

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 19th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley
Cllr S Murray
Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Holden (County) & 1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr A Fairweather

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden confirmed that the Primary Care Network in the Weald was not offering Covid-19 vaccinations. Instead, the Weald area was being split into two, with those in the Cranbrook, Sissinghurst and Frittenden area being invited to go to the vaccination centre set up in Headcorn and those in the Hawkhurst and Sandhurst area being invited to go to the centre in Ticehurst. The Headcorn centre was vaccinating around 900 people per day. It had experienced a supply problem last week which led to appointments being cancelled by Cllr Riley reported that this appeared to have been resolved. Cllr Holden confirmed that KCC was working with the NHS to ensure that those who could not travel to a vaccination centre were still able to receive the vaccination.

Cllr Holden also reported that KCC had been instrumental in getting asymptomatic testing centres set up across Kent. Such a testing centre was now operating out of the Vestry Hall in Cranbrook.

Cllr Holden commented that the systems set up to deal with lorries following Brexit on 1 January 2021 had been tested in December as a result of the French border being closed due to Covid-19. He felt that those systems had worked well. Since 1 January 2021, the number of lorries recorded using the departure points in Kent were down on the normal levels for the time of the year.

Cllr Holden continued his efforts to keep lorries off of Kent's rural roads. Lorries had been clamped for parking where they were not supposed to be. Cllr Holden was also objecting to the Government's plan to increase the maximum size of lorry permitted from 44 to 48 tonnes.

The KCC Environment & Transport Committee had discussed as an urgent item its response to Government plans to allow sugar beat farmers to use neonicotinoid pesticides as a temporary

measure. The Committee was very concerned about the effect this would have on all pollinators, not just bees and would be writing to the Government and the relevant ministers in all 11 EU Governments who were also intending to allow the use of such pesticides.

In the absence of Cllr Fairweather, Cllr Holden briefly reported on Borough Council matters. He noted that the draft Local Plan came up for approval in February and he was pleased to report that the number of new houses planned for both Cranbrook and Hawkhurst had been reduced.

There would be a 5% increase in Council Tax, 3% of which was ring fenced for adult social care.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** (1 abstention) that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 9th December 2020 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parish Field – Picnic Bench

The Clerk reported that a contractor had looked at the broken picnic bench and recommended that all 4 legs be replaced. They had quoted £130.00 plus VAT for that work, Cllr Staples commented that his research had suggested that a new picnic bench could be purchased for not much more than that figure. It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Clerk be instructed to investigate the cost of purchasing a new bench and report to the Council at the next meeting.

Parish Field – Drainage

The Clerk reported that she was still waiting for further information from the Grounds Maintenance contractor in relation to the proposed verti drainage works.

The Clerk is liaising with the contractor who recently replaced the rotten gate post at the entrance to the Parish Field to identify whether the broken picnic bench can be repaired economically.

Footpath Warden

The Clerk reported that she had not yet identified any published guidance for those undertaking this role.

Declarations Book

The Clerk confirmed that she continues to research who might be able to supply such a book as a bespoke item.

Designation of Local Green Spaces

The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by the owners of the two sites identified by the Council for potential designation. Both owners objected. One had been directed to TWBC and it was understood that TWBC had communicated its decision in that regard. Any designations would be made public on publication of the revised draft Local Plan.

6. MEMORIAL HALL RE-MODEL UPDATE

Cllr Riley reported in her capacity as Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee. The work to the hall had been divided into three phases and it had been agreed that the first phase should go ahead notwithstanding that the Committee was still attempting to secure funding for the later phases of

the project. This was because £110,000 was immediately available to fund works that would improve the experience of users of the Memorial Hall.

The first phase was due to begin on 1 April 2021 and would comprise work to the insulation and roof, exterior cladding, removal of the stage, replacement of doors and windows and installation of new glass doors at the rear of the hall to open up the views.

Phase two would comprise remodelling the interior at the front of the hall to include a new meeting room, new toilets and a replacement kitchen. Several funding applications had been submitted and it was hoped that this phase of work could begin shortly after the completion of phase one if those applications were successful.

Phase three would comprise exterior landscaping and improvements to the car park, but this work would have to take place after the building of the proposed community shop on the site.

Cllr Riley commended the work being done by the Treasurer, Helen Bosley in relation to the various funding applications being submitted in respect of this project. Cllr Riley described her as a real asset to the Committee and expressed her thanks and appreciate for the tremendous work that she had been doing.

Cllr Riley reported that questions had been asked by some potential funders as to why financial support was not being provided by the Parish Council. Cllr Riley noted that, given the very small precept received by the Parish Council, the only assistance which could realistically be provided way by way of loans. The Committee had made a conscious decision to avoid funding the project by loans because its limited annual income would make it very difficult to repay any borrowing. Cllr Staples confirmed that Parish Council's firm support for the project and it was agreed that the Parish Council would revisit what support it might be able to provide as the project progressed.

Cllr Cullingworth asked what was going to happen to the paintings on either side and above the stage once it was removed. Cllr Riley confirmed that the Committee was liaising with the Uncle of the artist, who had asked to have the large paintings on either side of the stage. Those sited above the stage were currently boarded over. They would be re-sited within the hall and a photograph showing all the paintings in situ would also be put on display.

7. LITTER PICK

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley and **RESOLVED** by all members present to hold the Spring Litter Pick on 20 March 2021 on the assumption that Covid-19 restrictions in force at that time would allow it to take place. Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that she would, once again, organise the event.

Cllr Staples commented that it was becoming increasingly difficult to have to rely on TWBC for supply of the necessary litter picking equipment. It had been extremely disappointing that TWBC had only supplied 12 sets of kit for the litter pick which had taken place in September. Despite the fact that the event had been scaled down because of the Covid-19 pandemic, this had left a number of volunteers without equipment. Cllr Staples had undertaken some research and reported that equipment for c.40 volunteers could be purchased for c.£300. The Council agreed that it would be helpful if the Council had its own equipment and did not have to rely on TWBC. It was felt that not only would this assist with organising the twice-yearly litter picks, but it would enable the Council to lend out equipment to any member of the community who wanted to undertake litter picking on an ad hoc basis throughout the year. The Council had recently received two such requests, which it had been unable to assist with due to the lack of its own equipment.

It was proposed by Cllr Tuke, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Staples continue to investigate the cost of purchasing the relevant equipment and report to the Council at the next meeting.

8. MEMORIAL CLEANING

Cllr Staples reported that he had been approached by a gentleman who cleans war graves and war memorials for the cost of the materials. He had indicated that he could clean the Frittenden War Memorial for a cost of c.£200.00. The Council noted that it was not long ago that the War Memorial had been cleaned and it was therefore not appropriate to incur that cost at this time. It was agreed that this should be revisited in a few years or if a major event was planned which was to focus on the War Memorial.

9. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that the Fund had made 31 grants to 10 applicants totalling £14,460. The balance to be distributed will stand at £6,601 once the Council has refunded the £18 bank charges incurred for the quarter to 31 December 2020.

10. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth reported that she had put sand on the sleeper steps up to the slide and this appeared to have resolved the problem with them being slippery when damp. The Clerk reported that Proludic did not have a product to resolve that problem, but they had indicated that gripper strips could be nailed to the steps. Those strips were said to be widely available via the internet and the Clerk would therefore investigate this option.

11. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee read out a report provided by the Community Benefit Society (CBS) set up to run the Community Shop project, a copy of which is annexed to these minutes. Cllr Gosbee commended the CBS for the fantastic work it was doing notwithstanding the difficult circumstances caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

12. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee thanked Cllr Fairweather for his help in finally getting the waste fly tipped on Dig Dog Lane removed by TWBC.

Regrettably, there had recently been a huge amount of waste dumped on Park Wood Lane, but this had now been cleared.

There is a problem with the ditch on the right hand side of the burial ground and it needed to be cleared. Cllr Gosbee had done some research on who might be responsible for this and had concluded that it was the landowner. Given that the Church had limited resources, Cllr Gosbee wondered whether any local residents with access to the relevant equipment might be prepared to assist with clearing the ditch. He felt that this would only require a couple of hours work.

The salt bin on Grandshore Lane had been righted but the lid was broken. Cllr Gosbee felt that it could be repaired relatively easily and he would liaise with Mike Ashbee as to how this could be done.

Cllr Gosbee asked about the birch trees that were to be planted on his land behind the War Memorial. Cllr Staples confirmed that the £1,000 grant from KCC had been confirmed. On receipt, an order could be placed with Golden Hill Nurseries, who would both supply and plant the trees with the necessary stakes and guards.

13. PLANNING

New Applications

20/03665/FULL	Weald Business Park, Dig Dog Lane, Frittenden Addition of a spray booth extract chimney on the roof (Retrospective) Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03549/FULL	Chanceford Cottage, Sand Lane, Frittenden Removal of Condition of 1 (time limit) of 15/506766/FULL and Condition 3 (occupation restriction) of 11/01951 as amended and re-imposed by Planning Permission: 15/506766/FULL to allow for the creation of a single dwelling Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (1 abstention)
20/03863/PNQCLA	Haffenden Farmhouse Bubhurst Lane Frittenden Prior Notification for the change of use of a building and land within its curtilage from an agricultural use to a use falling within Class C3 (Dwellinghouse) and building operations reasonably necessary to convert the building For it's prior approval to: - Transport and highways impacts; - Noise impacts; - Contamination risk; - Flooding risks; - Whether location or siting makes it impractical or undesirable - Design or external appearance - The provision of adequate natural light in all habitable rooms of the dwellinghouses NOTED
20/03406/FULL & LBC	Foxearth Cottage Rocks Hill Frittenden Proposed detached garage building; Proposed single storey extension to create entrance lobby / boot room / utility area; Internal alterations at ground, first and second floor levels; Alterations to existing fenestration along with proposed new windows. Installation of oil tank within garden area Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03397/FULL	1 The Limes The Street Frittenden Demolition of existing conservatory; erection of a single storey rear extension with flat roof, one rooflight and bi-folding doors opening onto the back garden; changes to fenestration Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03744/FULL	2 Marsh Cottages, Mill Lane, Frittenden Formation of new highways access and driveway to serve existing dwelling; new gate; landscaping Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03712/FULL	Tanyard Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden

	<p>New first and second floor rear extension and new ground floor side extension to existing house. Replacement of existing enclosed front porch with new open sided front porch. Replacement of existing double garage and adjacent outbuildings with new double garage with self-contained guest accommodation</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND REFUSAL on the basis that the proposed work as a whole amounted to overdevelopment of the property (3 abstentions)</p>
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Outcome of Previous applications

20/03102/FULL	<p>Old Hungerden, Green Lane, Frittenden Conversion of existing garden workshop to ancillary residential annexe; Erection of new garden shed and associated hedging. PERMISSION GRANTED</p>
20/03002/FULL	<p>Buckhurst Farm, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Demolition of an existing concrete agricultural barn; change of use and conversion of an agricultural Oast House Barn building and surrounding area to provide a single residential dwelling and garden area; provision of car parking area for proposed new dwelling. PERMISSION GRANTED</p>
20/02995/LBC	<p>Maplehurst Mill, Mill Lane, Frittenden Listed Building Consent - Remove the Perrymatic boiler and its high-level chimney flue and replace this with a High-Efficiency A-rated Grant Vortex Eco 26-35kW condensing boiler and provision of a round Low-Level balanced short flue; Install a wood burning stove PERMISSION GRANTED</p>
20/03360/FULL	<p>Buckhurst Farm Buildings, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Change of use and conversion from Agricultural Barn to two residential units and change of use of curtilage from agricultural land to provide residential gardens and parking spaces PERMISSION GRANTED</p>
20/03012/FULL	<p>Gould Farm, Mill Lane, Frittenden Temporary consent to use part of stable store as car store (Part Retrospective) PERMISSION REFUSED</p>

Planning appeals

- None.

14. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- KALC Training Events – The Clerk noted that KALC was running online courses on ‘An Introduction to Planning’ and ‘The Dynamic Councillor’ on 29 January 2021 and 23 February 2021 respectively.

- Request by PSCO Simon Humphries for input on potential locations for speed checks – It was agreed that Cllr Staples would liaise with PSCO Humphries in this regard.

15. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – JANUARY 2020					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - December
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – December
BACS	£78.87	nil	£78.87	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – January
BACS	£207.34	nil	£207.34	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – January
BACS	£51.80	nil	£51.80	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£18.00	nil	£18.00	Hardship Fund	Refund of bank charges (£18 per quarter)
BACS	£25.00	nil	£25.00	Frittenden WI	Contribution to replacement Memorial Tree
BACS	£25.00	nil	£25.00	Victim Support	s137 Donation
BACS	£50.00	nil	£50.00	West Kent YMCA	s137 Donation
BACS	£75.00	nil	£75.00	Hospice in the Weald	s137 Donation
BACS	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Relate	s137 Donation
BACS	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Kent Air Ambulance	s137 Donation
BACS	£50.00	nil	£50.00	High Weald Academy Farm	s137 Donation
BACS	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Frittenden Preschool	s137 Donation
BACS	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Hawkhurst Hospital League of Friends	s137 Donation
BACS	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Frittenden School	s137 Donation
BACS	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Royal British Legion	s137 Donation
BACS	£350.00	nil	£350.00	Frittenden Parochial Church Council	s137 Donation
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street lighting energy – December
Total	£1,619.55	£35.41	£1,584.14		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:29 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Report for Parish Council 19 January 2021

Frittenden Community Shop & Café Project

Funding

It will come as no surprise with the recent upsurge in COVID cases and the renewed lockdown that the flow of pledges for the Community Shop and Café project has slowed down. Although the vaccination programme has started, it has yet to make any impact on the confidence level of when restrictions will be eased and clearly a great deal of uncertainty remains as to what 2021 will bring.

Nevertheless, the response to our December postcard drop to every house in the village produced an additional twenty responses and the amounts pledged to date are £44,100 in shares, £11,000 in personal loans, £5,650 in donations and £1,250 in corporate sponsorship, a total of £62,000. So far, 93 people, representing 27% of the households in the village, have pledged their support. We believe this indicates a good level of support for the project within the village however the total, at this point, falls a long way short of our target.

We submitted an application for funding to Kent County Council before Christmas and await their response.

Our application to the Community Shares Booster Programme was not accepted as it was judged as being too early, particularly as we don't yet have planning permission.

Our exploration of other sources of external funding has so far shown that most are focussed on immediate responses to COVID. We will continue to research these and hope that as we get into 2021 there will be fresh sources with a focus on community development.

Share Offer

We have been progressing the Share Offer documentation but until we are clearer about the overall funding strategy, we will not be in a position to finalise this. At the moment it is very unlikely that we will be issuing the Share Offer documentation in March, as originally planned.

The Business Plan

The first edition of the Business Plan is now available on the website. This will be revised as our funding position develops but represents our view at the end of 2020.

Planning application

The preliminary design of the building was completed in December, in time for the submission of the planning application to TWBC on 15th December 2020.

This is a picture of the building design, as submitted:



The site

Discussions are progressing with the Memorial Hall Committee to agree a lease for the site, though have not yet concluded.

Thank you

Thank you for your support and please do encourage others to join this exciting venture for the future of our village!

John Stansfeld
Frittenden Community Stores Limited

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 16th February 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley
Cllr S Murray
Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Holden (County) & 1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident commented on the planning application submitted in relation to the Frittenden Community Shop (20/03755/FULL). They noted that the position of the boundary shown on the plans was incorrect because it failed to take account of the fact that a fence had been erected on land belonging to a neighbouring property, not the Memorial Hall. Cllr Vernon commented that the planning red line should correspond with the title of the applicant and therefore suggested that this be raised with those running the Community Shop Project. Cllr Riley stated, on behalf of the Memorial Hall, that it was quite possible that those who drew up the plans were not aware that the fence was not on land owned by the Memorial Hall and agreed that this should be raised with them.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr A Fairweather

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllr Riley declared an interest in planning application 21/00143/SUB

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

In Cllr Fairweather's absence, the Clerk read out a written report which he had kindly prepared.

Cllr Fairweather reported that TWBC's finance lead has reported significant shortfalls in income during the pandemic. Luckily TWBC has substantial reserves which will need to be used over the next 24 months. It will be in a position to see what central government does with other councils in a not so strong position before needing to apply for extra funding. However, Council tax likely to be raised by full 5% allowed.

The local elections will definitely take place this May and Frittenden will be voting for its County Councillor and police crime commissioner.

Cllr Fairweather was pleased to nominate 5 Frittenden residents for a community hero award. They all have had certificates. Rosie and Sean Croucher of the Bell & Jorrocks had several people nominate them.

Due to the garden waste collection service being suspended in the week commencing 8 February, TWBC has agreed with its contractor that for collections in the week commencing 22 February, its team will collect up to three extra sacks of garden waste, if your black garden waste bin is full. Please place these extra sacks next to your black garden waste bin on your collection day.

If your black garden waste bin is still out for collection, please bring it in and put it back out by 7am on your normal collection day in the week commencing 22 February.

TWBC is aware that there are areas with outstanding waste and recycling collections. Its team will be going back to any roads outstanding from last week's refuse collections. Any recycling missed from Wednesday 10 to Friday 12 February will be collected this week.

The Local Plan passed full council last week. It now progresses to the next stage called Regulation 19. Representations will be invited on this, which will then be passed, along with the Local Plan documents, to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination. Cllr Fairweather voted for the Local Plan as he thinks it is very fair to Frittenden and Sissinghurst. Frittenden has one site identified for approximately 20 house which Cllr Fairweather understands is acceptable.

Cllr Holden advised that KCC had held a budget meeting at which a 5% increase in Council Tax was confirmed. Adult Social Care continued to be a pressing need and the maximum increase allowed had therefore been taken in that regard.

The £10,000 pledged to the Frittenden Community Shop Project had been ring fenced.

The Transport & Environment Committee, which is chaired by Cllr Holden, had met an agreed formal action to oppose the raising of the maximum weight of lorries on our road. It had also written to both Central Government and 12 European countries strongly opposing the lifting of any prohibition on the use of neonicotinoids.

Central Government has refunded to KCC the costs incurred in looking after unaccompanied asylum seeking children. However, KCC continued to press for other counties to contribute in future.

A £10m grant had been received from Central Government to allow Helping Hand grants to be paid to aid people and businesses particularly badly affected by the Covid-19 restrictions. KCC was adding another £500,000 to help businesses recover.

A very low level of lorries had been recorded going through Kent's ports since Brexit. This was largely a product of the pandemic.

Cllr Holden has made a grant of £2,300 to Well Being in the Weald to help combat the impact of the pandemic on mental health.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 19th January 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parish Field – Picnic Bench

The Clerk had circulated 3 options for a new picnic bench to replace the damaged picnic bench. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Clerk be instructed to order an All Weather Commercial A Frame 5ft Picnic Bench from Sustainable Furniture at a cost of £210.00 plus delivery.

A resident had offered to take away the damaged picnic bench and, if they were able to repair it, place it near a public footpath in woodland they own. The Council agreed that this was a lovely idea and it was therefore happy to authorise the resident to take the damaged bench away.

Parish Field – Drainage

Following receipt of further information on the cost of regularly verti draining the field, the Council agreed not to do this at the current time, but revisit it with the Grounds Maintenance contractor if the condition of the field became an issue.

Footpath Warden

The Clerk will draft instructions to the Footpath Warden for consideration at the next meeting of the Council.

Declarations Book

The Clerk confirmed that she continues to research who might be able to supply such a book as a bespoke item.

