

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 24th April 2018

at the Neighbourhood Centre, 4A Monkton Road, Minster at 7 p.m.

Present: Cllrs: Mrs. Gimes (Chairman); Grove, Jones, Day, Goodman, Owen, Quittenden, Mrs. Taylor and Ms. Vaughan.

Apologies for absence: Cllr. Bubb, Cllr. Bailey.

Local Government Electors: 13 residents

In Attendance: Kyla Lamb (Clerk to the Council) and Clare Wilsdon (Assistant Clerk to the Council).

1. KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME 2018

The Chairman reported that following the Parish Councils nomination, Clive Attwell was to be presented with a KALC Community Award 2018 certificate in recognition of his service to the village and many organisations for over 60 years. Mr Attwell was unable to attend due to illness therefore, the Chairman further reported that the award would be presented to him at Attwells Newsagents.

2. GUEST SPEAKER – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REECE PUGH

Councillor Reece Pugh thanked the Chairman for inviting him and reported that he has been a District Councillor since January 2018. He was raised locally in St Nicholas and currently lives in Sarre. He has an interest in road safety, prevention of speeding, littering and providing housing that is required but not to the extent that is currently proposed. He urged residents to feel free to contact him and he will be available to speak to at Sir Roger Gales surgery in Birchington on 5th May from 9am-2pm.

Cllr Pugh further reported that the Local Plan was voted down and the Conservatives are now the majority at TDC. The plan is to have the revised Draft Local Plan submitted to the planning inspectorate by the end of the year.

Mr Sharp asked Cllr Pugh if TDC had explored all brown-field sites for development. Cllr Crow-Brown replied to this to say that he has a brown-field register that he will send to the Parish Council. Mr Gimes asked for a public copy of sites that were put forward in the original call for sites.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th April 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman, Councillor Penny Gimes, read from the report for the last year 2017-2018.

Cllr Gimes thanked the Parish Councillors for their hard work and support and also thanked the Clerk, Kyla Lamb.

The Chairman referred to the sad loss of notable people including former Parish Councillors, Gerry Glover, Dennis Neville and District Councillor Ken Gregory but welcomed new County Councillors Liz Hurst and District Councillor Reece Pugh.

The Chairman also bid farewell to Roy Wade, Assistant Parish Clerk who has now retired and been replaced by a new assistant Clerk, Clare Wilsdon.

The Thanet Draft Local Plan was amended and put forward but failed to achieve the necessary support. This plan had significant implications for the Parish as it included the proposed development of Manston Airport and to the land west of Tothill Street. Failure to pass the plan brought the existing regime at Thanet District Council to an end, we are awaiting further developments.

The Chairman reported on the consultation events held by River Oak Strategic Partners and Savills and urged local residents to express their opinion and further reflected that although more housing is needed, we should defend our community from being overwhelmed and protect our agricultural land.

The first Civic Award was presented this year to Mr Phillip Bowman for the restoration of the Methodist Chapel in the High Street and the plaque presented to him is now displayed outside the building.

The McDonalds licence was disappointingly extended to 24 hours opening.

A new experienced PCSO, Adrian Butterworth has been assigned to the village and in a short time we have noticed his presence.

The Chairman further reported that we are still awaiting final confirmation of our asset transfer of the car parks and toilets and also our likely rent increase for the Parish office.

5. **FINANCE REPORT**

The Chairman of Policy and Finance Committee, Councillor John Quittenden, reported upon the financial situation and the healthy reserves held by the Parish Council. The financial position within the country was still difficult but the Parish Council through prudent financial management and control allowed the Parish Council to face the future with confidence.

Thanks, were extended to the Clerk Kyla Lamb for her continued day to day management of the office.

6. **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

Mr Andy Sharp – Asked about tree planting in the village and Cllr Day suggested the formation of a sub-committee to move this project forward.

Barbara Quittenden – Asked about the whips that were planted at the new open space. The Clerk reported that the free whips that were planted had not successfully established and died so they were removed.

PCSO Aaron Kluibenschadl – Asked about provision and enforcement by TDC when the car parks are transferred. This will need to be considered in any agreements made.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm and thanked all those present for attending the meeting.