

CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2013

Present: Parish Cllr Steve Bailey (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Christopher Brealy (Vice-Chairman)
Parish Cllr Len Claisse
Parish Cllr Eileen Watkins
Parish Cllr Adrian Young
Parish Cllr Joe Hunter

1 x Vacancy

Ms Amanda Sparkes, Clerk to the Council

6 x residents (Two for part of the meeting)

204. OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Parish Cllr Chris Ellis (family issue), Parish Cllr Tricia Chapman (unwell) and KCC Cllr Mike Harrison (County election constraints).

The Chairman advised that Wendy Lockton-Goddard had resigned from the parish council on 11 March 2013 due to family commitments. The Clerk will contact the city council for the relevant notice to post.

205. MEMBERS' INTERESTS and REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Brealy declared an interest in the planning application for Saliux lodge, The Drove, due to the proximity of his property. There were no requests for dispensations.

206. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2013

Cllr Claisse proposed and Cllr Watkins seconded that the Minutes were a true record of the meeting.

207. ACTION LIST APPENDIX 1a

The list was talked through and deletions and progress noted..

208. POLICING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Cllr Young explained he had hoped the PCSO, Jade Hoyle, would have attended the meeting. He advised that crime data for January has been updated but not for February.

Cllr Bailey advised he had attended the inaugural meeting to meet the new Kent Police Commissioner Ann Barnes. He advised she challenges the Police. She has made many promises. Cllr Bailey explained his question was chosen for the floor – how, given the reduced police levels would speedwatch be supported? Ann Barnes asked the assistant commissioner who said he would help. Cllr Bailey also queried police statistics about fatalities, and was promised contact after that inaugural meeting. Detective Superintendent Jo Sugden from Herne Bay Police station rang him, and they had a good conversation. She has promised support and Cllr Bailey will touch base with her regularly. Cllr Bailey also asked Cllr Young to make her a contact.

Cllr Bailey advised the Police are recruiting 60 new PCSOs – they have all the powers of a police constable except the power of arrest. Cllr Bailey has asked that this information be uploaded to the Kent Police website – it has not yet.

Cllr Bailey asked Jo Sugden about collating data about accidents in the village, but she advised she felt she could not share information under data protection constraints. Cllr Bailey will double check this.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Cllr Claisse advised there have been two thefts of garden furniture from The Drove during early evenings.

On 15 February at approximately 2.30pm a lady was stopped by two young men aged 22-25 in the alleyway leading from Primrose Way to Sainsburys and her purse was stolen.

There has been damage to a Mercedes in Grasmere Road and documents stolen, and two burglaries in Blackberry Way.

Cllr Claisse advised he had attended a Neighbourhood watch conference, with Ann Barnes and Steve Barlow, the district commander in attendance. Mr Barlow gave an update on how the Police are coping with less Police. Crime figures are still good. Kent Fire and Rescue service also gave a talk – they offer help to disabled people in a number of ways such as access alterations. The Clerk will research more.

209. The meeting was adjourned for parishioners' questions..

The Clerk agreed to ask the public rights of way department about all the new finger sign posts going up around the village and who was installing them, in response to a resident's question. She also agreed to ask about whether they knew who had cleared a public right of way in Shepherd's Walk.

A resident commented that the request for financial support for The Ridgeway, an unadopted road, would result in a similar application from Maydowns Road residents association, currently maintained at residents' expense.

A resident asked about shingle coming off a drive near the bus stop at the Maydowns end of Chestfield Road. Cllr Bailey advised he had knocked twice to ask residents to clear it but received no reply.

Another resident commented that he had seen that a cyclist had been knocked off his bike at 11am on 11 March 2013 near the junction of Plantation Road with Chestfield Road. Two cars were in attendance so he had not stopped. The Clerk will add this to the traffic log.

A resident asked if the parish council would consider devising an A5 flyer for him to leaflet drop residents in the Radfall Road area to advertise Ann Barnes' attendance at the May meeting. The Clerk will do these and will also do A4 posters for the noticeboards and one for Cllr Claisse's outside board.

A resident spoke to the planning application for Salix Lodge, The Drove. He had objected to a previous application that the proposal was not in keeping – and now this proposes a car port sitting on the front boundary and forward of the front elevation, again not in keeping. Plus there is a tree, thought to be protected, that will be affected and which will need to be piled to take the weight of a car. The parish council also voiced their own concerns and agreed the response to Canterbury City Council should be an objection, with a representative prepared to go and speak to development control committee.

