



**Minutes of the Meeting on 9th April 2018 at 19.30 hrs.
Appledore Village Hall**

Present

Cllrs: James Perkins (Chair), Helen Hennig, Roger Hiskey, Lyndsey Jenkins, Charles Wilkinson, and Chris Vane.

In Attendance: Clerk Mary Philo.

Members of the Public: 16

1. Formalities

I) The council was quorate.

LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12/28/45

II) Apologies had been received from Cllrs. Burgess, Hill and Winter.

LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12

III) Declarations of interest on items on the agenda: None.

Code of Conduct

Dispensation request: Capital Investment Project list

It was resolved to allow a dispensation for all councillors to vote on any agenda items regarding the expenditure of capital from the sale of the council field irrespective of their roles in other village organisations. Proposed by Cllr. Vane and seconded by Cllr. Perkins. This dispensation is effective till the end of the current term of office.

2. Approval of Draft minutes

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 5th March and 19th March 2018 as a true record with the following amendment to the minutes of the 19th March 2018: addition of new paragraph after expenditure of funds from the sale of the council field – the public were advised that the council would be considering a list of capital expenditure projects at the next ordinary meeting. The public were invited to give opinions.

Proposed Cllr. Wilkinson and seconded Cllr. Jenkins.

LGA Act 1972 sch12,19.1

The meeting was adjourned at 19.40 hrs.

Report by Community Warden - Jo Vos

The warden regularly attended the Carm coffee morning and had assisted the new PCSO Katherine Richards with speed checks in the village. With regard to the issue, reported last month, of cars parked across footpaths, the warden advised that the police could leave warning notices on vehicles. Owners would have to comply. The PCSO had been notified. The recreation ground insurance only covered parking when a game was in progress, so residents could not use the ground for general parking.

The floor was opened to the public to discuss the list of projects to be financed completely or partially as part of the sale of the council field.

Public Conveniences

The use of an architect within the option from Hastings Redevelopment Ltd could take up some of the funds from the sale of the field better spent elsewhere.

Village Hall Improvements

Village Hall Committee Representative – The latest committee had made several improvements in the last year: the installation of broadband and remote heating control. The committee had also changed its name to the Village Hall on legal documents and restructured its organisation: forming several small working groups. The hall activities were now advertised through a monthly flyer delivered with the parish magazine. All these improvements had been self-funded through the increase in classes held at the hall. The hall's age meant the lighting and wiring all needed replacing. If that was to be done this would be the ideal opportunity to look ahead and make the hall more attractive and increase the number of rooms available to hire. Currently there is only one space – the hall. Two separate rooms were needed as well as improvements for disabled access and insulation. The younger element of the community needed to be encourage to use the hall and an outside space had been recommended. Grants were available for some aspects but not all.

Public Comments

Parking: The whole car park needed to be tarmacked.

Sustainability: The hall committee believed that a larger facility was sustainable.

A Second Floor: The hall site restricted the ability to extend to the side and back. Additionally, the current hall foundations were not deep enough to extend upwards.

Further Advertising: The Village Directory was suggested as a magazine to advertise the hall within.

Children's Activities at the Hall: Activities for children were more difficult to organise as child protection was involved.

Feasibility to Build a Joint Village and Recreation Ground Facility: There was not enough room to build a community centre on the hall land with enough parking. Toilets would still be needed near the football pitch. If there was enough room to build such a building at the rear of the recreation ground the cost would be greater as electricity and water would have to be provided to the building as well as an access road.

Heritage Centre

Appledore History Society Representative – The history society were looking for premises to meet in and to store their artefacts. They would like to make these artefacts available for public viewing and for research. The talks held at the village hall were well attended but the group still needed a smaller room to use when they invited speakers for the group only. The parish magazine printing could also make use of this room. The heritage centre idea could provide this. Separate access to the room would be needed. Parking was clearly an issue which may be resolved by the residential enabled car park on Court Lodge Road (currently under consideration by the local planning authority).

Public Comments

Asset for the Village: The acquisition of the building would provide the parish with an asset to use now and which also could be sold in the future if needed.

Commitment from the History Society: The history group needed to be certain of their commitment to the idea.

Road Safety Improvements

Progress on the Route Study had been slow and further analysis needed to provide any conclusions. Following analysis costings for proposals would be provided. Route Study Officers had the parish's "wish list" for roads. The next meeting was scheduled for the 27th June.

Public Questions

Flashing sign: This was an option to deal with speeding.

Griffin Cottages Footpath: Although there had been support from highways in the past for this, in the end cash had not been released. Financial funding from the parish council could make a difference. That said the experts might provide a better solution.

"The Narrows" Pinch Point by Church House: Highways had found that there was not enough sight distance available to erect "Priority " signs. Evidence of shorter distances for priority signs could be found close to the village.

Public Access to Route Study Results: The study was not the same as the traffic survey carried out for the residential enabled car park in Court Lodge. It was binary code. It was not known if the results would be available to the public in time.

Recreation Ground

Recreation Ground Management Committee Representative – The points listed were a fair reflection of the improvements needed. Car parking for about 40 cars could be produced along the access road to the sewage works. Players did not car share so enough places were needed to avoid parking on the street. As the insurance did not cover the ground for an open public car park, security or restriction measures might be needed. Visitor numbers to the play area were increasing: all play areas needed constant repair. The MUGA netting needed spot repairs and the soon to be set up tennis club needed two courts so the MUGA required lines for this. The central section of the pavilion was old and needed updating.

The chairman of the committee suggested that a single strategy for the use of the funds from the field sale would provide economies of scale. A single project of a community centre with a committee made up of all the groups could be a more efficient solution.

Public Questions

Feasibility Group: It was proposed that a working party including the village hall committee, the recreation ground committee, history society and parish council meet to discuss the feasibility of a community centre.

Funding: Money from the sale of the field would not necessarily cover the build cost of a centre. Additional funding may have to be sought.

Other Projects

Heathside Shelter (Children's) – The roof needed to be repaired.

Bus Shelter for Heathside

The meeting was reconvened at 21.05 hrs.

3. Capital Investment Project List

It was resolved to consider the list of projects below to be financed completely or partially from the proceeds of the sale of the parish council field. This is not a definitive list.

Recreation Ground

Car Park, safety improvements to play area, new/repared surface to MUGA/tennis courts, improvements to the pavilion

Public Toilets

Complete refurbishment

Village Hall

Extension to the hall, complete refurbishment, improvements to the car park

No1 The Street

Acquisition and refurbishment of the building, creation of a dedicated space for the Local History Society and an Appledore Museum/Heritage Centre. Creation of a contemporary cafe for local residents, tourists, walkers and cyclists. Location for bike hire scheme linking the village to Appledore Station, working in much the same way as that used in London.

Road Safety Improvements

To be identified from the Route Study Report conducted by Kent Highways

Heathside Shelter Repair

Bus Shelter for Entrance to Heathside

AND/OR to consider the possibility of a community centre covering all proposed activities alongside some minor projects.

Proposed by Cllr. Hiskey and seconded by Cllr. Vane.

LGA 1972, s111

4. Finances

I) As at 31st March 2018 the balance stood at £35,228.02 less estimated outstanding payments £1,222.36 for the year leaving £34,005.66 and at 28th February £37,856. Total receipts for the year had been £30,247.38 and Payments made £33,321.79 plus est. outstanding payments made £34,544.35

II) Income received:

£72.10 Public Donations
£0.94 January Bank Interest
£0.80 February Bank Interest
£0.83 March Bank Interest

II) Cheques raised since the last meeting:

£883.83 March Salaries
£21.75 Plants for baskets at toilets and trough outside the church
£357.97 W Tollett Limited: Repair of leak at public toilets
£58.50 TP Jones: Payroll Services January – March 2018
£69.00 HMRC: PAYE January – March 2018

II) It was resolved to draw the following:

£11.18 Kent County Council Commercial Services: Toilet requisites (vat £1.86)
£65.83 M Philo: room £30. car £23.40, screws 95p, wallets £4, pens £3.75, staples £1.39, notebook 60p (vat £1.79)

5. Planning

Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 sch1/2010

I) Ashford Borough Decisions Advised: None

II) New applications for A.P.C. to consider and vote on:

a) **18/00381/AS – 1 The Street: Part demolition conversion and extension of existing building to provide office accommodation or use as a heritage centre and the erection of 4 detached dwellings. It was resolved to support with the following comment: As per the planning application the council is in discussion with the Waller Group with regards to the heritage centre. If it should not materialise the council has concerns about the conversion of the mill to office space. With regard to the residential development at the rear, the council are in support.** Proposed Cllr. Hennig and seconded Cllr. Jenkins.

b) **18/00437/AS– 17 The Street: replacement garage doors and new post to porch. It was resolved to support this application.** Proposed Cllr. Hennig and Seconded Cllr. Perkins.

18/00438/AS – 17 The Street: removal of internal walls and doors on ground floor, removal of part of screen wall and window on south elevation. It was resolved to support noting that the planners would take into account the listed status. Proposed Cllr. Wilkinson and seconded Cllr. Jenkins.

6. It was resolved to contract Local Council Public Advisory Service to act as Data Protection Officer for one year. Cost £150. Proposed Cllr. Perkins and seconded Cllr. Vane.

Best Practice

7. It was resolved to allow tgdesigner homes permission to erect a hoarding, advertising Magpie Farm, on the council field (whilst in the council's possession) for a fee. It was delegated to the clerk to negotiate a sum.

- 8. It was resolved to nominate Cllr Winter as council representative for Appledore Recreation Ground Committee.** Proposed Cllr. vane and seconded Cllr. Hennig.
- 9. Training and Seminars**
Cllr. Hiskey had attended the Planning Conference. A written report had been circulated to Cllrs.
- 10. Highways and Byways**
 - I) **Route Study** – No further comments to those made in the public session
 - II) **No Parking Cones on The Street** – Cones which had been put out last Sunday had since been removed. There was no apparent reason for them.
- 11. Following amendment, it was resolved to contract Nigel Gibbs to cut the grass around the Public Toilets for the current year and to frequently cut the council field keeping the grass short.** Up to fortnightly cuts for the field. Prices as per last year. Proposed Cllr. Vane and seconded Cllr Hennig.
- 12. Public Conveniences**
Public donations £57.89.
- 13. Recreation Ground Report** – No report as Cllr. Winter absent.
- 14. Village Hall Report** – as made previously in the public session
- 15. Information for Councillors**
 - Parishes in Bloom** – The garden society had advised that they felt that this was beyond their normal activities.
 - K6 Telephone Box** – Request made to chase Tollets to complete the work in time for Appledore Open gardens on the 25th June 2018.
- 16. Date of Next Meeting**
14th May 2018, 19.30hrs in the village hall. The meeting closed at 22.00 hrs.