrastructure Planning Group is a work in progress.

75/20-21 **Current Topics -**

Meadow matters – Cllr Forrest proposed that the Jubilee bench is moved to the playground, Cllr Rogers seconded. Cllr Ashley said that it was important to select the correct location and that he didn't support the relocation to the playground, or to do nothing. A discussion ensued; the Council was not of a unified view as to where it should be relocated to. Cllr Forrest questioned whether we can remove it without re-installing it; Cllr Rogers suggested the car park behind Village Hall. **Councillors to make their views known to Clerk between now and next meeting when a definite decision will be made.**

Double yellow lines/controlled parking zone – current proposal has five sections of yellow lines. Cllr Forrest has canvassed many residents, all are in favour. People that park in the proposed areas are not usually residents as they have garages and driveways to use. Room for 6 cars in the layby opposite the Village Hall. Cllr Forrest will investigate the other areas suggested and go back to KCC. The Traffic Regulation Notice covers as many areas as necessary. Kent County Cllr Messenger lobbied to have high fencing put in alongside the footpath (TR32) so that access to the station will not be possible from Earlsmead Crescent. The concrete pathway will run from Clive Road, so parking problems are likely to be north side of the village.

TDC funding – email resent to Mr Livingstone, original sent in September. **Clerk to elevate enquiry.**

Manston Airport – use as a lorry park; will not make any significant change to airport opening, COVID testing will continue. Cllr Harrison expressed concern regarding the pollution created by the lorries, to monitor.

Christmas – we should do something to light up the village after such a miserable year. A Christmas tree with lights, decorations and lights for the tree opposite were suggested. £400 max spend. Cllr Mortimer suggested that a child should do the Christmas switch-on. Cllr Ashley proposed the project, Cllr Forrest seconded, all in favour. Cllr Harrison to lead. Cllr Ashley and Mr Pooley stated that the three village organisations will work together to provide a Christmas for the village as a joint working project. Will have to respect COVID restrictions.

Budget/Precept for 2021/2022 – Finance Committee will convene shortly and proposal to be brought to next Council meeting.

76/20-21 Clerk's Reports –

Our domain name is up and running – www.cliffsendpc.org Hugo Fox confirmed that our website is fully accessible if browser is enabled.

HOPE contacted regarding the Southern Water bench – photos sent and advice received regarding specifications for wheelchairs.

Planning Enforcement have had discussions with the owner of 2 Old hall drive, they have been unable to get a result through negotiation and will contact again with a set period to comply with the enforcement notice.

Royal Surrey NHS Hospital Trust would like the Council's help to encourage more people to sign up for clinical trials of the COVID vaccine, all ages and ethnicities welcome.

The Council was notified that, sadly, Kay Snow passed away last week.

Cllr Ashley confirmed that the existing Trustees of the Village Hall had stepped down. Cllr Ashley and Mr Pooley are getting a team together, current priority is to move forward, make sure bills are paid etc and get it up and running as soon as possible when able to keep people safe. Cllr Harrison offered to fundraise.

77/20-21 Correspondence Received –

- KCC – temporary closure of TR32 footpath between Hengist Way (where it meets the railway line) and Cottington Road; notices published on website and noticeboards.
- Resident – photos of Thanet Parkway progress.
- TDC – Fuel Poverty and COVID-19; Clerk attended briefing session.
- TDC – notification that Thanet Local Plan will be sent out; now received for viewing.
- Resident – Jubilee bench, antisocial behaviour; discussed.
- Resident – concern about condition of the Hugin; DCllr Rogers had received complaints and followed-up, cover should be on soon.

The meeting concluded at 21:20

Date of next meeting – **10th December 2020**