A resident advised he was interested in becoming a neighbourhood watch co-ordinator for The Ridgeway. The Clerk agreed to send him all the details.

The meeting continued.

210. PLANNING

RECEIVED a letter requesting a financial contribution to Ridgeway and Fern Close Residents Association to undertake road repairs and improvement of the section from Chestfield Road to Fern Close. The Ridgeway is unadopted although Fern Close is adopted highway.

There was also concern about the joining of the Ridgeway with Fern Close and Kent Highways Services have agreed to make repairs here.

The residents had carried out a survey with all the households and the nursing home. 9 of 15 households replied and would be prepared to contribute financially. The Nursing home staff are putting the idea to their owners.

Cllr Claisse and Cllr Hunter commented that there are a lot of unadopted roads in the village, maintained by residents themselves, and this could set a precedent. The argument with this one however is that the unadopted bit of road leads to an adopted highway. Albeit an adopted highway leading to nowhere. To get The Ridgeway adopted would be too costly as it would need the surface taken up and drainage and a sub base put in.

There would need to be firm quotes obtained by the residents – it was suggested they contact the Chairman of Maydowns Road and The Drive & The Drove residents associations,

both unadopted highways also, and who currently engage contractors for road repairs and maintenance.

Historically, the parish council spoke to KCC Cllr Mike Harrison who brought pressure to bear on Kent Highways some three years or so ago and some remedial repairs at The Ridgeway were undertaken. The Chairman and all Cllrs agreed that the parish council should support The Ridgeway residents in the first instance by asking for pressure to be applied to Kent Highways services.

211. PLANNING

Councillors considered planning applications and tree works in Appendix 2 previously circulated. Decisions reached and latest information now attached as Appendix 2 to these minutes.

Cllr Claisse explained he had taken a phone call from the resident of Rover Lodge, Radfall Ride, who has experienced flooding where the house newly built next door, Scottish Lodge, has blocked the stream in their gardens through the build. The resident alleges that the builder was supposed to be taking precautions from recommendations to avoid this when planning permission was granted. The Clerk will make contact to see if anything can be done.

212. FINANCIAL MATTERS

RECEIVED the bank statements for February 2013, and TO RESOLVE the signature of the Chairman thereon;

NOTED a payment of £16.33, for the Plusnet Internet account was taken by direct debit.

NOTED six hours overtime to the Clerk to produce the March edition of the magazine

NOTED that the Clerk is sourcing a second insurance cover quotation with Zurich Municipal for comparison in time for the annual renewal of 1 June 2013 with the current provider, AON.

NOTED that the Clerk instructed Dynamix Ltd on 13 February to take over the pay roll calculations from 1 April 2013, and has completed the necessary information forms and P46 HMRC form.

NOTED that the Clerk completed the on-line spreadsheets on 14 February 2013, required for the Year End 2013 Local Government Pension Scheme employee and employer contributions to Kent County Council.

NOTED that the parish council's Fixed Term Deposit investment made on 24 September 2012 with Money Market matured on 25 February 2013. The Clerk has renewed this for the same term (five months) at the prevailing interest rate.

NOTED that the Clerk contacted HSBC bank to discuss the best way to make the parish council's funds work best. The deposit account has a current interest rate of 0.05%. The Clerk therefore instructed the bank to close that account and set up a new fixed term deposit on 28 February 2013 for three months at 0.33% and the balance left in the account to be transferred to the current account to cover cheque payments. NOTED that the Clerk prepared a letter for two signatories to authorise the closure of the deposit account, which will be sent to the local HSBC branch to action the closure.

NOTED confirmation from Canterbury City Council of the precept, made up as follows:

£62,621.30 precept

£1,864.70 cushioning grant from central government

£64,486.00 total precept – this matches exactly what the parish council asked for.

Of the 26 parishes in the district, 21 have increased their precept requirement, 3 have kept it the same as last year's and only 2 have lowered theirs.

Difference to tax base and band D property payment: To work out the band D calculation – you divide the precept requirement by the tax base – Cllrs will recall the tax base has changed this year because of the council tax changes (it has decreased for all the parishes). Difference this year is an increase of £31.90 for the year on a band D property.

