

Monkton
Parish Council



PARISH CLERK: Sara Archer, 204 Monkton St, Monkton, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4JN
Tel:01843 821989 E: clerk@monktonparish.co.uk

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
15th January 2018 at 6.30pm at Monkton Village Hall.**

Present Parish Councillors John Way [JW], Teresa Brown [TB], Chris Ransom [CR]

In Attendance Sara Archer (Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer) [SA], plus 9 members of the public.

43/17-18 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Cllr Kevin Knight

44/17-18 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None.

45/17-18 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
It was resolved to accept the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th November 17. These were proposed by Cllr Brown seconded by Cllr Way and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

46/17-18 **CHAIRMANS REPORT**
Cllr Way welcomed and introduced Cllr Liz Hurst, the newly appointed Kent County Councillor and PCSO Adrian Butterworth. He advised that the current Policing position was that attendance was directly proportionate to the crime reported, therefore, residents were encouraged to log incidents using 101.
Cllr Way confirmed there would be interviews held to co-opt a Councillor to fill the vacancy which arose from the sudden passing of Cllr Gregory. A new Councillor would be in position by the next meeting.

47/17-18 **RECREATION GROUND**
a) Cllr Way advised that the repairs to the Play Area had been completed. Unfortunately, due to the weather, the equipment could not be repainted, however, this would be completed in Spring.
b) The Clerk confirmed she is in discussions with Southern Water to explore the options to resolve the issue of the water leak and the potential installation of a new water pipe being laid is currently the most favourable solution. Cllr Dawson confirmed they would be in a position to assist with funding for the replacement pipe and the Clerk would apply as appropriate when quotes had been obtained.

48/17-18 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**
a) Members resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments which had been previously circulated.
Cheques signed as appropriate.
b) An explanation of the current financial position of the Parish Council was given along with the projected budget forecast. It was suggested that the precept request from TDC was increased in order to address the expected shortfall. It was resolved to accept the proposed figures and precept request. This was proposed by Cllr Way and seconded by Cllr Ransom, all were in favour.

49/17-18 **PLANNING**
a) A list of current Planning Applications had previously been circulated to the Cllrs. Decisions were noted and no further issues were raised.
F/TH/16/1471 – Appeal decision – Permission Granted
F/TH/18/0017 – No objections to application in principle, suggested response includes direction to ensure construction traffic is kept to a minimum and off the main road where possible to reduce potential obstructions.

50/17-18 **HIGHWAYS**
a) The representative was not present, however, there were currently no issues outstanding.
b) The additional wording on the road sign for Collards Close was discussed. Cllr Dawson confirmed she had spoken with Paul Valek, KCC Highways and he advised this was the responsibility of TDC. Cllr Crow-Brown notified the Clerk of who to contact, enquiries would be made.
c) The potential of erecting signs at Millers Lane to indicate the closed road was discussed. Cllr Dawson would make enquiries with regard to the provision of 'no through road' signs.

51/17-18 **INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**
a) County Councillor – Cllr Liz Hurst introduced herself to the meeting.
Cllr Dawson reported that the recent communication released by KCC with regard to the buses had been incorrect. Paul Carter was in discussions to try and reduce the prices of buses by introducing the use of

Signed..... *Date*.....

minibuses in competition with the larger bus companies. This would be a more cost effective way forward and the impact on buss pass users was being investigated.

Cllr Dawson confirmed the A&E Department was not being taken away from the QEQM Hospital. Options were being looked in to including building a new hospital at Canterbury.

KCC are currently struggling with their finances and are looking at regaining a grant of £6 million from Government to help with the provision of services.

The question of whether the locality are responsible for funding the children sent out of the area as well as funding those sent in their place was asked, Cllr Dawson would make enquiries.

- b) District Councillor - Cllr Derek Crow-Brown confirmed TDC were currently restructuring the staffing due to budget cuts. A number of factors affected the financial situation at TDC which were being addressed. The recent prosecution for flytipping was a positive result for TDC, resident's were reminded to ensure any companies used for the removal of household waste were licenced appropriately. Voting was to take place regarding the Local Plan on 18/1/18.

- PCSO Butterworth was invited to speak. He introduced himself and reported that the level of crime in Monkton was low. Since November, 16 calls had been reported and of these, only 2 affected the public and were regarding fraudulent phonecalls targeting the elderly and vulnerable. Residents were encouraged to use 101 to report non-emergencies or the crimestoppers helpline. The PCSO could also be contacted direct by email to raise specific concerns.

- c) Village Hall Committee – The recent AGM was held. It was reported it had been a positive year and the hire fees would be remaining at the current prices. New members to join the Committee were welcomed. The existing Committee members were re-elected and the next AGM would be held on 11th January 2019. The Open Gardens event had been booked for the weekend of 9/10 June.
- d) Thanet Rural Regeneration Group – Next meeting to be held 16/1/18.
- e) Thanet Area Committee – Next meeting to be held in March.
- f) Parish Council Forum – No meeting held.
- g) MFC – A new hedge would be planted in due course.

52/17-18

DATE/TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting would be held on 26th March 2018, 6:30pm in the Village Hall.
Future dates: 21 May, 30 July, 24 Sept, 26 Nov

The Public were then invited to raise any issues of concern.

- With regard to the bus companies, it was pointed out that a service should be provided without the requirement of making a profit and they were a necessity in the rural areas.
- The progress of the Cliffsend Parkway Station was questioned. Cllr Dawson would make enquiries.
- It was confirmed the DCO for Manston Airport was in process.
- The request for the movement of the speed signs towards the roundabout at Willets Hill was in hand with Highways.
- It was suggested the Parish Council could look at supporting smaller dwellings in the village to retain more affordable homes in the area. It was explained that the Parish Council are a consultative body and ultimately the decisions for planning were made by TDC, however, they supported this suggestion.
- The repairs to the beacon at the Recreation Ground were in hand.
- Resident's were encouraged to report any road repairs they felt were unsatisfactory and request further maintenance.
- It was reported the litter along the dual carriageway was particularly bad. Cllr Crow-Brown would contact the street cleaning department and request the area was dealt with. The litter picking team were advised they were able to be provided with hi-vis jackets from TDC to ensure their safety when collecting litter along the roadside.

The meeting closed at approximately 19:30hrs.

Signed.....

Date.....