

WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES 211

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 27 April 2023

The meeting started at 7.15 pm.

In attendance:

Cllrs Nicola Job, Richard Job, Richard Luker, Ciaran Molloy, Wade Nash, and Lucy Quinn

Also in attendance were Aniko Szocs (ASZ) Clerk, 3 MOP

1. Apologies for Absence and Approval

Apologies for the absence were noted and approved for Cllrs Glasgow.

Cllrs Robey, Ledger, and Sparks have also sent their apologies.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconded: Cllr Wade Nash	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour: 6	Motion: Carried

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Nicola and Richard Job (Item 6.2) and Cllr Wade Nash (Item 10)

3. Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March & 27th March have been accepted as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconded: Cllr Nicola Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:6	Motion: Carried

4. Reports

4.1. Play Area working group

All surface repairs work now have been completed including under the swings. It has been noted that some of the slats are in need of replacement. An order for spare slats will be placed to allow prompt repair when need it.

4.2. IT Infrastructure Group

Cllrs Quinn and Nash along with the Clerk had an online demonstration with one of the leading website providers for parish councils. The company is able to provide a web environment that fits the requirement of parish councils. The website is easy to navigate, and no specific technical knowledge is required to update it. A meeting will be arranged with another provider who is also working with parish councils and is familiar with their requirements.

MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION at 7.03 pm.

A MOP asked what the purpose of the proposed windmill working group would be. The main objective is to work towards a solution to get the windmill repaired. The Parish Council is well placed to work with ABC to ensure commitment and a conclusion is agreed upon. A MOP noted there is a KCC officer who specialises in Windmills who might be able to provide support.

The next part of the public participation relates to Item 8.2, comments can be found there.

A MOP has provided further information in relation to a planning application that has been discussed at the previous parish council meeting without reaching a resolution. The Clerk will seek permission from Ashford Borough Council to extend the deadline to submit comments and will include the planning application at the next meeting as an agenda item.

A MOP public has introduced themselves to the council as one of the candidates for the local borough elections.

AND RECONVENED at 19.25 pm

5. Village Pump

The village pump needs repair. Being listed planning permission has to be sought before any work is carried out. It has been suggested that the Repair Shop a main television program might be able to offer expertise and help with the repair work. While the application to the program may take a while it is an option worth exploring. It has been agreed that other local companies might be approached to gauge the scope of the work required. The Parish Council agreed to submit an application to the program and to seek quotes for the work.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:6	Motion: Carried

6. Planning

6.1. Proposed diversion on AT204 and Extinguishment of AT204

The proposal to divert AT204 and extinguish AT204 is in the provisional stages. The Parish Council resolved to submit three alternative solutions.

- For the landowner to be instructed to clear vegetation and once again open up the definitive route parallel to Georges Hill to facilitate free and unobstructed pedestrian access along this section of PROW AT204.
- For the landowner to apply for a diversion of this part of AT204, to be realigned just north and adjacent to Georges Hill, connecting to the eastern revised diversion proposal.
- The definitive map is left unchanged for this section and the current status quo is maintained.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Luker	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:6	Motion: Carried

6.2. Planning application number PA/2022/2443

43 Front Road, Woodchurch, Ashford, TN26 3SA, creating new timber casement window to flank wall.

The existing property is an end of the terrace, with a Kent peg roof and brick base. The building is Grade II listed. The proposal would benefit a room that currently hasn't got any windows. The parish council resolved to support the planning application on the proviso that the window is frosted and does not overlook the neighbouring property.

Proposer: Cllr Ciaran Molloy	Seconder: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Against:0
Abstain:2	In favour:4	Motion: Carried

7. Planning Decisions

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

8. Finance

8.1. Items for payment

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

Payment Method	Items for Approval April	Description	Total payable	VAT
Bacs	Salaries	Employee salaries April	£ 997.12	
Bacs	HMRC	Employer contribution	£ 249.00	
Bacs	Kent Association of Local Councils	Annual subscription	£ 851.56	£ 141.93
Bacs	Mr. P.S.	Grass cutting Woodchurch War Memorial	£ 240.00	

Total £ 2,337.68 £ -

Income

BACS	Cllr D. Ledger	Coronation Grant	£ 250.00
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Total £ 250.00

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Wade Nash	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:6	Motion: Carried

8.2. Bank Reconciliation 2022-2023

The parish council acknowledged the bank reconciliations for the current account. It has been noted there has not been a reconciliation for the saver account. A MOP has queried the level of reserve currently available and asked why money has not been spent as planned and budgeted for. It has been noted that due to several changes in both personnel and members some of the projects have not been completed as planned, which resulted in a build-up in reserves. However, with plans to carry out a village wide survey to identify what the parishioners would like and several large projects in the pipeline, the reserves will help to fund those.

