



## Minutes of the Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 at 19.30hrs Appledore Village Hall

### Present

James Perkins (Chair), Helen Hennig, Jasmin Kellar, Lyndsey Jenkins, Charles Wilkinson, Derek Winter and Chris Vane.

In attendance: County Cllr. Michael Hill, Borough Cllr. Mick Burgess and the Clerk Mary Philo.

### 1. Formalities

I) The council was quorate.

II) Apologies: none.

III) Declarations of interest and dispensations: none.

### 2. Approval of draft minutes

**It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2016 as a true record.** Proposed Cllr Jenkins. Seconded Cllr. Hennig.

### The meeting was adjourned.

### Report by County Councillor Mike Hill

**European Union Exit Vote** – Any changes to funding from the E.U. for transport, cultural and regeneration projects will only become known in the long term. There had been concern that further immediate funding for the county budget would have had to be found.

**Devolution** – The process of handing down authority and responsibility from central to lower tier government is already underway with some large cities electing a mayor and taking on the running of major services. There is a possibility for county councils to have their authority increased to include providing services such as health and education. The proposed method could affect its' success.

**Clerk's Minibus Service** – This service to Tenterden was being taken on by Arriva Buses.

**Resurfacing** - Concerns were expressed about the quality of the planned resurfacing.

**Parkwood** – The county council were no longer going to dispose of the site but were open to groups offering to manage it.

**Fourwents/Reduction of Speed Limit/ Footpath** – The recent improvement works had been seen as a reasonable solution. The road was not significantly dangerous enough to warrant the cost of a footpath. Concern was expressed that the county council did not prioritise rural roads enough and that some of the money spent on town roads improvements should be redirected to rural roads.

**Footpath in front the old surgery** – The land owner offered his land to allow for the footpath to be widened should county highways department wish to do so. Cllr. Hill to liaise with highways.

**Highways/Parish Council Liaison** – Cllr. Wilkinson had spoken with highways and suggested that the highways department communicate with the parish council prior to announcing works in the area and that he would be meeting with them to discuss other roads in equal need of resurfacing.

### **Report by Borough Councillor Mick Burgess**

**61 The Street** – Previously the property had received a grant and not been the subject of an Empty Dwelling Management Order. The order would ensure that funds spent on refurbishing the dwelling would be recuperated, as agreed by the owner, either through rental income (or sale) and the property would be used for local housing needs.

**Salt Bin/Noticeboard for Heathside** – Cllr. Burgess was awaiting advice.

**Overgrown Hedges** – Cllrs. Wilkinson and Hennig had been reviewing the hedges within the parish and would be working on requesting owners to have them cut back for safety reasons (Item for the parish magazine).

**Necked Lights** – The future borough policy was part of the current Local Plan 2030 consultation. Concern was expressed that the lamp standards needed to be replaced by the Autumn as a matter of safety. Cllr Burgess to raise the issue with the borough department.

### **Appledore Local History Society**

Following the annual conference, the group had been made aware of its' obligation to preserve the historical artefacts in its' care for residents. The group was embarking on digitalising it, with the end result being online access to the data base for the general public. A laptop and software dedicated to it would have to be bought whilst training and some additional equipment would be supplied by the Smarden Society. In addition, appropriate storage for some items would be acquired. The society requested the parish council consideration of some financial support. Also, the society sought the council's opinion on the group holding events in the parish which would bring the local history more to life, such as a re-enactment of the 1<sup>st</sup> August Charter 1358 to hold a market.

### **The meeting was reconvened.**

#### **3. Matters arising from the previous ordinary meeting**

**Village Hall Payments** – The Village Hall would be billing the council quarterly.

#### **4. Finances**

I) As at the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2016 the current account stood at £33,430.63 and the reserve account £10,806.50

II) Cheques raised since the last ordinary meeting

£726.10 Salaries

III) It was resolved to draw the following cheques:

£ 4.33 Southern Electric: Public Conveniences

£30.00 The Friendly Fencer: Replace broken verge post

£25.83 M Philo: Admin Costs – Room £15, car £8.45, signed for postage £2.38

£23.78 Office Depot: 2 black inks (VAT £3.96 HMRC to refund)

£51.98 M Philo: 2 metal donation boxes for the conveniences (No VAT)

£45.00 Appledore Village Hall: Quarterly hire

£15.60 H Hennig: laminating for council meeting poster

To be advised Salaries

#### **5. Parish council main assets/inventory review**

The chair had completed the review and made a few suggestions of minor works to be considered for budgeting next year.

