



PARISH COUNCIL  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 7.30pm AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT** Cllr. R Greenwood, Chairman presiding.

Cllrs. M Ballard, M Cockett, M Lowe, M Michaelas, N Osborne, A Ratcliffe & A Walmsley.

Cllr. C Roots representing Harrietsham PC. P McCreery NHP Consultant. (until 9pm)

M McFarlane (Clerk & RFO) 8 Members of the public.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

(7.30pm – 7.50pm)

The Community Warden was pleased to note that the latest scam victim list did not include any names from Lenham or Harrietsham, so hopefully the message to avoid scam situations is being received by residents. He also suggested extra care is taken with locking vehicles and making sure outbuildings are secure, a home and vehicle security advice sheet will be widely circulated.

PCSO J Boyd has provided police contact details and security advice which will be on the LPC web-site and notice boards. The theft of vehicle number plates from Maidstone Road carpark is under investigation and the break-in at the pharmacy is under further investigation. Consideration to improved CCTV imaging will be discussed as a future project. PCSO J Boyd has contacted the vehicle owners who suffered criminal damage by use of a catapult by persons unknown.

A resident commented on the good coverage of Lenham news in the Kent Messenger, although many items have abbreviations particularly the Neighbourhood Plan minutes. He also thanked the PC for ensuring the safety railings in Old Ashford Road were now fully replaced.

A resident raised a question about the ownership of the William Pitt Field, this was verified as being purchased by the Lenham Parish Council from Major William Pitt in 1973.

A resident requested information about why land at Royton Avenue has been included as an open space in the Neighbourhood Plan, rather than a possible parking area to deal with the overspill from the Square?

P McCreery reported documentation confirmed the status of the strip of land as listed as open space.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. C Roots from HPC and the members of the public for attending this evening. The meeting opened at 7.55pm.

**19/89 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED**

The Council accepted apologies for absence from Cllrs. J Britt & P Scrivens.

Borough Cllrs. J Sams & T Sams sent a report which has been circulated.

County Cllr. S Prendergast requested consideration be given to the KCC budget consultation.

**19/90 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS**

Declarations of Interest on Agenda items. No declarations received.

Declarations to changes to the Register of Interests. No declarations received.

Requests for dispensations. No requests received.

**19/91 TO REQUEST NOTIFICATION**

The Chairman requested notification of intention to film, photograph or record any items.

No notification received.

**19/92 TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2019**

Cllr. M Cockett proposed, Cllr. N Osborne seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019** are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

**19/93 PROGRESS OF RESOLUTIONS** (For information purposes only)

Tree audit survey agenda item 19/64 from August, the survey is still outstanding and has been chased, subject to weather conditions it is hoped the report will be presented as soon as possible. The LPC Road Naming Policy has been adopted, sent to MBC and put on the LPC website. The demolition of the skatepark equipment will be undertaken this month.

**19/94 COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION FOR THE SOUTH WARD**

Kate Hammond signed the declaration of acceptance as a member for the South Ward. The Chairman asked if she would consider attending the KALC Maidstone Area Group to represent the Parish Council, Cllr. K Hammond agreed. The Chairman welcomed Cllr. K Hammond to join the Lenham Parish Council.

**19/95 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT**

Cllr. A Ratcliffe provided a 'Call for Sites' (covering the entire parish) presentation, following publication of the MBC Local Plan Review. It was agreed further investigation and discussion will be undertaken to determine the increased number of dwellings.

Cllrs. had received copies of the following documents a) Adoption of Local Green Spaces & Revision of the Lenham Local Policies. b) LNP Submission Draft. c) LNP Basic Conditions Statement. d) LNP Consultation Statement. e) Master Planning Report. f) Landscape Report. g) Strategic Environment Assessment, which informed the report presented this evening by P McCreery the NHP consultant. The plan is designed to be pragmatic and the philosophy to benefit the entire parish. The report outlined the seven development sites and the infrastructure requirements. Cllrs. discussed the new sports facilities to the east of the village, the provision for new shops and the protection of existing established businesses. Questions were raised concerning what happens if the plan is not made? P McCreery confirmed there will a concerted effort to engage the parishioners and advertise the plan as widely as possible using all forms of communication, including a public consultation open day in order to encourage residents to vote for the plan at the referendum. Cllr. A Walmsley proposed, Cllr. M Ballard seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to submit the Regulation 16 plan to Maidstone Borough as soon as possible.

**19/96 NEW WEB-SITE REQUIREMENT**

Cllr. M Cockett has progressed the options for implementing a new website, the preferred hosts are Hugo Fox who organise many local parish council sites and do not charge for hosting services. The first documents to be uploaded on the site will be the final Neighbourhood Plan documents. Cllr. M Cockett requested up to £2000 from the budget to work with Lenham Square to bring together a modern user friendly site. Cllr. R Greenwood proposed, Cllr. M Michaelas seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to continue the new website provision.

