

WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES 166

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**Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held in the
Memorial Hall Annexe, Woodchurch, on Thursday 24 October 2019 at 7.00 pm**

PRESENT: Mr J West, (Chair), Mrs G Davies, Mrs S Silcock, Mr A Baker,
Mr A Faiers, Mr A Hukins, Mr W Nash, and Mr P Wood

PARISH CLERK: Mrs J Batt

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR:

COUNTY COUNCILLOR: Mr M Angell

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There was one Members of the Public present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An Apology for Absence was received from Mr N Jones (prior commitment) and Borough Councillor, Mr D Ledger.

Mr Hukins and Borough Councillor Sparkes both emailed their apologies, but the emails were not seen until after the meeting

2. APPROVAL OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Councillors unanimously agreed Mr Jones Reason for Absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

Declarations of Significant Interest

There were no Declarations of Significant Interest.

Updating of Declarations of Interest for the Code of Conduct

Councillors are reminded that they should update their Declarations of Interest with the Monitoring Officer if necessary.

To note the granting of any requests for Dispensations and the Decision

No such requests received.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2019 were accepted and it was unanimously agreed that Mr West should sign them as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed Mr Wood

Seconded Mrs Silcock

5. MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND RECOVERED

The meeting was opened to the Members of the Public present from 7.05 – 7.14.

Councillor Angell reported that Councillor Roger Gough is now the Leader of KCC.

The members of the County Council are waiting to hear which role they have been appointed to.

KCC is launching the RBL Poppy Day at County Hall on 25 October.

Everything at standstill due to the delays with Brexit.

There are traffic issues with traffic on the M20. There is going to be a Customs Point at Junction 10a.

6. PLANNING

Please see attached list.

Discussion regarding any other planning issues within the Parish

No items put forward for discussion.

7. VILLAGE MATTERS**Request for Grant towards New Heating System in All Saints Church**

Defer to next meeting.

Woodchurch in Bloom

Nothing to report.

Mrs Jones is taking on the management of Woodchurch in Bloom along with that of the Gardening Society.

Beacon

Councillors agreed not to proceed with the purchase of a Beacon at this moment in time.

Stoney Lane

The issues with Stoney Lane appear to have been resolved at the moment. This item to be removed from future agendas.

Shepherd Neame has agreed to repair the fence at the side of The Bonny Cravat.

Children's Play Area

Councillors will investigate refurbishing the play equipment next year. Mr Wood will contact some suppliers of play equipment and ask for quotes.

Christmas Fair

Arrangements are proceeding. At the moment the Committee does not have any funding in place for the purchase of a Christmas Tree. It was suggested that the Committee contacts a local business to ask whether they would be prepared to sponsor a tree.

Condition of the Mission Hall

Nothing to report at the meeting although Borough Councillor Sparkes emailed to say that Borough Councillor Ledger has taken this matter up with the Planning Department and will keep us advised when he has a response.

Football Club

Mr Nash is hoping to set up a meeting with the club early next week to try and get an agreement together to allow the club to use The Green.

The Pavilion

Mr Nash is hoping that Mr and Mrs Davy will attend the meeting with the Football Club.

The members of the Parish Council Working Group, agreed at the last meeting, are to look into the potential of a seasonal café. Mr Nash has visited a similar enterprise at Kingsnorth and will visit a couple of others.

8. MATTERS ARISING

There were no Matters Arising not covered on the agenda.

9. ACCOUNTS AND OTHER GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**Bank Reconciliation as at last Bank Statement**

Account Balance		Balance at Bank	
Opening Balance	45925.04	Money Manager Account	62914.51
		Plus uncleared receipts	0.00
			62914.51
Plus Receipts	<u>29048.69</u>	Less uncleared cheques	<u>6335.56</u>
	74973.73		56578.95
Less Payments	<u>18344.78</u>	Plus Community Account	50.00
	56628.95		56628.95
Less Earmarked Funds	<u>30127.99</u>	Less Earmarked Funds	<u>30127.99</u>
AVAILABLE FUNDS	26500.96	AVAILABLE FUNDS	26500.96

Accounts to be Paid

PAYEE	CHQ NO	NET £	VAT £	GROSS £	DETAILS
Parish Clerk	1247	543.11		543.11	Salary and Expenses
Litter Picker	1248	235.66		235.66	Salary
ARW Kirk	1249	190.00	38.00	228.00	Grounds Maintenance
CST	1250	550.00	110.00	660.00	Grounds Maintenance

Proposed Mr Wood

Seconded Mr Faiers

Earmarked Funds

	Balance 26.09.19	+/- Oct	Balance 24.10.19
Election/Standards Committee	3609.24		3609.24
Wildflower Meadow	7795.00	190.00	7605.00
Contingencies	2300.00		2300.00
Maintenance of War Memorial	563.02		563.02
Play Area/CEE			
Swing Seat paid August			
Annual Inspection	-279.01		-279.01
Maintenance of Village Trees	1310.00		1310.00
General Reserves	14829.74		14829.74
	30127.99	190.00	29937.99

Proposed Mr Jones Seconded Mr Wood

Fixed Asset Register

Mr Jarvis has agreed to check all the items on the Fixed Asset Register as he goes around the Village.

