

## ROLVENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20 September, 2016 at 7.30pm, in the Gallery Room, Rolvenden Village Hall, Maytham Road, Rolvenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4ND for the purpose of transacting the following business:

**Present:** Cllr. Mr. D. Murray, Cllr. Mrs. D. Curtain, Cllr. Mrs. I Newman, Cllr. Mrs J. Marston, Cllr. Mr. G. Tiltman, Cllr. Mr. M. Hook, Cllr. Mrs. J. Stace, Cllr. Mr. J. Wilkins and Mr. G. Willard - Clerk to the Council.

**Apologies for absence:** None.

**(a) Declarations of Members' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:** *under the Localism Act 2011 to be made relating to items on this Agenda* – None.

**(b) Declarations of Members' Other Significant Interests:** *under the Kent Code of Conduct adopted in August 2012 by the Parish Council, to be made relating to items on the Agenda* – Item 217. Finance – Cllr. Mrs. Denise Curtain declared an Interest as Book-keeper for the Parish Council's Contractor J.P. Oakeley (Grass Cutting in the Parish). Item 207. Planning – Cllr. Mrs. Irene Newman declared an interest in that her husband used to work for an Applicant for Planning Permission (16/01291/AS).

**(c) Declarations of Members' other Interests:** *not required to be disclosed under (a) and (b) but voluntary announcements made only for transparency reasons* – Cllr. Mr. Michael Hook declared his membership of the Weald of Kent Preservation Society. Item 209. Highways – Cllr Mrs. Denise Curtain declared an interest under section (iii,2) regarding Tractors travelling through the village.

**206. DRAFT MINUTES** of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 August, 2016, copies having previously been sent to each Parish Councillor, were agreed, approved and signed as a Correct Record.

**207. Planning** – All related matters were accepted.

**[i]** Applications for CONSULTATION received from Ashford Borough Council were accepted and considered.

**16/01263/AS** Two storey side extension and front porch.  
18 Gatefield Cottages, Gatefield Road, Rolvenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4JH.

The Parish Council objects to this Application on the grounds of Over Development for the area concerned.

**16/01291/AS** Single storey side and rear extension to annexe.  
Toad Hall, Sandhurst Lane, Rolvenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4PQ.

The Parish Council supports this Application in principle.

**16/01338/AS** Conversion and extension of existing garage to provide residential annexe.  
Kingsgate View, Mounts Lane, Rolvenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4NU

The Parish Council objects to this Application on the grounds of it being new housing in open countryside and in a very prominent position. The Parish Council asks Planners to check the caveat that was specified when the Application to convert to a garage was originally made. Additionally, if the Application was to be approved then the Parish Council would not wish to see uPVC windows and concrete roof tiles as part of the construction.

**[ii]** Applications for CONSULTATION received between 13 – 20 September from Ashford Borough Council were accepted and considered.

**16/01364/AS** Change of use of agricultural land to residential use and single storey extension.  
Te Papa, 3a, Rolvenden Hill, Rolvenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4JN.

The Parish Council supports this Application.

**[iii]** Consent **GRANTED** by Ashford Borough Council to the following Applications were accepted and considered.

None notified.

**[iv] Halden Field** – related matters were accepted and considered.

Letter received from Taylor Wimpey's Agent Barton Willmore which outlines details of a re-design. The letter encloses plans of the re-design. Copies of the letter and the plans to be sent to each Member.

**[v] Baratt Field** – related matters were accepted and considered.

None.

**[vi] Planning Related Issues** – not raised elsewhere on the Agenda were accepted and considered.

**16/00835/AS** AMENDED Application. Subdivision of plot and construction of new single storey three bedroom detached property with new access from Maytham Road.  
Little Court, Maytham Road, Rolvenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4ND.

This Application went to Committee on 14 September, 2016 and was unanimously rejected.

Cllr. Mr. Graham Tiltman requested that the protection of the existing wall at the site of Little Court be investigated.

**16/01132/AS** Change of use and conversion of barn to two bedroom dwelling with associated landscaping, parking and gate/fencing.  
Half Crown Barn, Tenterden Road, Rolvenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4JJ.

This Application is ongoing and further developments/decisions are awaited based upon evidence being supplied to Planners.



**208. Neighbourhood Development Plan** – related matters were accepted and considered.

This project is still currently ongoing and progressing well.

**209. Highways** – related matters were accepted and considered.

**[i] Parking on Verges in the High Street.**

Cllr. Mrs. Denise Curtain has been having meetings with Ashford Borough Council and Kent County Council Highways for nearly a year. Kent County Council Highways are concerned about people driving over the footpaths from the road as there are services below the footpath and damage will inevitably be done to these.

Kent County Council Highways are prepared to install bollards into the verge on the High Street to prevent access. They are not prepared to fund all of the costs and are looking to the Parish to fund some of the cost.

With regard to the knee rail on St. Mary's Green, Ashford Borough Council would be looking to the Parish to contribute towards the cost of this also.

The Clerk to draft a letter to residents of the affected properties to outline the Parish Council's views and proposals with regard to parking on the verges. The Clerk to also write to Mike Hill to request a contribution towards the cost of providing bollards.

**[ii] Speed Indicator adjacent to Rolvenden Primary School.**

The Clerk to contact Kent County Council Highways for details of fixed, solar powered speed indicator units rather than portable ones.

