

CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 08 DECEMBER 2014

Present: Parish Cllr Steve Bailey (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Chris Brealy (Vice-Chairman)
Parish Cllr Tricia Chapman
Parish Cllr Eileen Watkins
Parish Cllr Joe Hunter
Parish Cllr Len Claisse
Parish Cllr Alex Candy
Parish Cllr Adrian Young
Parish Cllr Chris Ellis
Ms Amanda Sparkes, Clerk to the Council
1 x resident

140. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS** - Cllr Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting.
141. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Apologies for absence were received from the PCSO Jade Hoyle.
142. **MEMBERS' INTERESTS** – Cllr Young declared an interest in the a new planning application at his property.
143. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2014**
Cllr Claisse proposed and Cllr Hunter seconded and the Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and the Chairman duly signed them.
144. **ACTION LIST APPENDIX 1a** - The list was presented to Cllrs prior to the meeting.
145. **PCSO REPORT**
Although the PCSO had given apologies she had sent a report prior to the meeting, for the period 8 November to 8 December, as follows:
Traffic: Obstruction-1 report; Debris in carriage way- 9 reports; Rtc non-injury- 12 reports and Bad driving-2 reports
Burglary: Johnson nursery- Money Stolen
Theft: Vehicle theft from Clowes Woods
Criminal Damage: McDonalds
Anti-Social Behaviour: McDonald's- Youths banned from using McDonald's due to congregating in car park, being abusive to staff, leaving rubbish everywhere. Youths then blocked Drive through for some time to stop business.
John Wilson Business park- Youths congregating within the area, driving erratically.
A2990- Youths throwing object across the road, items hit one vehicle, no damage caused.
- There has been an increase of bogus callers within the Whitstable/ Herne Bay area over the past few weeks. A few of these have been reported via word of mouth from Chestfield / Swalecliffe residents. Posters/booklets and reassurance visits have been given to most vulnerable residents of these incidents.
146. **POLICING**
Cllr Young explained statistics on the website are not as up to date as the PCSO report, as they are for October 2014. They include three antisocial behaviour incidents. There will be a police surgery between 5pm-6pm at B&Q on 11 December and a surgery on 13 January 2015 between 3pm-4pm at Sainsburys.
- NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**
Cllr Claisse advised there was not much to report. Bank notes and cash were stolen from Johnsons Nurseries at 5.30pm.

There is another nasty scam currently – a postcard from PDS Postal Delivery Service is posted to residents asking them to call them on a premium rate 090 number and if the residents call, they are billed £315 on connection. The Clerk will put notices on the villages noticeboards about this as at this time of year this is a particularly effective scam. Cllr Bailey will also notify the local press about this.

The new neighbourhood watch co-ordinator's newsletter had also been circulated to all councillors.

147. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING** - The meeting was adjourned for parishioners' questions. The resident commented that she was looking forward to the thank you buffet for the village volunteers. She also commented that she is a neighbourhood watch co-ordinator for three roads but has noticed that not all of the village is covered. The Clerk said that she holds a list of co-ordinators and would check with them all to see if they are still active so that the parish council may know where the gaps are and try to address this need. The Clerk was asked to add to the next Agenda to discuss ways to improve the method of Neighbourhood Watch alerts and warnings of scams in particular. The Clerk confirmed that dog waste can be put in normal waste bins in answer to a question. The meeting continued.

148. **PLANNING**

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

149. **BODKIN FARM APPLICATION – CA/14/01319/OUT**

RECEIVED the Clerk report of the proceedings of the planning committee meeting held 11 November 2014 to determine planning application CA//14/01319/OUT - Land at Bodkin Farm, Thanet Way, Chestfield - Outline application for a mixed used development comprising up to 290 dwellings, primary school, restaurant, office building, community building, gym/fitness centre, 24 unit care home, convenience shop, clubhouse/changing room building, and 18.81 ha of parks, amenity greenspace, children's play areas, playing fields, allotments and community woodland and associated access, infrastructure, landscaping and cycle/footways. At the development management committee, city councillors voted 10:0 to refuse it.

Eton College had already lodged an appeal. The appeal paperwork has now been uploaded to the city council's planning portal. The case officer at the Planning Inspectorate has confirmed that the appeal is valid. The appeal will follow the inquiry procedure and it is likely to last three days or more.

The Whitstable Gazette ran an article that the parish council Chairman felt was very biased in favour of Eton College. He wrote a letter in response and this has been partially printed since.

150. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

RECEIVED the bank statements for October and November 2014, and RESOLVED the signature of the Chairman thereon;
NOTED a payment of £16.33, for the Plusnet Internet account taken by direct debit on 18/11/2014.

151. **AUTHORISATION OF ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk presented finance sheets for cheque payments requiring authorisation totalling £1,671.06, together with an additional sheet totalling £3,955.75. It was RESOLVED that the financial matters and accounts be authorised for payment.

152. **CLERK'S REPORT**

Thank you buffet event for village volunteers – Friday 12 December

The date and venue are confirmed – Friday 12 December 2014 at the Rugby Club. The Chairman and Clerk have finalised the menu with the Club caterer. The Clerk has sent out thank you and invite letters to all councillors, speedwatch volunteers, neighbourhood watch

coordinators, the planters volunteers, youth club volunteers, magazine distributors and other exceptional residents and will monitor the responses. 64 people are due to attend.

Annual Parking Review 2014

Chestfield Parish Council's request for the yellow lines to be extended in both Plantation Road and Share & Coulter Road have been registered. In order to implement such a restriction it would be necessary to amend the relevant Traffic Regulation Order – the legal document defining traffic and parking restrictions. Because of the amount of time and cost involved in processing changes to Traffic Regulation Orders, including consultation with residents and councillors, all requests are now considered in an Annual Review. All of the requests received in 2014 will be considered in the 2014 On-Street Parking Review undertaken by Canterbury City Council. Consultation and, if appropriate, implementation will take place in the first few months of next year. The relevant officer will inform the Clerk of the outcome once the Review is complete.

New Trees in the village

i) Update plantation road project

UPDATE – the Clerk wrote to selected households in Plantation Road offering them a new tree in the highways verge in front of their house. Of the 14 households she received replies back from just four. Three have agreed to trees (one to have two along their side garden) and one said no thank you. Comments regarding species were that berries should be avoided as they make a mess and walk in the house, and for effect it would be better to stick to one species. As two households asked for mountain ash the Clerk has advised Kent Highways to make all four this species.

ii) And two new replacement trees for village green at Green Leas/Fairlawn

The Clerk received a complaint about a request to fell two trees at Fairlawn. She got in touch with the residents association Chairman and saw five tree surgeons reports that all concluded that one tree is rotten and dangerous and the other will become dangerous when it loses the support and protection of this dead one. The residents association Chairman has sought CCC permission to fell these in early January. The Clerk is satisfied that this is the correct course of action in the circumstances. The committee would like to organise replacements and are keen to provide two flowering pear trees (recommended by the tree surgeon) for £100. The Clerk contacted KCC Cllr Mike Harrison and asked if he would be happy to use £50 of the £1000 he pledged to Chestfield Parish Council for replacement trees, and the parish council to match fund this as agreed. The Leas and Fairlawn Residents Association members will plant them themselves and maintain them in future.

Weeds in Woodvale Avenue

(Fault Report 121830) Following a resident's complaint the Clerk made a weed enquiry for Woodvale Avenue, and learnt that the weeds will be re-sprayed within the next few weeks. Due to shortened daylight hours and the lower temperatures the weeds will take longer to die off. There should be signs of die back by January.

Submission version of the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan (MWLP) 2013-30

KCC has submitted this to the Secretary of State for independent examination by a Planning Inspector. The 'Examination in Public' (EiP) could commence on 11 February 2015 at Oakwood House in Maidstone, potentially running for two weeks. If the Inspector calls a Pre Examination Meeting, this would be held six weeks prior to the possible EiP date, on 6 January 2015. Dates and further details will be confirmed at a later date. The examination will determine whether legal and policy requirements have been observed, and whether the MWLP provides reasonable and effective planning responses to issues identified. This will involve a review of the submission version of the Plan, relevant evidence and the formal representations received. The EiP is also a formal public hearing. There are no further opportunities to make any further written comments. The Plan can be viewed at: <http://consult.kent.gov.uk/portal/mwcs/mwlp-eip/> or at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

PAT testing of office equipment - NOTED that the annual PAT testing of all the office electrical equipment was done on 26 November 2014.

Chestfield Warriors Table Tennis new venue

The Clerk advised that the CWTT now has a new venue on the Joseph Wilson Industrial Estate, which is fully equipped and a great facility.

The leaders should submit an update article for the March magazine.

153. **CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES**

Christmas tree - Cllr Bailey and the Clerk made a new base for the Christmas tree. Thanks were recorded to Cllr Bailey, Hunter and Brealy and the Clerk for installing the tree and lights on Saturday 6 December 2014.