Website, Newsletter and Transparency

Mr Nash continues to monitor the website to ensure we comply with the Transparency Code.

The website continues to be developed.

Risk Assessment

Mr Faiers forwarded a Risk Assessment earlier in the month.

Three benches need attention

The doors on the notice board at the bottom of Front Road need strengthening

Various posts are missing or damaged around The Green – to be replaced by resident.

The Oak Post/Rail fencing at the Lower End of The Green should read Softwood Post/Rail

The lids on 2 of the Dog Bins are rusty

The Annual Inspection Report from the Play Inspection Co has been received.

Ten items were listed as being Low Risk.

Update on KALC Meeting

Nothing to report.

Data Protection

Councillors have disposed of old documents in line with the Document Retention Policy.

Community Transport Scheme

An increasing number of bookings are being taken. Because we did not take possession of the bus until August we are unlikely to meet our 1st target.

ABC has approved the money for Wye Parish Council to hire the bus every Wednesday and other parishes are also showing an interest in hiring it.

The school is looking at training members of staff to be able to use the bus, but they need more in-depth training than the Blue Light Training.

Complaint regarding Health and Safety when spraying the Extension to The Green

Following further information, the complainant withdrew the complaint but asked that the Parish Council should produce a Setting to work Policy for contractors. This will be progressed.

Request to bring a van to cook authentic rustic wood fired pizza to Woodchurch

Councillors unanimously agreed to the gentleman bringing his van on a Monday or Friday evening, preferably Friday and the suggested time was 4.30 – 7.30 as this works well for the fish and chip van on Wednesday evenings. He will be asked to make sure he leaves the area clean and tidy after his visit.

10. CORRESPONDENCE/EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE**Correspondence**

HSBC

KALC

Kent Police re Road Closures for Remembrance Sunday

Email Correspondence – all forwarded to all Councillors

Kent Police re Road Closures

Resident re spraying on The Green

Received from PCSO Katherine Richards:

Please accept my apologies for not being able to make this evening meeting, due to the Police rural forum meeting.

I just want to let you be aware, that myself and Carin have been trying to help the local school educate parents, helps etc.. on the safety of parking when on pick up and drop offs, we are working closely with the Head teacher and looking at doing a project with the children so that they can help and come out with us and talk to those people who are parking dangerous. If there were possible lines on some of the corners, we can then get ABC traffic wardens out to help us enforce as well. They won't normally come out if there are no lines, which does make this area more difficult to enforce, and words of advice do not always work.

Please can I also highlight a crime that is happening all over our areas at the moment and will also be putting this out in next month's newsletter, which can be sent out.

Dear All

Please see information circulated on behalf of Insp Jason Atkinson – Community Safety Unit Ashford

There has been a slight rise in this type of crime recently in the local area and due to this here is an advice guide to what this type of crime is and also how to protect yourself from becoming a Victim.

Catalytic Converter Theft

Your car has something that's in demand for thieves. It isn't your stereo system or anything you've hidden in the glove box. Some thieves target the car's tyres or machinery underneath the car. Thieves want your car's catalytic converter, which takes seconds to remove and is required for your car to run properly. Catalytic converters have been fitted to the exhaust systems of most petrol cars built since the early 90s. Thieves have been targeting catalytic converters because of the precious metals they contain- with high clearance vehicles like vans and 4x4's being particularly vulnerable.

This link is for a recent BBC article on this type of theft: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-46882497>

The Appeal of Catalytic Converters

The reason is platinum. Catalytic converters contain platinum, rhodium, and palladium. The metals are expensive, and thieves sell the converters to scrap yards. It is illegal to drive your car without one. The resulting gap in your exhaust system also makes the car run poorly until it is fixed.

The rate of catalytic converter theft varies depending on the current prices of the metals inside it. Price increases typically result in an increase in thefts. Thieves look for easy targets when it comes to catalytic converter theft. A thief just needs a saw to remove the converter. Some thieves also use a sliding board to get under the vehicle more efficiently. A jack is sometimes used to lift the car for easier access, but this is rare because of the added time the jack adds to the process. Taller vehicles such as 4x4's, Vans or pickup trucks are often more attractive to thieves because of the easier access to the undercarriage. Once under the vehicle, the thief uses a saw to slice through the piping on both sides of the converter. The converter is then pulled off.

To avoid becoming a victim of this kind of theft, follow this advice:

Fitting perimeter security fencing can help deter opportunist thieves and slow down more organised thieves.

Good security lighting makes vehicles more visible and can act as a deterrent.

If you can, park your vehicle in a locked garage when it is unattended.

Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) can be an effective deterrent.

