

PLAXTOL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Plaxtol School on Monday 9 May 2016 at 8.30pm

Present: Cllrs P Thomas (Chairman), J Cannon, M Carboni, J Denham, K Johnson, R Simpson; L Thomas (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs M Brewin, D Fermor; Boro Cllrs S Perry, T Shaw, M Taylor

1. Matters raised by the public / Borough Councillors

None.

2. Declarations of interest

In the interests of transparency, Cllr Cannon expressed an interest in planning application TM/16/01129/FL, a neighbouring property. There is no DPI or Other Significant interest in this case.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 4 April 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

Item 7: KCC Flood Risk to Communities consultation. Cllr Brewin had provided a report advising that the consultation was mainly concerned with the presentation of KCC's report rather than its content. He had responded. The response is available on the parish website.

Item 7: Gatwick Airport arrivals report. Cllr Brewin had provided a report advising that the review had been criticised and commented on by Parliament, pressure groups and the press. Although Gatwick had accepted all of the recommendations they had added caveats to the effect that the recommendations are undeliverable unless other bodies especially the National Air Traffic Service are able to deliver the necessary changes.

5. Council Matters

The Clerk reported that the casual vacancy had been advertised in the Herald, but that no applications had yet been forthcoming. Councillors agreed to approach individual parishioners for expressions of interest.

6. Correspondence

KCC

Environment, Planning & Enforcement: Kent Minerals & Waste Local Plan, publication of inspector's report, available at consult.kent.gov.uk/portal/mwcs/mwlp-eip/eip-library/.

Public Health Programme Manager: 'Release the Pressure', mental health campaign.

TMBC

Area 2 Planning Committee: Meeting papers 13.4.16.

Community Safety Partnership: community payback requests; newsletter May/June 2016.

Other

Action with Communities in Rural Kent: recruitment of new trustees; 'Role of

Trustee in Community Hall' workshop, 16.5.16; Inside Track, Issue 236, funding opportunities.

Communicorp: Clerks & Councils Direct, Issue 105, May 2016.

Campaign to Protect Rural England: Field Work, Spring 2016; Countryside Voice, Spring 2016; Kent Voice, Spring/Summer 2016.

Gatwick Airport: invitation to nominate community representative for the Gatwick Airport Noise Management Board.

KALC: Police & Crime Commissioner's term of office report; NALC bulletins on national developments & meetings, 8.4.16, 22.4.16; NALC newsletters 11.4.16, 26.4.16, 4.5.16; Parish News, April 2016; e-safety awareness sessions, July 2016; Police & Crime Commissioner elections, 5.5.16; neighbourhood planning update; agenda KALC AGM & meeting 12.5.16; final report of Independent Review of LCTS Schemes; Southern Water 'Keep it Clear' campaign, details at www.southernwater.co.uk/keep-it-clear.

Kent County Playing Field Association: CPFA national conference, 15.6.16; notification of AGM, 18.5.16; letter of thanks for anniversary appeal donation.

Kent Downs AONB: newsletter, April 2016.

Kent Wildlife Trust: Wild Kent, Spring 2016; group meeting 25.4.16; newsletter, April 2016.

National Allotment Society: notification of SE Region AGM, 28.5.16.

E-watch nos 1335-1343.

7. **Payments/Finance**

The Chairman advised that no further suggestions for projects for the regeneration funding had been forthcoming from the Annual Parish Meeting. He confirmed that £3,000 was still available and that he would be meeting with TMBC to discuss options, including the possible widening of the car park entrance.

It was reported that the outcome of TMBC's funding review had now gone out to public consultation, available at www.tmbc.gov.uk/localcharge. TMBC was considering implementing a local charge on those areas which do not pay for local services (such as playgrounds and open spaces) via a parish precept. Should this be adopted, TMBC would then discontinue support to the parishes via the financial arrangement (£4,686 in the current year). As part of the same cost saving exercise, TMBC was also considering the withdrawal of Council Tax Reduction grants from the parishes (£993 in the current year). Both changes would be effective from 2017/18. The overall effect on Plaxtol parishioners would be a probable increase in precept to compensate for the lost funding from the Borough Council, which would be offset by a reduction in the Borough Council's element of overall Council Tax demand. It was agreed that Cllr Simpson would co-ordinate the Parish Council's response to the consultation.

Councillors were presented with a statement of the budget outturn for 2015/16 and noted an underspend of £1,377 against budget for the year.

Councillors were advised that the insurance policy with Zurich was due for renewal and that the Council had come to the end of its three year long term agreement. It was noted that the quoted renewal premium was £977 compared with last year's premium of £963 and that additional assets had been included in the schedule. Councillors agreed

renewal and that the Council would again take advantage of the reduced rate for a further 3 year long term agreement, £936.

A financial statement and bank reconciliation was distributed to members.