213. AUTHORISATION OF ACCOUNTS

The Clerk presented finance sheets for cheque payments requiring authorisation totalling £2,077.54, together with an additional sheet totalling £ 120.11, plus the direct debits schedule for Clerk salary, employers and employees national insurance and paye and salary calculations fee. Cllr Bailey proposed and Cllr Hunter seconded and it was RESOLVED that the financial matters and accounts be authorised for payment.

214. CLERK'S REPORT CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) KALC's Learning and Development Update February 2013
- (b) An information notice from the Department of Communities and Local Government setting out the guidelines for council tax increases for 2012-14 and the requirements for a referendum in certain cases. Whilst the Secretary of State is not proposing to set principles for local precepting authorities for 2013-14 he intends to revisit this issue for 2014-15, having considered the extent to which local preceding authorities have exercised restraint in relation to council tax in 2013-14.
- (c) Transport Integration's relocation and subsequent change of address from 18 February from its current site at Kings Hill, West Malling to Aylesford Highways Depot, St Michaels Close, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7TZ. Existing telephone numbers will transfer and email addresses are unaffected.
- (d) Letter from the NALC Chairman advising that the NALC Chief Executive has formally decided to retire on 31 March 2014 and that this was noted and accepted by the NALC Executive Committee on 26 February. The NALC Chairman and NALC Executive Committee will begin the process of appointing a replacement.

PROW BY SAINSBURYS

NOTED that the Clerk reported this well used footpath from the Primrose Way estate to Sainsburys, B&Q and the rugby club on the PROW online fault reporting tool on 21 February 2013 (fault report PROW480963). The tarmac is cracking quite badly and needs attention.

KENTISH FLATS EXTENSION TO WIND TURBINE FARM

Notification received from Vattenfall on 20 February 2013, that the Kentish Flats Extension has received a development consent order from the Energy Secretary. Press release at

<http://www.vattenfall.co.uk/en/archive-details.htm?newsid=A3D6328430EA43209C99C67867921F4A>

It is anticipated that construction will start in 2015.

THE WHITSTABLE SOCIETY BEACH CAMPAIGN

News from The Whitstable Society:

Many will remember how Ann Wilkes campaigned to make the beach a public space for all local residents and visitors to enjoy. She and Peter Steel, as members of Whitstable Society Public Rights of Way committee, successfully claimed Village Green status for some sections of the beach, but not for all of it. The Whitstable Beach Campaign, headed by Nick Dewhurst, continued with Ann's lifelong dream to claim a public footpath along the beach and in 2004 an application was made to Kent County Council for a 5 mile long public footpath starting at Reeves Beach and ending by the Sportsman Public House. Historic maps show a footpath along this stretch. Now 9 years later, in 2013, KCC are considering the application with a view to making an order to create this path as a public right of way. Most important to the claim are witness statements from people who have regularly walked along the beach. Statements are needed from people who walked along any stretch of the beach, not necessarily the whole of the 5 mile stretch and the beach campaign are asking for people to come forward as witnesses. If you feel that you can help and have walked along the beach at any time over the last 60 plus years please contact Nick Dewhurst at dewhurst@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY PAY BACK

Helen Bennington from Canterbury City Council liaises with the probation service to find projects for Community Payback groups. They currently have groups on a Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. At the moment they have projects but are always looking for more, especially Herne Bay or Whitstable areas.

The sorts of thing they have done include decorating village halls inside and out plus clearing flowerbeds etc. They have also worked on a Peace Garden, clearing vegetation, and painting. Helen is asking parish councils that if they have any public areas (the payback groups cannot touch private land) or know of any community type buildings that need some TLC, litter picking or cleaning, to let her know and these can then be looked at. Any new ideas are welcomed.

Cllrs discussed ideas and resolved to suggest the following:

- Vegetation clearance around pedestrian crossing paving on Old Thanet Way by MacDonalds
- Litter pick by Johnsons Nursery
- Sweep back the shingle on the Ridgeway over footpath/cycle area and perhaps install edging border
- Level and staple down the new parish council bins through the village
- Clean road signs
- Clean the graffiti on the post box by Dukeswood entrance.

