

WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES 205

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 15 December 2022

The meeting started at 7.00pm

In attendance:

Cllr Alastair Hukins (AH) (Chair), Cllr Wade Nash (WN) (Vice Chair) Cllr Nicola Job (NJ), Cllr Richard Luker and Cllr Lucy Quinn

Also in attendance Aniko Szocs (ASZ) Clerk, Cllr David Ledger (ABC) and 2 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE and APPROVAL

Cllr Richard Job (RJ) Cllr Ciaran Molloy (CM), Cllr Eleanor Jones (EJ), Cllr Paul Glasgow (PG,) and Cllr David Robey (KCC)

Proposer: Cllr Wade Nash	Seconded: Cllr Nicola Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th November have been accepted as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconded: Cllr Richard Luker	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

4. Budget 2023-2024

The parish council reviewed the draft budget for the next financial year and checked each budget line before agreeing to a sum. After a careful and lengthy discussion, the parish council agreed to the budget that includes future projects to modernise the council's communication with residents including installing noticeboards, creating a stand-alone website, as well as creating .gov email addresses for each councillor to comply with data protection legislation. The budget also allows funding for maintenance around the village, including the public toilet and the village green. The budget includes for the first time training for councillors to ensure councillors can access training to perform their roles efficiently.

Proposer: Cllr Nicola Job	Seconded: Cllr Wade Nash	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

5. Meeting dates 2023

The council reviewed and approved the meeting dates for 2023 except for December and moved the meeting date to 14th December 2023.

Proposer: Cllr Wade Nash	Seconded: Cllr Alastair Hukins	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

6. Reports

6.1. Play Area Working Group

The clerk presented a quote from Aspire to repair the gate, the outdoor gym equipment and the surface under the swing and the roundabout in the play area. The parish council resolved to accept the quote and award the work to Aspire. Once the work is completed the play area then can be opened while a more permanent solution is found.

Proposer: Cllr Wade Nash	Seconder: Cllr Nicola Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

6.2. IT infrastructure

There is nothing to report. The group will meet in January.

Meeting adjourned for public participation at 20.12pm

A member of the public read out a statement in relation to a planning application listed on the agenda. The statement and supporting documents were circulated to the councillors present.

Cllr David Ledger reported that the Overview and Scrutiny committee have begun their investigation into the release of the planning portal and the issues the system has caused. A formal report with the findings will be published early in the new year. Ashford Borough Council is in the process of finalising its budget, and there is confidence in the budget for next year. Ashford Borough Council, Maidstone and Swale councils are joining efforts to appoint a waste collector as the current Biffa contract is coming to an end. There will be an announcement soon with the name of the company to which the contract is awarded. Parish Councillors have asked Cllr Ledger to liaise with ABC on behalf of the Parish Council to find out what the council's intention is with the Windmill and if there are any plans to repair it. The meeting reconvened at 20.38pm

7. Planning

7.1. Planning application number PA/2022/2880

Bourne House, Brook Street, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent TN26 3SZ

Proposed single storey side extension, porch and erection of timber framed veranda surrounding the south and east elevation

The proposed development is not overlooking anything, there are no objections registered on the portal and the proposal does not impact PROW 195, although it was noted the stiles need attention. The parish council resolved to support the planning application.

Proposer: Cllr Alastair Hukins	Seconder: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

7.2. Planning application number PA/2022/2277

37 The Green, Woodchurch, Ashford, TN26 3PF resubmission of 22/00744/AS, Proposed new chalet bungalow along with associated works in the front garden of 37 The Green.

The proposed development would be within the confines of the conservation area and contravene the protection of the green heart of the village. A lengthy discussion took place regarding access rights to the property. The council requested the residents confirm from either their title deed or solicitors whether they have access. The parish council felt without this information they cannot make a definite decision and asked to defer this item for the

next meeting. The Clerk is to contact the planning department to seek an extension to submit comments until the 27th of January 2023.

Proposer: Cllr Nicola Job	Seconder: Cllr Richard Luker	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

7.3. Planning application number 22/00286/AS

Fairview, Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3QW Change of use of land to residential parking

The parish council resolved to support this application.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Luker	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

7.4. Planning application number PA/2022/3008

Orange Farm, Moor Lane, Woodchurch, TN26 3SX Proposed 3no mobile homes for workers of the landholding

The parish council resolved to support this planning application.

Proposed: Cllr Alastair Hukins	Seconded: Cllr Lucy Quinn	In favour: 5
Against:0	Abstain:0	Motion: Carried

7.5. Planning application number PA/2022/3013

Orange Farm Barn, Brook Street, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent TN26 3SX Proposed hatchery building

The council resolved to support the planning application provided the proposed development does not contravene the dark skies policy.

Proposed: Cllr Richard Luker	Seconded: Cllr Wade Nash	In favour: 5
Against:0	Abstain:0	Motion: Carried

8. Finance

The parish council resolved to approve the list of items on the payment list.

Proposer: Cllr Richard Luker	Seconder: Cllr Wade Nash	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

Payment Method	Items for Approval	Description	Total payable	VAT
Bacs	Salaries	Employee salaries December	£ 1,296.69	
Bacs	HMRC	Employer contribution	£ 331.82	
Bacs	Woodchurch Memorial Hall	Venue hire 8th February 2022	£ 18.00	

Bacs	Woodchurch Memorial Hall	Venue hire for Parish Council meetings July-December additionally 14th June	£ 116.00	
Bacs	Foxit Software	PDF editor software one of licence payment	£ 148.19	
		Total	£ 1,910.70	£ -

9. Correspondence/Email Correspondence

The Clerk reported that residents contacted the parish council regarding speeding issues in the village. The question of whether Brattle is adopted by Kent County Council came up. Cllr Robey's report for the parish council meeting will be circulated to Cllrs. It has been reported that a kissing gate has been changed to a stile which makes it difficult for elderly residents to access it. The clerk to follow up on this with the PROW team.

10. Items to be included on the next agenda

- IT infrastructure
- Play Park

11. Date and venue of next meeting

The next scheduled council meeting will be held on **Thursday, 26th January 2023** starting at 7.00 pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.25 pm

Signed _____ Dated _____

Chair