



**Minutes of the Meeting on 5th December 2016 at 17.15hrs
Appledore Village Hall**

Presentation by Catherine Igoe of Romney Marsh Partnership

The Partnership consists of Kent, Shepway and East Sussex local authorities, large local employers and regional interest groups and is funded by Magnox. Its aim is to enable and support schemes which will create jobs or improve access, or provide local job training, making the area a better place to work, live and visit. The new Romney Marsh Tourist website being an example of one venture. Future longer term projects include the extension of the multiuse path from Hythe along the Military Canal to Rye and the re-development of Rye Fisheries for leisure. More information available from <http://appledorepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/>

Present

Cllrs: James Perkins (Chair), Helen Hennig, Jasmin Kellar, Charles Wilkinson, and Chris Vane.
In Attendance: County Cllr Mike Hill, Borough Cllr Mike Burgess and the Clerk Mary Philo.
Members of the Public: 6

1. Formalities

- I) The council was quorate. LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12/28/45
 - II) Apologies were given for Cllr. Jenkins and Winter. LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12
 - III) Cllr. Perkins declared a pecuniary interest in the planning application for his farm.
- Dispensations: None. Code of Conduct

2. Approval of Draft minutes

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 28th November 2016 as a true record. Proposed Cllr. Wilkins. Seconded Cllr. Kellar. LGA Act 1972 sch12,19.1

The meeting was adjourned.

Report by County Cllr. Mike Hill

County Budget/Council Tax – The council was working on covering the current budget shortfall. Furthermore, the council was struggling to cover the increasing cost of adult social care whilst funding was falling. K.C.C. along with the N.H.S. had agreed a sustainable health strategy to integrate hospital and social care services, in order to provide an all-in-one service, as well as financial savings.
Volunteer Support Wardens – As a result of the success of the pilot scheme of 6 wardens, K.C.C. had decided to roll out more wardens, should enough parish council wish to become involved and cover some of the costs. The wardens would work 5 hours per week and would act as the local contact and source of information and advice. The parish council would consider the scheme at the next meeting.

Report by Borough Cllr. Mick Burgess

Tourism – Ashford visitor economy had seen gains.

Cllr. Burgess advised that Mr Harris of Blackmore Farm/Fairwinds had been unable to attend the meeting due to a family emergency.

Report by P.C.S.O. Dan Smith

P.C.S.O. s were now divided between either Urban or Rural officers. The large rural area of 9 parishes that Appledore fell into would now have two officers to cover it: Dan Smith and Chanell Howe. They would work independently of, but still alongside the Community Warden. The volume of calls would direct where they worked most but they hoped to attend meetings regularly. Residents were reminded to call 101 when they required immediate help, otherwise P.C.S.O. Dan Smith could be emailed at 56800@kent.pnn.police.uk

Public Questions

A resident of **Fourwents crossroads**, reminded the council of the need to reduce the speed there from 40 mph to 30 mph as they had been advised by the police and highways. The council members in liason with highways had received no advice that highways intended to reduce the speed limit there and requested that the next time any of their representatives spoke to them, that the resident asked them to contact the parish council. Parish council members would meet with the new P.C.S.O. to review the junction and keep the resident updated.

Appledore Recreation Ground Management Committee – The council was requested to put forward a new representative.

Necked Lights – A resident complained to the borough cllr. that it would be the third winter that the lights would be out.

The meeting was reconvened 20.04 hrs

3. **Matters arising from the previous ordinary meeting** (not already covered under another item and not for decision at this meeting)

None.

4. **Finances**

I) A proposed budget was put to members for comment. It would be finalised at the January meeting.

II) The external auditor had highlighted that the schedule of assets needed to be corrected to show cost value for the oak posts and all items donated should have a proxy value of £1.

III) Cheques raised since the last meeting:

£861.60 Salaries

£4,412.20 Appledore Recreation Ground Management Committee grant for insurance and grass cutting

IV) Agreement of cheques to be drawn:

£51.66 B Gray refund for padlocks, chains, bolts, hasps, handle, for public loos.

