

SHEPHERDSWELL WITH COLDRED PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 15th March 2017 commencing at 1930hrs.

PRESENT: Cllrs. B Crush (V/Chairman), A Barter, M Cobb, R Edmond, M Elgar, G Peagram, C Pickaver, C White, A Williams and C Tearle (Parish Clerk).

IN ATTENDANCE: J West (Community Warden) and A Hunter (Neighbourhood Watch) and 5 members of the public. (Reports in appendix 2).

28/2017 Apologies: Cllrs M Harris, K Regan, and I Robertson. Also Cllr G Lymer (KCC) and Cllr M Ovenden (DDC)

29/2017 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting dated 15th March 2017:
It was resolved to approve them.

30/2017 Declarations of Interest:

Other Significant Interest: Item 22/2017(a) Cllr M Cobb; Item C White; item 22/2017(b) M Cobb, B Crush, R Edmond and C White;

31/2017 Public Participation limited to items on the agenda

Mr A Hunter spoke about Reed Meadow and the increasing problem of dog fouling.

32/2017 Clerk`s Report – Progress/information report.

- a) The Allotment Lease has been signed, and the fencing has been done.
- b) Work has commenced as per the Tree Survey Report.
- c) The Parish Clerk attended a briefing organised by KALC about the proposed amalgamation of the District Councils of Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet and its possible impact on the Town and Parish Councils of those areas.
- d) The footpath sign for Reed`s Meadow is in hand.
- e) An access agreement with Mr and Mrs Burlingham of True Grit has been signed.
- f) New Historic Panels for both village greens are in hand.
- g) A letter has been sent to the Royal Mail about the need to possibly relocate the post box elsewhere in Shepherdswell.
- h) DDC are to re-new the double yellow lines at the entrance to Shepherdswell Village Hall and by the War Memorial at the Village Green Shepherdswell.
- i) The Parish Clerk attended the KALC Rural Affairs Conference and acquired some useful information about KCC Leader Grants and legal village hall information.
- j) Correspondence and verbal update.

33/2017 Planning

The Planning Committee Chairman reported on their deliberations of the 15th March 2017.

34/2017 Finance

- a) Balances and accounts for payment. Please refer to Appendix 1.
- b) Finance Committee – It was agreed to change the date of the next meeting to Tuesday 16th May at 8pm.

35/2017 Recreation Ground

- a) It was resolved that Cllr Peagram is to progress the purchase of a bulk load of Cushionfall for the Children`s Play Area in conjunction with Betteshanger Park. Each to take about 50% each.
- b) It was resolved to permit work to commence on the building of the extension of the scout hut for the use of football changing facilities as per the current planning permission. Permission was not granted to position an ex-mobile classroom on that site.

36/2017 Reed Meadow

- a) It was resolved to accept the quote from Landtec South East Ltd to remove and also re-distribute the pile of soil from the excavations of the new village hall car park.
- b) Members discussed the contents of an email and verbal update from Mr A Hunter about the problems caused in Reed Meadow by the failure of dog owners to pick up the faeces of their dogs.
The Parish Council resolved to:
 - i) Put an article in the parish magazine.
 - ii) Request the Community Warden to proceed with a Community project about dog fouling in general in the Parish.
 - iii) Investigate a Dog Control Zone for Reed Meadow.

37/2017 Parish Notice Board

In view of the fact that the current owners of Shepherdswell Post Office have requested that Parish Notice Board is moved following its closure on the 31st March the Council resolved to:

- a) Seek permission of the Village Hall Committee to have it on a suitable outside wall at the village hall.
- b) Research the costs of a new one to put onto the Village Green in Shepherdswell next to the current information board.

38/2017 Post Office Update

- a) The Council was notified of the formation of a group whose purpose is to try and maintain Post Office services in the parish.
- b) The Council acceded to a request from the above group to cover the costs of any meetings it has in the village hall.
- c) To note there will be a leaving party for Graham and Sue in the village hall on Sunday 9th April (1430-1700hrs) and the Council resolved to pay for the hire of the hall.

39/2017 Village Hall and Pre-school Leases

As a result of minute number 22/2017(a) the Parish Clerk updated Members on the steps that had been taken in an attempt to bring to a conclusion the issue of the new leases.

The Parish Clerk has had meetings on this subject during the previous month with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Council's solicitors.

As a consequence of the above, new draft lease proposals have now been sent to the tenants solicitors. Members will be kept up to date with the progress.