8.3. Landscape Services

The parish council felt there is not enough information available on the quote to make a decision. The Clerk has been asked to find out the frequency of the proposed cuts, the number of planned cuts, and if the height of the cut can be adjusted. The council also asked to seek further quotes to allow comparison. In addition, the parish council would like to find out what the additional cost might be for extending the cutting area.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconder: Cllr Richard Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:6	Motion: Carried

9. Citizen Advice Bureau

The Parish Council considered supporting the CAB, and the members agreed is a very important service that would help many residents. It would also mean residents

will not have to travel to Ashford but could receive help and advice locally. The Parish Council would like to learn more about the proposal before any financial commitment. In the meantime, however, for this service, the HUB is available in the afternoon, as well as making appointments on the phone. The Pavilion can also be used to conduct private meetings. The Parish Council would like to review the demand for the service before agreeing to hire the hall.

Proposer: Cllr Nicola Job	Seconded: Cllr Richard Luker	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:6	Motion: Carried

10. Museum Banner

The museum has requested permission to display a banner on the play park fence informing residents of the museum's opening hours. The Parish Council resolved to allow permission.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconded: Cllr Richard Job	Against:0
Abstain:1	In favour:5	Motion: Carried

11. Kirkwood Request Bus stop

The Parish Council received information that according to records there is no bus stop listed at this location. KCC has asked for local input to understand the history of the bus stop. There is no evidence that it was a bus stop however, it is on the Stagecoach route listed as a bus stop.

12. Insurance renewal

The Parish Council felt it had not had enough information to answer all the questions accurately and asked to review it against the asset register. This item will be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Woodchurch Windmill

The Parish Council agreed that the following members will be part of the working group and also delegate power to the group to recruit non-Parish Council members to the group:

Cllrs Paul Glasgow, Lucy Quinn, Ciaran Molloy, and Wade Nash

Proposer: Cllr Richard Luker	Seconded: Cllr Nicola Job	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:6	Motion: Carried

14. Traffic Count Locations

The Parish Council agreed to the three proposed locations with the addition of Brattle in the case of a donation for additional locations.

Proposer: Cllr Lucy Quinn	Seconded: Cllr Wade Nash	Against:0
Abstain:0	In favour:6	Motion: Carried

15. Woodchurch Football Club

The football club has requested permission to use the green on Sunday mornings. The Sunday league would start at 10.00 am in the morning and would work with the Bony Cravat where players could park. Cllr Nash thanked the club for not using the green during wet conditions when it would deteriorate the quality of the grass. The football club is also willing to help with improvements to the pavilion. It has been agreed that a proposal of the work is sent to the Clerk.

The Parish Council was unable to reach a resolution but agreed to include it in the village survey. The proposal should be communicated with residents as it could have an impact on parking in the surrounding area.

16. Correspondence

The Parish Council received the following correspondence in March:

- Residents contacted the parish council regarding a fallen tree on Susan's Hill, the resident was advised that the parish council is not responsible, but the Land Registry search should be able to identify the owner.
- The Parish Council has been contacted about signage around the play park and the lack of contact information should anyone wish to report a fault.
- The council received a request to use the green in July for the 10 & 5 mile race

17. Items to be included on the next agenda

- General Maintenance budget
- 10&5 mile race
- Play Park Information board
- Communication from KCC regarding road works
- Fixing potholes in the car park
- Insurance renewal
- Plaque for the Queen's green canopy

12. Date and venue of next meeting

The next scheduled council meeting will be held on **Thursday 18th May 2023** starting at 7.00 pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.05 pm

Signed _____
Chair

Dated _____

Appendix One

Planning application decision notice

Appeal Ref: APP/E2205/W/21/3288112

Proposed replacement dwelling with detached garage at Honeysuckle Cottage,
Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, TN26 3PU

Appeal: Planning permission granted

Parish Council: Support