



ULCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 7:15 pm in Ulcombe Village Hall

Present: Parish Cllrs R Robinson (Chairman):L Eastwood, M Lingwood, I Moir,P Titchener.
Also present: I Bowie (Clerk).

1. **Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**
 - 1.1 **Apologies for absence received and confirmed by the Council Members who cannot attend a meeting shall tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings, under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted.** There were none
 - 1.2 **Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests.** There were none
 - 1.3 **To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers.**
There were none
 - 1.4 **Requests for Dispensations.** There were none
 - 1.5 **Declarations of Lobbying.** There were none
 - 1.6 **Declarations of Intention to Record.** The Clerk and Cllr Titchener declared they were recording the meeting.
2. **Consideration of items to be taken in private (Exclusion of Public and Press):** In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting by the reason of its confidential nature.
To receive and consider information in respect of the following:
 - 9.5 To consider planning enforcement matters.
 - 14.0 To consider the Annual Grounds Maintenance 2023/2024 Contract
3. **CO OPTION of Parish Councillor/s: To consider candidates for co-option.**
It was RESOLVED to co-opt Mr Sean Charlton to the parish council.
4. **Public comments and observations. (Maximum 15 minutes)**
The meeting will be adjourned to allow members of the public to speak. Individuals may speak for up to three minutes at the discretion of the Chairman. There were no members of the public present
5. **Reports from external parties (if present).**
Reports from County Councillor, Borough Councillor, Community Warden and Police Representatives if present. There were no reports.
6. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting:**
It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th January 2023 were taken as read and confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
7. **Finance:**
 - 7.1 To note receipts of income:
The Clerk had not received the bank statements for February.
 - 7.2 To authorise payments on the schedule (to be provided at the meeting). It was RESOLVED to approve the payments on the schedule.
 - 7.3 To consider any late financial matters. It was RESOLVED to make a payment of £757.30 to the Flood Resilience Group.
 - 7.4 To review the 2022/23 spend vs budget forecast. Reviewed in January 2023
 - 7.5 To note the bank reconciliation. This was not available due to Bank Statements not being received.

- 7.6 Banking Update. It was reported that this was ongoing.
- 7.7 Community Support - Cost of Living Crisis
To receive and consider any grant applications.
It was reported that the Parish Council cannot give funds to a local group or charity if that group/charity does not have a bank account. The Parish Council is bound by the same rules as MBC and KCC in regard to the provision of grants.

8. Highways:

- 8.1 Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) – It was reported that the parish council needs to update the Highways Improvement Plan and submit prior to arranging a meeting with KCC Highways. It was AGREED that the parish council would update the HIP prior to resubmission. To be confirmed at the next meeting.
- 8.2 To receive the parish portal report: The report was received and noted.
- 8.3 To consider any other Highways matters
 - 8.3.1 Road Closures. Kingswood Parish Council have set up a meeting with KCC Highways and KCC Cllr Prendergast to review recent and future road closures.
 - 8.3.2 Application for KCC Community Transport Grant – It was reported that Ulcombe, Boughton Malherbe and Kingswood Parish Councils proposed a joint application for the KCC Transport Grant for New Venture to run a bus service. It was RESOLVED that Ulcombe Parish Council had agreed to be named in the application.

9. To receive reports from:

- 9.1 Chairman Ulcombe Parish Council Cllr Robinson
The Chairman reported on her attendance at a recent MBC Planning Committee. It was AGREED that the Chairman would review the Asset Register and circulate to all Cllrs. It was RESOLVED to remove items with a value of less than £100.
- 9.2 Footpath Warden Report R. Banham
- 9.3 Ulcombe Community Resilience Group Cllr Lingwood
Cllr Lingwood reported that committee had cleared the area where the enclosure is going to be sited and that works were ongoing.