**[iii] Other Highways related issues** – were accepted and considered.

**1. Flat bed truck with stock cars parked in the High Street**

This has been looked into on a previous occasion and it was established that if the vehicle complies with the Law in respect of Insurance and Vehicle Excise Duty etc., then there is nothing that can be done to prevent it parking in that location.

**2. Tractors with trailers travelling through the village at excessive and dangerous speeds.**

Cllr. Mrs. Denise Curtain investigated the speed of a particular tractor and took a photograph of the speedometer when at full speed which read 31.1mph on a flat road with an empty trailer.

**3. Hedge lifting pavement and blocking sight lines at 21 Gybbons Road.**

This resident has been sent numerous letters in the past. Highways have sent an inspector who measured the hedge and subsequently contacted the resident. The resident agrees to cut the hedge.

**4. A resident has commented that nettles are overhanging Maytham Road (not Mounts Lane as mentioned).**

This is at the junction of Maytham Road and Frensham Road. The Clerk to speak to Jon Oakeley to arrange for nettles to be cut back as and when this becomes a problem.

**5. Request from resident via website for a letter in support of speed restriction in the vicinity of Rolvenden Station.**

The Clerk to liaise with the Tenterden Town Clerk in this respect and send a letter of support.



### **210. Playground Repairs.**

The Clerk to look into various items in the quotation with respect to recently installed equipment and arranging for the original supplier to effect repairs.

### **211. Inauguration of the new Vicar.**

Cllr. Mr. Duncan Murray was formally invited to the Inauguration of the Revd. Chris Hodgkins. Judy Vinson is to remain and will share the workload with the new Vicar. Cllr. Mr. Duncan Murray welcomed the Revd. Chris Hodgkins on behalf of the Parish Council and the Village.

### **212. Gatefield Cottages.**

Requests received by Cllr. Mr. Graham Tiltman to investigate the bonfires being held on land adjacent to the layby on the main A28. Also to investigate an unkempt garden which is unsightly and is causing difficulty getting past.

The issue of the bonfires has arisen before and it appears that a fence may soon be installed behind the layby which will prevent further fires. With regard to the unkempt garden, it was decided that there was nothing that could be done by the Parish Council in this respect.

### **213. Wilderness Woods.**

The wooden footpath stile has been vandalised and may allow cattle to access the woods.

The Clerk to contact Kent County Council Public Rights of Way to request that this matter be dealt with.

### **214. Leaking Sewerage.**

Sewerage is reported to be leaking into the field behind Monypenny.

Cllr. Mr. John Wilkins reported that as from 1 October Southern Water has a statutory authority for all private sewerage systems. Cllr. Mrs. Irene Newman to contact them after this date.

### **215. Parish Forum.**

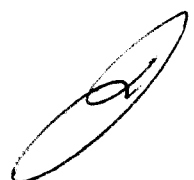
Matters arising from Cllr. Mrs. Denise Curtain's attendance at the Forum on 7 September.

1. Control on Development needs to come into place when Rolvenden produces their Village Envelope as part of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. The Parish Council needs to look into how this will be carried out.

2. A Health Representative from Kent County Council attended the Forum and was talking about smoking and apparently Ashford has one of the highest rates of smokers in the country (particularly amongst pregnant women) and hopefully this refers to Ashford Town only as opposed to the whole Borough. In view of this, it is suggested that the play areas in the Village should have "No Smoking" signs.

Cllr. Mrs. Denise Curtain proposes that "No Smoking" signs be put up at each of the play areas.

The Clerk to action this.



## 216. Lloyds Bank.

Ongoing issues regarding the Parish Council's bank accounts were discussed.

Cllr. Mr. Brian Hindley proposed that in view of the serious ongoing problems that are currently being experienced with Lloyds Bank, the Clerk be authorised to seek to transfer the Parish Council's accounts to another major bank in Tenterden. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Denise Curtain.

## 217. Finance – related matters were accepted.

[i] It was resolved to pay the following :

J.P. Oakeley      £455.00 for grass cutting in the Parish as itemised.

Mr. S. Brooks    £120.00 for Litter Collection in the Parish (4 weeks at £30.00 per week).

Cllr. Mr. Michael Hook      £37.75 for repairs to seat in the High Street.

Bourne Amenity      £852.00 plus VAT of £170.40 Total : £1,022.40 for supply of bark chippings

Mr. G. Willard      £430.50 for Clerk's wages plus expenses of £25.28 Total : £456.35

[ii] Accounts presented at the meeting were accepted and considered for payment.

None.

[iii] Financial matters not raised elsewhere on the Agenda.

Replacement cheque (001598) issued to Rolvenden PCC in the sum of £45.28 in respect of misplaced cheque. Original cheque "stopped" at Lloyds Bank.

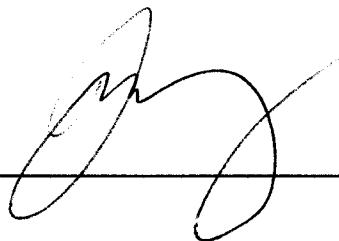
**218. Other Matters for Information** – *issues may be raised which involve no more than an exchange of information. NO DECISIONS can lawfully be made on matters raised under this exchange.*

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Cllr. Mr. Graham Tiltman has been approached by a resident from Sparkeswood Close who maintains the flower beds on the corners who asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to supply and pay for a brown garden waste bin as she does all the work voluntarily.

Cllr. Mrs. Denise Curtain mentioned that the Proprietors of the new Nursery at Cherry Garden have asked her to tell all Councillors that it is now fully open for business.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

18 Oct 16.