40/2017 Village Hall Car Park

Cllr A Williams gave a verbal report to Members about disabled parking bays and as a consequence there will be a site meeting on Thursday 23rd March at 9.30am.

41/2017 Highways

The Council noted the Minutes of the Highways and Transportation Working Group. The Council resolved that letters be sent to the MP, County and District Councillors seeking support for traffic management (HGVs and 20mph limits) and for improvement of the A2 junction with Coxhill.

42/2017 Annual Parish Meeting

This will be on Wednesday 19th April 2017 at 7pm.

27/2017 Date of the next Council Meeting

This will be on the Wednesday 19th April 2017 immediately following the Annual Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 2106hrs.

APPENDIX 1

a) Balances as at 10 th March 2017	
Current A/C	5,495.19
Business A/C	42,771.95
NS&I A/C	1,932.59
b) To approve the following payments:	£
Landtec South East Ltd	4,398.39
Idverde Ltd	465.96
Coldred Forum	687.50
C Tearle (Salary)	521.68
Post Office (HMRC)	130.40
Parish Clerk`s Expenses	424.13
NS&I Acc. V/Hall Charges 2016/17	371.00
All Clear Services (K.Beale)	253.00
Idverdi Ltd (Nov 2015 previously not invoiced)	459.08
Hart Lee Tree Surgery Ltd	2,490.00

APPENDIX 2

J West – Community Warden

The Community Warden listed some of the many issues she has had to deal with over the last month:

1. Noise nuisance
2. Motorbikes
3. Abandoned and suspicious vehicles.
4. Obstructive parking re the vision of those exiting from the recreation ground footpath and out onto the road at Mill Lane.
5. Traffic congestion at the school gates and village green.
6. Dog fouling. With the approval of the Parish Council the Community Warden will do a dog pooh project which involves the marking of such uncleared deposits with a brightly coloured non-toxic dye.

A Hunter - Neighbourhood Watch

He gave a report on the burglars caught who were alleged to have been involved in a string of burglaries in Eythorne, Shepherdswell, Elvington amongst other places. He also spoke about dog fouling in Reeds Meadow.

Cllr.G Lymer (KCC) written report

The amount of Kent's household waste being sent to landfill is at its lowest ever.

Kent County Council's target is to send no more than 5% of household waste to landfill but achieved just 0.26% in December.

The current figure for waste over the year going to landfill is 2.6%.

The 5% target was intended to be met by 2020 but better use of rubbish for energy generation and improved contracting has seen it beaten within a year.

This feat has been achieved through an agreement making use of new technology for much of the more difficult to deal with waste, such as mattresses and hard plastic objects not currently recycled.

The Kent Waste Disposal Strategy forms the backbone plan of how household waste is disposed in the county between now and 2035.

Its ambition is to deliver a high quality disposal service, whilst remaining cost-effective for the people of Kent, with an emphasis on achieving zero landfill.

Kent County Council is responsible for the disposal and recycling of Kent's household waste whilst the district and borough councils are responsible for collecting it.

Kent County Council Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport Matthew Balfour said: "With a significant increase in housing growth forecast across Kent, the amount of waste produced is expected to rise by approximately 20% – going from 725,000 tonnes to 870,000 tonnes – between now and 2031.

"Within just a matter of months we have seen our landfill percentage fall drastically and it is a result of hard work making Kent one of the top counties for diverting waste from landfill."

The news comes ahead of this weekend's Great British Spring Clean, an initiative supported by Kent County Council.

KCC will be working to clear vegetation, refresh white lines on the highway and clean road signs. Litter picks will also be carried out by KCC staff on a volunteer basis.

I am arranging for KCC Highways to repair any potholes reported in your area. I would be appreciative should you find a pothole and you have access to the internet, go to www.kent.gov.uk roads-and-travel and follow the instructions for making a report. You will receive a reference number to track your report.

Cllr M Ovenden (DDC) written report

I have my usual Scrutiny meeting on the fifteenth but may be able to attend later in the evening. As far as I know the business plan relating to the possible merger is published on DDC website. An extraordinary meeting of DDC Council has been called for the 22nd of this month to discuss the merger. Members of the public are very welcome to attend. There is a great deal yet to be sorted and much going on meantime such as the revisiting of the Local Plan which was announced today.

I shall be in the village tomorrow morning to witness the eventual (after three attempts) thorough cleansing of the drainage channel outside the properties along Whittington Terrace.