TRAFFIC INCIDENT STATISTICS

At the February 2012 parish council meeting, Cllrs commented that the Police only capture fatalities and seriously injured statistics. After the meeting the Clerk contacted the ambulance service to see if there are statistics around ambulance attendances to traffic incidents that can be shared, without divulging any sensitive information. He has agreed to look into this matter and advise. This is being chased. The Clerk also asked the PCSO to add any traffic incidents she is aware of to her monthly report.

EMERGENCY PLAN

NOTED with thanks that the Whitstable Rugby Football Club completed and returned the information sheet about their venue for inclusion in the parish council's emergency plan.

CIRCULAR WALK EXPENDITURE TO DATE

Expenditure for this project has consisted of:

September 2012 – Vegetation clearance	£350
January 2013 - 3,000 printed leaflets	£202
March 2013 - Explore Kent for the leaflet design and map	£250
March 2013 - Explore Kent for the 100 waymark stickers	£32

Total spend to date	£834
Signage for Rugby Club to follow	tbc
Plus sponsored perch - £250 donation by The Barn	donation
Plus Cllr Ellis volunteer time, 30 hours plus.	free

FUNDING FAIR

NOTED handouts from the presentations of the Kent and Medway Funding Fair available at **Kent and Medway Funding Fair 2013 Presentations**

NOTED that the Clerk will attend the Deal & East Kent Funding Fair on 21st March at the Astor Community Theatre, Stanhope Road, Deal. There will be opportunities to speak directly to funders including Big Lottery and Awards 4 All, Heritage Lottery, Kent Sports and Kent Community Foundation. There is no charge for the event.

Details at <http://casekent.org.uk/networking-influencing/deal-and-east-kent-funding-fair/>

The event is sponsored by Deal Town Council and supported by the Astor Community Theatre and CASE Kent.

Home Improvement Agency for East Kent – “In Touch”

KCC's Supporting People program have awarded “In Touch” the tender for the Home Improvement Agency service for the district of Canterbury (formerly provided by Canterbury Homestay).

Services offered predominantly assist older, vulnerable and disabled people:

- The Disabled Facilities Grants program (in Canterbury this service is still being delivered by the Homestay team at Canterbury City Council). In Touch however offers the same advice, support and technical service for a fee to any clients who wish to pay privately to fund an adaptation to their home rather than take the grant route.
- In Touch also offer advice and guidance generally on a wide range of issues which affect people to remain living independently, and could cover for example, welfare benefits, energy saving measures, advice on damp and heating etc
- In Touch run a handyperson service to carry out minor odd jobs and repairs and this service is open to anyone, and regardless of tenure. The labour charge is £15.00 per hour (£12.50 + VAT); the first hour is always charged in full to cover the cost of time and travel, but after the first hour blocks of 15 minutes are charged at £3.75 per 15 minutes. All clients are responsible for the cost of any materials required for repairs. The service is fully insured and handymen are vetted and CRB checked.
- In Touch also offer a supply and fit keysafe service for £55.00, a gardening service @ £15.00 per hour, a decorating service (offered by quotation only) and a galvanized hand rails service also by quotation.

Contact In Touch on **0800 028 3172** or e-mail eastkenthia@familymosaic.co.uk

The Department of Health “Winter Warmth program”

In Touch are partnered with the NHS in Kent to deliver this scheme for 2013.

The scheme aims to help people over the age of 70 who suffer from an underlying heart or lung condition that is exacerbated by cold weather.

In Touch can complete a home visit and assess how to help, it may be something as simple as advice on best use of heating, assistance with energy efficiency measures, benefit checks or provide much needed **FREE** equipment such as; oil filled heaters, thermostats, blankets, renewal of electric blankets, gas fire and boiler checks, night lights, draught excluders, warm packs etc to help combat the cold weather.

If you know anyone who fits the eligibility criteria and needs assistance, then with their permission, forward their details to In Touch at 0800 028 3172 .

PUMP

At the December 2012 parish council meeting, Cllr Ellis asked if the parish council could purchase a small submersible pump. Cllrs discussed the proposal at the January 2013 parish council meeting, and agreed it would be nice to extend a service to the community but that this service should only be offered for disabled or vulnerable residents affected by flooding or drainage problems in the village. At the February meeting the Clerk presented draft criteria for a policy of hire, such as any resident affected should contact the Clerk or any Cllr prior to hire to seek agreement that they met the criteria and that the parish council would reimburse their costs, and that they could evidence their disability. The resident themselves would then hire the pump and operate it. The parish council discussed the need that care needs to be taken as to where surface water is displaced to – ideally a nearby working drain would be suggested – although as long as there is no traffic implication.