Litter Picking Equipment

Cllr Staples had researched and circulated details of the equipment that would need to be purchased to ensure that future community clean-ups could be equipped by the Council without having to rely on borrowing equipment from TWBC. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council purchase 40 sets of Hi Viz jackets, disposable gloves, litter grabbers, heavy duty sacks and plastic hoops to hold the sacks open. The Council would also purchase a number of small first aid kits which can be carried by the volunteers.

PCSO Humphreys Speed Checks

Cllr Staples has discussed with PCSO Humphreys possible sites where he can set up speed checks. PCSO Humphreys is planning on attending the next meeting of the Council.

6. CONSULTATION VISION ZERO – THE ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY FOR KENT

Cllr Staples considered that the proposals were, on the whole, sensible and he was pleased that KCC wanted to listen to local people. He only hoped that they didn't just listen to those who were the loudest or most articulate, because road safety was an issue which affected all residents of the County.

Cllr Staples also noted that any measures taken to address road safety would be ineffective without more resources being put into enforcing speed restrictions.

Cllrs Riley and Gosbee confirmed that they would be attending one of the workshop sessions being held by KCC.

Cllr Holden encouraged members of the Council to submit their comments both as individuals and on behalf of the Council, as a consultation was only valuable if as many people as possible participated. Cllr Staples agreed to submit a response on behalf of the Council.

7. FLY TIPPING

Cllr Riley noted that recent incidents of fly tipping had been so bad that she had encouraged residents to raise the issue with their County and Borough Councillors, as well as their MP. One incident involved someone driving through the entire village throwing out what appeared to be parts of a fitted kitchen. The resulting waste was dangerous with nails sticking out of wood. There had also been an extremely dangerous incident where bricks had been dumped in the road on Headcorn Road. Those bricks had subsequently been covered by snow causing a hidden hazard for drivers.

Cllr Holden commented that KCC considered that there had been little increase in the tonnage of waste fly tipped in the County, however he argued that it was the number of individual incidents, not the total tonnage, that was significant. Further, whilst this was not the view of many County Councillors, Officers of KCC believed that there was no correlation between the amount of waste fly tipped and the rise in charges for the disposal of commercial waste. This was, therefore, a continuing discussion within KCC. Cllr Holden did not consider CCTV to be the answer, because this simply moved the problem to another area without CCTV. However, there have been notable prosecutions recently and Trading Standards have been investigating where there is involvement by organised crime. It is therefore important that all incidents, and any evidence for where the waste came from, continues to be reported.

Cllr Vernon commented that, in his view, the lack of local waste disposal facilities in Kent and the cost was entirely responsible for fly tipping in the County.

Cllr Staples noted that the Council had, during the course of this discussion, made it clear to the County Councillor for Frittenden that fly tipping was an ongoing and unacceptable issue which the Council would continue to raise.

Cllr Staples also noted that Harborough District Council had recently won a national award for the measures it had taken to combat fly tipping and he encouraged TWBC to take that as an example of what could and should be done.

8. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that the Committee that administered the Fund had not met for four weeks because it had not received any applications.

9. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth continued to carry out regular inspections. She had recently found and disposed of two broken sledges which had been left in the playground. Cllrs Gosbee and Murray would receive training to allow them to join the inspection rota as soon as the weather improved.

10. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The Council received the report annexed to these minutes. Cllr Riley, on behalf of the Memorial Hall, confirmed that discussions between those running the Community Shop Project and the Hall Committee continued.

11. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee noted that there were a number of smallish potholes which he was keeping under review. The lane which links Bettenham Lane and Hareplain Lane was particularly bad at one end, with the potholes representing a danger to cyclists or motorcyclists. He was therefore trying to get them dealt with.

As already mentioned, fly tipping had been a particular problem.

Cllr Gosbee had reported work being done to erect a fence only around 6” from the Highway and was concerned that work which appeared to be aimed at raising the ground level was also taking place on the same site. This represented a flood risk but Cllr Gosbee had been told by different agencies that enforcement action was not practically possible for a number of reasons.

Mike Ashbee had looked at the ditch near the burial ground and advised that it needs digging out. Cllr Gosbee commented that he could ask for the glug machine to come, but they would only do a specific drain and all of them needed to be done for this to be effective.

Cllr Gosbee had spoken to the Footpath Warden who had not encountered any problems to date.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that two streetlights were out. She would provide details to the Clerk who would ask the contractor to attend to them.

12. PLANNING

New Applications

21/00023/FULL	4 Bourner Cottages , Dig Dog Lane, Frittenden Proposed rear extension and side porch addition Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03028/FULL & 20/03027/FULL	Land At Waterman Quarter, Coldharbour Lane, Frittenden Dig a wildlife pond; with fencing around the outside with an access gate. Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/02904/FULL & 20/02905/LBC	Church Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Proposed change of use to provide storage for residential and for use of the church. Remove the internal existing modern wall and construct a new partition further into the portion currently used by the church. The mezzanine storage would be continued as a full ceiling, possibly at a lower level but above the tie beams and below the cinquefoil window on the side elevation. This would create an additional first floor storage as well. The division would be a standalone timber frame for the use of storage. Inset glass for the cinquefoil possibly plexiglass. Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
20/03755/FULL	Rear of Frittenden Village Memorial Hall Cranbrook Road Frittenden Demolition of open storage area and erection of a timber framed building (Community Store and Cafe) NOTED
21/00143/SUB	Broad Oak House Mill Lane Frittenden Submission of Details in Relation to Conditions 3 (Materials) of 20/01150/FULL and 3 (Materials), 4 (Lean To External Materials), 5a (Joinery Section and Elevation Drawings), b (Typical Detail Section Drawings) and c (Method Statement) of 20/01151/LBC Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee

	RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Cllr Riley did not participate in the discussion or vote having declared an interest)
21/00253/TCA	Inver Headcorn Road Frittenden Tree in a conservation area notification: T1 (WILLOW) - Reduce back to previous points to manage as a pollard in future; T2 (BIRCH) - Carry out a 30 percent reduction with a proportionate width reduction, cutting back to appropriate branch axils NOTED
20/03720/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Reinstate & update dilapidated pole barn within original footprint. Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Murray RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (1 abstention)

Outcome of Previous applications

20/03665/FULL	Unit 4, Weald Business Park, Dig Dog Lane, Frittenden Retrospective - Addition of a spray booth extract chimney on the roof PERMISSION GRANTED
20/03397/FULL	1 The Limes, The Street, Frittenden Demolition of existing conservatory; erection of a single storey rear extension with flat roof, one rooflight and bi-folding doors opening onto the back garden; changes to fenestration. PERMISSION GRANTED
20/03549/FULL	Chanceford Cottage, Sand Lane, Frittenden Removal of Condition of 1 (time limit) of 15/506766/FULL and Condition 3 (occupation restriction) of 11/01951 as amended and re-imposed by Planning Permission: 15/506766/FULL to allow for the creation of a single dwelling PERMISSION GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None.

13. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- KALC Annual Planning Conference – The Clerk advised that this event was taking place by Zoom on 17 March 2021.

14. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – FEBRUARY 2021				
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Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£307.20	£51.20	£256.00	Defib Store	Replacement pads for defibrillators
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - January
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – January
BACS	£64.39	nil	£64.39	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk’s Expenses – February
BACS	£145.62	nil	£145.62	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk’s Salary – February
BACS	£36.40	nil	£36.40	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Tunbridge Wells & District CAB	s137 Donation
BACS	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Tunbridge Wells Samaritans	s137 Donation
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street lighting energy – January
Total	£942.15	£86.61	£855.54		

- Cllr Riley advised that Nick Bull will refund the Council for the cost of the defibrillator pads from the money collected to purchase that equipment in memory of Annie Bull.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:25 pm.

Chairman’s Signature: _____

Date: _____

Report for Parish Council Meeting 16 February 2021

Frittenden Community Shop & Café Project

To date our pledges amount to £62,940 so we still have a long way to go.

Our Member grant funding application to Kent County Council has been accepted subject to planning permission. Due to forthcoming County Council elections we have been informed that any publicity in relation to this grant must only make reference to the funding being from KCC, not a local Member and must not include the name of the Member who provided the grant.

We continue to explore other external funding sources and will be submitting an application to National Lottery – Reaching Communities. The Parish Council will also be submitting an application for funding for the Community Shop project via the Kent & Medway Advisory Board who are looking for Capital Project suggestions in advance of Levelling Up Fund and The UK Shared Prosperity Fund announcements. We are hoping that 2021 will also bring more community focused grant possibilities.

Our planning application was submitted in December 2020 and we hope to have a decision by the end of March 2021.

Berni Cooper

Frittenden Community Stores Limited

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Wednesday 17th March 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Riley
Cllr S Murray
Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough), PCSO Humphreys & 1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

PSCO Humphreys took questions from Councillors.

Cllr Riley asked whether there wasn't a police presence in the Village because officers had been redeployed to support operations around the M20. PSCO Humphreys confirmed that while members of Kent Police's Rural Task Force had been working in connection with those operations, the police remained operational in the Village. If a crime was in progress or life was in danger, residents should call 999. Otherwise, residents could contact the police by using the 101 number or live chat facility on the Kent Police website. The latter connected you with the control room, who would then assess and dispatch the appropriate response.

PCSO Humphreys reported that, other than domestic incidents, the only crime reported in the Village since February 2021 was the theft of tools from a vehicle parked outside the Bell & Jorrocks. Investigations were continuing in connection with that incident.

Cllr Vernon noted that the Village WhatsApp group sought to identify characters/vehicles acting suspiciously, but often the registration numbers of the vehicles did not match the records for that vehicle and this hampered reporting. PSCO Humphreys stressed that any suspicious activity should be reported and if a registration number did not match the vehicle that in itself should be reported.

Cllr Staples asked whether PSCO Humphreys had carried out any speed checks in the village now he had access to the relevant equipment. Cllr Cullingworth stated that a speed check had been set up at the top of the village that morning and Cllr Fairweather confirmed that this was as a result of his lobbying. PCSO Humphreys confirmed that it was his intention to carry out more speed checks and it was agreed that he should target Biddenden Lane and around the junction with The Street, Mill Lane and Headcorn Road.

A member of the public wished to comment on planning application 21/00615/FULL. The resident responded to some of the comments which had been submitted to the planning authority. In particular, the resident sought to correct what were stated to be factual inaccuracies in those comments, particularly around whether the proposed development site fell within the residential curtilage of the neighbouring property. Cllr Staples noted that this was a matter of fact which could be resolved with reference to TWBC.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllr Vernon declared an interest in planning application 21/00615/FULL

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that, as of 16th March 2021, Covid figures (per 100,000) were as follows:

England: 58.4, Kent: 28.6, Tunbridge Wells Borough: 16.8

There are two asymptomatic testing centres in the Borough (Cranbrook & Tunbridge Wells). Those centres have carried out 32,400 tests in the last 7 days, with a positivity rate of 0.4 per 100,000. The Cranbrook testing centre is reducing its hours of operation to between 9am and 2:30pm.

The number of Covid patients in Tunbridge Wells Hospital is very low.

TWBC held a full Council meeting in February, at which the budget was ratified with largely cross-party support.

Business Rates Grants to assist business impacted by the Covid restrictions continue and anyone who might be eligible is encouraged to apply.

Cllr Fairweather wrote to the Police & Crime Commissioner about 4 weeks ago to express residents' concerns about livered villages being driven at speed through the village. The speed check deployment referred to above was authorised in response to that letter and a Police Inspector has assured Cllr Fairweather that future deployments are planned, in addition to those to be carried out by PCSO Humphreys.

Cllr Fairweather noted that 5 or 6 people in the Village were recipients of Hero Awards to recognise their contributions to the community during the pandemic. Those recipients included the organisers of the Yellow Card Scheme, the Bell & Jorrocks and Nicky Robinson.

Cllr Fairweather has had lots of conversations with residents about fly tipping and has written to the relevant officer at TWBC. He has been told that TWBC will be putting up new posters in areas affected and there are now 3 cameras which can be moved between sites to try and catch offenders (2 belonging to TWBC & 1 belonging to KCC). Cllr Fairweather is lobbying to have the cameras deployed in Frittenden.

Cllr Fairweather reported that waste collection remains a problem for some parts of the Village, particularly the Grandshore Lane area. TWBC is still sharing facilities with Sevenoaks Borough Council after the fire at Sevenoaks' tip. This is causing long delays at the tip and means that vehicles cannot empty their loads quickly enough to complete their rounds.

Cllr Fairweather had written a comprehensive report for the next edition of the Parish Magazine and his contact details appear on the weekly online newsletter produced by TWBC. Cllr Staples encouraged residents to sign up for that newsletter, as he found it very informative. Amongst other things, it included a reminder for which bin was to be collected that week and notification of any nearby planning applications.

Cllr Fairweather confirmed that he had planted the new memorial tree on the Parish Field. Cllr Staples thanked Cllr Staples for this and for taking on the issues of speeding and fly tipping, which appeared to have gone from bad to worse.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 16th February 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parish Field – Picnic Bench

A new bench had now been purchased. Cllrs Vernon and Cullingworth volunteered to put it together and will liaise with the Clerk in that regard.

Cllr Staples advised that the cost of the bench had been covered by an anonymous donor. The Council expressed their gratitude for that kind gesture.

Litter Picking Equipment

The litter picking event planned for March will not go ahead after the Parish Council was advised that it was not compatible with social distancing restrictions. There was a national initiative in May and the event could be rescheduled to coincide with it. In the meantime, the Parish Council now had its own litter picking equipment which could be lent out to residents wishing to carry out their own litter picking on request. Something to this effect will be put on the Frittenden Community Facebook page and in the Parish Magazine.

Cllr Staples will liaise with the Clerk as to where the equipment will be stored.

Vision Zero

Cllr Staples had completed the consultation document on behalf of the Parish Council, reflecting the comments made by the Councillors. Cllr Riley reported that she had attended a workshop which was part of the consultation for Vision Zero. She had found the discussion to be very interesting and felt that everyone attending got a chance to express their thoughts. Cllr Riley had raised the fact that Parish Councils, to include this Parish Council, often felt powerless to do anything meaningful in relation to road safety as a result of financial constraints. The Vision Zero team contacted Cllr Riley after the event asking whether they could contact her in the future to canvass her views.

6. FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS & ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Local authorities are currently permitted to meet remotely but the legislation which allows that to happen expires on 6 May 2021. This means that local authorities will not be able to meet remotely via Zoom after that date, but will remain subject to social distancing rules to include limits on the number of people who can meet indoors or outdoors. In most cases, this will render it impractical to hold meetings until restrictions are lifted on or after 21 June 2021. However, Parish Councils are required to hold an Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May. Whilst NALC and KALC are lobbying MPs to try to get the current permission extended, it was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to move the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to 5th May 2021. It will now take place immediately after the conclusion of the Annual Parish Assembly.

It had been hoped that the Annual Parish Assembly would be an opportunity for the community to come together after a difficult year for everyone, but that meeting will have to take place remotely in light of the ongoing social distancing restrictions. It was suggested that a second Parish

Assembly could take place in the summer, perhaps to coincide with the completion of renovations to the Memorial Hall.

It was further agreed that the Council Meetings scheduled for Tuesday 15th June and Tuesday 21st September would be moved to Wednesday 16th June and Wednesday 22nd September respectively to avoid clashes with TWBC Parish Chairmen's Meetings.

7. PARISH CHAIRMEN'S MEETING

Cllr Staples circulated the report annexed to these minutes.

8. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS 2021/22

The Clerk had received two quotes which were considered by the Council. It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Cullinworth, and **RESOLVED** (with 1 abstention) to award the following contracts to Kent Grassland Services:

CONTRACT 1 – to mow the Parish Field grass (a maximum of 16 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) to include mowing the play area and strimming around the play equipment as necessary, with care being taken not to cause any strimmer damage to the play equipment; to trim under trees and surrounding areas including field edges as necessary, paying particular attention to removing any brambles under the weeping birch; to mow/cut the grass mounds within the Parish Field (a maximum of 8 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) at £1225.00.

CONTRACT 3 – to cut the entire length of the Paddock hedges (vertical faces and tops), including hedge on road boundary and hedge between Paddock and Frittenden House (a maximum of 2 cuts per annum to take place in May and September, weather permitting) at £160.00.

CONTRACT 4 – to cut the outer side of hedge between the Parish Field & Laundry Lane, by hand, and to remove all cuttings (2 cuts per annum to take place in May and September, weather permitting) at £125.00.

CONTRACT 5 – to cut all internal vertical faces and tops of hedges within the Parish Field, and to remove all cuttings (1 cut per annum) at £120.00.

And the following contract to Mr M Ashbee:

CONTRACT 2 – to mow the grass and cut the hedge at the War Memorial (a maximum of 16 cuts per annum March to November, weather permitting) to Mr M. Ashbee at £120.

9. RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP OF ACTION WITH COMMUNITIES IN RURAL KENT

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to renew the Parish Council's membership at a cost of £55.

10. INSTRUCTIONS TO FOOTPATH WARDEN

It was proposed by Cllr Cullinworth, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to adopt the instructions annexed to these minutes.

The Council agreed that the Footpath Warden could provide the Clerk with a written report which would be read out at the Annual Parish Assembly.

11. PLANTING OF BIRCH TREES

Cllr Staples reported that the KCC grant kindly arranged by Cllr Holden had been received and that the trees were due to be planted on 18th March 2021. A small group of trees would be planted behind the War Memorial and some more would be planted in the burial ground. By the time the order was placed, the cost of the trees had increased from £1,000 plus VAT to £1,200 plus VAT. It had been decided under the delegated powers granted to the Clerk, and in consultation with Cllrs Staples and Tuke in accordance with those powers, to accept this cost increase, particularly as it was offset by the cost saving achieved in respect of the new picnic bench.

12. MEMORIAL HALL UPDATE

Cllr Riley reported that phase one of the renovation were due to commence on 1st April 2021 but would, in fact, begin a week early at the request of the contractor. The Polling Station for the local elections in May would still be at the Memorial Hall. Cllr Riley had checked with the relevant authority and they are content that the works, which will be screened off, will not impact on the operation of the Polling Station.

Cllr Riley noted that fund raising continues in respect of the monies needed to complete the later phases of the planned renovation works.

An unforeseen problem had arisen over the siting of the planned Community Shop on the Hall's land. This centred around the length of lease which the Hall, as a charity, was able to grant. The Hall Trustees and Community Shop Committee were working to try to resolve the issue.

13. HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that the committee had met once last month and made one grant. The balance remaining to be distributed was £6,301. Cllr Staples noted that the rate of applications had been tailing off and the hope was that there was sufficient funds remaining to cover any need arising pending the lifting of restrictions on or after 21 June 2021.

14. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth will begin weekly inspections as the weather improves prompting greater usage of the playground.

It had come to Cllr Cullingworth's attention that a 5 year old child had suffered a broken arm slipping or tripping near the sleepers. This incident had not been reported by the child's family. The Clerk confirmed that the incident would be noted in the accident book and stressed that all such incidents should be immediately reported to the Clerk, whose contact details were displayed on the sign by the playground.

15. COMMUNITY SHOP UNPDATE

Cllr Gosbee confirmed that planning permission had been granted for the Community Shop building. There was no further update pending resolution of the issue identified above.

16. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee noted that fly tipping continues to be a problem. Waste dumped on Dig Dog Lane had been cleared, but bags of waste had been dumped in a number of locations along Ayleswade Lane. The large amount of rubble dumped on Sand Land had been reported and Cllr Gosbee was hopeful that it would soon be cleared.

Cllr Gosbee had reported the potholes along the lane between Bettenham Lane and Hareplain Lane. He was keeping the potholes along Grandshore Lane under review.