The following payments were approved:	£
Plaxtol Players, contribution to stage blocks	500.00
KCPFA, annual subscription	20.00
Memorial Hall, hall hire Jan-Mar 2016	57.00
JPCTCG, annual membership 2015	50.00
Heart of Kent Hospice, donation	100.00
West Kent Mediation Service, donation	50.00
Zurich Municipal, insurance premium 2016/17	935.92
Clerk pay & reimbursements April 2016	575.60
Eon Energy, street lighting April 2016	68.95

8. Planning

TMBC decisions

Brookside Farm, Yopps Green TM/15/04030/FL

Erection of an outbuilding for use as a storage/workshop, extension and alterations to existing outbuilding and erection of a replacement field stable (retrospective). **Granted permission.** Parish Council had not objected to this application.

7 Church Row, Plaxtol Lane TM/16/00565/TNCA

Reduce Pine by 10% . The Tree Warden reported that the action was needed for the health of the tree and to improve light. **No objection.** Parish Council had not objected to this application.

4 Grange Cottages, Grange Hill TM/16/00658/FL

Detached double garage. **Granted permission.** Parish Council had not objected to this application.

Kingsdown, The Street TM/16/00355/FL

Construct detached garage within front garden adjacent to frontage.

Withdrawn. Parish Council had **objected** to this application.

Wealden House, Long Mill Lane TM/16/00555/FL

Part single, part two storey rear extension, loft conversion including dormer window to front roof slope and 3.no rooflights to rear roof slope. **Granted permission.** Parish Council had not objected to this application.

Parish council decisions

1 Grange Cottages, Grange Hill TM/16/01094/FL

Proposed detached oak framed double garage with pitched roof. **No objection.**

Lavers, The Street TM/16/01221/TNCA

T1 Deodar Cedar -Section fell - replace elsewhere with indigenous species.

The Tree Warden had approved this application. **No objection.**

Lower Roughway, Roughway Lane TM/16/01129/FL, TM/16/01130/LB

Addition of brick chimney and external alterations to south elevation (Resubmission of TM/15/02285/FL). **No objection.**

Old Basted, Basted Lane TM/16/01051/FL

New sand school and associated engineering works. **No objection** provided proper provision for adequate drainage is in place.

The Retreat, Plaxtol Lane TM/16/01006/FL

Construction of stables building and sand school with associated access. **No objection.**

Wealden House, Long Mill Lane TM/16/01248/FL

Part 1, part 2 storey rear extension with roof terrace; loft conversion including new dormers to front and rear elevation roof slopes; new windows, new

external tile hanging and internal alterations (minor amendments to approved scheme TM/16/00555/FL). **No objection.**

Yopps Green Cottage, Yopps Green TM/16/00974/FL

The existing dark entrance to the property consists of a 3'x6' glazed porch hidden away from the front of the property. The proposed works are to replace this with a new porch (size 6'x6') with an open oak frame at the front with four oak posts. Thereby creating clarification of the main entrance and front facade to the property. **No objection.**

9. Highways & Transport

It was reported that Brook Lane would be closed for one day on 31.5.16 to enable work to be carried out by SE Water.

The Chairman reported that he had been advised by a parishioner of damage to the kerb and verge at Spoute Island. A large stone dumped on the green had now been removed and arrangements were in hand to repair the damage and that caused by motorists driving over the kerb onto the soft verge. It had been suggested that posts could be placed on the corner of the green to stop further damage. Councillors agreed however that this would spoil the open nature of the green and that the situation would be monitored for the time being. KCC would be advised of the kerb damage.

Action:
Clerk

It was reported that a householder had made a request to use two spaces in the car park for a skip to service building work at her house. The request was for use of the spaces for 4-5 months. Councillors agreed that this was too long a period for a third of the car park spaces to be unavailable and that they could not accede to this request. Cllrs Carboni and Thomas will consult further with the householder. The Chairman advised that two parishioners had come forward following the Annual Parish Meeting with an interest in joining a working group to look into parking in Plaxtol village. Cllr Carboni will take this initiative forward.

Action:
Cllr
Thomas,
Cllr
Carboni

Action:
Cllr
Carboni

10. Any Other Business

It was reported that the missing finger post on Allens Lane had been replaced and that the landowner had been notified of the broken stile at Yopps Green.

It was noted that the gate and fence at the GML was in need of repair and that the picnic tables needed restoration.

It was also noted that the project leader at Kent Downs AONB had confirmed with Highways that signage would not be needed for the new GML entrance.

It was reported that the PCSO had advised that the spate of window smashing in Plaxtol earlier in the month had been part of an incident covering a wider area including Ightham, Borough Green, Wrotham and West Kingsdown. CCTV footage had been recovered from a householder in Wrotham and further enquiries were underway.

11. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 6 June 2016 at 8pm.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Subject to approval