After the meeting the Clerk contacted the city council's drainage engineer and highways contacts for their comments. The drainage engineer replied as follows:

“Whilst the principle seems very good there are a few factors that you may need to take into consideration:

- For the purpose described I think the best option would be a petrol centrifugal pump (as opposed to an electric submersible which is more common). The 50mm or 2" type I would suggest has about the right capacity. This could be hired from most local hire firms at around £90 + VAT per week. The pump needs to be sited at the low point where the water is deepest and possibly even then a small sump will need to be dug for the inlet hose.
- The main problem is where to pump the water to without causing problems for others and a very long length of outlet hose may be needed. There are a number of ditches around The Drive and The Drove which could accept the water but unless the ditch is right behind the property being pumped there would clearly be difficulties.
- Soakaways will not work in the type of weather we have experienced over the last year as the subsoil at Chestfield is stiff clay at a very high level which will not take any water apart from very slow percolation. Possibly if there is a particularly bad problem regularly occurring then the resident may need to consider raising the path to the house such that there is a dry walkway when the rest of the garden is under water."

The engineer's comments were circulated to all parish councillors. They feel that his comments suggest it would be very difficult for an elderly person to set up and operate a pump properly. They parish council is not prepared to accept full responsibility for the installation, operation and safe onward disposal of pumping services.

Cllr Young proposed and Cllr Hunter seconded and Cllrs RESOLVED that the parish council abandon the idea of a pump hire policy and investigate whether there is any existing services available or seek a reliable building / plumbing service to call in such circumstances – and which could be advertised to residents - and then as a parish council look to part fund any such works.

2. **COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS AND A PUBLIC DEFIBRILLATOR**

COMPLETED:

- Chestfield Rotary Club have paid £600 towards a public defibrillator for the village.
- The Clerk placed an order for a defibrillator with a heated case.
- Agreed a location at the rear of the golf club, easily accessible from Chestfield Road and also The Barn. The golf club have arranged and paid for the electrical feed needed.
- The Clerk, Chairman and Rotary Club agreed details for a plaque and is ready.

PENDING: The case is still awaited. Once this is received:

- i) Product familiarisation session once the unit has been installed – to be held at Jagow House, with Golf Club, Cllrs and Rotary Club representatives invited.
- ii) The Chairman to arrange for a press release.
- iii) An official launch?

NOTED that Michael Dadd, the British Heart Foundation Healthcare Practitioner from the South East Coast Ambulance Service has agreed to attend the 8 April parish council meeting.

Dr Dadd lives in Greenhill and has offered to do the familiarisation training. Also a Herne Bay resident left the ambulance service a legacy part of which will provide 15 defibrillators for the local area - Dr Dadd is keen to work with the parish council and the Rotary to determine best locations for these.

215. **MAGAZINE** - The Chairman advised some amendments to telephone numbers and contacts are being done. The March edition has been printed and delivered.

216. **WEBSITE** - The Clerk is to meet with Cllr Ellis and look for improvements and ideas for the parish council website.

217. **FRESHERS DAY EVENT**

The subcommittee were unable again to meet prior to the meeting. Cllr Bailey pointed out that this idea is not moving forward and it will not happen in 2013. He suggested that it be postponed indefinitely. Cllr Young and Cllr Watkins supported this.

218. CIRCULAR WALK AROUND THE VILLAGE

The Clerk explained that The Barn had kindly sponsored a perch seat for the walk. However Kent County Council now no longer stock them and so Cllr Bailey has sourced a specification for making a traditional perch. The Clerk has contacted a local carpenter who will make a pine version initially then if all is well an oak version. The Clerk confirmed signage for the perch to recognise the sponsorship by the Chestfield Barn is in hand.

219. KIACC REPORT

Cllr Claisse advised the next Manston airport meeting will be held on 9 April 2013. Plus he and Cllr Bailey are to attend a breakfast meeting on 2 April, to celebrate the inaugural flights by KLM to Amsterdam.

220. KALC

Cllr Claisse advised the next Kent Association of Local Councils meeting will be on 10 April.