Christmas lights competition – The shortlisting and final judging is in hand.

Christmas Carols around the Christmas tree – The Clerk confirmed all arrangements are in hand for the Carols event on Wednesday 17 December 2014 at 8pm at St Joseph's Church.

154. **MAGAZINE** – The December edition has been delivered.

155. **KENT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Cllr Claisse explained he was unable to attend the meeting of 18 November. The group is still in existence. Thanet District Council decided not to go ahead with a compulsory purchase order..

156. **KALC**

Cllr Claisse' report of the KALC AGM held on 23 November at Ditton was read to the meeting. There were two speakers, one for community resilience. Chestfield Parish Council did prepare an emergency plan and submit this to KCC. The Clerk agreed to review this and re-send it to councillors.

After the lunch the AGM was held. The KALC annual subscriptions for 2015 are to remain the same as 2014.

157. **SPEEDWATCH**

Since the last meeting there have been three checks with 40 vehicles recorded travelling between 36 – 45mph. Kent Police supported an annual "All day out" across Kent, on Wednesday 19 November 2014. The volunteers checked traffic for six hours and recorded 42 vehicles travelling between 36-43mph. The Kent Police officers came to the village for an hour and issued four motorists with tickets.

158. **BUS SERVICE NO. 5**

At the last parish council meeting some residents had concerns about the No 5 service from Chestfield to Canterbury since the route changed in September 2014. Previously, the bus would go through St Stephen's down to the mini roundabout before Sainsbury/Kingsmead and turn right , past Barretts and Kings School, and down to the next mini roundabout, and then turn right and along Station Road West (crucially stopping at the West station), then up St Dunstan's and along London Road, past the hospice, then left down to the Tannery development roundabout, and along Rheims Way, stopping on the left just past the Aldi roundabout – crucially giving access to the East train station. The No 5 route now travels past Sainsbury superstore at Kingsmead and round to the bus station in the completely different direction. This means that people now can no longer get easy access to either the West or East train station or the Hospice.

The Clerk asked Stagecoach for their comments on this change and the thinking behind it. The Operations Manager of Stagecoach gave the following reply:

"Since buses stopped going through the Westgate Towers in March 2012, the route for the service 5 had to be extended via St Dunstan's Street, London Road and Rheims Way. As a result of this lengthy diversion route we saw a continuing loss in the number of passengers using

this service.

The buses on this route were not earning enough money to operate the cost of the route, in order to address this quickly, we had two options, 1) to reduce the frequency of the service 5 to every 2 hours or 2) to choose a shorter route into the Bus Station. We looked at some of the reasons why previous passengers had left our service and the majority wanted a shorter journey. which is what we have now done. We hope that this will be successful in increasing users. If it is not then we will reconsider what we do, and another option would be to run via Forty Acres Road and London Road in Canterbury, bringing buses closer to both stations and St Dunstan's Street.

We are continuing to monitor this service very closely and will review it's routing in the very near future."

159. FOOTPATHS

Cllr Hunter advised that footpath CW33 that starts at the end of Broomfield Gate splits in to three – CW31, CW32 and CW33. He walked CW33 recently and noted that most of the forest going towards Thornden Wood Road has been cleared by the Forestry Commission.

The Clerk will get copies made of the Parish's footpaths map for Councillors who do not have one.

160. HISTORY SOCIETY

Cllr Chris Ellis gave an update on the new history society. They have held a third meeting. There have been lots of contributions from residents, and at the meeting a lot of ideas were put forward. They have had a request for Chris Scoble, ex-resident and author of "Under Shrubhill" to join the Society. Cllr Brealy has compiled many questions for Chris Scoble to answer. Another new member has offered to walk various locations and take photographs to see what the changes have been. Leaflets about the Society are now in the library.

161. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Hunter explained he had taken a telephone call from a resident about blocked drains and flooding. He signposted the resident to Kent Highways to resolve this. The Clerk said she would circulate the KCC fault reporting tool, to report all items, from potholes to blocked drains, to faulty streetlights, to all councillors together with the 24/7 telephone number. She will also add these to the magazine.

The recent wet weather has caused flooding again under the flyover at Radfall Road and also on the Old Thanet Way by both Johnsons Nursery and The Oyster Bed restaurant.

Cllr Watkins reported that the B&Q car park was so flooded that seagulls were floating on it.

