

MINUTES OF HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL at 7.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 13TH APRIL 2015

Present: Cllr Davis (Acting Chair)
Councillors Isaacs, Stevens, Russell, Hughes, Lawrence, Cheesman, Stanton and March
(Cllr March arrived at the meeting at 7.43pm)

In attendance: Lucy Noakes (Clerk)
No public present.

Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct were invited.
None declared.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr King – attending another meeting

2. PUBLIC SESSION: (Members of the public have the right to speak for up to three minutes at the Chairpersons discretion on issues concerning the Parish providing the Clerk has prior notification).

No public session.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 2nd March 2015 and Planning Meeting 18th March 2015.

The minutes of the meeting 2nd March were presented to the Council as read and proposed for acceptance by the Chair. Unanimous.

The Minutes of the planning committee meeting of 18th March were presented as read and proposed for acceptance by the Chair. Carried.

4. MATTERS ARISING. (No decisions taken)

Water bills

Cllr Russell had continued to read the water meter at the public toilets. The average usage between 21st January and 13th April was 1.15m³ per day, which was considered excessive for the toilets and their use.

Conservation Area Map

Cllr Davis reported that he had spoken again with Mark Stevenson at TWBC regarding this matter. The Clerk was waiting to hear from Planning at TWBC about the map.

Buses to Paddockwood.

The **Council** were still waiting to hear from Nu Venture about a possible increase in bus services. Chase **Nu Venture** at the next public transport forum.

Public Rights of Way

The **Clerk** was still waiting to hear back from KCC on this matter

5. PLANNING

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| Planning Application No: | TW/15/501295/FULL |
| Proposal: | Installation of Solar panels on the West facing roof |
| Location: | Apple Growers Association Lamberhurst Road Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8DP |
| Recommendation: | Approval |
| Proposed: | Cllr Stevens, seconded Cllr Russell. Unanimous. |
| Comments: | Approval. Suitable development. |

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| Planning Application No: | TW/15/501704/FULL |
| Proposal: | Ground floor front extension. First floor side and rear extensions and alterations. French doors and juliet balcony to rear on first floor. (Minor material amendment to previously approved permission 14/01267/HOUSE to removed bathroom window and insert of velux roof light above). |
| Location: | Red Tiles Goudhurst Road Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8AE |
| Recommendation: | Approval |
| Proposed: | Cllr Russell, seconded Cllr Isaacs. Unanimous. |
| Comments: | Approval. Reasonable minor variation to the approved plan. |

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| Planning Application No: | TW/15/501320/FULL |
| Proposal: | Single storey part side and part rear extension including rooflights. |
| Location: | Ramshill House Maidstone Road Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8DD |
| Recommendation: | Approval |
| Proposed: | Cllr March , seconded Cllr Lawrence, Unanimous. |
| Comments: | Approval. Suitable addition and extension to the existing house. |

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| Planning Application No: | TW/15/501656/FULL |
| Proposal: | Retrospective application for the erection of a concrete base. |
| Location: | Lewes Heath House Lewes Heath Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8AF |
| Recommendation: | Approval |
| Proposed: | Cllr Stevens, seconded Cllr March, unanimous. |
| Comments: | Approval, but the Parish Council would like to see the back of the stable bordering the footpath, or alternatively, if the stable doors are facing the footpath, there should be the erection of a fence to protect users of the footpath. We would like to draw to the officer's attention that the original permission located the stable in a different location which the Parish Council felt was more appropriate, away from the public footpath. The Parish Council's concern is for the safety of the general public using the historic footpath. |

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| Planning Application No: | TW/15/501918/FULL |
| Proposal: | <u>Proposed conversion of redundant barn no.1 to a single residential dwelling and construction of detached garage.</u> |
| Location: | Barn 30M S Of Yew Tree Farmhouse Yew Tree Green Road Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8HR |
| Recommendation: | Approval |
| Proposed: | Cllr Lawrence, seconded Cllr Stanton, unanimous. |
| Comments: | Approval. However the Parish Council strongly recommend that the access be located where shown on planning application TW/11/03574, which was approved by TWBC following advice from the Highways officer. The access must be located in the position shown in TW/11/03574, based on road safety considerations. |