221. SPEEDWATCH

There have been 43 vehicles travelling 37-47mph from three one hour checks at different locations since the last meeting. The Clerk will collate the statistics for the last 12 months to present to Ann Barnes. The statistics could be analysed to see if the trend is the same or more or less speeding offenders.

222. CYCLE PATHS

Cllr Hunter advised in view of the bad weather there was nothing to report.

223. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

GRASMERE ROAD PUBLIC INQUIRY

The Clerk received paperwork on 5 March 2013 from the Planning Inspectorate of the results of the Public Inquiry into the downgrading of the unmade section of Grasmere Road to a footpath.

The Order to downgrade has not been confirmed so it will continue as a Restricted Byway as at present.

224. HIGHWAYS

RECEIVED Clerk's report of a Highways Officer visit on 27 February 2013 (previously circulated and filed with the Minutes as Appendix 5).

Dropped kerbs throughout the village - NOTED that the Clerk sought an update on the programme of installation on 25 January 2013 and has asked for another update on status.

Formal request for removal of the short 40mph speed limit stretch at the bottom of Radfall Hill

NOTED that the parish council's formal written request for this has been logged. Kent Highways wrote and advised KCC will proceed with the parish council's request to amend the speed limit. They have requested an interim payment of £1000 towards the costs of amending the traffic regulation order and installing the associated new signage that will be required as a result of the amended speed limit. A cheque was prepared for this 11 March meeting and signed and authorised.

Temporary island on Old Thanet way near waste disposal tip

At the parish council meeting on 11 February 2013 the parish council drew attention to a 'temporary' island on the Old Thanet Way by the waste disposal tip at Herne Bay – apparently it has been there for about two years. However it is very badly lit at night and keeps getting hit. Although it is not in the parish of Chestfield the Clerk was asked to speak to highways about it – to find out if will it be a permanent island at some point and have proper lighting.

Their reply explained that the 'lego' as it is called, is there as part of the redevelopment of the recycling site. The only involvement Highways has is to ask their contractors to clean and maintain it. The lego has never been lit as that section of road is reduced to 40mph.

Toilet sign on roundabout signage near Swalecliffe bridge

NOTED that the highways department has agreed to 'blank' out the Toilets reference on this sign as they no longer exist.

Broken driveway curbstone at 7a Grasmere Road

The Highways inspector agreed the cracking driveway and crumbling curbstone were sufficiently corroded to enable a works order to be raised. The repair will be made with tarmac and will be completed within 28 days.

Drainage gulleys in Grasmere Road

NOTED that the highways inspectors think that between the gulleys, gulley to gulley, these have collapsed as there is an effect on the road, which is cracking and undulating between the gulleys and falling away. This has already been passed to the drainage team for investigation.

Bollards around the piece of land at the bottom of Chestfield Road (opposite the Maydowns Road entrance)

NOTED that the bollards are leaning but are not considered a danger. The Fault report the Clerk raised was subsequently closed by the highways officer. Cllr Bailey commented that they have not spotted the concern about a large gap between some of them near the pedestrian crossing and he agreed to talk to KCC Cllr Harrison about this.

A second flashing Speed Indicator Detector (SID) request for the Maydowns end of Chestfield Road

There is a flashing 30mph SID at the South Street end of Chestfield Road. The parish council have a desire for a second one at the other end of the village for traffic entering the village from the Old Thanet Way. They have agreed to fund the costs of provision and installation if Kent Highways agree it may go ahead.

The Highways Officer agreed to ask her supervisors about the criteria for the provision of SIDS, and obtain a rough costing if allowed. The SID will need an electricity supply. The Clerk will progress this and will also ask about wind or solar alternatives

Pavements in Shepherds walk, Woodvale Avenue and Old Fold

NOTED that the officer re-confirmed that Highways have added to their works for a 3-year rolling programme to lift uneven slabs and replace with swathes of tarmac. NOTED that one very bad section of uneven paving slabs outside 8 Old Fold will have an urgent works order raised for the slabs to be lifted and re-set as soon as possible.

225. ENVIRONMENT

PROW MAINTENANCE

RECEIVED the Clerk's report on the history of the maintenance and history around the Kent County Council support financial and otherwise around the maintenance of the public rights of way in the parish (previously circulated and filed with the Minutes as Appendix 6).

