

WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES 191

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**Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held
on Thursday 16 December 2021 in the Memorial Hall Annexe at 7.00 pm**

PRESENT: Ms L Bramley,(Chair), Miss E Jones (arrived 9.07), Mrs N Job, Mr R Job and Mr W Nash

PARISH CLERK: Mrs J Batt

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR: Mr D Ledger

COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There were 2 Members of the Public present for part of the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr P Glasgow and Mr A Hukins (prior engagements), Mr C Molloy (illness) and County Councillor, Mr D Robey and Borough Councillors Sparks

2. APPROVAL OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors unanimously approved the above absences.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

Declarations of Significant Interest

There were no Declaration 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 25 November 2021 were accepted and it was unanimously agreed that Ms Bramley should sign them as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed Mr Job

Seconded Ms Bramley

5. MATTERS ARISING

There were no Matters Arising not covered on the agenda.

6. **MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND RECOVERED**

The meeting was opened to the members of the public present from 7.06 – 7.19 during which time Borough Councillor Ledger reported that actual meetings at ABC are being reduced due to Covid 19. There are no updates on the planning applications. The Kirkwood Avenue developer is pressuring for the application to go to the Planning Committee.

A member of the public present criticised the content of the agenda.

7. **PLANNING**

Please see attached list.

Proposed Kirkwood Avenue Development Update

Nothing to report.

Gladman Proposal update

A new Planning Officer is in post and Mr Ledger is waiting to hear from her.

Bridge Close Development

Nothing to report.

8. **ACCOUNTS AND OTHER GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Bank Reconciliation as at last Bank Statement – HSBC and Lloyds

Account Balance		Balance at Bank	
Opening Balance	45054.62	Treasurers Account	33216.20
		Plus Uncleared Receipts	000.00
			33216.20
		Less Uncleared Payments	1066.20
Plus Receipts	29081.97		32150.00
	74136.59	Plus HSBC Accounts	66.32
Less Payments	13917.04	Lloyds Savings	28003.23
	60219.55		60219.55

Accounts to be Paid

PAYEE	CHQ NO	NET £	VAT £	GROSS £	DETAILS
Salaries and Expenses	122	633.64		633.64	
Salaries and Expenses	123	406.89		406.89	
RBL Poppy Appeal	124	20.00		20.00	Wreath for Remembrance

Councillors unanimously agreed to pay the above accounts

We are still waiting to hear from CST regarding the number of cuts last year. The Clerk will contact them again.

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Archiving of Old Documents

The Clerk met with Mr Nash, and they undertook a housekeeping review of the computer. Excess items were deleted, and Mr Nash saved all items in the recycle bin to a memory stick. Old paperwork from 2003 – 2017 has been scanned. Paperwork relating to the accounts is to be kept in the filing cabinet and all other paperwork was reviewed and Mr Nash then authorised it to be shredded.

Adoption of Fixed Asset Register

Defer to next meeting.

Proposals for S106 Projects

Defer to next meeting.

Preparation of Budget for 2022-2023

Councillors Job, Nash and Nash will meet to amend the budget. Councillors unanimously agreed not to increase the precept but to take funds from reserves if required.

It was noted that it was resolved last year that the budget for 2021-2022 should be set to match the precept. This resolution was overturned with the unanimous agreement of all councillors.

Setting of Precept for 2022-2023

Resolution: Councillors unanimously maintain the precept at £25420.00

Proposed Mrs Job

Seconded Miss Jones

Covid Grant Funding

The Clerk forwarded the application form to members of the council for completion.

The Chairman proposed that Mr Baker, a member of the Carnival Committee should complete the form. He will return the form to be reviewed and submitted by members of the Parish Council. Councillors agreed to this proposal.

Purchase of a Beacon

Defer to future meeting.

Hub/Toilet Funding

Defer to future meeting

Grass Cutting Tender

Landscape Services has quoted £795.51 for 18 cuts from 1st March – 31st October 2022.

Resolution: Councillors unanimously agreed to withhold a decision until the current dispute over invoices received has been resolved.

Setting up Direct Debit for EDF

Defer to future meeting.

18.

Setting up Direct Debit for Castle Water

Defer to future meeting.

Mrs Job to ask for a breakdown of costs shown on the invoice.

9. HIGHWAY/PROW ISSUES**School Parking**

The school has agreed to support the use of cones in parking hotspots. The Parish Council is investigating the cost of the cones. Before we review costs, Councillors will check as to whether the school has the manpower to put the cones out each day. Other signs and road painting has been requested from KCC.

Request for Signage on Bethersden Road

A request for signage has been sent to KHS.

10. VILLAGE MATTERS**Queens's Platinum Jubilee Celebration**

Defer to future meeting. Include with item regarding beacon on next agenda.

Carnival Update

The next meeting is due to be held on 13 January 2022. The Chair asked for Parish Council representation at the meeting.

Renovation of Bus Shelters

Work to the Brattle bus shelter is scheduled for Mid-January. We are awaiting confirmation from KHS as to whether an additional dropped kerb is required here to support the project. The cost to the Parish Council is £2125.

Councillors unanimously agreed the cost in principle in July but agreed to ratify this decision.