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| Planning Application No: | TW/15/501920/LBC |
| Proposal: | <u>Listed building consent - Proposed conversion of redundant barn no.1 to a single residential dwelling and construction of detached garage.</u> |
| Location: | Barn 30M S Of Yew Tree Farmhouse Yew Tree Green Road Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8HR |
| Recommendation: | Approval |
| Proposed: | Cllr Hughes, seconded Cllr Russell. Unanious. |
| Comments: | Approval. Subject to the agreement of detail by the Conservation officer. |

5.2 **Report of Permissions Granted and Refused/Appeals lodged.**

Applications granted.

TW/15/501111/FULL – Church Farm Barn, Brick Kiln Lane, Horsmonden.

TW/15/500634/FULL – Banfields , Churn Lane, Horsmonden

Applications refused

None.

5.3 **Other Planning matters.**

None.

6. **PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE**

6.1 **Parish Council Accounts to 31st March 2015**

The Clerk presented the accounts including cheques drawn, up to 31st March 2015, as shown below, to those present. Cllr Russell proposed acceptance of the accounts, seconded by Cllr Stevens, Unanimous.

Horsmonden Parish Council Accounts as at 31st March 2015

Current account b/fwd 02.03.2015
Deposit account b/fwd 02.03.2015
Interest received (Deposit Account)

Balances

| | |
|---|-----------|
| £ | 33,071.28 |
| £ | 60,000.47 |
| £ | 3.90 |

| Item | Ref | Receipts | Payments |
|---|--------|----------|------------|
| EDF Energy electricity Public conveniences | D/D | | £ 152.00 |
| EDF energy electricity box VG | D/D | | £ 36.00 |
| BT office telephone & broadband to 31.5.15 | D/D | | £ 150.48 |
| Mrs L Noakes salary and overtime March 2015 | S/O | | £ 891.38 |
| Mrs C Davis - refund for refreshments litter pick | 401542 | | £ 7.50 |
| specialist Hygiene services - March cleaning | 401543 | | £ 187.20 |
| SSE contracting services - March street lighting | 401544 | | £ 71.26 |
| Horsmonden Village Hall - hire for PC meetings | 401545 | | £ 480.00 |
| Cornford's Builders -final payment for toilets project | 401546 | | £ 487.18 |
| Horsmonden Village Hall - hire for iPad course | 401547 | | £ 46.50 |
| Eon -electricity festive lights | 401548 | | £ 9.52 |
| HM Revenue and Customs - Tax and NI L Noakes | 401549 | | £ 96.70 |
| Duke Contractors Ltd - grounds maintenance | 401550 | | £ 4,076.48 |
| Mr C J Couchman -March clock and play area | 401604 | | £ 83.08 |
| | | | |
| repayment from Ralph Stevens(cancelled cheque cashed in error) | | £ 90.00 | |
| Interest on current account | | £ 4.09 | |

Current Account as at 31.03.15 £ 26,390.09

Deposit Account as at 31.03.15 £ 60,004.37

TOTAL BANK: £ 86,394.46

6.2 **Quotation for a new street light.**

Further to obtaining the quotation for a new street light on the village green, the clerk had written to residents living close to the location site of the proposed light to let them know about the planned installation and ask if they had any concerns. One parishioner had shown concern about the possibility of the light shining into a bedroom window at night. The Council discussed this matter and asked if the clerk could go back to SES to ask about the possibility of masking the light on one side if it proved to be problematic after installation. The clerk should also find out about delivery and installation timings for the light.

6.3 **Quotations for Christmas lighting 2015**

The Clerk had met with Mick Wood from Gala lights who were going to provide a quotation for dressing the horse chestnut tree on the green. Mr Wood also explained that the council should have catenary wires around the green to hold up the existing festive lights when installed and he was going to provide a quotation for putting catenary wires around the green.