**19/97 THE PADDOCKS DEED OF GRANT**

Cllr. M Ballard gave a brief history of the grant and asked if he could continue to investigate the grant in principle, subject to West Kent Housing paying the legal fees? Cllr. N Osborne proposed, Cllr. M Cockett seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to continue with the deed of grant.

**19/98 VE DAY CELEBRATIONS 2020**

Cllrs. M Lowe and A Ratcliffe confirmed there will be two events, on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May and Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May, plans of which are at an early stage.

**19/99 REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT FOR WILLIAM PITT FIELD**

Cllr. M Lowe proposed, Cllr. N Osborne seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the original quote from Evolution Skate Park Ramps as submitted by P Culver, for relocatable equipment which will be transferred to the new sporting facilities to the east of the village. Cllr. M Ballard and Cllr. M Lowe will progress the project.

**19/100 TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES MEETINGS**

Cllr. M Lowe proposed, Cllr. M Ballard seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations contained in the reports of the meeting of the **28<sup>th</sup> October 2019** be approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of F & GP Committee.

**19/101 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Cllr. A Ratcliffe proposed, Cllr. M Ballard seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations contained in the report of the meetings on the **28<sup>th</sup> October & 4<sup>th</sup> November** be approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of Planning Committee.

**19/102 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL SPOKEPERSONS INCLUDING OUTSIDE MEETINGS**

Cllr. K Hammond gave an update on the Save Our Heath Lands (SOHL) group who meet regularly and keep minuted documentation. The aim being to keep the residents informed of developments on a regular basis and gain support for objecting to the proposed ‘Garden Village’ development.  
Cllr. A Walmsley confirmed the CCTV is fully operational at the William Pitt field.  
Cllr. N Osborne attended the Harrietsham PC meeting and reported on the NHP progress.  
Cllr. A Ratcliffe will present the WCs refurbishment at the December meeting.  
Cllr. R Greenwood reported on the meeting with H Whately MP on the 18<sup>th</sup> October.  
Cllr. R Greenwood confirmed meetings are on going with RB Plant to look at extra parking spaces.

**19/103 FINANCE**

| a) To authorize payments (Details of payments to be tabled).                                  | Cheque no: | Amount  |
|---|------------|---------|
| Mark Sherwood. Office computer repairs.   | 5128       | 200.00  |
| Made by Falcon. Web-site service. October service.  | 5129       | 60.00   |
| Seymour & Saunders Electrical. Pop-up power repairs.  | 5130       | 441.42  |
| Lenham Community Centre. Room hire July – Sept.   | 5131       | 151.00  |
| R James Fencing. Ham Lane play park fence repairs.  | 5132       | 2120.40 |
| PMC Planning. October Neighbourhood Plan consultation.  | 5133       | 4800.00 |
| M McFarlane. Office expenses. Laptop for CCTV   | 5134       | 303.81  |
| Sibley Pares. Tender process WPF consultant advice.   | 5135       | 1260.00 |
| Sibley Pares. Consultancy work re-sale of WPF.  | 5136       | 5145.00 |
| SSE Electric. Allotment site power.   | 5137       | 43.26   |
| Landscape Services. Grounds maintenance.  | 5138       | 4971.43 |
| Down to Earth landscape work October  | 5139       | 1315.00 |
| Jen Contractors. Dog bins & litter picking October.   | 5140       | 756.00  |
| Amiga Fire & Security Ltd. Monthly maintenance. November                                      | 5141       | 54.00   |
| Salaries & expenses detailed as Appendix A and are filed with a signed copy of these minutes. |            |         |

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| To note receipt of income (Details of income to be tabled)       |         |
| Parish Service Scheme Grant from MBC 2 <sup>nd</sup> instalment. | 4308.00 |
| CIL monies from MBC  | 668.25  |



**19/103 FINANCE (continued)**

Cllr. R Greenwood proposed, Cllr. M Ballard seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** to make the payments. Cllrs. N Osborne and M Cockett signed the cheques on behalf of Lenham Parish Council.

b) Draft budget proposals.

The total of expected expenditure (excluding capital projects) for 2020-2021 is £163,000.

The draft capital project list for 2020-2021 is £123,000, with funding options to be investigated further.

c) Draft proposed precept requirement.

Subject to finalisation of figures it is expected to request £163,000 precept.

Further work will be undertaken by the Finance and General Purposes Committee and presented at the January 2020 full council meeting.

**19/104 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (For information only)**

An application for a grant to Lenham Lights Group has been received.

The CPRE AGM will be attended by Cllrs. M Cockett, R Greenwood and K Hammond.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm