

MINUTES OF YALDING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2 JUNE 2020 AT 7.00 PM VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

PRESENT

Geraldine Brown (Chairman)
June Chapman (JC)
Ken Gough (KG)
Patricia Robbins (PR)
Dee Ann Stead (DS)

Jason Bryant (JB)
Sue Gerrish (SG)
David Law (DL)
Andy Sanders (AS)

This meeting was held virtually via Zoom Video Conferencing.

PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public had asked to join the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Councillors were present.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCILLORS IN ANY ITEM

2.1. DECLARATION OF CHANGES TO THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS

None were declared.

2.2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

The Chairman, KG, and SG declared an interest in agenda item 17.1 as they had bills for payment.

2.3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None were requested

2.4. DECLARATION OF ANY GIFTS RECEIVED

None were declared.

3. DECISION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS UNDER CLOSED SESSION

It was agreed to take item 20 in Closed Session.

4. UPDATE ON YALDING'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS

An update was given.

5. PLANNING

5.1. TO DECLARE ANY LOBBYING OR FORMAL REPRESENTATION

There was none declared.

5.2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning decisions are recorded at the end of the minutes.

5.3. YALDING ENTERPRISE PARK (YEP) - UPDATE

No Counsel's opinion is being sought. The planning officer has received a response from YEP to Andrew Cutler's solicitor's letter (Richard Butler) and has re-consulted with the relevant statutory consultees (Environment Agency and KCC) who have indicated they have no further comment but written responses are awaited.

5.4. ANY OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

There were no other planning matters.

6. POLICE MATTERS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (NhW)

PCSO Nicola Morris was on duty and in touch over the weekend and did what she could to move the visitors on. The problems of the weekend was discussed. It was agreed that The Chairman

would write to Helen Grant, the Chief Constable and The Police Commissioner for support and look again at a private security firm.

It was agreed to write to planning enforcement with regard to the illegal site on our border with Collier Street.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF:

• THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5 MAY 2020

Proposed JC seconded SG and all agreed that the minutes be signed as a correct record.

• THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19 MAY 2020

Proposed JC seconded SG and all agreed that the minutes be signed as a correct record.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

8.1. CATTLE ON THE FEN – REMOVED EARLY DUE TO SECURITY PROBLEMS

KG/AS to look for other escape routes. Network Rail still have not repaired its fence, YEP will be asked to chase. Community Payback had started putting in posts. **Deferred.**

8.2. FINGERPOSTS – LEES CORNER AND WOODFALLS

The Clerk has chased again and this has been promised for this week, the contractor has been out and dug a hole at both sites and is due back on 4th June to erect the posts.

8.3. PLANNING APPLICATION FOR NEW FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY CENTRE AT THE KINTONS

The Chairman proposed that an outline planning application for the new facilities be submitted; all agreed. An architect has been recommended to The Clerk who will be able to draw up outline plans at a reasonable cost. MBC have sent us a link to a pre-application visit. The reconstitution of Yalding and Laddingford Sports Association (YALSA) needs to be escalated before we can move this project forward. DL has organised a virtual meeting of existing YALSA members.

8.4. WEBSITE

The new website just requires The Chairman to carry out a final review. BK is on the waiting list to attend a KALC training session to ensure we comply with the Accessibility regulations. The Chair, The Clerk and BK will hold a virtual meeting to get the site live.

8.5. THE TATT - PUBLIC ACCESS

Access will be closed-off for at least 24 hours to confirm rights of access. Only Tatt Cottage and Bramling House have official access. KG to agree with the permitted users a convenient time, maybe during holiday time. **Deferred**

Southern Water to be asked to contribute towards the cost of the repair to the track. **Deferred**

8.6. DITCH AT THE FEN

The drainage board have asked KG to check if there are any cables there.

8.7. DEFIBRILLATORS – CLEANING AND CHECKING

Woolpack complete. Other backboards need erecting **Deferred.**

A cleaning regime has already been established for all the defibrillators. It seems the one at the top of the High Street may not have been done during lock down, JC cleaned it, new Pads are needed in September, The Clerk will order new ones.

8.8. JUBILEE FIELD DOMESTIC GATE INTO FIELD

A site meeting has been held, The Chairman will look up the original documentation and establish if a charge can be added to the land.

8.9. PARKING ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

There were 20 bollards requested, the cost of these are now £150 much more than expected. Councillors agreed that this project should still go ahead. We need to check if the odd job man will work during lockdown and then order bollards.

8.10. MOTION THAT ALL COUNCILLORS ARE GIVEN A YALDING PARISH COUNCIL EMAIL ADDRESS

The Chairman has set-up some of these addresses but installation is not simple.

8.11. NEW CAR PARK ENTRY SYSTEM

The Picnic Area cannot be opened until after lockdown but currently the car park equipment is inoperative. Flowbird's engineers have confirmed that all the parts for the new unit will be available in early June but the barriers not until early July. The Clerk is trying to get an earlier date. The account to activate payment by card is pending a delivery date.

8.12. PLAY EQUIPMENT - JUBILEE FIELD AND THE KINTONS

The deposit has been paid for the equipment at Jubilee Field.

All play areas are closed until lockdown is lifted; however, it is believed the equipment could be fitted safely.

KG/DW/JB have removed the bus and safety surface plus one other piece of equipment that is being replaced. We now have a schedule for installation and it should be complete by mid-July.

8.13. REMEMBRANCE DAY

A meeting will be arranged to discuss and clarify. **Deferred but could be held remotely.**

8.14. SOUTH AND SOUTH EAST IN BLOOM COMPETITION – TO DISCUSS ENTERING

The Chairman suggested not entering this year as it is too late, we are very busy and we need to do some serious tidying after the storms. The criteria states that they do not expect hanging baskets everywhere but a community looking after its Parish. KG/AS/DL will meet to discuss. **Deferred**

8.15. LORRY WATCH – REQUEST TO INSURE A POTENTIAL GROUP ON WAGON LANE

Residents of Wagon Lane have request are trying to set up a Lorry Watch with KCC. KCC require YPC to provide the Public Liability insurance. YPC insurers are happy with this providing a risk assessment to send to them in advance. KCC offer guidance but the residents would have to write their own risk assessment. The clerk has written to the residents but has not yet received the relevant documentation. **Deferred.**

8.16. TREES AT THE YALDING SCHOOL

It was agreed to arrange and fund the removal of two silver birch trees from the reception play area in order for a beautiful rare tree to flourish as suggested by the Kent Men of Trees. **Deferred**

8.17. ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT – TO APPROVE

It was agreed to employ a temporary administration person for a few hours per week to give the Clerk time to complete the SLCC qualification. **Deferred**

8.18. THE LEES – DURING THE COVID-19 SOCIAL DISTANCING TO AGREE TO A 2.5M WIDTH CUT OF THE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS ACROSS ALL 3 FIELDS.

The chair proposed that we ask the contractor to cut the public footpaths across all 3 fields to a 2.5m width to encourage social distancing. All has been fine but we need to cut the paths now, The Clerk has arranged for this.

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report was not received.

10. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report was not received.

11. VISUAL UPDATE INSPECTIONS OF COUNCIL OWNED LAND - TO CONFIRM INSPECTION AND REPORT ANY ISSUES

All inspections completed.

The Kintons – It appears a large number of holes have been dug over the area and The Chairman suspects it was metal detectors; she will send out a note via Parish News saying metal detecting is not allowed.

Fowle Hall Green - The contractor is having trouble getting on as the ditch has been dug out, AS agreed to have a look.

The Tatt - It was agreed that the swing will be removed as it is not being used. This will be notified in The Parish Magazine and via Parish News.

12. CONSULTATIONS

One consultation has been received this month.

- Maidstone Dog Control PSPO Consultation – 12 July 2020

This has been set out on Parish News.

SG agree to review.

One consultation was received last month.

- EA Challenges and Choices Consultation, The Chairman will review. **Complete**

13. PLAYScheme – TO DISCUSS IF IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO RUN ON 2020

It will be impossible for social distancing in the school hall, the school may have concerns about the use of the hall and some parents might not want to send their children. Play Place do not think they could cope with 36 children and less would make it very expensive. Marden and Staplehurst have cancelled their scheme. It was agreed that for these reasons it should be cancelled for 2020.

14. THE LEES PICNIC AREA – TO AGREE 2020 CHARGES

The Chairman proposed an increase in the parking charges of 50p to £3 for weekdays and £3.50 for weekends and bank holidays. All agreed.

KG and The Clerk will develop a proposal for permit holder charges.

The hardstand has been opened for permit holders and Teapot Island at last year's prices for now.

