

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at John Spanton Sports Pavilion

St Mildreds Road, Minster

on 5th September 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Quittenden, Fordyce, Bates, Jones, Crow-Brown, Local, Webzell, Jordan Smith

Also present: Clare Wilsdon (Assistant Clerk), Community Warden Karl Aylett, Cllr Abi Smith (TDC), Cllr Bambridge (TDC), Cllr Wright (TDC)

116. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Fleming, Ingleton and Owen

117. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 4th July 2023 be approved and signed.

118. MEMBERS INTERESTS

None

119. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Community Warden Aylett gave a report as follows;

- Continues to support residents and work with TDC and adult social services.
- Kent Community Warden Service Review Consultation is open until 3rd October 2023.
- Frequently working in other parishes due to resignation of Birchington and Newington wardens.
- There are now only 2 wardens in Thanet.

Police Constable Beth Ninnim was not present but provided a report read out by the Chairman as follows:

- 35 calls to Kent Police during August for the Minster area.
- Majority of these for traffic offences, obstruction or abandoned vehicles.
- 60 crimes recorded in Thanet which is an increase on the previous month and includes a rise in theft and criminal damage offences.
- Residents should continue to report crimes and ASB via Kent Police website.
- New shift pattern may enable attendance at council meetings.

120. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Bambridge (TDC) reported as follows:

- No news on Manston Airport.

- Attended 80th anniversary memorial for Baron Jean De Selys Longchamp and the evening presentation. The event was expertly organised. Riveroak have donated £500 to the event.
- Hoo Farm footpath planning application has been called in.
- Whites Transport planning application is going to committee on 20th September. Asked if there are any comments. Transport movements expected to reduce between the site and St Nicholas.

Cllr Bates expressed concern that long vehicles leaving the Whites site could be potentially dangerous.

Cllr Smith (TDC) reported as follows:

- Sunningdale have gone into administration. 106 contributions not due to be released yet as site not yet at 75% occupancy. Sales are expected to continue.
- TDC waste collector strike announced for 11th September but not yet confirmed.
- Planning application for change of conditions for wood storage alongside A299 between Monkton and Minster has been called in.
- TDC continue to accept applications for the Household Support Fund.

Cllr Crow-Brown reported as follows:

- B2050 road closure has caused hardship for local businesses and disrupted buses. New cabinet member in Highways & Transport, Neil Baker has attended to observe the situation.
- Closure of Tothill Street for substation work also caused disruption.
- Monkton Road has been closed for five of the previous twelve months.
- A new year 1 class will be constructed at Minster Primary School with £300K contribution from KCC.
- Objections to the proposed closure at Richborough Waste site continue. Public consultation has been delayed.
- Thanks to Cllr Ingleton who offered some guidance over 106 monies distribution.
- Met with Lezanne Cesar, Highways and Transport Community Engagement officer.

Cllr Wright (TDC) reported as follows:

- Vaping is a danger to public health and a major concern amongst youngsters. A call for the Challenge 25 policy to be introduced for vapes, similar to when purchasing cigarettes.
- A care home in Dover has been closed following safe-guarding issues over restraint of residents.

121. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Memorial celebrations for Baron Jean De Selys Longchamp were a great success and thanks to everyone involved in organising the day.

First monthly surgery took place at the Library on Saturday 2nd September but there were no attendees.

Window and pillar work on the Chapel is complete but has revealed some other maintenance work that may be necessary and quotations are being sought.

The Eco-Church project continues and the bench created by Minster Shed has been installed.

An amended Emergency Plan will be ready to review soon.

There has been some vandalism to saplings in the High Street car-park and this has been attended to.

122. REPORT OF THE CLERK

Nothing to report.

123. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

None available.

124. 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF BARON JEAN DE SELYS LONGCHAMP

Members were asked to ratify the request to help fund the ceremony held on Wednesday 16th August 2023 up to £1000.

RESOLVED: Agreed that a contribution up to £1000 be ratified.

125. QUEENS GREEN CANOPY REPLACEMENT OAK TREE AND GUARD

Members considered an offer by the Royal British Legion to pay for a replacement Oak tree and a steel tree guard by Cllr Jones. This item was deferred from the July meeting.

RESOLVED: To accept the offer by the RBL and Cllr Jones.

126. COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION SIGN

Following the ceremony in memory of Baron Jean de Selys Longchamp, it was noted that although we have a number of war graves in the cemetery, there is no sign on the gate to inform visitors of this. Member considered requesting a plaque from the CWGC.

RESOLVED: to request a sign as detailed.

127. PLANNING, HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Highways & Transportation meeting held on 31st July and 21st August, be received and the recommendations within them be approved.

The Chairman read out a response to the Manston Airport update, prepared by Cllr Fleming. The deadline for comments is 8th September.

**RESOLVED: To submit the response as prepared by Cllr Fleming.
Cllr Local abstained from the vote.**

128. COMMUNITY WARDEN SERVICE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Members views were sought on the public consultation that runs until 3rd October 2023. The Chairman encouraged members to take part.

129. KALC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2023 – REQUEST TO SUBMIT MOTIONS

The KALC AGM will take place on Saturday 18th November 2023. Members were asked to consider if they wished to submit a motion/s to the AGM and to submit these via Survey Monkey no later than Friday 22nd September.

130. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC Cllr Quittenden reported that the AGM was held on 12th July. Officers elected for the committee are as follows:
Chairman – Cllr Pook
Vice Chair – Cllr Steel
Secretary – Bill Anderson
KALC Executive Council Representative – Cllrs Pook and Donaldson
Joint Transport Board Representative – Cllrs Quittenden and Chapman
TDC Standards Board – Cllrs Quittenden and Chapman

There was a debate on the suspension of bi-monthly meetings with TDC. Not reintroduced since Covid.
New Chairman is keen for TDC to take note of parish councils. Members showed concern on the allocation of 106 agreement funds and the use of them in different parishes to where the development is taking place.
Next meeting is 27th September.

Minster School Cllr Fleming was not present.

131. REPORT OF THE RFO

RESOLVED:

- (a) the Bank balance statement be received and noted,**
- (b) the statement of Receipts and Payments for the month of July and August 2023 be approved.**

132. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Barbara Quittenden asked if the chairs for the public seating can be changed as they are very uncomfortable.

Time concluded: 7.50pm

3rd October 2023