Cllr Vernon reported that Southern Water had attended to fix the leak in Biddenden Road.

Cllr Riley expressed, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanks to Cllr Gosbee for his continued efforts notwithstanding his recent health difficulties.

17. PLANNING

New Applications

21/00188/FULL	Broadlake Farm, Mill Lane, Frittenden Replace the existing barn building with a new 3 bed dwelling with associated car parking and landscaping Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/00211/FULL	Ferrers, Sand Lane, Frittenden Development of a single four bedroom detached dwelling and detached garage; proposed new access and access gates; associated landscaping works. Proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Murray RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND REFUSAL on the basis that: (i) The site is outside the Limits to Built Development in Frittenden; (ii) The proposed development will have a negative impact on the character and existing plot pattern of development along Sand Lane; (iii) The site does not represent a sustainable form of development. (VOTE: 3 For, 1 Against, 2 Abstentions) Cllr Vernon did not participate in the discussion or vote having declared an interest
21/00608/SUB	Oasthouse South West Of Cherry Tree Farmhouse, Mill Lane, Frittenden Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 4 (Written Specification for Recording) of 19/01827/LBC Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/00599/TCA	Well House, The Street, Frittenden Trees in a Conservation Area Notification: Unknown species- Remove and replace with a specimen tree. NOTED

Outcome of Previous applications

20/03406/FULL & 20/03407/LBC	Foxearth Cottage, Rocks Hill, Frittenden Proposed detached garage building; Proposed single storey extension to create entrance lobby / boot room / utility area; Internal alterations at ground, first and second floor levels; Alterations to existing fenestration along with proposed new windows. Installation of oil tank within garden area. PERMISSION GRANTED
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20/03712/FULL	Tanyard Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden New first and second floor rear extension and new ground floor side extension to existing house. Replacement of existing enclosed front porch with new open sided front porch. Replacement of existing double garage and adjacent outbuildings with new double garage with self contained guest accommodation. APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
20/03744/FULL	2 Marsh Cottages, Mill Lane, Frittenden Formation of new highways access and driveway to serve existing dwelling; new gate; landscaping PERMISSION GRANTED
21/00023/FULL	4 Bourner Cottages , Dig Dog Lane, Frittenden Proposed part two storey, part single storey rear extension and side porch addition PERMISSION GRANTED
21/00253/TCA	Inver, Headcorn Road, Frittenden Tree in a conservation area notification: T1 (WILLOW) - Reduce back to previous points to manage as a pollard in future; T2 (BIRCH) - Carry out a 30 percent reduction with a proportionate width reduction, cutting back to appropriate branch axils NO OBJECTION
20/03755/FULL	Frittenden Memorial Hall, The Street, Frittenden Demolition of open storage area & erection of timber framed building (Community Shop & Café) PERMISSION GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None.

Model Design Code

- Cllr Vernon noted that the Government was looking at a national design code and that consultation was independent of the planning changes proposed by the White Paper. Cllr Vernon had reviewed the consultation documentation, which appeared sensible. However, he was concerned about how the proposed engagement would, in practice, encompass small communities who were prevented from putting in place Neighbourhood Plans due to financial constraints. It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Staples, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Vernon provide appropriate responses to the consultation document for submission by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council.

At this point, Cllr Staples formally extended the meeting beyond the usual 2 hour limit to allow the remaining agenda items to be addressed.

18. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- None

19. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – March 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£210.00	£35.00	£175.00	Sustainable Furniture (UK) Ltd	Replacement Picnic Bench
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - February
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – February
BACS	£66.19	nil	£66.119	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – March
BACS	£184.35	nil	£184.35	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – March
BACS	£9.00	nil	£9.00	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Underpayment of Clerk's Salary - February
BACS	£46.00	nil	£46.00	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£55.00	nil	£55.00	ACRK	Membership Fee 2021/22
BACS	£125.28	£20.88	£104.40	Zafety Supplies	40 x High Vis Vests, 40 x gloves, 20 x First Aid Kits
BACS	£107.29	£17.85	£89.44	Pickerz.co.uk – Derbyshire Services	20 x Bin Bag Hoops
BACS	£191.52	£31.92	£159.60	Safetyshop _ Brady Corp Ltd	40 x Litter Grabbers
BACS	£1,248.00	£48.00	£1,200.00	Golden Hill Nurseries	42 x Betula Pendula Trees & Tree planting services
BACS	£390.00	£65.00	£325.00	Streetlights	Replacement of faulty lantern
BACS	£29.70	£4.95	£24.75	Cleaning Supplies 4U	100 x Heavy duty sacks
BACS	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Kenward Trust	S137 Donation
DD	£33.00	£1.57	£31.43	EON	Street lighting energy – February
Total	£2,997.33	£258.84	£2,738.49		

POINT OF INFORMATION

Cllr Riley noted that, whilst she had no intention of resigning her position as Councillor, she would be taking a step back due to the need to focus on her recovery from illness. She would continue to be an active member of the Parish Council whenever possible, but would miss meetings over the next few months to give herself the time she needed to recover her health. The Council was grateful to Cllr Riley for all she did for the community and agreed to accept her apologies whenever she felt it was not possible for her to attend a meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:44 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parish Chairmen's meeting**16th March 2021****1. Tunbridge Wells agreement**

This is now agreed in final form. As there were one or two tweaks I'll circulate the definitive version

2. Electoral Review

Periodic review of ward arrangements in TW is about to begin. Conducted by the Boundary Commission and can be routine or triggered by specific local issues. For T Wells this is because >30 % of wards differ from the average ward size by >10%. The idea is to ensure equal representation, as far as practicable, for all electors.

TWBC will need to decide if wards are to be single member (with votes of all councillors once every 4 years), or 3 member wards (with votes for 1/3 of councillors each year). The present situation is a mixture, which is no longer permissible.

Timetable**Stage 1**

Decide no of councillors and whether wards should be single- member or 3-member wards. Once this decision is made the Boundary Commission will review ward boundaries. TWBC is a statutory consultee, Parish Councils and private individuals will have the opportunity to make representations. Process starts in May
Public consultation due this summer
TWBC agree changes by October
Electoral commission makes decision by December

Stage 2

Look at warding arrangements.
12-week consultation period in Spring 2022
Draft arrangements proposed
Further consultation for 8 weeks
Possible final 4-week consultation if unresolved issues remain after this.

New wards will apply in the 2024 local election.

MB this will take account of likely changes through developments scheduled in the Local Plan.

The Electoral commission can only deal with ward arrangements. TWBC is responsible for looking at parish boundaries and will review these after the process is complete.

3. CAV

Remains suspended until June 21st and thereafter will depend on whether Covid secure arrangements can be made. Some locations will be difficult. Intention is to hold back until all locations can be serviced safely. Meanwhile drivers' hours saved by not having the CAV vehicle are used to support routine collections.

4. Virtual Meetings

Not legally possible after 6th May leaving a problem between 7th May and 21st June (or whenever restrictions eased). Appears to have a low priority at central government: LGA is taking challenging the government in court.

May need to consider rescheduling meetings as a precaution.

5. Declaration of Pecuniary interests

Mixture of paper and email declarations has created confusion during lockdown, therefore use email only in future. Scanned signed documents or electronic signature are acceptable. TWBC will undertake to confirm receipt of all documents submitted.

6. Model code of conduct

KCC producing an updated model code of conduct which we will be encouraged to adopt. There will also be a Parish Council Toolkit.

7. Other items

TWBC email newsletter

Introduced in January relatively low take-up so far (10-20 in Frittenden) but appreciated by those who receive it (alerts you to nearby planning apps – and reminds you of bin collections for your postcode!) Encourage take up. Can be used to carry parish news.

Register at <https://tunbridgewells-self.achieveservice.com/>

Crowdfund.Kent

KCC have launched Crowdfund Kent to help fund community-led coronavirus (COVID-19) recovery projects across the county.

AJS

17.3 2021

FRITTENDEN PARISH COUNCIL**FOOTPATH WARDEN**

1. The role of Footpath Warden of the Parish Council is a voluntary position and the appointment of a volunteer will be confirmed each year at the Annual Parish Assembly at the discretion of the Parish Council.
2. The role comprises:
 - Having knowledge of where public rights of way and established permissive paths exist in the parish and basic rights of way law (see Guidance Note attached);
 - Walking public and permissive paths in the parish regularly to spot any problems as they arise;
 - Reporting issues that arise to Kent County Council (see Guidance Note attached)
 - Reporting to the Parish Council at its Annual Parish Assembly and at other times as appropriate.
3. As a volunteer working on behalf of the Parish Council those appointed Footpath Warden will enjoy the cover provided by the Parish Council's insurance policy.

March 2021

GUIDANCE NOTE

Definitions of Public Right of Way

Footpath (FP)

For walkers only. Prams, pushchairs or wheelchairs are allowed along a public footpath. Public Footpath are normally waymarked in yellow.

Bridleway (BW)

For walkers, horse riders and pedal cyclists. Cyclists must give way to walkers and horse riders.

Bridleways are normally waymarked in blue.

Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT)

These are often referred to as Byways, for motor vehicles, cyclists, horse riders and walkers. Because of its nature, a byway is used mainly as a footpath or bridleway.

BOATS are normally waymarked in red.

Restricted Byway (RBW)

For walkers, horse riders, cyclists and horse drawn vehicles.

Restricted byways are normally waymarked in mauve

Countryside Access Land (CA)

On Countryside Access Land, there is in many cases the “right to roam” under the provisions of the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 (the CROW Act).

Additional Information

All Public Rights of Way carry a definitive number with a prefix for the area. The Public Rights of Way in the parish can be seen on the KCC Explore Kent Website.

Go to <http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.ExploreKent.Web.Sites.Public/Default.aspx>

When viewing the map turn on the Public Rights of Way layer using the key on the right-hand side. The definitive number for any Public Right of Way can be found by clicking on the relevant path as this will bring up its number.

A permissive route is not a Public Right of Way. The public are allowed to use it with the kind permission of the landowner, but such permission can be withdrawn.

Kent County Council does not hold records of private rights of way or access. Any Public Right of Way may also be subject to other private rights of access.

Rights of Way Widths

There is no general statutory definition of a minimum or maximum width. However, a width may be recorded in the Definitive Statement or the right of way may have a customary width. Statutory provisions only apply in respect of paths which have been disturbed or ploughed. In such cases the minimum widths are:

- Cross field footpath 1.0 meters
- Field edge path 1.5 meters
- Cross field bridleway 2.0 meters
- Field edge bridleway 3.0 meters
- Restricted Byway 5.0 meters

Inspecting paths to check for problems

Parish Footpath Wardens should walk all the paths in their parish at least once a year to ensure that the following are in place and, if not, report the problem to KCC:

1. Paths are signposted where they join a metalled road (either public or private) with two signs either side of a road where the same path crosses a road;
2. Paths are free of obstructions, such as fallen trees, electric fences, barbed wire, barriers, fencing, ditches, debris, posts;
3. Paths have sufficient waymarking with the correct coloured waymark;
4. Stiles and gates are in good condition and free of barbed wire;
5. Paths across ploughed fields have been reinstated and so are clearly marked;
6. In arable fields, there are no crops growing on the paths;
7. Path widths are generally correct (eg they have not been encroached by foliage or crops);
8. No fierce animals (bulls, dogs, horses);
9. No intimidating signs (beware of dogs etc);
10. No misleading notices (e.g. Private);
11. No unauthorised diversions;
12. No people using firearms close to a footpath;
13. No cyclists or horse riders using footpaths;
14. No motor vehicles using footpaths, bridleways or restricted byways;
15. No missing bridges.

How to report problems

Problems should be reported to Kent County Council, ideally by means of the online system at <https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccesscams/issues/default.aspx>

To make a report you will have to register your details with the site. Please make it clear that you are reporting on behalf of Frittenden Parish Council. Registering enables KCC to contact you if necessary and to send you email updates. It also allows you to track the current status of the problems you have reported and to report more issues without having to resubmit your details.

Should it not be possible for you to make an online report, you can notify Kent County Council by:

Telephone at 03000 417171

Email at eastprow@kent.gov.uk

Post to Public Rights of Way & Access Service, Kent County Council, The Granary, Penstock Hall Farm, Canterbury Road, East Brabourne, Ashford, Kent, TN25 5LL.

Your report should contain your name and contact details, as well as the location of the problem (preferably with reference to the path number), a description of the problem you encountered and the date that you saw it.

KCC has published a great deal of useful information about Public Rights of Way on its website. This information can be accessed via the homepage at:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public-rights-of-way>

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 27th April 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
 Cllr J Tuke
 Cllr L Gosbee
 Cllr H Cullingworth
 Cllr R Riley
 Cllr S Murray
 Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk) and one member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

None

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 17th March 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parish Field – Picnic Bench

The new bench had been assembled and put into position. Cllr Staples thanked Cllr Vernon for doing this.

Litter Picking Equipment

The Parish Council now had its own litter picking equipment which could be lent to residents on request. No requests had yet been received and it was agreed that this facility would be advertised more widely. Cllr Staples had put a piece in the Parish Magazine and will also put something on the Community Facebook page.

It was agreed that the Spring Clean Up would take place on Saturday 22 May 2021. Cllr Cullingworth once again kindly agreed to organise the event and liaise with TWBC to ensure that the rubbish collected was picked up as promptly as possible this year.

Rescheduling of Parish Council Meetings

In light of the ongoing uncertainty over whether remote meetings could legally take place after the current legislation expires on 6 May 2021, it was agreed to move the Parish Council meeting scheduled to take place on 16 June 2021 until after Covid-19 social distancing restrictions were lifted on 21 June 2021. The meeting will now take place on 22 June 2021 at the Memorial Hall.

Tree Planting

The new beech trees have been planted and Cllr Staples is watering those planted in the burial ground.

Village Hall Update

Cllr Riley reported that the Memorial Hall had been granted £25,000 by Kent County Council as a contribution towards the cost of phase two of the refurbishments. Additional grants of £10,000 and £15,000 had been received from other funds but c.£100,000 still needed to be raised to complete the project.

6. TWBC LOCAL PLAN

Cllr Vernon had reviewed the latest iteration of the Local Plan now out for consultation. There were no changes from the last draft in respect of the one site allocated in Frittenden. Some of the comments made in respect of the priorities for the application of any developer's contribution had been taken into account and some had not. Reference to the provision of educational and health services, as well as the provision of allotments, remained but it was felt that these were standard policies which would be applied regardless of the individual circumstances of the locality. The Parish Council's representations on the need for traffic calming and car parking had been taken into account and included in the current draft, as had the Council's reference to the Memorial Hall. The Parish Council's representations on the need for smaller houses, as opposed to large executive homes, and affordable housing had also been listened to. Cllr Vernon commented that the Community Shop & Café project was at a very early stage during the last consultation and reference had not therefore been made to support for that project. However, it might now be appropriate to include a reference to the Community Shop & Café. It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Vernon would liaise with Berni Cooper and, if appropriate, make a representation that the Community Shop & Café should also be included as a community priority prior to the deadline for comments.

7. VILLAGE GATEWAYS

Cllr Staples noted that attaching posters or other signage to the Village gateway signs caused a potentially hazardous distraction to motorists. Councillors agreed that it probably constituted illegal flyposting. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that it be made a policy of the Parish Council that no signage, posters or other items should be attached to the Village gateway signs.

8. PARISH MAGAZINE

Cllr Riley noted that Mike Cooper had now retired from editing the Parish Magazine. Councillors expressed their thanks and gratitude to Mr Cooper for the many years of service he had given to the Parish Magazine. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Parish Council would recognise Mr Cooper's contribution to the community with a token of its appreciation.

9. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that the Fund had made two grants totally £800 in the last month. Total grants of £15,810 had been made to date and £5,233 remained to be distributed.

10. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that since the last Parish Council meeting Speedwatch had operated over a period of 6 days. A 15% offending rate had been recorded, with a maximum speed of 44mph. A further 5 sessions were planned.

Speedwatch now had 11 active volunteers which was very encouraging.

11. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

(a) Inspections

Cllr Cullingworth had been carrying out routine inspections and repairs. She noted that some of the pegs on the children's climbing board were coming loose. Cllr Cullingworth would carry out temporary repairs but that item would need repair/replacement in due course. Urgent action was not required as it was not unsafe, but it was likely to be something that was picked up at the independent annual inspection in the Summer.

Cllrs Murray and Gosbee had now received the training required to allow them to carry out the routine inspections in rotation with Cllr Cullingworth.

(b) Other matters

Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that she filled the dog bag dispensers on a weekly basis, but was limiting the number of bags put in at any one time because it appeared that people were still taking more than necessary. The Council was currently paying for around 4 boxes a year, which indicated a far higher usage than could be expected in a community the size of Frittenden.

It was noted that dogs should be kept under control at all time on the Parish Field.

The fence between the Parish Field and car park behind the flats was in a poor state of repair and one of the concrete posts was leaning. Cllr Staples noted that a resident had very kindly offered to pay for the fence to be replaced and the area tidied up generally. It was agreed that the Clerk would attempt to ascertain who was responsible for the fence and notify the owners of the flats, Town & Country, of the Parish Council's intention to replace it.

12. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The Community Shop team and Memorial Hall Committee were currently working to move matters forward with the benefit of independent expert advice.

13. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee noted that extensive work had been carried out in recent weeks to repair potholes around the Village and he was pleased to note that the quality of repairs along Biddenden Road was very good. One pot hole on Sand Lane had been missed, as well as one or two on Park Wood Lane.

Cllr Gosbee was pleased to be able to report that there had been no major incidents of fly tipping since the last meeting of the Parish Council. Cllr Vernon had reported the dumping of asbestos panels on Green Lane, between Bettenham Lane and Hareplain Road and they had now been removed. Cllr Staples noted that there had been some action in relation to the long running problem of the rubbish dumped in a field off Grandshore Lane. He had spoken with Environmental Health who had confirmed that an Enforcement Notice had been served on the owner. Fencing had been put up at the field entrance and some of the rubbish had been removed, albeit a large amount remained to be dealt with.

Cllr Cullingworth had reported the manhole cover which had become loose outside of Oakleaves.

14. PLANNING

New Applications

21/00615/FULL	Brissenden Farm, Sand Lane, Frittenden Replacement of barn (approved for residential conversion under 20/02446/FULL) with new build timber frame dwelling; alternative access track to that approved under 19/02682/AGRIC APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
20/03027/FULL & 20/03028/FULL	Land At Waterman Quarter, Coldharbour Lane, Frittenden Dig a wildlife pond; with fencing around the outside with an access gate (Revised application) Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL subject to a planning condition prohibiting commercial use
21/00973/ELEC	Land At South View Lodge, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Removal of four spans of high voltage Overhead Line between points A to B and B to C; the line to be replaced with underground cable NOTED
21/00974/ELEC	Mallards View, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Proposed micro substation NOTED
21/00925/FULL	Providence Chapel, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Installation of a timber balcony to the rear of the property Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/007722/LBC	Well House, The Street, Frittenden Listed Building Consent: Repair of damaged section of Caen stone chimney stack on outbuilding Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of Previous applications

20/02904/FULL & 20/02905/LBC	Church Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Proposed change of use to provide storage for residential and for use of the church. Remove the internal existing modern wall and construct a new partition further into the portion currently used by the church. The mezzanine storage would be continued
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	as a full ceiling, possibly at a lower level but above the tie beams and below the cinquefoil window on the side elevation. This would create an additional first floor storage as well. The division would be a stand alone timber frame for the use of storage. Inset glass for the cinquefoil possibly plexiglass. PERMISSION GRANTED
20/03720/FULL	Sinksnorth Farmhouse, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Reinstate & update dilapidated pole barn within original Footprint PERMISSION GRANTED
21/00188/FULL	Broadlake Farm, Mill Lane, Frittenden Replace the existing barn building with a new 3 bed dwelling with associated car parking and landscaping PERMISSION REFUSED
21/00211/FULL	Ferrers, Sand Lane, Frittenden Development of a single four bedroom detached dwelling and detached garage; proposed new access and access gates; associated landscaping works. PERMISSION REFUSED

Planning appeals

- None.

15. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Noise from Headcorn Aerodrome – Cllr Staples reported that correspondence had been received from a resident who was concerned about the level of noise from aircraft flying over the Village from Headcorn Aerodrome. That correspondence had been circulated and Councillors were asked to provide their views on an appropriate response. The majority view was that excessive aircraft noise had been a particular problem when the first lockdown in 2020 had been lifted. This had caused the Parish Council to receive a number of complaints, which it had followed up by writing to the owner of the Aerodrome on behalf of the community. The Parish Council’s representatives on the Aerodrome Consultative Committee, Cllrs Tuke and Gosbee, had also raised the complaints with the Aerodrome and had attended a meeting called to address the issue. The general view was that the noise was not so great a problem this time round and it therefore appeared that lessons had been learned.

Cllr Tuke addressed a concern that had been raised about a person fielding calls at the Aerodrome whilst acting as air traffic control. He explained that the Aerodrome operated what is officially known as an “Air-Ground” control system. This meant that the Aerodrome did not actually control aircraft and pilots made their own decisions. If it was felt that a pilot was about to do something unsafe, ground could radio them and provide advice and guidance, but they could not tell them what to do.

It was agreed that, whilst it was accepted that aircraft noise could be annoying and action should be taken if it became excessive, that point had not been reached. A degree of tolerance was needed on all sides and the Aerodrome was a local enterprise which should be supported, provided it operated within the constraints placed on it. The Parish Council will therefore remain alert to the issue and take the matter up again with the Aerodrome, either directly in correspondence or through Cllrs Tuke and Gosbee, should it receive multiple complaints. It however remained open to individual residents to raise the issue of noise directly with the Aerodrome as and when a problem arose.

16. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – April 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - March
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – March
BACS	£64.39	nil	£64.39	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – April
BACS	£163.84	nil	£163.84	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – April
BACS	£40.80	nil	£40.80	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£409.06	£68.18	£340.88	KALC	Membership Fee 2021/22
BACS	£60.00	£10.00	£50.00	KALC	Training – Planning Conference
BACS	£40.00	nil	£40.00	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Fee
BACS	£35.58	£5.93	£29.65	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog Bags
BACS	£100.00	nil	£100.00	Mr M Ashbee	Ground Maintenance – War Memorial 2020/21
BACS	£75.60	£12.60	£63.00	Unipar Services LLP	Repair of speedwatch sign
BACS	£18.00	nil	£18.00	Frittenden Parish Council	Refund of bank charges re: Hardship Fund
DD	£6.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street lighting energy – March
Total	£1,245.81	£132.12	£1,113.69		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:28 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was held remotely by Zoom on Wednesday 5th May 2021 at 8.15pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr S Murray
Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr S Holden (County), Cllr A Fairweather (Borough)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Riley

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Staples was nominated by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and it was **RESOLVED** by all members present that he be appointed Chairman. Cllr Staples then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of the office of Chairman.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Tuke was nominated by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and it was **RESOLVED** by all members present that he be appointed to the office of Vice-Chairman.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 27th April 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Litter Picking Equipment

Cllr Staples will advertise on the Frittenden Community Facebook page that the Parish Council is now able to lend litter picking equipment to residents to assist in their own efforts to keep the Village tidy once it has been resolved where that equipment will be stored and therefore who the point of contact for requests will be.

Future Parish Council Meetings

It is hoped that in person meetings can resume on 22nd June 2021 subject to the lifting of Government restrictions on 21st June 2021. The Clerk confirmed that the Memorial Hall had been provisionally booked for the meetings scheduled to take place during the rest of 2021.

Local Plan

The Parish Council will be submitting further comments before the 4th June 2021 deadline. Cllr Vernon will liaise with the Clerk as to the wording of the comments to be submitted.

Village Gateways

The Parish Council does not permit signage to be fixed to the Village Gateways, but Cllr Staples had been asked whether it would allow remembrance poppies to be put on the Village Gateways in November. The Parish Council agreed that this would be allowed because the poppies do not have any text and would not therefore constitute a distraction to drivers or traffic hazard.

It was noted that TWBC had fixed fly tipping warning signs to the Village Gateways without consulting with the Parish Council. Cllr Staples asked Cllr Fairweather to raise this with the proper officer at TWBC as such signs could be a distraction to drivers. The Parish Council welcomed any effort by TWBC to deter fly tipping but felt that the signs would be better placed elsewhere. Cllr Fairweather agreed that the signs would not be very effective because they were too small and poorly located. He will follow this up with TWBC.

Mike Cooper

Councillors had kindly donated funds for a gift to be purchased for Mike Cooper to show the Parish Council's appreciation for all he had done for the community during his time as editor of the Parish Magazine.

Speedwatch

Cllr Staples reported that it had been too windy for a session to take place on 4th May 2021, but two further sessions were due to take place that week.

Playground

Cllr Cullingworth reported that the lowest sleeper on the mound was rotting underneath and could be lifted up exposing the nails underneath. It was agreed that Cllr Gosbee would inspect it to ascertain what needed to be done to resolve the problem.

Cllr Cullingworth also noted that one of the nuts on the basketball net backing was coming loose, but she didn't know how to tighten it without a long ladder. She did not consider that it represented a safety risk, because all other nuts remained securely in place.

Cllr Cullingworth also reported that, pending replacement of the fence between the Parish Field and adjacent carpark, she had laid down a loose concrete post supporting the fence and tapped off the area immediately around it, because she was concerned that it could have fallen over onto a child.

Cllr Staples reported that it had been suggested that the Parish Council erect a sign at the entrances to the Parish Field addressing how that public resource should be used. It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that new signage be erected. Cllr Cullingworth will circulate the proposed wording and obtain a quote from Iden Signs.

Headcorn Aerodrome

Cllr Staples noted that any resident who was unhappy with activity originating from the Aerodrome should first complain to the Aerodrome and, if that did not resolve the problem,

approach their MP and/or the association which deals with aircraft noise. The Parish Council was very limited as to the action it could take in relation to individual complaints. If there was an issue of general concern, which had caused a number of residents to complain, the Parish Council would take the matter up with the Aerodrome on behalf of the community, but it was not able to take up each and every individual complaint.

7. PLANNING

New Applications

- None

Outcome of Previous applications

- None

Planning appeals

- None.

8. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Parish Field Signage – This agenda item was dealt with under item 6 above.
- A complaint had been received about the quality of the resurfacing work carried out on The Street. Cllr Gosbee confirmed that he had contacted Paul Catt of KCC who will inspect. Cllr Vernon noted that the building up of layers of tarmac around drain covers created a hazard for cyclists and other road users because it created greater drops. Cllr Fairweather noted that the area between Frittenden House and Forge Garage appeared to be particularly hazardous. Cllr Gosbee has also raised by Paul Catt and Highways the failure to reinstate the chevrons outside the school. He had been told that this had to be done by hand and that work would take place as soon as possible. Cllr Gosbee had also raised the fact that the new tarmac had obscured the 30mph roundel painted on to the road as you entered the Village from Cranbrook.
- Cllr Cullingworth reported that the loose manhole cover outside Oakleaves was yet to be repaired, although it had been marked and bollards placed around it so she was hopeful that this work would be done shortly.

9. FINANCE

- It was agreed that payments for May 2021 would be dealt with by the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, under delegated powers.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:51 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was held at St Mary's Church, The Street, Frittenden on Tuesday 22nd June 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr Vernon

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Riley, Cllr Murray, Cllr Fairweather

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Prior to the meeting, Cllr Fairweather had provided the Clerk with a written update which she duly read out to the meeting.

Cllr Fairweather reported that, after recent elections, there was a new leader of TWBC. Tom Dawlings, who represents Benenden and Cranbrook, took the reigns on 26th May 2021 and he has asked Cllr Fairweather to sit on his cabinet. Cllr Fairweather therefore now holds the portfolio for Communities, Wellbeing and Rural Affairs.

There wasn't an election in Frittenden and Sissinghurst as the council seats are voted in thirds and our next election will be in 2023.

TWBC is now in no overall control with the 6th May 2021 election producing the following result:

Conservatives	24 Councillors
Lib Dem	13 Councillors
Labour	5 Councillors
TWA	5 Councillors
Independent	1 Councillor

This means the largest party, the Conservatives who are still running the council, has no overall control with seats split at 24/24. In the event of a stalemate when voting on progressing council business the mayor has a casting vote.

The huge exercise to distribute Government grants to businesses continues - now with restart grants for businesses that have not been permitted to open during the lockdown. To date TWBC has paid 9,016 grants worth £49.4m over the Covid period.

Cllr Fairweather is aware of a number of complaints about the management of the Weald Sports which are being addressed with the management company Fusion Leisure. For 14 months, leisure centre providers' income has been massively affected by the Covid lockdown, so many providers are not in sound financial positions. Much as TWBC would like to look at alternative providers now is therefore not a good time to go to market to seek a new contractor. The plan is to stick with Fusion whilst both looking at the option to bring the service in house and preparing to seek a new contractor in perhaps a year's time when the market may be in better shape. Inevitably an in-house service will be significantly more costly for TWBC.

Recently we have suffered a spate of fly tipping in Frittenden and Sissinghurst. A great many residents have contacted Cllr Fairweather and he has been working with officers from the town hall to address this. They have visited our parishes and provided new signage. Cllr Fairweather considers that these are too small and placed in difficult to see/read positions. He has fed this back. There are a few larger signs in more affected areas and Cllr Fairweather managed to find at least one. The council has purchased new surveillance cameras to be deployed to fly tipping hotspots in the borough. Cllr Fairweather is informed that it is never disclosed when and where due to a high level of thefts in the past. These new cameras cost upwards of £1,000 each.

Officers have identified one source of fly tipping in Frittenden Rd and have issued a £400 penalty notice.

Cllr Fairweather believes that we are really hot on reporting fly tipping in our ward and he knows that many residents are fully aware how to do this. He also reports regularly when he sees dumped waste as he travels about between our two villages. However, as a reminder, reports can be made via the TWBC website. Go to the Report It section and click on Fly tipping.

The aim is to get fly tipping cleared within 3 days, which in Cllr Fairweather's experience is often the case and this target is achieved. TWBC can clear fly-tipping on publicly accessible land but NOT from private land or property. If the waste is on the road or highway and it is causing an obstruction you should contact Kent County Council on 03000 41 81 81

Residents should feel free to contact Cllr Fairweather at any time with any issues they may have.

Cllr Staples took the opportunity to report on the Parish Chairmen's meeting which took place at 6pm on 22 June 2021. The new leader of TWBC introduced himself and explained what his priorities were. He noted that TWBC had received c.£3m less in income than in pre-Covid years and this would mean that TWBC would be financially stressed this year in the absence of the Government assistance it received last year. Cllr Dawlings indicated that one of his particular concerns was the effectiveness of outsourcing and whether some services could be brought back in house. An indication was also given that we were unlikely to see a return of the Civic Amenity Vehicle, which collected household waste from Frittenden on Saturdays, in the foreseeable future. Waste collection services were being adversely affected by the hot weather, which was causing a lot of vehicle failures, and a lack of HGV drivers. It was also noted that TWBC will not support litter picking on roads with a speed limit in excess of 30 mph, because that activity would not be covered by insurance. This issue is going to be looked at by a Sub-Committee. Finally, it was reported to the meeting that concerns had been expressed about who was being housed in social housing, as those placed often had no links to the particular local area in which they had been housed.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 5th May 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Litter Picking Equipment

This is now being stored by Cllr Staples, who will put a note on the Community Facebook page letting residents know that it is available to anyone wishing to engage in litter picking in the Parish.

Local Plan

Comments were submitted on behalf of the Parish Council in advance of the 4th June 2021 deadline.

Village Gateways

Cllr Staples had notified Sue Betts that remembrance poppies could be attached to the Village Gateways as they did not represent a potential distraction to motorists.

Mike Cooper

A gift had been presented to Mike Cooper on behalf of the Parish Council in recognition of all he had done for the community as editor of the Parish Magazine.

6. ANNUAL GVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2020/21

(a) Approval of Annual Governance Statement

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Annual Governance Statement at Section 1 of the AGAR 2020/21 (Part 3) circulated by the Clerk in advance of the meeting be approved. That being the case, Section 1 was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

(b) Approval of Accounting Statement

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Accounting Statements at Section 2 of the AGAR 2020/21 (Part 3) circulated by the Clerk in advance of the meeting be approved. That being the case, Section 2 was signed by the Chairman.

7. HEADCORN AERODROME

The Council had received correspondence from a resident who was very unhappy with the noise caused by aircraft from Headcorn Aerodrome. That correspondence had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting and it was acknowledged by all that noise nuisance could be very annoying. However, it was noted that noise complaints were a matter for the Local Authority and Cllr Staples commented that his research had confirmed that aircraft noise was not a statutory nuisance. If the Aerodrome was operating in accordance with the rules set out in its licence (eg in relation to circuit patterns, no fly zones, hours of operation etc), there was very little the Parish Council, or any other authority, could do about noise that was an inevitable consequence of those operations. If it appeared that those rules were not being complied with, and aircraft were not following the correct circuits and over flying the Village, the Council could raise this with the

Aerodrome in correspondence and/or through its representative on the Headcorn Aerodrome Consultative Committee, but it had no power to take any direct enforcement action.

The Council had engaged with the Aerodrome after it had received a number of complaints about overflying from residents who lived in various parts of the Village following the lifting of the first lockdown in 2020. At that time, the number of complaints suggested that the rules were not being followed by all pilots and this was raised with the Aerodrome by letter and in a specially convened meeting of the Consultative Committee. The Council felt that its concerns were listened to by the Aerodrome and steps appear to have been taken to address the issue, because those who had complained did not have cause to complain again following that intervention.

The Council noted that its role was to support and represent the views of the community. It therefore felt that it would not be appropriate for it to take similar action in respect of a single resident's concerns, which did not, as far as the Council was aware, reflect the view of the community at this time, save to provide any information or guidance available to it as to the channels by which the resident could seek redress themselves. It would, however, keep the matter under review and take appropriate action if similar complaints were made by other residents.

8. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Since the last meeting of the Parish Council, 1 grant of £500 has been made and there remains £4,751 to be distributed. The Fund must be wound up within 6 months of the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions.

9. SPEEDWATCH

There are currently 12 active speedwatch volunteers and 2 batches of 5 sessions each have taken place. The offending rate was around 10-15% and the highest speed recorded was 55mph on the Cranbrook Road coming into the Village.

10. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth reported that Cllr Murray had carried out the routine inspections in May, Cllr Gosbee was undertaking the inspection in June and Cllr Cullingworth would take over the inspections for July. The Annual Inspection of the playground by RoSPA would be taking place in July.

Cllr Gosbee has removed the rotten sleeper on the mound. He has also noted that the wood around the toddler slide was starting to rot.

Cllr Gosbee commented that the swing seats got very hot during hot sunny weather, but it was not known what could be done about it. The Clerk will make enquires of RoSPA.

Cllr Cullingworth had obtained a quote from Iden Signs of £60 plus VAT for the supply of 2 A3 signs for the Parish Field using the wording which had been circulated to and agreed by Councillors. It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the quote be accepted.

The Clerk reported that Town & Country Housing had consented to the Parish Council replacing the existing dilapidated fence between the Parish Field and Bakery Close car park. It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain quotes for the replacement of that fence on a like for like basis.

11. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Gosbee reported that progress was being made in discussions between the Community Shop and Memorial Hall.

12. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee reported the various problems with the new tarmac laid on The Street. If action is not taken very soon, he will make a formal complaint and ask Cllr Holden for assistance in getting that complaint addressed. Cllr Vernon reported that a resident had advised that the Parish Council enquire whether KCC had signed off the contractor's work and, if it had, to ask for a copy of the specification for that work. That resident had kindly offered to obtain an independent expert's view on the quality of the works carried out once that specification was to hand. Cllr Gosbee and Cllr Vernon will liaise in obtaining the relevant information from KCC. In the meantime, Cllr Gosbee noted that the missing line markings had now been painted.

Cllr Gosbee had no reports of serious fly tipping. He had previously noted that large bags of bricks appeared to have been dumped on Ayleswade Lane but he had found out that the bags had been placed deliberately by a farmer to prevent trespassers from accessing his land.

13. PLANNING

New Applications

21/01385/LBC	Providence Chapel, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Listed Building Consent - Installation of a Balcony Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/01507/FULL	Tanyard Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Proposed two storey side / rear extension and single storey rear extension alterations along with internal alterations It was initially proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, that the Council recommend refusal on the basis that the proposed extension represented a greater than 50% increase in volume and was overbearing. However, that motion was not carried (2 votes for, 3 votes against) Proposed by Cllr Tuke, seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 3 votes for, 2 votes against)
21/01776/FULL	Rose Cottage Oast, Knoxbridge, Frittenden Proposed alterations to the main dwelling, to include the addition of a porch and a garden room, new cladding, roof coverings, windows and painting the brickwork, plus an extension to the existing garage Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/01834/FULL	Great Bubhurst Farm, Bubhurst Lane, Frittenden Single storey side extensions to existing garage and conversion of roof space to provide room including two dormer windows (TW/12/00260/HOUSE/CLC, 15/503953/FULL and TW/18/00134/FULL previous planning approvals refer) Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of Previous applications

20/03027/FULL	Land At Waterman Quarter, Coldharbour Lane, Frittenden Dig a wildlife pond; with fencing around the outside with an access gate. PERMISSION GRANTED
20/03028/FULL	Land At Waterman Quarter, Coldharbour Lane, Frittenden Dig a wildlife pond; with fencing around the outside with an access gate. PERMISSION GRANTED
21/00772/LBC	Well House, The Street, Frittenden Listed Building Consent: Repair of damaged section of Caen stone chimney stack on outbuilding PERMISSION GRANTED
21/01307/FULL	Castle Cottage, Frittenden Proposed loft conversion with a dormer window to rear elevation & 4 No rooflight windows to front elevation PERMISSION GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None.

14. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- None

15. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to ratify the payments made in May 2021 under the powers delegated to the Clerk on 24th March 2020.

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – May 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – April
BACS	£64.39	nil	£64.39	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk’s Expenses – May
BACS	£177.13	nil	£177.13	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk’s Salary – May
BACS	£118.00	nil	£118.00	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£896.56	nil	£896.56	Came & Company (Arthur J Gallagher)	Insurance Premium 2021/22
DD	£35.36	£1.68	£33.68	EON	Street lighting energy – April
Total	£1,451.44	£28.35	£1,423.09		

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – June 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – May
BACS	£66.19	nil	£66.19	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk’s Expenses – June
BACS	£55.12	nil	£55.12	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk’s Salary – June
BACS	£36.40	nil	£36.40	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£50.00	nil	£50.00	Mr Bernard Millard	Honorarium
BACS	£84.00	£14.00	£70.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – April & May
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street lighting energy – May
Total	£488.25	£42.41	£445.84		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

Chairman’s Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at St Mary's Church, The Street, Frittenden on Tuesday 20th July 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr S Murray

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Holden (County) & 5 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident raised the issue of aircraft noise from Headcorn Aerodrome. The resident had been keeping a log of aircraft he believed to have been overflying his property, which on one particular day amounted to some 64 aircraft. He was unhappy that the Parish Council had refused to take action to prevent what he considered to be a distressing nuisance on the basis that no other residents had complained about the aircraft noise at this time.

