

CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 JUNE 2015

Present: Parish Cllr Steve Bailey (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Chris Brealy (Vice Chairman)
Parish Cllr Joe Hunter
Parish Cllr Chris Ellis
Parish Cllr Tricia Chapman
Parish Cllr Neal Fowler
Ms Amanda Sparkes, Clerk to the Council
3 x residents

43. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Cllr Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained he had been invited to a meeting of KCC Cllr Mike Harrison at Capel on 26 June 2015. Cllr Harrison has just been made the Chairman of Kent County Council, and there were lots of dignitaries there. Cllr Harrison had commented at the meeting very sincerely about how Chestfield Parish Council had helped him to get where he is now.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Apologies for absence were received from Parish Cllr Adrian Young (family celebration), Parish Cllr Eileen Watkins (unwell), KCC Cllr Mike Harrison and the PCSO.

44. VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL

Cllr Bailey advised two residents (in attendance) have expressed an interest in the vacancy on the council. However the parish councillors need to choose between the two candidates for the single vacancy on the council. Cllr Bailey commented that he had never been in a situation of choice before, that he had invited both candidates to the meeting tonight to say something about themselves, and that no decision would be taken until the next meeting on 10 August 2015.

The first resident, John Bull, explained that he had previously lived in London, and retired to Chestfield a year ago. He commented that he loves the village, and wants to give something back. His work career has involved project management and engineering, with his main career in BT. He left BT in 2008, and helped Age UK people with computer skills and more. He received lots of training at BT, not all relevant outside the organisation. John explained he has got seven grandchildren who keep him busy. John commented that he is a progressive person, and likes to listen to people and that he has strong skills in customer service. John explained he had looked in the Chestfield parish council magazine, and is impressed with all that the parish council do, and that he feels he has a little bit of skill and interest in all aspects.

The second candidate, Andrew Rabey, then spoke. He commented that he has got stuff to offer, and although parish councils have a bit of a 'vicar of dibley' reputation it's about how a parish council acts with the community and residents. Andrew explained he has lived in Chestfield since 2009, and that he had retired from Policing after 30 years. He had been the divisional commander for West division, so was heavily involved with the councils, parish councils and politics. Then he had a partnership and community role, recording crime and hate crime also. Andrew explained he is a local person, he sits on the Safeguarding Board, and is also a trustee of SWATEDA (Swale Action to End Domestic Abuse) as a volunteer. Andrew commented that he felt a parish councillor has to meet three criteria: represent (he said he has previous experience of representing people); monitor and review (again previous experience and background); and get involved – Andrew commented that he is enthusiastic and wants to get involved and help the community.

Cllr Bailey commented that both candidates had hit the nail on the head with the interests of the community at heart. He thanked them both very much. He also thanked everyone around the table for their hard work. He commented that the current parish council is a vibrant one.

45. **MEMBERS' INTERESTS** – Cllr Brealy declared an interest in the Fun Day tent quotes as he used to work for Best in Tents.
46. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 08 JUNE 2015**
Cllr Ellis proposed and Cllr Fowler seconded and the Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and the Chairman duly signed them.
47. **ACTION LIST APPENDIX 1a** - The list was presented to Cllrs prior to the meeting.
48. **POLICING**
The PCSO had provided a report prior to the meeting with only two incidents. On 11 June nuisance vehicles with screeching of tyres and shouting at the back of the John Wilson Industrial estate – a patrol car attended but the vehicles had gone; and on 19 June an attempted theft of a handbag from a shopping trolley in Sainsburys.
- Cllr Bailey advised he had attended a Clean Up Day at the Whitstable Rugby Football Club on 28 June and he had met PCSOs from Whitstable – they will attend the Fun Day on 30 August. They also asked that if anybody witnesses any kind of incident to report the details by calling 101.
49. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**
Cllr Fowler gave his Neighbourhood Watch Update as follows:
The local monthly NHW newsletter for May (kindly compiled by Maralyn Whamond) has been distributed to village coordinators, as has the C&DNHWA quarterly newsletter.
- Sheds have been broken in to in South Street, Rosemary Gardens and The Drive, Whitstable/Chestfield during 4 – 6 June. In the latter the offender(s) entered a private garden and stole a child's blue quad bike and a Honda lawn mower from an insecure shed/outbuilding. The stolen items were taken via a neighbour's garden. Other similar thefts have taken place in Herne Bay. Cllr Fowler explained that shed burglaries start in early Spring as that is when boot fairs start. He agreed to send an article to the Clerk for inclusion in the March 2016 magazine to encourage residents to secure their sheds. Cllr Fowler explained that you can get anti-theft screws, widely available in stores such as B&Q, which could be put on shed hinges. Cllr Hunter commented that if people have garages items are more secure if stored in them than sheds.
- There is a Facebook scam following the Alton Towers accident in early June - criminals have used the opportunity to create another 'shocking video' Facebook scam. A scam post promising video footage of the accident features a teaser image of the roller coaster that includes a video 'play' button, and this takes you to a webpage designed to look like a YouTube video page. However, to play the video, a popup notice says you must first share the video before you can view it. Via this mechanism, the scammers ensure that their bogus material is widely distributed across the network. Even after sharing, you will still not get to see the video. Instead, you will be taken to another webpage that claims that you must download and install a video player update before the footage can be viewed. The supposed update will download various types of malware and adware that may hijack your browser, show malicious advertisements, and collect personal information from your computer, and, you will still not get to see the promised video.
- Cllr Fowler explained that shocking video scams like this one are very common on Facebook. Be wary of any post on Facebook that promises shocking, salacious, or breaking news footage. If you click a link in such a post and it claims that you must share a page or download 'plugins' or 'updates' before you can see a video, exit the page immediately.
- Cllr Fowler agreed to do a flyer for the noticeboards.
- Cllr Fowler explained that if you are a victim of crime you become more aware of incidents happening. He explained that linked incidents tend to happen in spates by certain individuals. Chestfield is not a particularly bad area; places like Thanet have a higher risk.