This item was deferred for discussion as the Clerk is to meet with KCC Cllr Mike Harrison and a PROW officer on 19 March and will report back to the next parish council meeting.

GRASMERE PASTURES APPEAL

RECEIVED the Clerk's Summary write up of the KCC REGULATION COMMITTEE MEMBER PANEL meeting held on 26 February 2013 to hear the Appeal against the Inspector's decision of the Public Inquiry of September 2011 to not register land known as Grasmere Pastures as a new village green, and the summary reasons for the refusal to register the land as a village green (previously circulated and filed with the Minutes as Appendix 7)

The parish council will keep a watching brief for any emerging planning application. Cllr Watkins advised 5 hectares of the site would be for an increase in the size of the Industrial Estate. Her campaign also succeeded in getting the developer to leave 17 hectares of landscaped open space.

FLOODING UNDER RADFALL BRIDGE

Cllr Brealy advised that flooding under the Radfall Road bridge caused the road to be closed all night on 9 March. Cllr Hunter explained water builds up on the fields then bursts on to the road and the drains can't cope. Molehill Road was also flooded that night.

The Clerk will keep a second log of incidents like this, similar to the new traffic incident log now being kept.

The meeting closed at 9.10p.m.

Signed..... (Chairman) Date.....

CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING REPORT, 11 March 2013

APPENDIX 2

New Applications

39	CA/13/00226/FUL Salix Lodge, The Drove Erection of covered car parking	The parish council objects to the application. The proposal extends forward of the front elevation, not in keeping with the surrounding area. The side wall is along the front boundary and will also cause damage to a nearby Willow Tree roots. The house and tree are in the conservation area. The tree, thought to be protected, should not be compromised, and would need to be piled to take the weight of a car. It appears the scheme is contrary to the Local Planning Authority condition set on the original permission of CA/10/01602 which states that the property may not be further extended. There is known opposition from neighbours and near by residents. The parish council would be prepared to send a representative to speak at development control committee meeting.
40	CA/13/00264/FUL 18 Primrose Way Demolition of existing conservatory and removal of garden shed. Construction of a single storey rear extension	The garden is very small, but the extension will fit in quite well - so no objection. Planning Cllrs called at neighbours at numbers 15 and 17 Primrose Way, and showed them the plans. They raised issues regarding builders' parking and concerns about the boiler exhaust vent needing to be situated to the rear not the side to prevent exhaust gases being propelled across the garden of number 17. The parish council are supportive of these amenity concerns but appreciate these are not planning issues.

41	CA/13/00277/FUL 102 Maydowns Road Extensions and alterations to provide first-floor accommodation and Juliet balcony to rear	An earlier application CA/12/01961 was given approval by CCC, despite objections. The amended plans go some way to resolve these, but there will be loss of light at the side of No.100, and also a loss of privacy at the back by the addition of a Juliet balcony.
42	CA/13/00220/LUP 39 Grasmere Road Certificate of proposed lawful development for the erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling	The Clerk did not receive an application and papers from the city council for this proposal. This is an unusual case as it is just seeking a Certificate of Lawful Development - that is, that the proposal falls under permitted development rights and therefore does not need planning permission – hence possibly why the Cllrs have not had any papers as there are no grounds to object anyway.
43	CA/13/00269/FUL 58B Chestfield Road Two-storey side extension providing annexe accommodation at ground floor	The parish council recommends that a single storey extension to provide an annexe accommodation would be acceptable, but not a two storey. The proposal causes a loss of light to adjacent property 58C

Notifications

CA/12/02240/FUL	4 Grasmere Road Single-storey and two-storey extensions to side and rear of dwelling	Granted by CCC
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Trees

The parish council's tree wardens to inspect and report any concerns for the following tree works applications:

1. 14 Grasmere Road , Chestfield CT5 3LX

- Crown an Oak tree, located in the front garden to previous cutting points

The parish council's tree wardens visited and have no objections; the works are routine tree management.

2. 10 Chestfield Road, Chestfield, CT5 3LJ

- Reduce the crown volume of a willow by 30%, located in the rear garden

The parish council's tree wardens visited and have no objections; the works are routine tree management.

Ash Dieback Disease - This was reported at the November 2012 parish council meeting. Cllr Chapman has agreed to keep a watching brief on this.

Enforcement – None.