

WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES 208

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 23 March 2023

The meeting started at 7.15 pm.

In attendance:

Cllrs Nicola Job, Richard Job, Richard Luker (joined the meeting at 19.22 pm), and Lucy Quinn

Also in attendance were Aniko Szocs (ASZ) Clerk, Cllr David Ledger (ABC), Cllr George Sparks (ABC), and 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence and Approval

Apologies for absence were noted and approved for Cllrs Glasgow, Molloy, and Nash.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:3	Motion: Carried

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February have been accepted as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Nicola Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:3	Motion: Carried

4. Vacant Position of office Woodchurch Parish Council

The Parish Council resolved to defer this item until after the elections.

Proposer: Cllr Richard Job	Seconder: Cllr Nicola Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:3	Motion: Carried

5. Reports

5.1. Play Area working group

The surface now has been repaired under the roundabout. There is now proper fencing around the swings and the roundabout to protect it. Small repair work has been carried out under the double springer at no extra cost. The repair work is only temporary until a permanent solution is found. This should be communicated to the residents.

5.2. IT Infrastructure Group

A demonstration with a website provider company has been arranged for early April.

MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION at 7.18 pm.

Cllr George Sparks introduced himself and apologised for not being able to attend meetings as they clash with Ashford Borough Council's cabinet meetings. Cllr Sparks has been working hard behind the scenes on behalf of the residents. Cllr Sparks contributed £500 to Woodchurch in Bloom and supported the carnival. There is an additional fund available for the coronation. Cllr Sparks is a member of the Planning Committee, representing the

residents and fighting their corner when it comes to planning matters. If re-elected Cllr Sparks will continue representing the residents when the Ashford Local Plan is reviewed.

It has been noted that the drainage in the village is an issue.

A member of the public has expressed their disappointment for not being able to view the bank reconciliation, they also asked whether the current reserves levels are appropriate for the council. The member of the public has been advised that since several changes in both administration and council members, it has been difficult to produce a bank reconciliation. However, residents are welcome to arrange an appointment to view records and ask questions.

Cllr David Ledger is supporting the Parish Council and residents with the Windmill, Cllr Ledger noted that the coming months will be critical and the discussion with ABC is ongoing.

AND RECONVENED at 19.35 pm

6. Planning

6.1. Planning application number PA/2023/0462

Garth End, Redbrook Street, Woodchurch, TN26 3QS, Stationing of movable carriage building as holiday accommodation (Retrospective).

The Parish Council resolved to request an extension to submit comments.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Luker	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:4	Motion: Carried

6.2. Planning application number PA/2023/0379

Brickwall Cottage, Susans Hill, Woodchurch, TN26 3RG Proposed garden room.

The council resolved to support the planning application.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:4	Motion: Carried

7. Planning Decisions

The list of planning decisions has been noted (see Appendix 1)

8. Renewal Questionnaire

The council agreed to defer this item until the meeting in April.

9. Coronation

The council agreed to support the lighting of the beacon. The Clerk is to contact residents who might be able to make use of the £250 grant towards the coronation event.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Nicola Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:4	Motion: Carried

10. Finance

10.1. Items for payment

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

Payment Method	Items for Approval March	Description	Total payable	VAT
Bacs	Salaries	Employee salaries March	£ 781.37	
Bacs	HMRC	Employer contribution	£ 375.86	
		Total	£ 1,157.23	£ -

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Luker	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:4	Motion: Carried

10.2. Freedom Scroll

The parish council considered purchasing a Freedom Scroll for a resident. It has been pointed out that this can only be agreed upon at a special meeting convened for this purpose only. The council agreed to seek further advice and convene a special meeting if required.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Luker	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:4	Motion: Carried

11. Correspondence

The Parish Council received the following correspondence in March:

- Residents contacted the parish council with concerns to the lack of information about the council's finances particularly bank reconciliation.
- Cllr David Ledger's correspondence in relation to the windmill
- Update on the progress of the Here to Help project.

12. Items to be included on the next agenda

- Kirkwood Bus stop
- Insurance renewal

12. Date and venue of next meeting

The next scheduled council meeting will be held on **Thursday 27th April 2023** starting at 7.00 pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

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

Signed _____ Dated _____
Chair

Appendix One

Planning application decision notice

Planning application number: 21/02142/AS

Erection of 3 bungalows and the provision of new public amenity space, together with associated access, parking, and landscaping

Land north of 14 and 15, Kirkwood Avenue, Woodchurch

ABC: Refuse

Parish Council: Object