Cllr Fowler advised that Chestfield now has 18 schemes of neighbourhood watch running. He agreed to talk to an interested resident at the meeting, after the meeting, as she offered to be a potential co-ordinator for her area, not yet covered.

Cllr Hunter reminded everyone that if they are going on holiday to tell two or three neighbours and ask them to keep an eye out. Cllr Bailey commented not to advertise your holidays on Facebook.

50. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING** - The meeting was adjourned for parishioners' questions. A resident explained that resident of her road, Shrubhill, had set up a new residents association. The road is unadopted and shared by a small number of houses, so the residents association will have a joint effort in maintaining the road. Five of the six houses got together and paid for the recent repairs. Like lots of roads in Chestfield there is a strip of land in front of the Shrubhill properties that is not owned by anybody but is maintained by the residents. If it is fenced off under common law after 15 years a resident can claim it – but these strips are not fenced off. Cllr Bailey advised that in law you are responsible for maintaining the bit in front of your house. He commented that the association could make the road private if they put a gate on it and lock it for a minimum of one day (24 hours) per year. The meeting continued.

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

Eton College/Bodkin Farm application – submission of extra document

The Clerk explained she had received a letter advising that Eton College had submitted a further environmental document for the Bodkin Farm application, CA/014/01319/OUT, which is viewable at Canterbury City Council's offices. The parish council's significant concerns however are not environmental.

NOTED adjacent significant planning application:

CA/15/01296 | Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for access) for the demolition of existing buildings and the erection of up to 400 dwellings including affordable housing, extension to Duncan Down, green infrastructure, multi-use games area, parking, access and associated infrastructure and other ancillary works.

Land north of Thanet Way, Whitstable (between Duncan Down and Golden Hills)

The Clerk drew attention to this neighbouring planning application but explained she would not be sent the paperwork and the parish council is not being asked to comment. The development would have a knock on effect on traffic.

Parcel of land for sale behind Chestfield Road

The Clerk also drew attention to a parcel of land being put up for sale behind Chestfield Road properties. The size of 11 acres, there is no planning permission existing; it is currently used for agricultural purposes.

52. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

RECEIVED the bank statement for June 2015, and RESOLVED the signature of a councillor other than the Chairman thereon;

NOTED a payment of £16.33, for the Plusnet Internet account was taken by direct debit on 18/06/2015.

NOTED receipt of a cheque for £450.00 from Blean Parish Council for the handover of the old speedwatch equipment

NOTED that on 17 June 2015 the Clerk and youth club volunteer closed the Youth Club bank account at HSBC bank, and the closing balance of £346.42 was transferred to the parish council's bank account. The Clerk added this £346.42 to the ear marked reserve schedule to keep for youth purposes in the future.

53. **AUTHORISATION OF ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk presented finance sheets for cheque payments requiring authorisation totalling £272.95 together with an additional sheet totalling £4,445.27. It was RESOLVED that the financial matters and accounts be authorised for payment.