Cllr Staples expressed surprise at the number of aircraft logged by the resident, given that there was an agreed circuit which should prevent overflying. The Parish Council represented the interests and concerns of the community. Accordingly, both Cllrs Staples and Gosbee had made enquiries of other residents in the parts of the Village that would be most affected by any overflying, but no one had raised any complaints. This was in contrast to when a large number of such complaints were received after flying resumed following the lifting of the first Coronavirus lockdown. The Parish Council had representatives on the Headcorn Aerodrome Consultation Committee which discussed complaints arising from the Aerodrome's activities. The complaints received last year were raised by the Parish Council's representatives and their concerns were listened to and feedback was provided. The Committee was aware of the resident's complaints and there was no other action that could be taken by the Parish Council.

A resident asked whether the proposed development at Four Acres, Cranbrook Road to be considered by the Parish Council had anything to do with the Community Land Trust (CLT) that had been set up to bring affordable housing to the Village.

Cllr Vernon explained that, whilst the hope was that the CLT could take over ownership/management of any affordable housing included in the development, no agreements had been made in that regard and the Parish Council therefore had to consider the application on the assumption that the CLT would not be involved.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Riley, Cllr Fairweather

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Holden reported that KCC had a new cabinet member for Transport who had embraced the principle of getting lorries out of rural areas. A presentation had been given proposing that a version of the London Lorry Scheme be set up in Kent which would direct lorries along certain routes unless making local deliveries. More parking controls on lorries were also proposed. For six months following Brexit, KCC had been given the power to clamp lorries parked inappropriately. This had led to 4,500 lorries being clamped, c.85% of which were foreign registered. Those powers had not been extended but KCC was working with hauliers to ensure that proper facilities were provided for lorries and their drivers in appropriate places.

Cllr Holden reported that he had attended a summit in Cranbrook arranged by Helen Grant MP to address the rise in anti-social behaviour in the area and rural crime more generally. Senior Officers from Kent Police were in attendance, together with the Police & Crime Commissioner. Cllr Holden considered that there now needed to be a Community Meeting to ensure that the whole community was engaged in tackling this problem.

Councillor Holden left the meeting after he had delivered his report.

16. PLANNING

Cllr Staples advanced consideration of Planning Application 21/0168/FULL

Cllr Vernon noted that the site was included in the pre-submission Local Plan as a site for development. The Local Plan set out the requirements and financial contributions that would have to be adhered to in order to achieve planning permission. As part of the consultation process, the Parish Council had got into the draft Local Plan a statement that the Village needed 2 and 3 bedroomed homes. The proposed scheme was low density and included the moving of the 30mph limit further along Cranbrook Road, the extension of the footpath to give pedestrian access to the Village and green buffers. It also had to provide 40% affordable housing to meet requirements. Subject to clarification of a few points, Cllr Vernon felt that the scheme achieved what the Parish Council had wanted to achieve during the consultation process.

Views were canvassed from all other Councillors. Cllr Cullingworth felt that it would be more in keeping for any development to be spread out throughout the Village rather than concentrated in what amounted to a housing estate. However, all other Councillors felt that, subject to clarification of the points identified by Cllr Vernon, it was clear that new houses had to be built and Frittenden had got off lightly with a development limited to 23 houses. It was, however, key that the small affordable houses required to meet the needs of the Village were provided.

Cllr Staples then closed the meeting to invite comments from members of the public in attendance.

One resident asked whether any financial contributions paid by the developer as part of any planning consent would be used for the benefit of the Village. Cllr Vernon explained that some of the contribution would go for the benefit of the Borough as a whole, but the Parish Council had made clear the priorities of the Village, for example speed mitigation measures, the Community Shop and the provision of more parking, as part of the consultation process for the policies included in the Local Plan.

Cllr Staples then reopened the meeting and it was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** (vote: 5 for, 1 abstention) to recommend approval subject to the following comments:

- 40% affordable homes equates to 9 affordable homes. The application, as submitted, makes provision for only 8 affordable homes. Accordingly, no less than 9 affordable homes (40%) must be provided;
- The affordable homes should be a mix of 2 and 3 bedroomed homes, not all 2 bedroom as proposed;
- As TWBC and the applicant are aware, Frittenden CLT proposes to acquire the 9 affordable homes to be provided and the Parish Council would ask TWBC to support this proposal;
- The Parish Council questions whether the applicant has obtained confirmation from UKPN that sufficient power is available to power the proposed car charging points. If not, such confirmation should be obtained.
- Protection of the existing hedgerows and proposed green buffer and landscaping and biodiversity measures should all be express planning conditions.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Tuke, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 22nd June 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Litter Picking Equipment

Cllr Staples has held back advertising that the Parish Council now has litter picking equipment which can be borrowed by residents in light of statements made by TWBC about litter pickers operating outside of 30mph zones not being covered by insurance. The Clerk is seeking to clarify the position with the Council's own insurers.

Signs

Two signs had now been erected at the Parish Field and a resident had commented to Cllr Staples that they were very pleased to see them.

Road Report

Cllr Staples asked Cllr Gosbee whether he had received a response to his request for confirmation as to whether the resurfacing works to The Street had been signed off by KCC. Cllr Gosbee had circulated a reply which stated that issues around the raising of manhole covers, drainage grills etc. would be addressed, but that response had failed to answer the question asked.

6. HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S PROPOSED BLUE PLAQUE SCHEME

The Council had been asked whether it would support the Historical Society in its efforts to set up a blue plaque scheme marking places or people of historical interest in the Frittenden Area. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Historical Society be advised that the Council was fully supportive of its plans.

7. DELEGATED POWERS

At a meeting on 24th March 2020, the Council had resolved to delegate its powers to the Clerk, acting in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, in order to ensure that the day to day functions of the Council could continue even if the Council was unable to meet due to Coronavirus restrictions. Those delegated powers were to continue whilst such restrictions

remained in place. Following the lifting of restriction on 19 July 2021 it was necessary to consider whether the delegated powers should continue for the sole purpose of ensuring the effective operation of the Covid-19 Hardship Fund. The Authorising Committee only met as and when applications to the Fund were received and the ad hoc nature of those meetings meant that it would be impractical for them to be held in person rather than remotely by Zoom. As a sub-committee of the Parish Council, any remote meeting of the Authorising Committee was not properly constituted following the expiry of the legislation that had allowed remote meetings to take place during the pandemic in May 2021. Since then, the Authorising Committee had been meeting remotely in order to make recommendations to the Clerk as to whether, and if to how, the delegated powers should be used to make grants from the Covid-19 Hardship Fund. It was considered necessary for the continued operation of the Fund to allow that arrangement to continue.

It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to terminate the delegated powers save for the specific purpose of matters relating to the Covid-19 Hardship Fund.

8. SEPTEMBER LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth kindly agreed to, once again, organise the community litter pick which will take place on Saturday 18th September 2021.

Cllr Cullingworth commented that all participants were made aware on the form they were required to sign that they would only be insured if picking in 30mph zones and if they went outside of those areas, they did so at their own risk.

9. PARISH OPEN MEETING

Cllr Staples noted that it had been hoped that an open meeting could be held this summer to celebrate the reopening of the Memorial Hall after completion of renovation works and draw attention to the many clubs and societies which operated in and around the Village. However, on reflection, it was felt by the Council that it would be too soon to hold such a meeting given (i) the fact that the renovations to the Hall were overrunning; (ii) Coronavirus restrictions had only recently been lifted; and (iii) many residents were still exercising caution around attending events due to the recent rise in Covid-19 cases.

10. HEADCORN AERODROME CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Cllr Gosbee reported that he had recently attended a meeting of the Committee at which it was agreed that the Battle of Britain Air show had been a great success despite the weather. There were a few more events planned for this summer but none involved flying.

The Committee considered what might happen should the current owner wish to retire or sell up. It was proposed that steps be taken to try to conserve the air field for future generation and prevent the land from being used for housing development.

Cllr Gosbee reported that two noise complaints had been investigated but that it was felt that no further action was required in relation to those complaints at this time.

11. COVID-19 HARSHIP FUND

Since the last meeting of the Parish Council, 1 grant of £500 has been made and there remained £4,233 to be distributed. The Fund must be wound up within 6 months of the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, which put the longstop date as 18th January 2022. As there were still occasional

demands on the Fund it was felt that no action should be taken at this time to wind up the Fund. The above date was therefore simply noted.

12. SPEEDWATCH

There are currently 10 active speedwatch volunteers and they are able to carry out 6 sessions each fortnight. The offending rate was around 13% and the highest speed recorded was 50mph. Cllr Staples noted that the planning application relating to the proposed development at Four Acres included information about traffic flow and peak offending times. Speedwatch would use that data to flex the times they operate.

Cllr Murray reported that she had been asked by a resident whether a speed indicator sign could be put up on Biddenden Road given the speed at which vehicles drove along there and the danger represented by the blind bend. Cllr Vernon noted that the Parish Council had submitted to Kent County Council a Highways Improvement Plan which proposed a number of measures, to include a mobile Speed Indicator Device which could be moved around fixed points on key roads entering/exiting the Village. KCC refused to fund or contribute to the cost of those measures. The costs were controlled entirely by KCC and considered to be far outside the Parish Council's limited means.

13. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth was undertaking the routine inspections in July. There remained a loose nut on the basketball hoop but this was not considered to constitute a danger at this time. There was also a loose foot peg on an item of equipment but, again, it did not represent an immediate danger.

Cllr Cullingworth reported that there had been a catapulting incident on the Parish Field which had been reported.

The Clerk reported that only one contractor had responded to her invitation to quote for replacing the fence between the Parish Field and Bakery Close car park. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and RESOLVED by all members present to accept the quote of £390 received from Cranbrook Fencing.

A resident had mentioned to Cllr Staples that the retaining pins on the sleepers were protruding and could represent a danger. Cllr Gosbee will take a look and see if they can be bent down.

Cllr Staples reported that another resident had mentioned that people were using portable BBQs in the Parish Field. It was agreed that BBQs were not permitted.

The Clerk had raised with the grounds maintenance contractor concerns around their failure to cut back the top of the hedgerow trees to prevent them from overhanging neighbouring gardens and Laundry Lane. The Clerk was yet to receive a response. It was agreed that the specification for the Ground Maintenance contracts for 2022/23 should be changed to address this issue.

14. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Vernon reported that matters were progressing and the Community Shop and Memorial Hall were very close to agreeing a form of lease.

15. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee will liaise with Cllr Vernon in relation to pressing KCC for a proper response to the concerns raised by the Council over the resurfacing work to The Street.

Cllr Gosbee has been speaking to Paul Catt about a very large hole at the junction of Sand Lane and Dig Dog Lane caused by lorries turning.

There was an accident on Biddenden Lane in which a vehicle left the road and collided with a telegraph pole, causing it to snap. There had also been an accident on the sharp bend by the old Frittenden Station. Cllr Gosbee had requested that a sign be put up showing a maximum speed for the bend or chevrons. Cllr Staples noted that the road in question fell outside of Frittenden Parish and so that request should be made by Biddenden Parish Council. The Clerk will liaise with the Clerk to Biddenden Parish Council in that regard.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that a lot of cars were being parked on the pavement outside The Orchards. Cllr Murray had also observed this and felt that it was very dangerous, particularly for people pushing prams or using wheelchairs as they were forced to go on to the road. Cllr Cullingworth also felt that it made the bend even more dangerous because cars forced to move across to avoid the parked vehicles could not be seen by drivers approaching from the other direction and it was only a matter of time before there was a collision. It was agreed that the Clerk would draft a letter to be distributed to all local properties requesting that vehicles were parked considerately and not on the bend and/or pavement.

16. PLANNING

New Applications

21/01638/FULL	Land at Four Acres, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Erection of 23 dwellings together with all necessary infrastructure Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Gossbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL SUBJECT TO ITEMS IDENTIFIED ABOVE (page 2027) BEING ADDRESSED (Vote: 5 For, 1 Abstention)
21/01931/FULL	Little Chanceford, Sand Lane, Frittenden Proposed two storey side extension, extension to existing car port and conversion of garage into habitable space Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/02033/FULL & 21/02034/LBC	Rock Farm House, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Partition of an existing large bathroom into two new bathrooms works include; the erection of a new stud wall, creation of a lowered ceiling, relocation of a door between the dressing room and bathroom, removal of a door and surrounding stud wall between bathroom and bathroom lobby Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of Previous applications

21/01507/FULL	Tanyard Cottage, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Proposed two storey side / rear extension and single storey rear extension PERMISSION GRANTED
21/00925/FULL	Providence Chapel, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Installation of a timber balcony to the rear of the Property PERMISSION GRANTED

21/01385/LBC	Providence Chapel, Biddenden Road, Frittenden Installation of a timber balcony to the rear of the Property CONSENT GRANTED
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Planning appeals

- None.

17. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- KALC had invited the Council to complete and return a Community Resilience/Emergency Plan Questionnaire. The Clerk was instructed to circulate the questionnaire for Councillors' comments.

18. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – July 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS*	£72.00	£12.00	£60.00	Iden Signs	Playground signs x 2
BACS*	£39.27	nil	£39.27	Mr M Cooper	Tent Team Spares
BACS*	£61.20	£10.20	£51.00	Defib Shop	Replacement defibrillator pads
BACS	£66.19	nil	£66.19	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses – July
BACS	£82.37	nil	£82.37	Mrs Emma Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – July
BACS	£54.40	nil	£54.40	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£18.00	nil	£18.00	FPC	Refund of bank charges re: Hardship Fund
DD	£18.00	nil	£18.00	Unity Trust Bank	Bank charges re: General Fund
DD	Tbc	tbc	Tbc	EON	Street lighting energy – July
Total	£411.43	£22.20	£389.23		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:40 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Planning Meeting of the Parish Council was held at St Mary's Church, The Street, Frittenden on Monday 23rd August 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr R Riley
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr S Murray
Cllr J Tuke

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk) & 2 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

A resident reported that he had visited the Hatchin Tan and was appalled to see that caravans were already on site, notwithstanding that the application to be considered by the Parish Council was yet to be decided. The resident was concerned that Grandshore Lane could not support increased traffic. It was already in a poor state of repair, in part due to the increasing number of HGV's using the Lane, and there were very few passing places.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr H Cullingworth

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. PLANNING

New Applications

21/02576/FULL	<p>The Hatchin Tan , Grandshore Lane, Frittenden Stationing of three mobile homes, three touring caravans and a utility room for a gypsy family Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND REFUSAL with the following comments:</p> <p>1. We have identified a number of issues with the planning application and supporting documents:</p> <p>A) The Existing Site Plan 2129/P_101 and Location Plan 2129/P_100 submitted with the application are misleading as these drawings both show a static home site. Any previous development on the site has been unlawful and the site should be considered as undeveloped rural woodland.</p>
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B) The Planning Statement is also misleading as it includes historic photos of the site showing a static home and driveway/hard standing from 2009. The previous development on the site was, unlawful and the static home was removed following enforcement action. Any implied suggestion in the Planning Statement that this site is brownfield land is incorrect.

C) The site description in the Planning Statement is not accurate. It states that "the local area is characterised by a mixture of open countryside in agricultural uses and residential dwellinghouses". Grandshore Lane is not characterised by residential dwellinghouses. The Planning Statement also refers to "a small number of detached properties of varying ages along the lane which is largely open and leading to a varied appearance to the street scene". Use of the expression 'street scene' is incorrect and misleading. Waller Hill Farmhouse and Keepers Cottage are situated at the junction of Cranbrook Road and Grandshore Lane. There are then no residential dwellings on Grandshore Lane, on Waller Hill and on Grandshore Lane heading towards the A229, until the far side of Grandshore Wood which is over 1 mile of undeveloped rural lane. The "street scene" is rural woodland.

D) Page 21 of the Planning Statement states "it is considered that the impact of the proposal would not dominate the other scattered development in the area". There is no "scattered development" on Grandshore Lane.

E) Page 22 of the Planning Statement states "the additional impact ... is not considered to be substantially harmful given that there is sporadic development along the lane". There is no sporadic development along the lane.

F) Page 22 of the Planning Statement states "... the proposed position ... would result in it being seen largely in context with other built form and residential uses within the vicinity". There is no built form or residential uses within the vicinity of the site.

2. Grandshore Lane is predominantly undeveloped with a distinctive quality derived from uninterrupted woodlands overhanging the lane and fields with Leggs Wood to one side and Eleven Acre Wood and Grandshore Wood to the other. Until 2005, the site was woodland forming part of Eleven Acre Wood and a link to neighbouring ancient woodland. In 2005 the Forestry Commission granted a felling licence (17/05/1995) which permitted felling of coppice and selected felling of oak trees conditional on felled trees being replaced by natural regeneration or planting. What in fact happened was the site was unlawfully bulldozed. The Forestry Commission should have enforced the original terms of the felling licence to allow the site to return to woodland. This enforcement should still take place. The site is designated as ancient woodland.

3. The site is outside the Limits to Build Development and the proposed development would be contrary to Policy LBD 1 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan 2006 which protects the countryside and restricts development in the countryside.

4. Grandshore Lane is a designated rural lane and any development would be highly intrusive to the local character and seriously detract from the rural lane setting amongst ancient woodland.

5. The site has no mains services and the lane and site often flood at that point as it sits at the bottom of Waller Hill.

6. Any development of the site will be visually intrusive and have a major adverse effect on the character and appearance of the rural landscape of the Local Character Area and designated ancient woodland.

7. Any development would have an adverse impact on biodiversity of the site and would be a risk to ecology. The existing unlawful occupation of the site will be a risk to contamination as there is no foul drainage serving the site.

8. NPPF promotes sustainable development and paragraph 79 NPPF states that to promote sustainable development in rural areas, housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities and paragraph 80 NPPF states that planning decisions should avoid the development of isolated homes in the countryside. Development of the site would in no way enhance or maintain the vitality of any rural community and would be isolated in the countryside. It is totally unsuitable to propose this site to house 3 single mothers with young children.

9. NPPF paragraph 124 states that planning decisions should take account of the availability of infrastructure and services and the desirability of maintaining an area's prevailing character and setting. The proposed development has no infrastructure or services and materially adversely affects the local character and history of the landscape setting.

10. Core Policy 14 of the Tunbridge Wells Core Strategy 2010 states that the countryside will be protected for its own sake and a policy of restraint will operate in order to maintain the landscape, character and quality of the countryside. This Core Policy should protect this site from any development.

11. "Sustainable development" includes 3 overarching objectives of economic, social and environmental. None of these 3 overarching objectives are met by these proposals. In fact, the proposal is clearly not sustainable development.