Blachere lighting had already provided a quotation for lighting the horse chestnut tree , which the clerk would hold on file until the other quotes were available.

Cllr Davis had been looking at the possibility of purchasing further sets of coloured lighting to go around the green. It was proposed by Cllr March and seconded by Cllr Lawrence to approve the spending of up to £1500 to purchase another set of coloured lights to go on the east side of the

green.

6.4 Quotations for two new trees on village Green

The Clerk had approached Preston Garden Centre, Rum wood Nursery and Golden Hill Nursery for quotes for two new lime trees to be planted on the green. She had only received a response from Golden Hill Nursery who said that they could supply and install two Tilia Euchlora (limes) at 18^{feet} tall for £400 each. The price would include high weld mesh around each tree and 3 stakes to secure each.

It was proposed by Cllr March and seconded by Cllr Hughes that the clerk go ahead and order the trees for installation as soon as possible. It was also suggested that the clerk ask if each tree could be supplied with a watering pipe to make watering easier.

7. HIGHWAYS AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

7.1 Highways issues – footpaths, trees, roads, signs, verges, and markings

The following to be asked/reported to KHS by the *clerk*:

- As series of growing pot holes 2 thirds of the way down Gibbett Lane.
- Large branches hanging over Hayman's Hill, just prior to the Holloway's field entrance.
- Drainage blockage at the junction of Hayman's Hill, near to Paygate.

It was requested that the Clerk chase up Highways on the matter of water gathering at the junction of Yew Tree Green Road and the Maidstone Road, as the runs down towards Rams Hill and is breaking up the road edge there.

Clerk to write to Mr Kellas about the edge at Freeston's as it is starting to grow out again.

It was mentioned that Matfield and Brenchley PC are campaigning to have their 40mph speed limit area reduced to 30mph, if anyone wished to support them in this.

7.2 Update from Traffic action group – report from Stevens Noad (KHS)

Cllr Davis had spoken to Robert Dicketts about this matter as the traffic group were still waiting to hear back from Steven Noad at KHS. Robert would chase this matter up. Clerk to copy in Alex King if appropriate.

8. ADMINISTRATION

8.1 The Institute –plans for the front of the building.

Cllr Isaacs had met with the engineers to look at the roof of the building and insertion of the plaque, however he was still awaiting the written report from the engineer on these matters. The Clerk had not yet received any details on the paving or work which the club wished to carry out at the front of the building.

8.2 Plans for refurbishment of memorial gardens

Cllr Davis had been liaising with Carry Smyth about the redesign of the memorial gardens.. It was proposed from the Chair to accept the plans put forward by Mrs Smyth for boxus hedging and paving. Unanimous. The Social club would obtain 3 quotation for carrying out these works and the Parish Council were happy to go with the company chosen by the Club, as the club were paying for this work

It was suggested that Mrs Smyth might like to consider Boxus blight which might affect the planned planting.

8.3 Public conveniences

Nothing further to be said.

8.4 Village Vision (including quotations for possible Youth Shelters)

The Clerk had obtained quotations for two different youth shelters from Broxap and Monster Play. The Parish Council favoured the shelter by Monster play , numbered YS102, but would prefer the seating to have backs .They were also concerned about the wear and tear of the grass underneath the shelter and had looked at astro turf, instead, however it was requested that the Clerk ask if astro turf can be damaged by cigarettes. It was suggested that the Clerk try and get a picture of this in Parish News and advertise for APM for the public to look at, so ht the Council could see what the public's reaction to the shelter would be on the green.

The Clerk was still waiting to hear from TWBC to confirm that the installation of a Youth shelter would be a permitted development on the green.

8.5 Street Cruiser bus

Cllr March confirmed that she had heard that the Street Cruiser was now back in operation. After a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr Russell that the Council could invite the cruiser to visit for 4 sessions, on a weekly basis during the summer holidays, at a cost of between £50 and £70, per session. Seconded Cllr March .Unanimous.