10. Planning:

- 10.1 To consider the following applications:
 - 10.1.1 23/500500/FULL Shiloh Lenham Road Harrietsham Kent ME17 1NA
Replacement of existing conservatory with a single storey side extension, including removal of existing porch and relocation of main entrance. **No objection.**
 - 10.1.2 23/500383/FULL Land West Of The Hawthorns Pye Corner Ulcombe ME17 1EF
Change of use of the land for the stationing of four static mobiles, four touring caravans for Gypsy / Traveller occupation. Associated hard and soft landscaping. (Amended version to that approved under reference MA/17/502714/FULL) (Part retrospective). **Objection**
- 10.2 To table planning applications dealt with since last meeting:
 - 10.2.1 23/500381/FULL Land Adjacent To The Hawthorns Pye Corner Ulcombe ME17 1EF
Change of use of the land for the stationing of one static mobile, one touring caravan and one day room for Gypsy / Traveller occupation. Associated hard and soft landscaping (Part retrospective). **UPC Objection**
 - 23/500218/FULL Neverend Farm Pye Corner Ulcombe Kent ME17 1EF
Use of land for siting and residential use of mobile home (Retrospective application) **UPC Objection**

- 10.3 To table decisions by MBC Planning Authority:
 - 10.3.1 22/505417/FULL Woodview Lenham Road Kingswood Kent ME17 1LU
Application Refused
 - 10.3.2 22/505238/FULL Hill Farm Barn Lenham Road Ulcombe Kent ME17 1LT
Application Permitted
 - 10.3.3 22/505874/FULL Hilltop Lenham Road Harrietsham Kent ME17 1NA
Application Permitted
22/505526/FULL Rose Bungalow Lenham Road Kingswood Kent ME17 1LU
Application Permitted
- 10.4 To consider any late planning matters.
- 10.5 To consider planning enforcement matters.
- 10.6 MBC call for sites for gypsy and traveller community. Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople DPD – Regulation 18a - Consultation
It was AGREED that the parish council would liaise with other local parishes. It was also RESOLVED that Ulcombe Parish would respond to the consultation.
- 11. Recreation Play Area/Car Park:**
 - 11.1 To receive the Monthly Inspection Report from Maidstone Borough Council/ parish council and to consider any actions to be taken. Clerk to contact other Parishes to assess the interest in Parish Councillors participating in a training course to qualify them to make playground inspections.
 - 11.2 To receive an update and recommendations from the Recreation Committee.
 - 11.3 To consider request from Headcorn FC re mowing of the football pitch. It was AGREED that the Clerk would contact the football club and ask for fixture list. It was AGREED that parents of the football club do not have permission to cut the grass.
 - 11.4 To consider matters pertaining to the Village Hall. It was reported that chairs had been donated by the school to the Village Hall. The Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) requested that the parish council allowed the chairs to be stored in the pavilion. It was noted that the VHMC were told that the chairs would not be insured against damage. It was AGREED to allow the temporary storage of the chairs in the pavilion.
- 12. Civility and Respect Project**
 - 12.1 To receive information and consider the Civility and Respect Pledge.
It was RESOLVED that Ulcombe Parish Council would take the Civility and Respect Pledge and that members would undertake the online training.
- 13. Correspondence:**
 - 13.1.1 To Table Items of Late Correspondence:
 - 13.2.2 To Table items circulated:
 - 13.2.1 Search for water aid distribution sites across the borough of Maidstone
 - 13.2.2 KALC Needs Your Venue
 - 13.2.3 Launching Victim Voice (Kent Police)
 - 13.2.4 Maidstone Borough Council Parish News
 - 13.2.5 Cllr John Britt Response to Maidstone area KALC minutes
 - 13.5.6 KCC Update – Councillor Predergast
 All correspondence was noted.
- 14. To consider the Annual Meeting of the Parish and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.
It was AGREED that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on the 4th May and that the Annual Meeting of the Parish would be held on the 18th May.
- 15. To consider the Annual Grounds Maintenance 2023/2024 Contract. It was RESOLVED to renew the contract with Landscape services for 2023/24
- 16. **Agenda Items for the meeting next meeting 4th May 2023**
Dates of future meetings. 4th May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council,
18th May Annual Parish Meeting, 6th July , 7th September 2023, 2nd November 2023