12. The development proposals are contrary to Policy EN25 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan 2006 as the

	<p>development would have a major adverse impact on the character of the landscape and the development proposals will result in unsympathetic change to the character of a rural lane which is of landscape, amenity, nature conservation and historic importance.</p> <p>13. The proposed development is contrary to Policy H4 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan 2006 as the development will have a material adverse impact on the rural character of the locality and distinctive landscape of this rural lane.</p> <p>14. PPTS states that planning decisions must follow the development plan unless "material considerations" indicate otherwise and any development must be "sustainable development" to ensure that the presumption in favour of sustainable development is met. We have identified no "material considerations" and the development is not sustainable development. The site should therefore comply with the Local Plan and Policy which prohibit development of this site.</p> <p>15. The proposed development would be contrary to the NPPF which states that the planning authority should recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and valued landscape should be protected.</p> <p>16. Robert Campbell, the TWBC enforcement officer for this site, informs us that the site owner/applicant has stated that the current unlawful occupation and development on the site is to secure the site and to allow the site to be cleared. What is actually happening on the site is that no attempt is being made to clear the site and further hard core is being brought onto the site to create further hard standing. This unlawful development should be stopped by TWBC and the ongoing unlawful development of the site should be a material consideration for refusing this application.</p> <p>17. We request that TWBC refuses this application for the above reasons and immediately takes enforcement action to clear the site of unlawful positioning of caravans, hard standing and any other structures and that the site owner is required to restore the site to woodland (as required by the original felling licence issued by the Forestry Commission)</p>
21/02616/LAWPRO	<p>2 The Limes, The Street Frittenden Lawful Development Certificate (Proposed) - Demolition of existing rear extension and erection of proposed 3m single storey rear extension NOTED - No comments to make</p>
21/02607/SUB	<p>Oasthouse Sw Of Cherry Tree Farmhouse Mill Lane Frittenden Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 5 (Schedule of works) and Condition 6 (General details) of 19/01827/LBC Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL</p>

21/02667/FULL	Acorns Village Stores, The Street, Frittenden Change of Use from Village Stores (shop) to residential use associated with existing dwelling. Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/02757/SUB	Brissenden Farm, Sand Lane, Frittenden Submission of details in relation to Conditions 3 (Materials), 5 (Ecological Enhancements), and 8 (Landscaping) of 20/02446/FULL Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of Previous applications

21/01776/FULL	Rose Cottage Oast, Knoxbridge, Frittenden Proposed alterations to the main dwelling, to include the addition of a porch, new cladding, roof coverings, windows and painting the brickwork, plus an extension to the existing garage PERMISSION GRANTED
21/02034/LBC	Rock Farm House, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Partition of an existing large bathroom into two new bathrooms works include; the erection of a new stud wall, creation of a lowered ceiling, relocation of a door between the dressing room and bathroom, removal of a door and surrounding stud wall between bathroom and bathroom lobby CONSENT GRANTED
21/02033/FULL	Rock Farm House, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden As above APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
21/01834/FULL	Great Bubhurst Farm, Bubhurst Lane, Frittenden Single storey side extensions to existing garage and conversion of roof space to provide room including two dormer windows (TW/12/00260/HOUSE/CLC, 15/503953/FULL and TW/18/00134/FULL previous planning approvals refer) PERMISSION GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Staples suggested that the Parish Council ought to submit comments in respect of the Electoral System Consultation, but noted that the consultation was due to close before the Parish Council next met. It was agreed that Cllr Staples would submit comments in line with those made on behalf of Goudhurst Parish Council, because those comments mirrored the concerns raised by Councillors. The Parish Council would then ratify the comments submitted by Cllr Staples at the next Council Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:20 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at St Mary's Church, The Street, Frittenden on Wednesday 22nd September 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr S Murray

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough), PCSO Underdown, Mr R Jarvis of Jarvis Homes & 5 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

Russell Jarvis of Jarvis Homes addressed the meeting on the proposed development of 23 houses on land adjacent to Cranbrook Road. He noted that Jarvis Homes had originally intended to produce a more innovative design, but had been required to adopt a more formulaic layout by TWBC planners. The development would be denser at the road side and move to a lesser density as you went towards the southern end to mirror the existing street scene and lessen the impact on the surrounding fields. There would be a ribbon of biodiversity around the development which met the requirements of the new Environment Act and a wetland would be created to manage run off water. There would be 9 affordable units and those units would be constructed on a 'tenant blind' basis. This meant that there would be no reduction in the quality of materials etc. used for the affordable units. TWBC was yet to make a decision on the planning application but, if approval was given before Christmas, the intention was to start the build in the Spring of 2022 and complete it within 2 years.

A resident asked about the size of the houses included in the development. Mr Jarvis confirmed that there would be 18 x 2/3 bedroomed houses and 5 x 4/5 bedroomed houses. The expectation was that the affordable units would be run by a Registered Social Landlord, with some being rented out and some being offered as starter homes/shared ownership. The expectation was that the private units would have sale prices of between £400,000 and £1m.

A resident asked what the impact would be on traffic and services given the development was likely to lead to an influx of a large number of cars into the Village. Mr Jarvis confirmed that Kent Highways had been consulted and considered the impact to be negligible because it considered Cranbrook Road to have plenty of capacity. The resident noted that this could not be said of The Street, which was narrow and congested, particularly at school drop off/pick up time.

Another resident made the point that the Village did not need £1m homes, but rather smaller homes that were truly affordable to local residents. Cllr Fairweather noted that TWBC had a budget for assisting in the establishment of social rent projects and suggested that he liaise with Mr Jarvis to discuss that potential option.

Cllr Vernon commented that the 2016 Housing Survey established a need for 8 new affordable homes in the Parish. The proposed development could, therefore, deliver that need. A representative of the Community Land Trust set up by the Frittenden Community confirmed that it had been working closely with Jarvis Homes, but the bar to delivering truly affordable homes was the ever-increasing construction costs and significant support would, therefore, be needed from TWBC. Cllr Staples stated that the Parish Council was keen for any affordable element to be managed by the CLT, rather than a Registered Social Landlord who would simply refer to TWBC and not necessarily address the

needs of local residents. Cllr Vernon confirmed that a meeting had been requested with Stephen Baughen, TWBC Head of Planning, and relevant stakeholders to discuss how the affordable homes element of any development could be delivered for the benefit of the local community, ideally through the CLT.

Cllr Staples advanced item 6 on the agenda.

6. INTRODUCTION TO PCSO UNDERDOWN

Cllr Staples was pleased to introduce PCSO Underdown, who was covering PCSO Humphries' duties for 3 months whilst he was on a secondment. Cllr Staples noted that he had cause to contact PCSO Underdown on his very first day of duties and was extremely pleased with the speed of his response.

PCSO Underdown noted that not a lot of crime had been reported in the area. This was not to say that crime, particularly petty crime and anti-social behaviour, was not going on and he therefore urged residents to report anything of concern. It was only by the logging of reports that a proper picture of crime in an area could be built and this impacted on the resources that would ultimately be assigned to that area. If a crime was in progress, or there was a risk to life, it should be reported by dialling 999. Otherwise, crimes could be reported using the 101 number or via the webchat facility on the Kent Police website.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Holden

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllr Tuke declared an interest in planning application 21/02876/SUB

Cllrs Gosbee & Cullingworth declared an interest in planning application 21/02852/FULL

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that the garden waste collection service was unlikely to resume in the near future. The problem with reinstating the service was linked to the nationwide shortage of HGV drivers.

Cllr Fairweather had been asked by the Leader of TWBC to join the Cabinet and had been given the portfolio of Communities, Well-being & Social Housing.

Cllr Fairweather had been working closely with the TWBC Enforcement Team to address the breaches at the sites in Grandshore Lane. TWBC had incurred costs of c.£8,000 dealing with the breaches relating to Grandshore Farm.

TWBC had pledged to take 5 families who had fled Afghanistan but the ability to do so depended on securing private rental accommodation. The families could not be housed in social housing to the detriment of local families currently on the waiting list.

Cllr Fairweather noted that TWBC would be voting on proposed electoral changes in October. Cllr Staples was very disappointed to learn that only 3 Parish Councils had responded to a consultation on the proposed changes. Frittenden Parish Council was extremely concerned that the proposed changes could cause Frittenden to become part of a much bigger electoral area and

therefore be represented by a Councillor (or Councillors) who was not a resident of the immediate local area.

Cllr Fairweather reported that TWBC needed to recoup some of the income lost during the pandemic and it was therefore going to sub-let space within the Town Hall building.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council Meeting on 20th July 2021 and the Minutes from the Planning Meeting on 23rd August 2021 are true and accurate records of those meetings.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Overgrown vegetation outside of 10 The Chestnuts

The Clerk advised that this had been reported to Town & Country but the relevant officer had indicated that the area in question was not owned or managed by them. Cllr Staples noted that, in any event, the vegetation had now been cut back and it was therefore no longer a potential hazard to road users.

6. See above

7. PARKING ON BIDDENDEN ROAD

A letter had been distributed to houses in the affected area. Cllr Gosbee will investigate whether it is possible to create an informal parking area on a wide verge further down Biddenden Road.

8. ELECTORAL SYSTEM CONSULTATION

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the responses drafted by Cllr Staples and submitted in response to the Electoral Reform Consultation accurately reflected the views of the Parish Council.

9. IDENDEN CHARITY APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to approve the appointment of Adrian Bone and Sean Crouchers as trustees of the Idenden Charity.

10. SEPTEMBER LITTER PICK

Cllr Cullingworth was pleased to report that at least 36 residents participated and c.25 bags of rubbish were collected, together with pallets and an old lawn mower. Cllr Cullingworth expressed the thanks and appreciation of the Parish Council to Mr and Mrs Jauncey for the use of their field for the temporary storage of the waste collected, Mr Munton for the use of his vehicle and the Bell & Jorrocks for allowing the pub to be used a headquarters and providing delicious lunches to participants.

Cllr Staples noted that the Weald of Kent Young Farmers Club that now meets at the Memorial Hall will be doing a litter pick across fields and pathways in the Parish in October.

11. COVID HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples noted that the Authorising Committee met on an ad hoc basis as and when applications were received. However, it had not met since the last Council meeting. The current balance held for distribution was £4,251.

Cllr Staples advised that the Committee would be meeting shortly to discuss the future of the fund and how any ongoing need (unrelated to the Coronavirus pandemic) might be addressed.

12. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that the last 2 fortnightly blocks had recorded a reasonably high proportion of offenders. Nearly 20% of road users were exceeding the speed limit and the highest speed recorded was 50mph on the approach to Chestnut Close.

13. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

The fence panel which is removed by the grounds maintenance contractors to gain access to the children's playground area had been left unsecured. This had now been resolved and the Parish Council was grateful to Mr Ashbee for dealing with this.

The mini goalpost/net had been vandalised and left in a potentially dangerous state. It had therefore been dismantled by Cllr Cullingworth.

Cllr Staples had investigated a report of a car on the playing field. He had obtained a replacement combination lock and will liaise with a resident to see if the locking of the gate at night can be resumed.

Cllr Staples had also received a complaint about music being played during exercise classes taking place on the playing field. There was a ban on the playing of music and the person responsible had readily agreed to stop using music during the classes once this was pointed out to them.

Cllr Staples noted that the hedge behind the tennis court was extremely overgrown and needed to be cut. The Clerk confirmed that this was outside of the scope of the current grounds maintenance contracts and will therefore get the contractor to provide a quote for this work.

14. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

Cllr Riley reported that the Memorial Hall Committee had invited members of the public, as the beneficiaries of the Hall's charitable purpose, to approve the granting of a lease to the Community Shop. The meeting held for this purpose voted in favour of granting the lease by a large majority. The Community Shop then took over the meeting to provide an update as to progress and to reiterate the need for public support. The meeting was very positive, with over 70 residents in attendance.

15. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee noted that there had been extensive patching of the road in the Parish, but there remained a problem with getting sufficient notice of road closures.

There were water leaks outside Poplar House and near Frittenden House. Cllr Gosbee had tried to report the leaks but was finding it difficult to get through to KCC Highways by telephone. He has spoken to someone about those difficulties and they have promised to investigate.

Cllr Gosbee was hoping that new salt bins would be provided at the bottom of London Lane and on Grandshore Lane to replace the damaged ones in those locations.
The road toward Headcorn was subsiding opposite New House Lane.

A lot of tyres had been fly tipped but there had been a reduction in the amount of general fly tipping noted since the last Council meeting.

Cllr Staples noted that road planings had been left on the verge in Cranbrook Road. Cllr Gosbee will raise this with Paul Catt of KCC.

16. PLANNING

Update on action by TWBC re: planning breaches at The Hatchin Tan and Grandshore Farm

Cllr Staples reported that TWBC had obtained an injunction in relation to the planning breaches at Grandshore Farm, but fencing works had been continued so the owner was now acting in contempt of court.

The owner of the adjacent site, The Hatchin Tan, had already received a significant fine and been given 6 weeks to rectify the planning breaches at the site. Cllr Staples noted that, whilst the situation remained extremely frustrating, the Council could be pleased that TWBC had been prepared to act swiftly and incur considerable expense to address these breaches.

New Applications

21/02876/SUB	Agricultural Barn at Appleton Farm, Green Lane, Frittenden Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 3i (Materials); ii (Windows & Doors); iii (Wall Materials & details); iv (Refuse); 4 (Parking); 5 (Scheme of Enhancement for Birds and Bats; 6 (External Lighting); 8 (Landscaping); and 9 (Landscape Management Plan) of 18/03758/FULL Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Cllr Tuke did not participate in the discussion of and/or vote on this application having declared an interest)
21/02852/FULL	1 Junkyard Bar Cottages, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Changing the use of the annex to a holiday let and addition of a proposed door within east elevation Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Murray RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND REFUSAL (Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention) (Cllrs Gosbee & Cullingworth did not participate in the discussion of and/or vote on this application having declared an interest)
21/03035/FULL	Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Riley RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Outcome of Previous applications

21/01931/FULL	Little Chanceford, Sand Lane, Frittenden Proposed two storey side extension, extension to existing car port and conversion of garage to habitable space. APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
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21/02488/SUB	Oasthouse South West of Cherry Tree Farmhouse, Mill Lane Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 6 (General Details – Party Wall Details) of 19/01827/LBC APPROVAL GRANTED
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Planning appeals

- 21/00188/FULL (APP/m2270/w/21/3275924) – Broadlake Farm, Mill Lane

Cllr Vernon noted that the Parish Council had not raised any objections/comments in respect of the application declined by TWBC. It therefore had no comments to make in respect of this appeal.

Cllr Staples extended the meeting beyond the 2 hour limit set out by the Standing Orders.

17. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The Clerk will circulate details of a Public Consultation on TWBC’s draft Statement of Licensing Policy.
- The Clerk will also circulate details of the celebrations and initiatives planned to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee for discussion at the next Council Meeting.

18. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – August 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£160.00	nil	£160.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	s137 Donation
BACS	£160.00	nil	£160.00	Frittenden Community Shop Ltd	s137 Donation
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance - July
BACS	£84.00	£14.00	£70.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – June & July
BACS	£115.80	£19.30	£96.50	RoSPA Pay Safety	Annual Playground Inspection
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street lighting energy – July
Total	£716.34	£61.71	£654.63		

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – September 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – August
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins - August
BACS	£134.18	nil	£134.18	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk’s Expenses – Aug & Sept
BACS	£145.26	nil	£145.26	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk’s Salary – Aug & Sept

BACS	£96.40	nil	£96.40	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£15.49	nil	£15.49	Mr M Cooper	Refund – Purchase of replacement tent pins
BACS	£240.00	£40.00	£200.00	PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Auditor's Fees – AGAR 2020/21
BACS	£390.00	£65.00	£325.00	Cranbrook Fencing Company Ltd	Replacement fence between Parish Field & Bakery Close Car Park
BACS	£18.00	nil	£18.00	Frittenden Parish Council	Refund of bank charges – Hardship Fund
DD	£18.00	nil	£18.00	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges – General Fund
DD	£36.54	£1.74	£34.80	EON	Street lighting energy – Aug
Total	£1,295.87	£140.41	£1,155.46		

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Riley was pleased to note that phase 1 of the refurbishment of the Memorial Hall had been completed and the Hall was re-opened on 4 September 2021. The Memorial Hall had also secured substantial funding for the next phase of the refurbishment from ACRE and the National Lottery. Cllr Riley stated that the work of finding funding for the Hall has been helped considerably by Helen Bosley, the Treasurer, and her grasp of Finance

Cllr Cullingworth noted that a pane of glass had been broken in the telephone box. She will liaise with the Clerk as to the steps needed to replace the broken pane.

Cllr Staples noted that the litter bin in the Burial Ground was not being emptied. The Clerk will report this to the contractor, Urbaser Ltd.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at St Mary's Church, The Street, Frittenden on Tuesday 26th October 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr S Murray
Cllr R Riley

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough) & 3 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

Members of the public were in attendance as the applicants for one of the planning applications to be considered by the Parish Council (21/03391/FULL). They provided helpful background to the application, which was for the stationing of a shepherd's hut to be used for glamping as part of a diversification project to help secure the future of their farm. The project had been trialled for 56 days and proved successful. The applicants were particularly keen to encourage tourists into the Frittenden area, who would go on to use other local facilities, such as its pubs and the hoped-for Community Shop.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllr Staples declared an interest in agenda item 9.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that TWBC had voted on the proposed electoral changes. The vote was lost and this meant that it was highly likely that single member wards would no longer exist from 2024 and Sissinghurst & Frittenden would be merged with another ward. TWBC had no say in how new electoral boundaries would be drawn up, as this was a matter for the Electoral Commission. Cllr Fairweather was very disappointed at the outcome of the vote, particularly in light of the Parish Council's strongly expressed opposition to the proposed changes and his view that the vote was largely swayed by politics rather than the interests of constituents. TWBC also voted on whether the total number of its Councillors should be reduced. It was decided that it should not and that there should remain 47 in total. However, the feeling was that the Electoral Commission would not be very receptive to maintaining the status quo and we may ultimately see a reduction in any event. The number of Councillors for each new ward would be determined by the number of electors. It was also likely that Frittenden would fall into a new constituency, possibly Wealden, for Central Government elections as a result of upcoming electoral reforms.

Cllr Fairweather noted that the one-off garden waste collections had been completed for all those whose waste was collected on a Monday and so they would be moving forward with garden waste collections for those with a Tuesday collection day during the course of next week.

Cllr Fairweather had written to the Head of Planning and asked for a meeting to discuss the provision of social housing in Frittenden. The Head of Planning had indicated that he was keen to work with Cllr Fairweather, the Parish Council and the CLT in that regard.

Cllr Fairweather also noted that TWBC had housed three Afghan refugees since 2013 and employed them as parking enforcement staff. The ability to take more was restricted by the need to find suitable private rental properties and Cllr Fairweather was looking to open up the empty properties list and approach letting agencies to see what more could be done in that regard. To date, TWBC had not been allocated any families.

In response to the ongoing climate emergency, TWBC aimed to be carbon neutral by 2030. The Amelia Scott building, which was being handed over to internal fitters, had been equipped with solar panels. 6 flats in Crescent Road which were being used to provide interim accommodation for the homeless were powered by heat pumps and the Town Hall was to be re-roofed with insulation and solar panels also being installed.

TWBC was making rapid progress in relation to its plan to give over two thirds of its office space at the Town Hall for remote working, hot desking and sub-letting.

Electric Vehicle charging points were being installed in TWBC's car parks and Cllr Fairweather understood that Government funding might be available for the installation of such charging points at village halls.

Cllr Fairweather did not have any update on the proposed closure of the High Weald Academy. Helen Grant MP was looking into whether the decision to close the school could be judicially reviewed, but Cllr Fairweather understood that the problem with that was funding the costs.

Cllr Fairweather confirmed that the Mayor's Toy Appeal would be going ahead this year with details to be published shortly.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PLANNING MEETING

It was agreed that an amended draft of the Minutes of from the Council Meeting on 22nd September 2021 would be circulated for approval at the next Council Meeting.

Cllr Staples then advanced consideration of planning application 21/03391/FULL (see minute for agenda item 18).

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parking on Biddenden Road

Cllr Staples noted that cars were still parked on the pavement, albeit a little further down the road.

Weald of Kent Young Farmers Club

The YFC had completed a litter pick which was well received.

