

Manston Parish Council
Chairman: Cllr Guy Wilson
Clerk: Miss Ashley Jackson
Email: manstonparishcouncil@gmail.com

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th February 2023 at 7.15 pm
At Manston Village Hall, Manston**

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

In Attendance -- Ashley Jackson (Clerk/RFO), Cllr Linda Wright, Cllr Derek Crow-Brown, Cllr Smith and 5 members of the parish.

125/22-23 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Cllr Dearing, Alison Wing Community Warden, Rex Goodban

126/22-23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
The Declarations of Interest Form was passed around for those in attendance to sign. No declarations were made.

127/22-23 **Presentation by Ben Parkin – Solar**
Ben gave an update on the proposed solar farm at Hengrove. Resident advised that the land should be left for farmland. He advised it is a temporary development for 40 years. Cllr Wright asked how it will be sustainable in a few years – this solar farm will help towards that goal. There were comments that the pond was too small. There is a soil management plan to make sure the soil is left as good a condition as it was before the solar panels were installed.

What happens when it ends – it just gets taken away via a planning condition. Cllr Amato asked where all the green spaces are going. Cllrs said the one up the road is not maintained and lots of promises were made at the start and nothing has happened – there is no after care. Ben confirmed that it could be added as a planning condition that the site is maintained on a yearly basis. Cllr Wilson confirmed that the landscaping at WWX is not looked after and suggested that the council does not have the man power to police it. Hazel advised it needed to have the bridle way linked up. Cllr Robinson said the panels are noisy at night. Cllr Wilson suggested that most of the nearby residents were in the Margate Cemetery. Ben confirmed that there will be a noise assessment with the planning application. Planning application to be submitted this Summer. Ben will keep clerk updated. Virtual consultation will take place. Postcards will be sent to neighbouring households. Cllr Wilson thanked Ben for coming to the meeting.

128/22-23 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
It was proposed by Cllr Amato to accept the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th January 2023. Seconded by Cllr Robinson. These were signed by Cllr Wilson as a true record.

129/22-23 **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 Wilson and Cllr Matthews.
- b) The Cllrs acknowledged receipt of the cash book which the clerk had circulated showing income and expenses to date.

130/22-23

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Airport – situation is now clear and looks likely to reopen 2026.

Some people have been creating a nuisance in the park sometimes with loud music disturbing neighbours until 3am. Nuisance is a criminal offence known as a tort in law. Councillors were urged to phone 101 if they see or hear or any disturbance. The Police reference to quote is 01-0408.

Playground – Sovereign have now completed the surface repairs in the play area. Surplus materials have been taken away. Sovereign confirmed they could only replace the playground matting that they had quoted for. Cllr Matthews challenged the workmen and he confirmed that the areas which hadn't been done did not need doing.

Defib manuals to be left at village hall and Drome Garage. The Secretary confirmed that the Ambulance Service knows the code to the defibs so that anyone needing to use them should dial 999.

Beechcroft, acting for the Aviva underwriters, will not pursue our claim for the damage to the railings as we could not produce any details of the vehicle that did the damage. However, our claim will be pursued with Aviva directly - Clerk to chase.

131/22-23

PLANNING

No objections to planning application - Bedima and Chartwell House on Star Lane, the new Residential Home for the elderly - no issues.

132/22-23

HIGHWAYS

- a) To note any issues regarding Rights of Way- no issues for discussion.
- b) Flete road update – Update from John regarding the purchase of Flete Road, that although the payment for completion has been made – we have not had confirmation that we have exchanged and completed. Therefore he has not been able to start the purchase of the street light.
- c) Highway Improvement Plan –KCC suggested that we could reduce the speed limit on the Manston Road, from 60 to 40mph. Cllr Amato suggested that we should wait and see what happens with Manston Green, the fenced off Redrow development, as there will be roads built with access on to Manston Road (rather than the busy Haine Road A256 in all probability) but we do not yet know precisely where. All in favour of delaying a decision on the speed limit reduction. Cllr Amato asked if Cllr Wilson if he had chased KCC Highways about 20mph. He had not done so.
- d) The Highways Improvement Plan is to be sent in advising that our preferred speed limit throughout Manston Village is 20mph.

133/22-23

MANSTON PARK

Hazel confirmed that she found a lady in the park with a dog and she asked her to leave. Gap in hedge is getting bigger. Landscape services quote – All cllrs in favour of quote.

134/22-23

INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cllr Derek Crow- Brown – He has recently been giving advice to an elderly couple living near the Drome Garage, asking about heating oil grants. – As a member of KCC's Planning Committee, Cllr Crow-Brown was recently given a brief by the strategic planning team, regarding the Consultation for new National Planning Policy Framework – Given KCC has an infrastructure first policy, he raised the issue of overdevelopment in Thanet, with numerous utility works causing gridlock on the roads especially in the Westwood Cross area. Cllr Crow-Brown raised the point that given Thanet is on a peninsular there is little scope for drivers to seek alternative routes. He

also raised the issue of regular water outages – eight in Broadstairs area in recent weeks. Strategic Planning will include the issues happening in Thanet, especially the Southern Water outages in their submission to government.

Cllr Abi Smith – water outages comes up again and again at council – will try again to get the leader to ask the manager of Southern Water to come into the council and explain why they keep having outages.

Cllr Wilson asked about doctors and dentists and wondered if the need for these professionals in an area of massively increased housing was taken into consideration when looking at planning? Cllr Wright confirmed that TDC does, but the problem appears to be that doctors are reluctant to come to Thanet.

Cllr Linda Wright – Will ensure that KCC is bringing forward health tests for residents who are 70 years old as this is the time when they are needed most.

135/22-23

PUBLIC QUESTIONS/ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Resident from Spratling Street re Housing at the rear of the Leys. Clerk confirmed there was no planning application and the land had not been allocated for housing at the moment and it was a very high level feasibility. Another piece of green land that will be destroyed. Electric pylon will need moving. Access to the site is too small – the access road seems too narrow. The Land has a covenant but no details were provided. Roadworks at Spratling Street have resulted in a hedge being pulled out contrary to the agreement and is in the hands of solicitors. Cllrs agreed to make a donation to St Lawrence Church for the electricity for the Christmas lights.

136/21-22

DATE/TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at 7:15pm 13th March 2023 in the Village Hall @Manston.

The meeting closed at 20.36pm.