Where possible park a vehicle against a kerb, with the catalytic converter being closest to the kerb.

If there is a fleet of vehicles, park the low clearance vehicles to block the high-clearance vehicles. This will obstruct access underneath.

If a catalytic converter is a bolt on type it is possible to have the bolts welded shut.

Fit protective coverings on catalytic converters, these can make it much more difficult for thieves.

Have your catalytic converter etched or forensically marked and put stickers in the windscreen to say this has been done.

Consider installing a Thatcham approved alarm to your vehicle. Ones that activate if your vehicle is lifted or tilted are particularly effective.

These websites provide details of product that could help protect your vehicle

Approved by the Association of Chief Police Officers'

Secured By Design scheme www.securedbydesign.com

Approved Thatcham alarm installers www.thatcham.org

Catalytic converter marking system www.retainagroup.com

Products to enhance vehicle security www.soldsecure.com

Other products by Secured By Design are available

Catalytic converter guards www.garrisonlocks.co.uk

Catatak - theft prevention kit www.catalyticconvertertheft.com

CatSecure theft prevention device for Mercedes Sprinter vans
www.maplefleetservices.co.uk

CatClamp catalytic converter lock www.catsafe.org.uk

I hope you find this guide of use, and remember if you see any suspicious activity or if you suspect a converter has been stolen then report it to the Police immediately by calling 101, alternatively report this online:
<https://www.kent.police.uk/services/report-online/>

If there is anything else you feel I need to look into please let me know.

11. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Subsidence along Woodchurch – Shadoxhurst Road
Blocked gullies outside of Woodchurch Garage

12. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

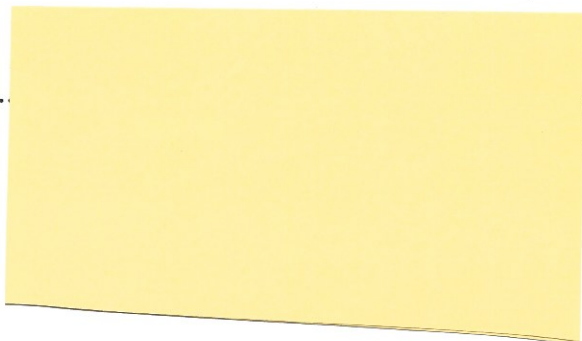
Budget and Setting of Precept.
Upgrading Electricity to the HUB
Installation of CCTV
Health and Safety Policy
Appointment of The Play Area Inspection Co

13. FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN COUNCILLORS

A councillor received a letter asking for yellow lines outside of the school to alleviate the problems with parking at drop off and pick up time. It was explained to the correspondent that this has been discussed before.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Signed....



..... Dated

28.11.19

WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION RECORD

2019

OCTOBER 2019

- 19/0522/AMND/AS 28 Lower Road, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3SQ
Revision to rear bedroom window to change size and add juliet balcony;
alteration to front bedroom window on planning permission
19/00522/AS (Proposed two storey side extension; alteration to existing
single storey roof form on rear elevation)
Parish Council: No Comment as decision already given by ABC
Borough Council: Approved
- 19/01441/AS South of England Rare Breeds Centre, Highlands Farm, Warehorne Road,
Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3RJ
Proposed wash station and associated landscaping.
Parish Council: Support
- 19/01467/AS The Old Rectory, 6 Rectory Close, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent TN26 3QD
Variation on condition 11 on planning permission 17/00622/AS
(Erection of detached dwelling) to change window detailing
Parish Council: Support 4: Object 1: Abstain: 2

Decision Notices received from ABC

- 18/01671/AS Land north of 22, Lower Road, Woodchurch, Kent
Erection of three detached two-storey dwellings together with all necessary
infrastructure.
Borough Council: Permit
- 19/01046/AS Lot 5, land on east side of, Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Kent
Change of use of land, enlargement of fishing pond, new access, storage
container & new fishing swims
Borough Council: Withdrawn by Applicant
- 19/01050/AS South Of England Rare Breeds Centre, Highlands Farm, Warehorne Road,
Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3RJ
Formation of a pond for Great Crested Newts
Borough Council: Permit

19/01080/AS The Surgery, Front Road, Woodchurch, Ashford, TN26 3SF
Single storey extensions to surgery including the provision of 12 no. additional
car parking spaces
Borough Council: Permit

19/00678/AMND/AS Unit 1, Counter Farm, Brook Street, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent,
TN26 3SP
Revision to parking location on Planning Application 19/00678/AS
Borough Council: Approved

19/00982/AS 34-36 Front Road, Woodchurch, Ashford, TN26 3QE
Variation of conditions 2 & 4 on planning permission 12/00717/AS to allow
additional living accommodation and remove restrictive holiday let use
Withdrawn by applicant

19/01000/AS Woodend Lodge, Woodend, Redbrook Street, Woodchurch, Ashford, TN26 3QU
Demolition of garage and erection of two storey replacement side extension; extension
to front
Borough Council: Permit