Hedge behind tennis court

The Clerk noted that the cutting of this hedge did not form part of any ground maintenance contract. She had therefore asked the ground maintenance contractor, Kent Grassland Services, to provide a quote for undertaking this work.

Hedges on Laundry Lane

The Clerk will chase the ground maintenance contractor to ascertain whether the cutting back of the hedges has been completed.

Telephone Box

Cllr Gosbee reported that Roy Kemp is kindly replacing the broken window pane.

Litter Bins

The Clerk noted that she had written to Urbaser Ltd to ask that the litter bin in the burial ground be emptied in accordance with the contract, but she was yet to receive a response.

6. PROPOSED CLOSURE OF HIGH WEALD ACADEMY

Cllr Staples had sent the letter attached to these minutes at pages 2051 to 2053. It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the content of that letter reflected the views of, and it was therefore ratified by, the Parish Council.

7. TWBC – MAYOR’S TOY APPEAL

Cllr Staples noted that the Parish Council would have an opportunity to nominate local families who might benefit from this fund and that further details would be circulated once they were received from TWBC.

8. HM THE QUEEN’S PALTINUM JUBILEE / GREEN CANOPY PROJECT

Cllr Staples noted that the lighting of beacons formed part of the planned celebrations. Frittenden had a beacon and James Highwood had volunteered to act as chief fire lighter.

The Parish Council was prepared to support an appropriate community celebration and it was agreed that enquiries would be made to ascertain whether anyone would be prepared to take on the organisation of such an event.

Cllr Staples noted that TWBC was offering free saplings to those who wanted to participate in the Green Canopy Project by planting commemorative trees. This could be done on either privately or publicly owned land. The Parish Council did not feel that there was sufficient space for the planting of any new trees on the Parish Field, but Councillors would raise this with other local organisations/individuals who might be interested in participating. The Clerk noted that the final deadline for responses was 19 November 2021, albeit TWBC had asked for responses by 31 October 2021 if at all possible.

9. INCREASED CONTRIBUTION TO TENT TEAM LUNCH

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council’s contribution to the cost of the Tent Team’s end of season lunch would be increased from £10 per person to £15 per person (Cllr Staples did not participate in the discussion of this item, or vote on the above proposal, having declared an interest).

10. KENT RAIL SUMMIT 2021

Cllr Tuke reported on his attendance at the above event. He noted that it was not of direct relevance to Frittenden because the Summit did not deal with the line that passed through Staplehurst and Headcorn, being the station primarily used by residents. However, he did note some issues of general interest.

Peak time usage was now at up to 45% of pre-covid levels, whereas off peak usage was higher at 55% of pre-covid levels. Monday appeared to be the least busy day of the week.

Management of the Southeastern network had now transitioned from Govia to the operator of last resort and there was some suggestion that moves were afoot to return the whole rail network to public ownership.

The Tonbridge Bike Users Group were building a hub at Tonbridge station and Maidstone East Station had also been the subject of improvements.

11. KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN SERVICE REVIEW

Cllr Staples noted that the Parish Council had been invited to give its views on six questions. Councillors felt that it was difficult to provide answers to those questions because they were unclear as to the role of the Community Warden and sought clarification of his brief. In particular, it was not clear what issues should be referred to the Community Warden and what issues should more properly be referred to the local PCSO. It was therefore felt that the Community Warden was currently operating within an ill-defined framework which meant that it was difficult to provide meaningful feedback on the service provided.

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Staples would formulate and circulate appropriate responses for approval and then submit them on behalf of the Parish Council.

12. HEADCORN AERODROME CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Cllr Gosbee reported on the recent meeting of the Consultative Committee.

The Air Show went well, notwithstanding the poor weather, and whilst the Aerodrome had experienced a very busy summer, the number of complaints had not reached double figures. Those complaints that had been made were discussed and the action taken in respect of them explained.

It had been proposed that a rock concert be staged at the Aerodrome on the 2022 May Bank Holiday. An event for the emergency services was also planned and it was hoped that the Red Arrows would return for the 2022 Air Show.

There was further discussion as to what might be done to preserve the Aerodrome and/or prevent the land from being used for house building should the current owner wish to retire or sell up.

The next meeting would take place on 29 March 2022.

13. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples noted that there had been no applications in the last month and the Committee would be meeting shortly to discuss the future of the fund.

14. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that there had been five sessions over the last fortnight. A shortage of volunteers prevented more sessions from being held. A low rate of offending had been recorded, but one vehicle was seen coming past the entrance to Chestnut Close at 51mph. That vehicle was found to have had no valid tax or MOT and its details had been reported to Kent Police via the scheme.

15. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth is doing the inspections in October and November. She had gone through the independent Annual Inspection report and was making arrangement to attend to the minor issues raised in that report. Cllr Cullingworth will notify the Clerk of the issues that will need to be addressed by specialist contractors to allow appropriate quotes to be obtained.

16. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

There was nothing substantive to report at the time of the meeting.

17. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee reported that he had spoken to Cllr Holden about whether the Parish Council could make provision for parking on part of the grass verge further down Biddenden Road in an attempt to prevent vehicles from being parked dangerously close to or on the blind bend. He will also speak to residents to see if those parking spaces would be used, because it would only be worth pursuing this proposal if it would prevent the above problem parking on Biddenden Road.

The water leak reported last month had now been mended, but two small water leaks by Poplar and Water Farm Lane had only been marked not repaired.

The big dip caused by subsidence on the Headcorn Road was still a problem.

The salt bin on London Lane had disappeared and the one on Grandshore Lane needed replacing. The salt in the other bins had got wet and needed replacing. Cllr Gosbee would follow this up with Paul Catt.

Cllr Gosbee had reported slurry on the road along Biddenden Road, Headcorn Road and Staplehurst Road. When KCC took no action, he reported this to the Police as constituting a potential danger to road users. When no action was, again, taken, he spoke to a number of local farmers and the slurry was quickly thereafter cleared up.

There had been little fly tipping this month, save for some garden waste left at the side of London Lane.

18. PLANNING

Cllr Staples extended the meeting beyond the 2-hour limit set out by the Standing Orders.

New Applications

21/02959/FULL	Land North of Grandshore Farm, Grandshore Lane, Frittenden Siting of Mobile Home, touring caravan, utility room and septic tank installation Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Staples RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND REFUSAL AND SUBMIT THE COMMENTS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES (see pages 2054-2057)
21/03391/FULL	Land & Buildings adjacent to Ayleswade Bungalow, Ayleswade Lane, Biddenden Stationing of 1 No. Shepherds Hut as Farm Diversification (Change of use of land from agricultural to tourism/glamping following 56-day GDPO use) (Retrospective) Proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

21/03454/FULL	Little Chanceford, Sand Lane, Frittenden Proposed two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, extension to existing car port and conversion of garage to habitable space Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstentions)
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Outcome of Previous applications

21/02667/FULL	Acorns Village Stores, The Street, Frittenden Change of Use from Village Stores (shop) to residential use associated with existing dwelling PERMISSION GRANTED
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Planning appeals

- None

19. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The Clerk noted that the KALC AGM would be taking place remotely (via Zoom) on Saturday 13 November 2021. Up to two delegates from the Parish Council could attend, but anyone wishing to do so needed to register by close of business on 5 November 2021.

20. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Riley, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – October 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – September
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – September
BACS	£68.83	nil	£68.83	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk’s Expenses - October
BACS	£126.81	nil	£126.81	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk’s Salary – October
BACS	£84.00	nil	£84.00	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£55.20	nil	£55.20	Mr M Cooper	Refund – Replacement tyre for tent trailer
DD	£40.65	£1.94	£38.71	EON	Street lighting energy – September
Total	£577.49	£35.61	£541.88		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.

Chairman’s Signature: _____

Date: _____

Park Cottage
Frittenden
Cranbrook
Kent
TN17 2AU
1 October 2021

Ms Helen Grant MP
Constituency Office
109 - 111 Week Street
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1RB
Dear Helen,

Proposed Closure of High Weald Academy (HWA)

I am writing as Chairman of Frittenden Parish Council to express our concern over the decision to close HWA at the end of the present academic year and to transfer year 10 pupils at the end of this term.

We have three areas of concern

1. The pupils and their families:

- a) The immediate disruption of education to the students at HWA, especially to those in year 10. This follows immediately after 18 months of educational disruption due to Covid.
- b) The unexpected reduction of choice available to year 6 children whose families are currently considering options for next September.
- c) The potential costs, direct and indirect, likely to be incurred by families affected by change of school.
- d) The considerably increased travel-to-school time, reducing the students' quality of life. (Travel by school bus from Frittenden to Mascalls School in Paddock Wood could take about an hour each way.)
- e) The likelihood of pupils being less able to take part in any after-school activities due to problems of arranging alternative transport once school buses have left.

2. The impact on the community

- a) Cranbrook is the rural hub for the surrounding parishes in the Weald of Kent, yet services have progressively declined. The removal of any provision for non-grammar-school secondary school students, ie the majority of students aged 11 and over, further reduces the town's role. This will diminish the sense of community even more.

b) Even with the provision of school buses from all feeder villages the effect of moving pupils to a more distant school will be to increase car travel, particularly in a village like Frittenden which (almost uniquely) has no bus service at all.

c) Under the draft local plan for Tunbridge Wells considerable development is taking place in the Eastern part of the Borough. Similarly major development continues in Staplehurst. Existing education facilities will inevitably become further stretched. On the basis of school capacity alone this decision to remove 1,500 places at a stroke seems perverse. However 11-year-olds should not be treated as mere pawns to be moved around to suit the needs of service providers: they are entitled to expect to move with their contemporaries to a school in the community they most closely relate to.

3. The failure to address a long-running problem at HWA

Closure of HWA is an admission of total failure of the school, the Leigh Academies Trust, KCC, and Ofsted to find a satisfactory solution to an issue which predates the school's change of status to an Academy. Its roll has dwindled because parents have voted with their feet. Few children from Frittenden now transfer to HWA: years ago the vast majority did, and the change is far greater than can be explained by Cranbrook School's move to take in students from age 11.

In its grand-sounding "Children, Young People and Education - Vision and Priorities for Improvement 2018 -2021" on p10, within the section "Challenges for the Future", KCC writes:

"Ensure prompt solutions are found for schools that are under-performing and proactive support is provided for good and outstanding schools"

This has not happened at HWA and this is the underlying issue. Closure is not a "solution" and the repeated poor performance of HWA suggests action was not "prompt" and clearly was not effective. The words in the KCC Vision may sound impressive but in reality are hollow.

We are therefore looking to you to act on our behalf to reverse the immediate decision and, most importantly, to ensure that the underlying issues which have led to the continued decline are finally addressed so that we can once again have full provision of good secondary education in the Weald.

I look forward to hearing your comments at next Friday's meeting in Cranbrook.

Kind regards,

Anthony Staples
Chairman
Frittenden Parish Council

*Copies to
Cllr Andy Fairweather, TWBC
Cllr Seán Holden, KCC*

Ref: 21/02959/FULL

Address: Land North of Grandshore Farm, Grandshore, Lane, Frittenden

Proposal: Siting of Mobile Home, touring caravan, utility room and septic tank installation

Frittenden Parish Council recommends that this application be refused and comment as follows:

1. We have identified a number of issues with the Planning & Design and Access Statement:

- (a) Site Description – We do not agree with the suggestion that the site is located 3.2 miles - it is in fact 3.5 miles - from Staplehurst Rail Station and has straightforward access to the public highway or that this makes the site a sustainable location.

It is stated that there are bus routes which can be caught within a "short distance" from the site. The nearest bus stop to the site is at The Knoxbridge Inn, Knoxbridge located on the A229. This bus stop is 1.1 miles from the site and to walk to the bus stop would be a dangerous walk along an unlit narrow country lane without pavements followed by an extremely dangerous walk along the side of the A229, which again is unlit without pavements and is a notorious accident hot spot being a fast A-road, notwithstanding the speed limits.

- (b) Surrounding Area - It is stated that the surrounding area is largely open land with a cluster of buildings for residential use. The nearest residential building, Grandshore Place, is half a mile from the site and the site is located amongst ancient woodland on a rural lane.

- (c) Sustainability – The site is not sustainable. There is not a house nearby that is residential and the site should not have a water treatment plant as this was unlawful development of the site.

The site is not relatively close to public transport routes and the site does not have good and safe access to other primary and other main roads. NPPF supports sustainable development which this is not.

- (d) Development Proposals – The statement refers to development of "open space". It also refers to the plot not utilising its full potential. Its only potential is to be countryside and woodland. The site is only open due to the felling of trees not permitted by the Forestry Commission.

Any development will have a major impact on the site, the rural lane and surrounding area.

- (e) Principle of Development Use – This proposal does not constitute a more efficient use of the site as the site should be considered as countryside and ancient woodland. Therefore, the proposal does not comply with Tunbridge Wells Planning Policies or the NPPF.

This is not sustainable development so the proposal should not be viewed favourably.

The site is not located in an area predominantly characterised by open space. This is an area characterised by ancient woodland on a rural lane.

- (f) Amount – The proposal does not respect the design characteristics of the surrounding area which is woodland. Any development of the site is unacceptable.

The site is not close to Staplehurst Station or public transport. It is not a sustainable location.

- (g) Scale & Design – The design of the development is obtrusive and does not appear similar in characteristics to the surrounding area of ancient woodland.

- (h) Layout – The layout does not compliment the character and setting of the areas of surrounding ancient woodland and the rural lane.

- (i) Conclusion – We do not agree that the development results in a more effective use of the site and is not contrary to the local planning policies. The proposal does not meet any requirements of the local planning policies. It has not been demonstrated that the site is a sustainable location as it is clearly not a sustainable location and the proposal is not policy compliant.

- (j) A supporting statement would normally include the planning history of the site and we note that the introduction of the statement does refer to the planning history within Section Three. However, no detail is included in the statement to refer to the unlawful development already carried out by the applicant in flagrant breach of planning law and unlawful felling of trees. Unlawful development should be a material consideration for refusing this application.

2. Grandshore Lane is predominantly undeveloped with a distinctive quality derived from uninterrupted ancient woodlands and fields with Leggs Wood to one side and Eleven Acre Wood and Grandshore Wood to the other. Unlawful felling of trees has occurred on the site.
3. The site is outside the Limits to Build Development and the proposed development would be contrary to Policy LBD 1 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan 2006 which protects the countryside and restricts development in the countryside.
4. Grandshore Lane is a designated rural lane and any development would be highly intrusive to the local character and seriously detract from the rural lane setting amongst ancient woodland.
5. Any development of the site will be visually intrusive and have a major adverse effect on the character and appearance of the rural landscape of the Local Character Area and designated ancient woodland.

6. Any development would have an adverse impact on biodiversity of the site and would be a risk to ecology.
7. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) promotes sustainable development and paragraph 79 NPPF states that to promote sustainable development in rural areas, housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities and paragraph 80 NPPF states that planning decisions should avoid the development of isolated homes in the countryside. Development of the site would in no way enhance or maintain the vitality of any rural community and would be very isolated in the countryside.
8. NPPF paragraph 124 states that planning decisions should take account of the availability of infrastructure and services and the desirability of maintaining an area's prevailing character and setting. The proposed development has no infrastructure and very limited services and would materially adversely affects the local character and history of the landscape setting.
9. Core Policy 14 of the Tunbridge Wells Core Strategy 2010 states that the countryside will be protected for its own sake and a policy of restraint will operate in order to maintain the landscape, character and quality of the countryside. This Core Policy should protect this site from any development.
10. "Sustainable development" includes 3 overarching objectives of economic, social and environmental. None of these 3 overarching objectives are met by these proposals. In fact, the proposal is clearly not sustainable development.
11. The development proposals are contrary to Policy EN25 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan 2006 as the development would have a major adverse impact on the character of the landscape and the development proposals will result in unsympathetic change to the character of a rural lane which is of landscape, amenity, nature conservation and historic importance.
12. The proposed development is contrary to Policy H4 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan 2006 as the development will have a material adverse impact on the rural character of the locality and distinctive landscape of this rural lane.
13. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites states that planning decisions must follow the development plan unless "material considerations" indicate otherwise and any development must be "sustainable development" to ensure that the presumption in favour of sustainable development is met. Frittenden Parish Council has identified no "material considerations" to suggest development contrary to policy should be permitted and the development is not sustainable development.
14. The proposed development would be contrary to the NPPF which states that the planning authority should recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and valued landscape should be protected.

15. In conclusion, the site is unsustainably located and would not be considered to be appropriate in location, scale and appearance to its surroundings and would cause significant harm to the character of the countryside and rural lane setting. In addition to the points already made, the proposal would be contrary to Paragraph 25 of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2015, Policy EN1 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan 2006, Core Policies 4 and 5 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Core Strategy 2010, the Borough Landscape Character Assessment and the Rural Lanes SPD.

Frittenden Parish Council requests that TWBC refuses this application for the above reasons and that TWBC takes enforcement action to require hard core and other building materials to be removed from the site.

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, The Street, Frittenden on Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr S Murray
Cllr R Riley

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Holden (County)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

None

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that collections had started for Green Waste bins usually collected on a Wednesday. There were three crews out making those collections, which was an increase on previous weeks so it was hoped that all bins would be collected during the course of the week. It was hoped that some sort of regular collection service for Green Waste, whether it be fortnightly or monthly, could restart in or around January next year.

TWBC's carbon emissions had been reduced by 43% and further improvements were still to be made from improving the efficiency of Council owned buildings.

The Local Plan had been submitted and Cllr Fairweather felt that it was heavily geared to the protection of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The construction phase for the new Amelia Scott building was now complete and the internal fit out was well under way.

TWBC had distributed £50m in grants to support businesses affected by the Covid restrictions

Cllr Fairweather also reported that Fusion's contract to manage Council owned leisure centres, to include the Weald Sports Centre, had been extended and funding had been secured for new gym equipment to be installed.

The latest homeless count in the Borough was nil, largely as a result of the Everyone In scheme run during lockdown and the 7 units for interim housing now being fully operational.

TWBC had received 15 expressions of interest in relation to its offer to share some of its office space and facilities at the Town Hall with local businesses.

Finally, Cllr Fairweather reported that he had spent a very enjoyable evening at the Love Where We Live Awards ceremony. He presented prizes and was very happy to be involved in such a wonderful initiative.

In respect of the extension of the Fusion contract, Cllr Vernon commented that marginal improvements had been seen at the Weald Sports Centre, but there was still a very long way to go. In his view, the money spent on new gym equipment would be better spent in ensuring that the Centre was properly staffed, particularly in relation to dedicated cleaning staff. Cllr Fairweather noted that Fusion had promised an uplift in staff and suggested that the situation be reviewed in three months.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON THE 22nd SEPTEMBER 2021 and 26th OCTOBER 2021

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 22nd September 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

It was further proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 26th October are, subject to the correction of two typographical errors, a true and accurate record of that meeting.

That being so, the Chairman signed the above Minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Item 3

Cllr Staples reported that a meeting had been lined up with the Head of Planning at TWBC which would be attended by Cllrs Staples, Vernon and Fairweather, as well as Stewart Hagerty from the CLT set up to try and bring affordable housing to the village for the benefit of local residents.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points

Cllr Riley confirmed that the Hall had looked into whether an EV charger could be sited in the Hall car park but there were various barriers to this. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** (Vote: 6 For, 1 Abstention) that the Council recommend to the Memorial Hall Committee that it consider siting an EV charging point in the Hall car park

Parking in Biddenden Road

It was agreed that Cllrs Gosbee, Cullingworth and Riley would liaise to ascertain whether parking spaces could cost-effectively be provided and, if so, whether they would be used by residents.