Cllr Claisse advised of flooding at the pedestrian crossing under the Swalecliffe railway bridge. The Clerk offered to check the drains here and report if necessary.

Kent Highways Forum 7 November 2014

RECEIVED Cllr Brealy's report of his attendance at the Kent Highways Forum held on 7 November in Canterbury. Andrew Loosemore, Head of Highway operations gave an update on the fixing of potholes following the wettest Winter in a hundred years.

Julian Cook, District Manager reported that there are now better reporting arrangements for flytipping. Previously, there had been problems with people being passed from KCC to District Councils and back again. Now the District Councils will take all the calls reporting flytipping. Cllr Brealy took the opportunity to ask about the effectiveness of cameras and raised the issue of Molehill Road. Julian Cook replied that cameras have limited success due to lorries with false number plates.

A Village caretaker scheme was being trialled at Wittersham and was being extended to 2015. This is available to clusters of Parishes if requested. The Clerk will try and find out more details of the scheme. There are presumably a number of considerations and difficulties in several parishes sharing an employee, not least of which would be, which parish would be the lead and

allocate tasks, and the equal allocation of a work load, and health and safety and personnel requirements.

162. ENVIRONMENT

Refuse collections

Cllr Brealy advised he had read a magazine article that Canterbury City Council are to consider refusing to take away any residents bins that have the wrong contents in them.

Concrete bollards at the end of Chestfield Road

There are concrete bollards around the edge of the piece of land opposite the entrance to Maydowns Road. One got knocked down earlier this year. There are now a further two that have been damaged. The Clerk will look at and report these as appropriate.

Southern Water apology letter

RECEIVED an update from Southern Water Chief Executive regarding the pumping failure incident at Swalecliffe in July 2014 and measures being taken to prevent a future incident.

Notices posted on Grasmere pasture by the landowner

Earlier in 2014 notices were posted on Grasmere Pasture. The legal effect of these notices is that while notices are lodged with the council, no period of use of the land (for LSP or as a right of way) can count towards the 20 year period of use required to establish a village green or a new PROW.

Realistically there is no chance that a village green application may be registered but the parish council may want to give further consideration to adding additional rights of way (for example, around the perimeter). The Clerk and Cllr Watkins are to make enquires with the Kent Law Clinic and will report back.

The meeting closed at 8.40p.m.

Signed: Date:
Chairman

CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING REPORT, 08 December 2014

APPENDIX 2

New Applications

29	CA//14/02431/FUL 22 Plantation Road First-floor addition to be constructed over existing ground-floor addition and roof terrace to rear of dwelling.	This house lies back from its neighbours, either side and the extensions are at the side and back. The councillors understand has been extensive liaison with neighbours and a revision to the initial proposal to try and allay concerns. On the site visit the neighbours either side were out so cards were left. The neighbours at No 20 subsequently contacted the Clerk with a copy of their objection sent to Canterbury City Council. In essence, they feel the proposal is overbearing on their bungalow and detrimental to the conservation area. The parish council notes and will draw attention to No 20's comments and objections in their planning response to Canterbury City Council, although the parish council has no actual objection themselves to raise.
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30	CA/14/02459/VAR – Leascroft, The Drive, Chestfield Variation of Condition 11 relating to planning permission granted under CA/11/01728/FUL	There was a condition with the planning approval that the existing property should be demolished prior to the building of two new homes. The applicants are now asking that a variation be granted – that they be allowed to remain living in the existing dwelling while they develop one of the new properties to negate the need to place two mobile homes on the site for temporary accommodation. (They have stated in the application that they would be happy for a restriction that neither of the two new homes be habited until the original home is demolished.)
31	CA/14/02509/FUL – 49 Chestfield Road To create a dropped kerb access route and hard standing for vehicle parking at the front and side of the property	Delegated authority is required to meet the deadline for comments prior to the next meeting.

Notifications

CA/14/01319/OUT Land at Bodkin Farm, Thanet Way, Chestfield, CT5 3JD Outline application for a mixed used development comprising up to 290 dwellings (Use Class C3), primary school (Use Class D1), restaurant (Use Class A3), office building (Use Class B1), community building (Use Class D1/D2), gym/fitness centre (Use Class D2), 24 unit care home (use Class C2), convenience shop (Use Class A1), clubhouse/changing room building (Use Class D2) and 18.81 ha of parks, amenity greenspace, children's play areas, playing fields, allotments and community woodland and associated access, infrastructure, landscaping and cycle/footways. All matters except Access and Scale are reserved)	REFUSED by CCC
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