**It was resolved to NOT include the trough near the entrance of St. Peter's and St. Paul's as a donation to the parish and thus the council's responsibility to maintain.**

6. **Planning**  
**I) Ashford Borough Council decisions advised:**  
a) 16/00677/AS 1 Court Lodge Road: Proposed residential development of 4 detached houses with garage/ports and associated landscaping – Permitted.  
**II) New applications for A.P.C. to consider:**  
a) 16/00978/AS Sixty-Six Farm, Tenterden Road: Change of use of land to residential and erection of garages with home office and gymnasium to replace existing building. **A.P.C. voted to support the application.**  
b) 16/01075/AS Land South of The Old Dairy, Heath Road: Variation of condition 2 on planning application permission 15/00878/AS to change from render to man-made to feather edged weatherboard in white. **A.P.C. voted to support the application.**
7. **It was resolved to agree a Health and Safety Policy for Appledore Parish Council.**  
(Recommended Best Practice)
8. **It was resolved to agree a Disciplinary Policy for Appledore Parish Council**  
(Recommended Best Practice)
9. **Highways and Byways**  
**I) Report from Footpath Warden Ken Girkin**  
He had received complaints about the path A120 Old Way being overgrown again this year. This had been reported but the outstanding issue of the siting of the permissive path and historical stewardship complicated matters. Cllr Hill offered to speak with the Public Rights of Way department. Path A125 (Court Lodge Rd to Ferry Inn) section along the dyke is overgrown too. Concern was expressed that as only these paths received comments, it was only these paths that were currently being walked.  
**II) Other highways issues**  
**Speed watch** - Cllrs Hennig and Wilkinson were working on an action plan.  
**Grass verges** – The verges from Appledore to the station had been cut. Those to Rye were still not cut.  
**Potholes and manholes** – Those reported had been marked and awaited repair.
10. **Public conveniences**  
**Great Kent Bike Ride 26<sup>th</sup> June** – The organiser Bike Events Ltd had acknowledged the council's letter of complaint of the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016. Clerk to chase for a reply. Cllr. Hill advised that he could forward on the information regarding the requirements for running cycle events on public roads.  
**Doors** – Neither of the doors now locked and concern was noted regarding the anti-social behaviour taking place within the toilets. It was suggested that the topic of lighting was revisited. Installing a video camera was suggested. Thanks were expressed to Duncan Gray for replacing a broken door handle.  
**Donation boxes** – These had been acquired and would be installed.  
**Sanitary Bins** – the Clerk requested assistance with which contract to sign up for. Cllr. Hennig to assist.
11. **Information for councillors**  
**Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday tree** –It was noted that a tree had been planted in St. Michael's for the Queen's Birthday.  
**Local Plan 2030 and Community Infrastructure Levy Consultation** – Cllrs had attended the plan's presentation at Ashford County Association meeting. One councillor commented that the plan seemed sensible. A 'village envelope' had been highlighted as an issue that each parish

should be considering outlining for their benefit whilst bearing in mind that it would be a commitment forever.

**Community Resilience Presentation** – by Laurel Niven would be at the 5<sup>th</sup> September meeting at 7.15pm.

**Defibrillator Presentation** – by John Rivers would be at the 3<sup>rd</sup> October meeting at 7.15pm.

**Romney Marsh Partnership Presentation** – would be arranged for the 7<sup>th</sup> November meeting.

**Parish Forum Annual Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> September** – would be attended by Cllrs. Hennig and Wilkinson.

**Good Employers Guide/ Good Councillor Guide** – Price £2 each. A copy of the employers' guide and 3 copies of the good councillor guide to be ordered.

**Appledore History Society Donation Request** – Concern was expressed that the cost to the society could be reduced using cheaper storage arrangements. Further concern was expressed that the council should be more diligent regarding making donations. Item for next meeting agenda.

**Good Neighbours Scheme** – A request had been made for a donation from the council. Clerk to request financial figures. Item for next meeting agenda.

12. **Date of next meeting**

5<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at the village hall. Community Resilience Presentation by Laurel Niven to start at 7.15pm and the meeting to follow on afterwards at approx. 7.30pm.