Internal Audit

The Internal Auditor's report for the interim internal audit undertaken on 23 June 2015 was circulated to all councillors. There are no areas for concern.

54. **WHITSTABLE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB "FUN DAY FOR THE VILLAGE" – QUOTES FOR TENT/GAZEBO**

The "Fun day for Chestfield" is to be held on Sunday 30 August 2015. At the 8 June 2015 meeting, Cllr Bailey explained the parish council had put funds aside in 2013-2014 for a fete style day but this did not go ahead. He felt that the parish council should hire some large tents and pay for these to cover all weather contingencies. The Clerk had sourced a quote from Best in Tents of £295 for a 20 x 40 ft tent and £395 for a 30 x 40ft tent, although there were extra charges for delivery and set up. The tent must also be secured at all times with someone sleeping in it if necessary. Cllr Brealy advised a 20 x 40 ft tent would be easy to dismantle and he offered to store it for the company to collect from him. The Clerk will make sure that taking it down themselves that the councillors would be covered under the company's or parish council's insurance. The Clerk will tell Best in Tents one of the councillors is Chris Brealy who used to work for them so knows how to dismantle it. Cllr Hunter proposed, Cllr Chapman seconded and all councillors were happy to proceed on this basis.

Cllr Bailey agreed to circulate a list of all that has been arranged/confirmed for the day so far.

55. **CLERK'S REPORT**

Correspondence

- Kent Wildlife Trust E-News May 2015
- Neighbourhood Watch newsletter, (May 2015), themed around Scams, Cold Callers and E-mail Fraud.

ELECTORAL REVIEW OF KENT: DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has published draft recommendations on the future electoral arrangements for Kent County Council. The consultation closes on 06 July 2015. View the draft recommendations at <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/4285> Before finalising the recommendations, the Commission will consider every representation received during consultation whether it is submitted by an individual, a local group or an organisation. They will weigh each submission against the criteria the Commission must follow when drawing up electoral arrangements:

- To deliver electoral equality where each county councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as others across the county.
- That the pattern of divisions should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities.
- That the electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government.

56. **SPEEDWATCH**

Since the last meeting 3 checks have recorded 28 vehicles travelling between 36 – 43mph.

57. **HIGHWAYS**

Temporary Off-peak 10 mph Speed Limit & Convoy Working – Radfall Road, Chestfield – 15 & 16 July 2015

It will be necessary to impose a temporary maximum speed limit of 10 mph coupled with Convoy Working on part of Radfall Road, Chestfield, Whitstable from 15 July 2015 for up to 2 days, off-peak between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm each day.

The 10 mph Speed Limit will be in force in both directions on Radfall Road for a distance of up to 200 metres either side of the bend at Gypsy Corner.

The restrictions apply when the relevant signs are on display, and are in conjunction with temporary traffic lights and a "Convoy System" to escort traffic through the roadworks. The restrictions are for the safety of the public and workforce whilst works to apply High Friction Surfacing are being carried out by Kent County Council. (Works are weather dependent, and adverse conditions may delay their progress or prevent them going ahead on the planned dates. If there is a need for postponement, revised dates will be notified locally and signposted on site.) The Kent County Council Highway Helpline phone number for the resurfacing team is 03000 418181.

Cycle Triathlon on the highways

Cllr Hunter advised that on Sunday 28 June in the early morning there was a cycle triathlon that caused chaos on the roads. The cycles were in Swalecliffe, Chestfield, the old Thanet Way, and Thornden Wood Road and they were racing and overtaking each other in and amongst the traffic. There were some stewards but Cllr Hunter felt not nearly enough. He was not sure the Police had been informed. Cllr Bailey agreed to try and find out who had organised this.

Accident by the dentists in Chestfield Road

Cllr Hunter advised there had been an accident outside the dentist in Chestfield Road at the same time as the cycle triathlon – Police and ambulance were in attendance.

58. FOOTPATH BY SAINSBURYS

Cllr Bailey spoke about the path by Sainsburys from Primrose Way to the top of Sainsbury's steps. The trees that were so nicely trimmed about 18 months ago have grown a lot and are obscuring lights, making some residents feel unsafe walking along this path in the dark. The Clerk confirmed she wrote a letter to the store. She will follow this up as nothing has yet been done on this stretch of footpath, although some work along the back of the B&Q boundary has been carried out.