MBC are awaiting some regulations from Central Government before the toilets can be re-opened

15. FLOODING

15.1. UPDATE

Watertight are back from Monday 1st June to complete the PFR installations and testing.

15.2. SUBSTATION UPDATE

Officers at MBC were being a little obstructive to the proposal so the Chairman contacted Mark Green, MBC, who sits on the Medway Flood Partnership. He has taken this forward and also agreed that MBC would cover their costs themselves as part of the Community Resilience funding. Golding Homes need to be approached for the wayleave to run the cable across the garden of No. 59. There may be some reinstatement costs for the garden.

16. HIGHWAYS – UPDATE

16.1. HIGHWAYS LIST

The list has been updated and circulated. Councillors to advise any additions.

16.2. OTHER HIGHWAY ISSUES

Jenny Watson (JW) is progressing with the safety barrier and road markings outside Laddingford School. The road marking will require a Traffic Order. They are currently unable to progress all TRO's so this one is currently on hold but the other measures are being progressed.

17. FINANCE

17.1. PAY BILLS

It was agreed, proposed JB seconded PR to pay bills totalling £4,059,68 exclusive of VAT as per attached list.

17.2. CONFIRM RECEIPTS

A list of receipts (as attached) totalling £6,892.83 was circulated.

17.3. MONTHLY SPEND AGAINST BUDGET REVIEW

There was no unbudgeted spend this month.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

18.1. KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (KALC) AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCIL (NALC) CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND CIRCULATED

- NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – 01 May 2020
- NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – 07 May 2020
- NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – 15 May 2020
- NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – 22 May 2020
- NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – 29 May 2020
- NALC Open letter to all Councillors – 29 May 2020
- KALC NEWS May 2020
- KALC CEO Bulletin - May 2020

18.2. OTHER GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND CIRCULATED AS NOTED IN MINUTES

- Kent Police Rural Crime Report and Rural Matters – 12 May 2020
- Oast to Coast

18.3. LETTER FROM HALLAM LAND MANAGEMENT WITH REGARD TO THE LAND NORTH AND SOUTH OF KENWARD ROAD

They are proposing a Community Land Trust for local housing needs. The Clerk will write to them to confirm we are not progressing the Neighbourhood Plan at this time but will bring it forward in October.

18.4. ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO THE MEETING

Email from resident about cutting The Lees received today. The Clerk will reply advising how long and why we have the hay meadows and that it will be cut in early July and That the contractor has been asked to cut the footpaths to 2.5m wide this week.

19. PARISH MATTERS

There were no parish matters.

COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

20/502000/FULL

Kenward Farm, Kenward Road

Replacement of the existing polytunnels with new style polytunnels, including the provision of an attenuation pond and all other associated engineering and drainage operations, and landscaping.

NO COMMENT

However, Councillors request an increase in landscaping along the boundary that faces Oast Court and green coloured polytunnels which was part of the original planning permission.

20/501980/FULL

Hidcote, Kenward Road

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

NO COMMENT

MBC PLANNING DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING

- 20/501100/FULL The Red House, High Street
Erection of a single storey rear extension to dwelling.
GRANTED
- 20/501227/FULL 1 Revellers Corner, Cottages Queen Street
Erection of a single storey rear extension.
REFUSED
- 20/501501/FULL Youngs Barn Adjacent To The Coach House, High Street
Conversion of Youngs Barn into annexe to The Coach House.
GRANTED
- 20/501095/FULL The Woolpack Inn, Benover Road
Demolition of existing lean-to extension and erection of a single storey rear extension to existing trade kitchen and installation of new extraction system and external flue.
GRANTED
- 20/501072/FULL Cleaves House, The Green,
Demolition of existing garage and erection of a replacement garage and 1no. summer house.
GRANTED
- 19/505179/FULL Forstal House, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood
Variation of Condition 4 of 17/505280/FULL (Erection of 2 No steel frame buildings for B1/B8 use; Extension of existing hardstanding and creation of one-way HGV route within site. Additional car parking and installation of 2 No Klargest treatment plants; Associated hard and soft landscaping scheme.) to allow the commercial use of the site to operate 24 hours a day Monday - Saturday, with vehicle movements between 0500 and 1800 hours, and no working on Sundays and Bank Holidays.
GRANTED

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.31.

These following items are suspended until Lock down is released:

- Neighbourhood Plan
- Welcome pack
- Parish Councillors Report

Signed.....

Date.....