Proposed Mr Nash Seconded Mr Job

Electric Car Charging Points

No update, our application is still pending.

Annual Play Area Inspection Report

Mr Job and Mr Nash will repair the gate latch. Remove from future agenda.

80 Trees for 80 Years

The tree is to be planted on The Village Green. The landowner of the neighbouring property has agreed to the site chosen and Councillors were also unanimously in agreement.

It was agreed not to proceed with a time capsule at this point.

Request for a Defibrillator at Six Bells Park

We are awaiting confirmation that our application has been approved.

Defibrillator at The HUB

Mr Hopkins has lent us a defibrillator and he recommended that we replace the previous unit with a slightly better one.

Mr Nash reported that there is an offer on at the moment for buy one get one free.

We have submitted a grant application form and are waiting to hear whether or not we have been successful. We have received a donation of £200 and have been promised another of £500.

Proposal for CCTV Cameras in Village

Quotes are being requested.

Flag Flying Protocol

Defer to future meeting.

Request to bring Pizza Van to Village

The Pizza Van will attend every other Saturday from 8 January 2022 onwards.

The Clerk was asked to contact the owner and tell him that if he does not attend regularly the permission will be reviewed. She will also ask him to send some flyers to post around the village and to ensure that he keeps the village posted via social media if he is unable to attend.

Parish Council Contribution to Newsletter

Ms Bramley will produce and send the copy to Councillors prior to publication.

Youth Matters Working Group

Defer to future meeting.

11. CORRESPONDENCE/EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

HSBC

Email Correspondence - all forwarded to Councillors.

Winbloom

Woodchurch Memorial Hall

Received from County Councillor, Mr David Robey:

Work continues on the KCC Budget for next year, and then up to 2025. The numbers need to be finalised over the next few weeks. The recent Budget announcements by the government are seen as helpful to KCC up to a point, but there is an element of giving with one hand and taking away with the other, which still needs to be clarified. There is still quite a large gap to plug.

I have spent my Member Grant, and my COVID Grant has also gone or been committed. I have approved £1500 for your carnival from the COVID Grant.

Reconnect Round 2 was published, resulting in the allocation of £90k across the Borough, leaving about £80k for a further round after Christmas.

The KCC Full Council Meeting scheduled for 16th December was cancelled last night due to the COVID situation. It is not clear, at the moment, when the next meeting will take place

Details of the Early Help Grant Funding have been published and are attached. The closing date for applications was 10th December.

Various discussions are taking place about Stodmarsh, which is currently stalling lots of housing developments in Kent, including most of Ashford's Adopted Local Plan. There will need to be some sort of Countywide solution to this, which likely to involve both wetlands and upgraded water treatment plants.

I attended a meeting of the Kent FE College Principals, along with Roger Gough, the KCC Leader and a number of KCC Officers. This was to discuss post 16 education and training, which needs to align more with the needs of employers.

I visited Discovery Park, in Sandwich, which is the old Pfizer site, which is now a Business Park for High Tech and Scientifically based businesses, at a variety of levels. Pfizer, in fact, still has quite significant presence there. This is a very impressive place, which has the potential to transform the technical business landscape in Kent and bring numerous economic advantages. The opening of Thanet Parkway Station, which is five minutes' drive away, in about a year, will cut the journey time to London to an hour.

I attach details of the latest round of Crown Fund Kent.

I hope that this makes sense and please do get in touch if you need anything.

12. ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Youth Matters Working Group

Pavilion Water Meter

Christmas Tree 2022

Date of May 2022 meeting

13. FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN COUNCILLORS

Resend letter re hedge

14. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Defer to January.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.19 pm.

Signed.....

Chair

Dated

27/01/22

WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION RECORD

DECEMBER 2021

21/02046/AS Avoca, Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3QW
Lawful development certificate - existing - lawful use of the barn for self storage
Parish Council: Support

21/02054/AS Rare Breeds Centre, Woodchurch, Ashford, TN26 3RJ
Erection of agricultural type building to form a cover to the picnic area
Parish Council: Support

21/00199/TP Minstrels, 58 Shirkoak Park, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3RP
T1 Birch - To fell to ground level. Reason- the tree has outgrown its location and it is causing damage to the boundary fence. The roots are growing under the neighbours driveway and the tree is in close proximity to the neighbouring property. The main stem is also leaning towards the neighbouring property.
Borough Council: Consent granted 1 December 2021

21/02068/AS Garth End, Redbrook Street, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3QS
Erection of proposed part single storey, part two storey outbuilding used for garaging, workshop, gym and home office.
Parish Council: Support

21/02092/AS Beacon Farm, Coldblow, Woodchurch, Ashford, TN26 3PL
Prior Notification for the erection of an agricultural building to house farm machinery and feed and grain storage if required
Parish Council: Support

The following were non included on the agenda but Councillors agreed to discuss as the end of consultation date is very soon after our January meeting so we were unable to get an extension

21/01926/AS Mill Cottage, Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3QW
Proposed carport with room above; landscaped driveway (retrospective in relation to the driveway)
Parish Council: Defer to future meeting

21/02144/AS 8 Rectory Close, Woodchurch, Ashford, TN26 3QD
Replacement rear extension, part garage conversion and internal alterations.
Parish Council: Defer to future meeting