59. HISTORY SOCIETY

Cllr Ellis gave an update on the history society. The 2016 Calendar is nearly finished – Cllr Ellis showed drafts of pictures for it, some including some cuttings. One shows items put in houses in Chestfield by George Reeves to give them a false feeling of ancientness. Cllr Ellis explained the society is steadily making more contacts and getting a richer range of items. Cllr Brealy recorded thanks to Cllr Ellis and a resident for taking the great photos. Cllr Bailey advised that as the society is now up and running and no longer a part of the Chestfield parish council plan now, that it won't be given an agenda item anymore.

60. ENVIRONMENT

New tree pest in the UK

Cllr Chapman advised that there is a new tree pest in the UK. The oriental Chestnut gall wasp arrived in Farningham, Kent. It is a new pest for the UK – the Forestry Commission are concerned and ask residents to keep an eye out. More information is found at www.forestry.gov.uk/gallwasp. Its lava can cause abnormal growths, called galls to form on sweet Chestnut leaves and twigs. These green or rose coloured galls inhibit the function of the leaves, weakening the trees and making them more susceptible to other pest or diseases which can reduce nut production and timber production. The wasp does not sting or pose a risk to human health or animals however.

FLYTIPPING - Cllr Brealy explained there had been more flytipping in Molehill Road but this has already been reported.

The meeting closed at 9.20p.m..

Signed: Date:
Chairman

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until they are approved by the parish council at their next parish council meeting

**CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
PLANNING REPORT, 29 JUNE 2015**

APPENDIX 2

Canterbury Draft Local Plan

The independent Inspector Mr M Moore set the pre-hearing meeting for the Canterbury District Local Plan Examination for 13 May 2015. Issues relating to the local plan start on 14 July.

Bodkin Farm Appeal – CA/14/01319/OUT - Inspectorate Reference A/14/2227624

An Appeal has been lodged with the Secretary of State. The Appeal will be decided following a Public Inquiry and a site visit by an inspector. It is anticipated that the Appeal will start 18 August 2015 in The Guildhall, Canterbury and last 8 days. Details of the appellant's ground of appeal and the city council's statement of case can be seen at the city council offices. The council's statement should be available soon.

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Land north of Thanet Way, Whitstable (between Duncan Down and Golden Hills)

New Applications

5	CA//15/01226/FUL Diffity, Green Leas Extension to dwelling with room in roof	A very large extension but scaled within a very large plot. Cllr Fowler and the Clerk were asked to visit two neighbours who had several concerns about the application, such as loss of light, privacy and a feeling of over development. The parish council has a concern that the roof height does appear to be a metre higher than the old. Conversely, the Clerk also received a letter from resident in Green Leas in support of the application with their view that it was an improvement and would make the property more attractive.
6	CA/15/01285/VAR – Solar Array, Molehill Road Variation of condition 02 of planning permission CA/13/02004/FUL in respect of addition of combiner boxes	Combiner boxes were not covered by the original permission as “associated infrastructure”, nor are they “de minimis” therefore they require planning permission. Combiner boxes help monitoring and troubleshooting in finding errors.
7	CA/15/01161/FUL - Chestfield House Nursing Home, The Ridgeway, Chestfield Proposed extension to Chestfield House, Nursing Lodge - Plans of the existing nursing home show 26 bedrooms, which the Design and Access Statement indicates is for the use of 31 residents. The proposed layout shows 39 bedrooms, an increase of 50% albeit the Design and Access Statement indicates that the occupancy will increase by only 8 residents if the proposals go ahead. - The application states that current staffing levels stand at 44 fulltime employees. If the proposed alterations are made this is expected to rise to 54 fulltime staff. - The application form submitted includes no detail of existing or proposed parking	

	provision. The Design and Access Statement, however, confirms that there are no plans to increase parking provision at the premises. The site plans show 14 existing parking places at the front of the premises, which given the tight site access seems optimistic. There is also no obvious reserved space for emergency vehicles (doctors' cars or ambulances). The increase of both staffing levels and residential accommodation suggests that additional parking spaces should be considered to reduce the possibility of surrounding residential roads being used by persons visiting or working at Chestfield House. This is an important aspect to safeguard access along The Ridgeway, which provides only single track vehicular access to Fern Close, Chestfield House itself and a small number of other residential premises. (Furthermore, Ridgeway is an unadopted road, maintained at residents' expense.) The Design and Access Statement seems to suggest that additional parking has not been considered due to the site's proximity to the train station and bus routes in Chestfield but no evidence is provided to substantiate existing or expected use of such transportation by staff or visitors.
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Notifications

CA/15/00862/FUL – 1 Little Paddocks Two-storey side and single-storey rear extensions	Granted by CCC
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