£12.90 Commercial Services: Toilet requisites (HMRC to refund £2.15)

£35.00 Information Commissioner: Data Controller registration

£46.90 M Philo Administration Costs: Room £30, Car £16.90

Salaries to be advised, following receipt of timesheets.

5. **Planning**

Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 sch1/2010

I) Ashford Borough Decisions Advised: None.

II) New applications considered by A.P.C.:

16/01476/AS Cradlebridge, Moor Lane: Erection of 1 Polytunnel in line with existing polytunnels. Cllr. Perkins left the room during the discussion and vote. **A.P.C. voted unanimously to support the application.**

6. **It was resolved to agree the schedule of ordinary meetings to be as follows: Tuesday 10th January 2017, Monday 6th February, Monday 6th March, Monday 3rd April, Monday 1st May (Annual Meeting of the parish Council), Monday 5th June, Monday 3rd July, Monday 7th August, Monday 4th September, Monday 2nd October, Monday 6th November, Monday 4th December 2017. (Annual parish meeting to be held on 20th March 2017).** Proposer Cllr. Wilkinson, seconded Cllr. Hennig.
7. **Highways and Byways**
 I) Report by the Footpath Warden Ken Girkin
 The warden expressed his concern about the diminishing use of the footpaths and that everyone should be encouraged to walk the paths before they were closed. He would be assisting the History Society to produce a plaque for the "Pluto Bridge". He also advised that he hoped he had found a replacement as he wished to step down.
 II) Relaying of footpath outside the Black Lion – the work carried out so far had been well done and the team had mended the trough outside the church and relayed the cobble stones too. However, the work outside Church house had been halted by a resident.
 II) The council were working with highways to address the issues at the "narrows". Relations and contact with highways were improving.
8. **Public Conveniences**
 The cleaner would be reducing her hours as the conveniences saw less footfall during the winter. It was planned to ask volunteers to help paint the facility during the summer. South East Water would be inspecting the facility on the 6th December.
9. **Recreation Ground**
 It was suggested that the council should meet with the recreation ground committee to discuss how the council could assist the committee. Clerk to contact the committee.
10. **I) It was resolved to accept Kent Association of Local Councils and Kent Fire and Rescue offer of a free Defibrillator and indoor/outdoor cabinet.** Response required by 9th December 2016. (The defibrillator and cabinet normally cost approx. £1680. Costs to the council are installation, est. £100, replacement of the pads and the electricity (same as running a light bulb) and insurance (approx. £20 a year).
 II) The item was deferred to the next meeting while the clerk asked if it would be possible to acquire a second device at a reduced price.
11. **It was resolved that Ashford Borough Council should action a housing need survey for Appledore.** Proposed Cllr. Perkins. Seconded Cllr. Vane. The cover letter to be redrafted for consideration later.
12. **Information for Councillors**
Red Telephone Box, The Street – Once the consultation had finished on the 12th December 2016 and the results considered. BT would contact the council as to whether the council would be able to finally adopt it.
Insurance renewal 27th January 2017 – Two quotes had been obtained and a third was being sought.
Internal Auditor – Two quotes had been sought and a further one was being sought.
Financial Regulations – The last internal audit required the financial regulations to be reviewed to suit the parish council size and activities. The clerk sought council input from a member.
Bank Accounts – The Clerk requested that an agenda item for the transfer of some of the money held in the current account, to the reserve account.

20 is plenty – It was requested to have an item for this on the next agenda.

Replacement day for 1st May meeting Date.

Thank you – Cllr. Hennig thanked the public for attending meetings and wished everyone a festive season. Mr and Mrs Gray were also thanked for their voluntary work on the public conveniences.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 10th January 2016, 19.30hrs in the village hall

14. Pursuant to section1) of the Public Bodies (Admissions Act), it was resolved that, because of the confidential nature of business transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during the consideration of the Clerk's Annual Review.

There was a general discussion of how the council functioned and operated.