Hedge behind the tennis Court

The Clerk had asked Grounds Maintenance contractor to quote for cutting this hedge but this had not yet been received.

Telephone Box

Cllr Gosbee reported that the broken window pane had been replaced.

Closure of High Weald Academy

Legal Aid has been obtained to challenge the Department for Education's decision to approve the closure of the High Weald Academy by way of Judicial Review, but this would not be resolved before the scheduled closure date.

Mayor's Toy Appeal

Cllr Tuke will publicise this on the Council's website and the Frittenden Community Facebook page.

Electoral Reform

Cllr Staples had circulated a letter he proposed to send to the Electoral Reform Commission on the Council's behalf. That letter supported submissions made by Goudhurst Parish Council opposing proposed changes that could result in small rural wards being merged in order to create larger multi-member wards. It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the content of Cllr Staples letter accurately represented the views of the Council.

Community Warden Review

Cllr Staples had discussed the role of the Community Warden with Adam Osborne at the last CAMEO event. The Community Warden was supposed to support elderly and vulnerable people in the community, but they were very stretched as there were only three in the Borough. Whilst Adam Osborne came to CAMEO other elderly attendees were unaware of his role. The Clerk will ask KALC for feedback on the results of the review.

6. MEETING DATES 2022

Dates were agreed as annexed to these Minutes.

7. HM THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Cllr Gosbee had obtained the agreement of the landowner and club to plant trees at the Cricket Club as part of the Green Canopy initiative to celebrate the jubilee. However, further investigation had revealed that the trees on offer were not appropriate for that site. Cllr Staples suggested that the Council consider purchasing a tree to be planted at the Cricket Club independently of the Green Canopy project. Cllr Gosbee will look into the cost of this.

It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council call a Parish Meeting at 7:30pm on Monday 10th January 2022 to invite proposals as to how else the jubilee might be celebrated in the village and that £500 be donated by the Council towards the cost of staging such an event.

8. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

Cllr Staples reported that no applications had been received since the last Council Meeting. The Approval Committee would shortly be meeting to discuss winding up the fund in January 2022, as the rules of the fund require it to end within 6 months of Covid restrictions being lifted.

9. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Staples reported that Speedwatch was still short of volunteers. It had been able to hold 5 sessions in the last fortnight and had recorded 18 speeders during the last 4 sessions.

10. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Cllr Cullingworth reported that she had undertaken some of the repairs identified in the Annual Inspection report. Others required more substantial remedial works and the Clerk had approached 3 contractors for quotes.

11. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

There were no substantive developments to report.

12. ROAD REPORT - GENERAL

Cllr Gosbee reported that the water main in Sand Lane had burst twice causing substantial disruption, including the closure of the school for half a day. It was hoped that the repairs had been done properly the second time. However, there were two other water leaks which Cllr Gosbee had mentioned at the last Council meeting which were yet to be attended to. Cllr Gosbee will continue to chase to get the required repairs carried out.

The raised manhole covers between Bakery Close and Kent House were owned by the water companies and Cllr Gosbee has asked the companies to carry out the necessary work to level them. He had also reported some raised bricks on the pavement.

The rubbish dumped along London Lane had been collected, but some bin bags of rubbish and paint pots had been dumped on Satins Hill. This had been reported. Cllr Riley noted that a new incident of fly tipping on Sand Lane had just been reported.

Cllr Gosbee had also reported the fact that there were now 4 caravans on the Hatchin Tan in breach of planning.

A new salt bin had been installed on Grandshore Lane. However, it had been placed near the sharp bend, rather than on the hill. Cllr Gosbee had reported that the salt in other bins in the Parish had got wet, but it was not clear whether the salt would be replaced.

Cllr Vernon reminded the Council that a resident had queried the quality of the resurfacing works carried out on the Street. He had been trying to obtain the contract and specification for that work and had resorted to making a Freedom of Information Act request. KCC had responded by saying that the work had been carried out by a sub-contractor and it had no access to documentation relation to that sub-contract. Cllr Staples noted that this a very cavalier way to spend taxpayer's money. Cllr Vernon will continue with his investigations and will be writing to Cllr Holden for assistance.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that the streetlight opposite the former Acorn Stores was not coming on at the correct times. The Clerk will report this to the streetlighting contractor and ask that they inspect it as soon as possible.

Cllr Staples asked if there was any way to adjust the flashing 30mph sign as you approached the school. It should be triggered by any vehicle exceeding the 30mph limit but, currently, it was being triggered at 26mph. Cllr Gosbee will raise this with Paul Catt of KCC.

13. PLANNING

New Applications

21/03529/FULL	1 Gordon Cottages, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Removal of external oil fired boiler and installation of an air source heat pump Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Riley
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	RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/03594/FULL	Rose Cottage Oast, Knoxbridge, Frittenden Proposed annex accommodation Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL (Vote: 6 For: 1 Against)

Outcome of Previous applications

21/03035/FULL	Wadd Farm, Grandshore Lane, Frittenden Conversion of an Existing Barn into an Education Centre (Retrospective) PERMISSION GRANTED
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Planning appeals

- None

14. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- The Clerk noted that a KALC Health & Wellbeing Conference was taking place by Zoom between 10am and 2:30pm on 23 November 2021.
- Action With Rural Communities in Kent's AGM was also taking place by Zoom at 10am on 9 December 2021. The Clerk will circulate the agenda.

15. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Tuke and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the draft Budget be accepted and that the Clerk apply for a precept of £17,000 for 2022/23.
- It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – November 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£40.00	nil	£40.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire – October & November
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.33	Kent Grassland Services	Grounds Maintenance – October
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – October
BACS	£67.99	nil	£67.99	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - November
BACS	£98.30	nil	£98.30	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – November
BACS	£65.20	nil	£65.20	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£36.18	6.03	£30.15	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog Bags
BACS	£225.00	nil	£225.00	Bell & Jorrocks	Contribution to Tent Team lunch
DD	£42.00	£2.00	£40.00	EON	Street lighting energy – October
Total	£776.67	£41.70	£734.97		

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:25 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, The Street, Frittenden on Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)
Cllr J Tuke
Cllr L Gosbee
Cllr H Cullingworth
Cllr R Vernon
Cllr S Murray

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk), Cllr Fairweather (Borough)

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Riley, Cllr Holden (County)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct Part 2)

Cllr Staples declared an interest in item 9. Cllr Cullingworth declared an interest in item 10.

3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Fairweather reported that a Parish Chairmen's Meeting had taken place on 7th December 2021 which he had attended. He had also recently attended a meeting with TWBC Head of Planning, Steve Baughen, and representatives of Frittenden Parish Council and the CLT to discuss the provision of affordable housing as part of the proposed development of the Four Acres, Cranbrook Road site. Cllr Fairweather thought that the meeting was positive and he will continue to provide whatever assistance he could.

There were now 3-4 vehicles out collecting garden waste each day and the hope was that some sort of regular collection service would return between January and March 2022.

Cllr Fairweather reported that TWBC had a £3m deficit last year and a £2m deficit this year. At the moment that hole was being filled from reserves but this could not be sustained and it was inevitable that services would be cut.

Following the Bidborough by-election, which was won by the Tunbridge Wells Alliance (now the Tunbridge Wells Independence Party) candidate, the Conservatives were now running TWBC as a minority party. The intention of the Leader and cabinet was to continue as normal for the rest of the current 4-year term.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON THE 16th NOVEMBER 2021

It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Minutes from the Council meeting on 16th November 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. That being so, the Chairman signed the Minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

EV Charging Point

Cllr Gosbee confirmed that this had been discussed by the Memorial Hall Management Committee, but it remained their view that the required parking bay for an EV Charger would take up too much space.

Biddenden Road Parking

Cllr Cullingworth confirmed that the verge outside The Orchards was not wide enough to park on. This meant that the only option would be to utilise the area previously identified for parking further down Biddenden Road. Cllr Gosbee is yet to ascertain whether that parking area would be used given its distance away from where cars are currently being parked. He will canvass the views of residents and report back at the next meeting of the Council.

Hedge behind the tennis Court

The Clerk had asked the Grounds Maintenance contractor to quote for cutting this hedge but this had still not yet been received.

Mayor's Toy Appeal

The school had submitted nominations for beneficiaries.

Electoral Reform

Cllr Staples was disappointed not to receive any acknowledgement of, or response to, his letter to the Electoral Reform Commission.

Queen's Jubilee

Cllr Staples had advertised the planned community meeting in the Parish Magazine and will put something on Facebook. Local groups/societies had been invited to attend and Cllr Staples will also look to invite groups who regularly use the Memorial Hall

Community Warden Review

Cllr Staples reported that he had not received any feedback on the comments made on behalf of the Council.

Action with Communities in Rural Kent AGM

Cllr Staples will be attending this AGM.

6. PARISH CHAIRMEN'S MEETING

Cllr Staples attended this meeting and circulated the notes attached to these Minutes.

7. UPDATE ON PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT FOUR ACRES, CRANBROOK ROAD

Cllr Vernon noted that the draft Local Plan had now been submitted to the Planning Inspector and it was likely to take until the Autumn of 2022 to be adopted. The draft Local Plan designated the site at Four Acres for development.

Cllr Vernon had met with TWBC Head of Planning, Steve Baughen, along with Cllr Staples, Cllr Fairweather and Stewart Hagerty of the CLT. The planning application for the proposed

development was still being considered and there were ongoing discussions between the planners and developer.

The proposal remained for 23 houses, but 10 of those would now be designated affordable homes to comply with the relevant policy requirements. 6 would be offered to let at a social rent (defined as 60% of market rent) and 4 would be available to purchase under a shared ownership scheme. The planners' preference was for more rental properties but the policy dictated the above 60/40 split.

The CLT is looking at every option open to it to acquire/fund/build/manage the affordable homes on the site as it was very clear that the Village wanted to have control over who lived there and at what cost. The developer, Jarvis Homes, was supportive of this aspiration, but it would ultimately come down to whether the CLT could raise the necessary funds. TWBC was broadly supportive and had some funds available from planning gains. Rural Homes England might also be able to offer some funding. Cllr Staples noted that it would be necessary to first drive down the developers costs before looking to obtain public funds.

8. KALC COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME 2022

Nominations were required by a date in February and Councillors would therefore consider proposed nominations for agreement at the next meeting of the Council.

9. DONATIONS

It was proposed by Cllr Murray, seconded by Cllr Tuke, and **RESOLVED** (1 abstention) to make the donations set out in the list attached to these Minutes. It was noted that the donation to the High Weald Academy Farm would be subject to confirmation of the plans for the future of the farm once the High Weald Academy closed at the end of the Summer Term 2022.

10. IDENDEN TRUST RE-APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Gosbee, and **RESOLVED** (1 abstention) to approve the re-appointment of Phil Betts and Harold Worth.

11. COVID-19 HARDSHIP FUND

It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the Committee's recommendation and amend the Rules of the fund to extend its life beyond the current longstop date of 19th January 2022, being 6 months from the date on which restrictions were lifted. In light of the current uncertainty over the impact of the Omicron variant and the possibility of further restrictions being reintroduced, the longstop date would be amended to 19th April 2022, subject to the consent of the donors.

Cllr Staples noted that the Committee had been thinking longer term about the continuing need for provision for those in the community facing hardship which was not constrained by reference to Covid-19. It had been suggested that a new fund created by public subscription might be administered by the Idenden Charity. This was currently being investigated.

12. SPEEDWATCH

There had been 1 session since the last Council Meeting. Prior to this meeting, Cllr Staples had notified the Council of the need to replace some of the equipment and circulated a quote received in that regard totalling £105 plus VAT. The cost of the replacement equipment would be shared with Sandhurst Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept that quote and order the equipment.

13. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Prior to this meeting, the Clerk had circulated details of 3 quotes received for the repairs previously identified as required. It was proposed by Cllr Cullingworth, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the quote submitted by Capel Groundcare in the sum of £675.

14. COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

No developments were reported.

15. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee reported that a pot hole on Cranbrook Road had been mended, but the edge of the road was crumbling away on Staplehurst Road close to Pillar Box Cottage. This had been reported.

The water leak at the top of Pound Hill had been mended, but they had still not resolved the leak which was causing water to pool on The Street near the telephone box.

The salt bin had now been restored to its original location on Grandshore Lane. The salt bin that appeared on Biddenden Road has been taken away as it was supposed to have been located in Ashford.

There had not been any fly tipping of note since the load dumped on Sand Lane in November. Cllr Staples noted that some waste had been dumped on Dig Dog Lane and this had been reported.

Cllr Gosbee noted that three of the birch trees planted at Manor Farm next to the War Memorial had died and been replaced.

The raised manhole covers previously noted was yet to be dealt with and Cllr Gosbee would also speak to Paul Catt about adjusting the speed sign so that it is only activated when vehicles are travelling in excess of the 30mph speed limit.

Cllr Cullingworth noted that she was trying to get something done about the water that pooled on The Street where the kerb had been dropped. The large puddle that formed there was causing a dangerous distraction to children crossing the road to get to the School. A gully was needed. Cllr Gosbee will raise this with Paul Catt and, if that didn't work, refer the issue to Cllrds Fairweather and Holden.

16. PLANNING

New Applications

21/03520/FULL	Hollenden, Headcorn Road, Frittenden Erection of ground floor rear extension; Roof re-pitched over extension and existing flat roof extension removed; New bedroom to be formed with wall partially removed to provide walk in wardrobe; First-storey ensuite built over existing ground floor extension; Existing roof to be extended over Proposed by Cllr Vernon, Seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/03731/FULL	Forge Cottage, The Street, Frittenden

	Refurbishment of existing Forge Cottage, involves substantial internal repairs and complete refurbishment, new external timber cladding, new timber double glazed windows Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Tuke RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/03768/FULL	Great Water House, Cranbrook Road, Frittenden Entrance porch, change existing door to window, internal alterations Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/03927/FULL	Great Water Barn, Knoxbridge, Frittenden Proposed ancillary three-bay carport with mixed use space above Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Murray RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL SUBJECT TO: The imposition of a Planning Condition stating that it can only be used as ancillary to the main dwelling and not as a separate unit of accommodation
21/03844/SUB	Oasthouse SW Of Cherry Tree Farmhouse Mill Lane Frittenden Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 5 (Schedule of Works) and 6 (General Details) (Part Discharged) of reference 19/01827/LBC Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Gosbee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL
21/03946/FULL	Tanyard Cottage Cranbrook Road Frittenden Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of 21/01507/FULL - Addition of roof lights and rear window Proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL SUBJECT TO: A Planning Condition requiring the fenestration in the South West elevation to be glazed with obscured glass

Outcome of Previous applications

21/02852/FULL	1 Junkyard Barn, Staplehurst Road, Frittenden Changing the use of the annex to a holiday let and addition of a proposed door within east elevation PERMISSION GRANTED
21/03391/FULL	Land adjacent to Ayleswade Bungalow, Ayleswade Road, Frittenden Stationing of 1No. Shepherds Hut as a Farm Diversification (Change of use of land from agricultural to tourism/glamping following 56-day GDPO use) (Retrospective) PERMISSION GRANTED

Planning appeals

- None

17. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- None

18. FINANCE

- It was proposed by Cllr Gosbee, seconded by Cllr Vernon, and **RESOLVED** by all members present to pay the accounts as follows:

FRITTENDEN PAYMENTS – December 2021					
Cheque Number	GROSS	VAT	NET	SUPPLIER	DETAILS
BACS	£20.00	Nil	£20.00	Frittenden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire – December
BACS	£9.00	Nil	£9.00	Mrs H Cullingworth	Refund: materials for playground repairs
BACS	£49.50	£8.25	£41.25	Streetlights	Streetlight Repairs
BACS	£66.19	Nil	£66.19	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Expenses - December
BACS	£89.51	Nil	£89.15	Mrs E Nightingale	Clerk's Salary – December
BACS	£59.60	Nil	£59.60	HMRC	PAYE
BACS	£42.00	£7.00	£35.00	Urbaser Ltd	Litter Bins – November
BACS	£160.00	£26.67	£133.00	Kent Grassland Services Ltd	Grounds Maintenance – November
DD	£40.65	£1.94	£38.71	EON	Street lighting energy – October
Total	£536.45	£43.86	£492.59		

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Cllr Staples noted that a resident had asked whether a memorial bench could be placed on the area adjacent to the War Memorial. The Council were not averse to this, provided there was sufficient room, and Cllr Staples will therefore invite the resident to submit a formal application for consideration at the next Council Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Notes from TWBC Parish Chairmen's meeting - 7th December 2021

CAV and garden waste services

CAV service still restricted due to driver shortage so no driver hours available for the CAV yet
Anticipate improvement after Christmas.

Garden Waste collection likely to come back on a more regular basis (monthly at first) in new year, and also plan to bring back the CAV. Meanwhile store or compost waste.

Concern that the CAV leads to more waste to landfill – some encouragement to recycle timber/metal. Similar problems in other boroughs but TWBC is lagging a bit behind others.

Finance

TWBC stretched financially due to loss of income (fees, parking etc); plus rising inflation. £2m deficit anticipated for next year.

Intend to use reserves for 2022/3 budget year then review to see whether current difficulties continue, otherwise significant cuts in services may occur.

Budget now out for consultation.

See link <https://talkingpointtunbridgewells.uk.engagementhq.com/budget-2022-23> Anyone is invited to give feedback (in a fairly constrained way!)

TWBC element of Council Tax will rise by 2% - KCC the bulk of out CT charge may go up by rather more but no figures for their new budget were quoted.

Lee Colyer (Director of Finance TWBC) was keen to point out that TWBC is the most efficient in terms of cost per resident among a group of comparable local councils.

Re precept – FPC tax base has grown slightly so the cost per head of the Frittenden precept will actually fall next year as we held our precept constant.

Website accessibility

Presentation re the need for website accessibility for those with any of a range of disabilities. Councils have a specific obligation, slightly more onerous than other bodies (but having looked at our statement on accessibility I think James/Emma have covered this fully).

Update from Tom Dawlings

Plans for use of up to 2/3rds of the Town Hall space for co-working are well advanced and attracting interest.

Amelia Scott building fit out due by the end of the year.

Queen's Jubilee Tree canopy

12 PCs have taken this up (including Frittenden). Trees available after Christmas.

AOB – High Weald Academy

Kim Fletcher (Cranbrook and Sissinghurst) outlined present situation.

Legal aid funding available for a judicial review of closure decision, but no effect likely on the demise of HWA.

Longer term (ie say within 5 years) hope is to set up a replacement school using the old HWA premises (with Leigh Trust relocating). With 300 pupils leaving the 12 feeder primary schools annually there should be enough pupils to make this viable (150 annually is needed). There will be no further spare capacity at Mascalls or Homewood schools. All this will take time, energy and political will!

DONATIONS 2021

Kent Air Ambulance	£125.00
Victim Support	£50.00
High Weald Academy Farm	£50.00*
Tunbridge Wells Citizen Advice Bureau	£100.00
Frittenden Parochial Church Council	£350.00
West Kent YMCA - Frittenden Youth Club	£50.00
Samaritans	£50.00
Relate	£50.00
Hospice in the Weald	£75.00
Frittenden Pre-School	£75.00
Frittenden School	£100.00
Hawkhurst Community League of Friends - Cottage Hospital	£100.00
Royal British Legion	£50.00
Frittenden Community Stores Ltd	£160.00 [Paid]
Frittenden Memorial Hall	£160.00 [Paid]

TOTAL**£1,545.00**

*Subject to confirmation about the future of the Farm