8.6 Music Festival 12th -14th June 2015, including quotations for supply of services during the event.

The Clerk had received a quotation from Four jays, who had provided the toilets on previous occasions, for the price of £268 net including lighting. This was proposed for approval by the Chair, unanimous.

Cllr Stevens kindly offered to supply the fire extinguishers for the event, as previously.

The Clerk read out details of the entertainer, which could be provided by Applause for £60. It was proposed from the Chair that the council book Amy Pennington the entertainer, provided by Applause, for the Sunday afternoon entertainment. Unanimous.

The Clerk had spoken to Margaret at C& M security and they were happy to provide security for the event at the cost of £12 per hour. It was established that the guard would be needed for 46 hours in total over the weekend, amounting to £552. It was proposed by the Chair that this be accepted. Unanimous.

8.7 TWBC transfer of discretionary services - civic amenities vehicle

The Clerk had received communications from Gary Stevenson that the vehicle time could change form 1st April, so that it arrived at 9.30am instead of 8.30am. However, it was considered that in order to allow time for advertising the change in order to prevent any problems, the starting time should not change until 10th May 2015. This would allow the clerk to put an advertisement in Parish News, details of the change on the website and on notice boards. TWBC were also preparing some boards to go up at the dust cart to let members of the public know about the stat time.

8.8 Emergency Planning

The draft plan had now been shared with Peter Lovic at KCC, who was very complimentary about the scheme so far and had suggested a few amendments. The group planned to meet the following week for a further review. the group hoped to share the draft prior to the Annual Paris Meeting and launch this at the Annual Parish Meting to make the public aware and get the public's input.

8.9 Litter picking – feedback and plans for October session

The litter pick had been very successful with a large number of people taking part in the event. The Clerk suggested that the Council would need to put their own signs up if they wanted to run a similar event in October, as Nigel Freeman may not be able to assist. It was suggested that the council could use the sign posts which are used for the Annual Parish Meeting, which bang into the ground. Cllr Davis and Russell offered to carry out the task of putting up the signs for these events.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 DCLG Consultation on Local Government Ombudsman & Larger Parish Councils - responses by 30 June 2015. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/extending-the-remit-of-the-local-government-ombudsman-to-larger-parish-and-town-councils>

The Council had no comments to make on this matter.

10. CORRESPONDENCE/UPDATES

10.1 Chairman's update (no decisions)

Cllr March wished to thank everyone for their input at the litter picking event.

10.2 Voluntary Warden needed for Marle Place Road (at corner of junction with Ruck Lane) Roadside Nature Reserve - Kent Wildlife Trust

The Kent Wildlife Trust had contacted the Clerk to say that a warden was needed for the Nature reserve at Marle Place Road. Cllr Lawrence said he may be able to carry out this voluntary task. Clerk to email the details to Councillor Lawrence and advertise in Parish News if still vacant.

10.3 Meetings attended (updates and feedback from meetings attended and held by council members –no decisions)

Cllr Davis had attended the Transport meeting, but there was nothing to feed back on this occasion.

Other correspondence (discussion only)

The Clerk mentioned that she had received information from BT about purchasing telephone boxes for £1. It was considered that the Telephone box at the end of Churn Lane was in a v poor condition and the Council would not wish to be encumbered by this. However they may be interested if there was another box in better condition which could be located it the centre of the village for a community use of some sort (i.e. used book swap.

Cllr March reported that she had granted £200 from her TWBC members Grant to the Historical Society for their project about recording the views and memories of elderly people within the village. Cllr March had filled in a survey about the future of the amenities vehicle. However she explained that the survey did not give the option of providing the vehicle for the same amount of time, allowing the village to pay for the service.

Cllr Stevens asked if the clerk could put a reminder about the importance of working smoke alarms in Parish News.

The meeting ended at 10.30pm