

*Manston Parish Council*  
Chairman: Cllr Guy Wilson  
Clerk: Miss Ashley Jackson  
Email: [manstonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:manstonparishcouncil@gmail.com)

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.15 pm  
At Manston Village Hall, Manston**

**Present**            **Parish Councillors**    Cllrs Guy Wilson, Chair, John Dearing, Ian Amato, Sara Amato, Henry Robinson and Roy Matthews

**In Attendance** -- Ashley Jackson (Clerk/RFO), Cllr Linda Wright, Cllr Derek Crow-Brown, 4 members of the parish.

**113/22-23**            **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Cllr Tritton, Alison Wing Community Warden

**114/22-23**            **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
The Declarations of Interest Form was passed around for those in attendance to sign. No declarations were made.

**115/22-23**            **Presentation by James Wraight - KCC** – re the A28 Birchington, Acol and Westgate on sea relief road. The slides will be shared once public consultation has started.

**116/22-23**            **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**  
It was proposed by Cllr Wilson to accept the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Seconded by Cllr Amato. These were signed by Cllr Wilson as a true record.

**117/22-23**            **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) Members resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments which was proposed by Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr Amato all in favour. Signed as appropriate by Cllr Dearing and Cllr Wilson.
- b) The Cllrs acknowledged receipt of the cash book which the clerk had circulated showing income and expenses to date.

**118/22-23**            **CHAIRMANS REPORT**  
Sovereign quotation accepted to renew the flooring in the play area - need a date for works – Cllr Wilson will advise asap.

**119/22-23**            **PLANNING**  
No planning apps to be discussed.

**120/22-23**            **HIGHWAYS**

- a) To note any issues regarding Rights of Way no issues for discussion.
- b) Flete road update – Cllr Dearing advised he has had contact with the solicitor and has taken over the paperwork which he needed (map showing strip of land)- Cllr Wilson and Cllr Dearing have signed the map. Invoices agreed – chqs to be given.
- c) Highway Improvement Plan –Update from HIP meeting as follows –  
In attendance were Councillors Sarah Amato, Henry Robinson, Roy Mathews, Robin Tritton, John Dearing and Guy Wilson

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Brief notes of the meeting with KCC Highways Nikki Carter and her colleague held at Red House Farm on 9th January at 10:30 am.

The meeting was convened to discuss the highways improvement scheme and Niki Carter is the project engineer. Councillor John Dearing outlined the situation concerning the new street light and strip of land that we are attempting to buy. This is in Fleet Road and Norfolk Road. There is a BT pole close by with a low amp output but this is unsuitable for lighting. We need a raised speed bump to slow the traffic down. It is a rat run. Three speed bumps have already been installed along Fleet Road. Nikki mentioned that funding is tight. No surprise there. She wondered if Manston Parish Council was willing to help pay towards the cost of a new speed bump. Apparently £15,000 has been spent already and she was hoping the developers might have some spare cash to chip in. The potential pedestrian crossing in Manston village by the memorial Garden was discussed. The farmer, David Steed, financed an assessment and Councillor Dearing agreed to contact Mr Steed to obtain the plans to be sent to Nikki. We need to reduce the width of the road by the memorial garden and increase the width of the pavement. It was thought that a pushbutton crossing would not be appropriate but a normal zebra crossing would be. Cllr Dearing will send details of what was put forward for the uncontrolled zebra crossing and would ask Ashley Jackson to do this. A pedestrian survey of the footfall should be carried out as well. We need to establish whether the criteria would be met and without sufficient information it was unlikely that the scheme would go ahead. Apparently a survey was carried out and it did meet the criteria. Councillor Dearing mentioned that an Idea had been put forward to extend the pavement by the memorial garden over the road to avoid having the sliproad available for vehicular traffic. Nikki thought the River Oak, the airport operator, might be building a roundabout and might be persuaded to contribute to our traffic calming arrangements. We need to investigate this further.

Next item (Project 3) related to the 60 mph stretch between the village and David Steed's golf course by the roundabout at the A256 junction. We would like this part of the road to be reduced to 30 mph. Councillor Dearing made the point that police records are not comprehensive evidence of crashes. Nikki thought that potentially a 40 mph limit could be instigated instead of 30 mph. Unfortunately, KCC doesn't have the funding. Nikki mentioned a traffic regulation order costing £2,500, a consultation, objections £496, changing sign is £1000 total around £4000.

Next on the list was the Vincent Road and Manston Road junction which might well be described as the "J. McCarthy junction" which is very dangerous. Councillor Dearing explained that there is no mirror there now and that it is very dangerous. Preston Road and Manston Road 30 mph concept. Nikki is going to have a look at it. She asked if we were in the speed watch scheme and we told her that it is not particularly good and Councillor Tritton noted that only two villages in Thanet are interested in the speed watch scheme. Unfortunately, there is no 30 mph sign anywhere near the village hall at the entrance of Preston Road. It was suggested that KCC can paint 30 mph signs on the road. It was also noted that there are no signs saying that Preston Road is unsuitable for Heavy Goods vehicles (HGV's). There ought to be a sign at the entrance of Preston Road but unfortunately such signs are not mandatory on drivers. It was noted that foreign drivers can understand the sign because there is a red line through the picture of the lorry. The operations team can deal with hedging on Preston Road. There is no pavement or lighting. Nikki asked what we actually wanted along the road. It was agreed that we needed a serious debate about what we wish to have. Just as an aside, there was excellent input from all Councillors present even though they have not been named in the narrative!!

Cllr Amato proposed a 20mph limit throughout the village, including Preston Lane. All in favour of this. Cllr Wilson to speak to KCC Highways to see how to progress this.

121/22-23

**MANSTON PARK**

Hazel advised that the report has been completed – plenty of litter, wet and muddy. Seats are grubby etc. Signage for the playground to stop dogs going in there. There is an issue with the gate as its very muddy.

122/22-23

**INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Cllr Derek Brown – KCC are under enormous financial pressures but they have said that they will balance. Council Tax has been increased – record rainfall has caused a lot of issues with roads and potholes. He will report them He encouraged others to report any they see. Ukrainian refugees - Kent has the biggest number in the UK.

Cllr Wright - TDC have said there is a short fall in the budget, but not as big as expected. Cllr Wright advised that all planning applications which are turned down at committee tend to get agreed at appeal.

Alison Ring- via email - With the Festivities over we now have the winter months of January and February to look forward to. Many people will feel more lonely and socially isolated as the bad weather can impact on ability to get out and mix with other people. The media is full of bad news, and the reality of the cost of living increase as well as the rise of flu and covid cases, many of us can suffer with anxiety and low mood. I am here to support residents in the villages struggling with all kinds of issues, practical and emotional. I am available to advise, listen and support. If I cannot help, I may know someone that can. With the winter months upon us and in the interest of community safety please let me know if you find streetlamps that are not working or dangerous potholes in the roads so they can be reported.

123/22-23

**Budget**

Nothing to report.

124/22-23

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS/ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Resident asked if the new defib was working – it is. Cllr Robinson advised that there is also a defib in the launderette at Preston park.

125/21-22

**DATE/TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at 7:15pm 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in the Village Hall @Manston.

The meeting closed at 20.53pm.