



Coxheath Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on 29th March 2022 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Parish Cllrs: C Parker (Chairman); G Down; R Mickleburgh; V Page; E Potts; E Small; R Webb; K. Woollven . KCC Cllr Simon Webb

In Attendance: Irene Bowie (Parish Clerk) . Members of the public

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Parker, made an announcement:

It is with great sadness that I must report Councillor Rodney Divall passed away today, Tuesday 08 March, after having been unwell for some time. Rodney was originally elected in 2008. He was Vice Chairman from 2009 to 2019 and Planning Chair from 2016 until February this year.

I am sure you will agree Rodney held the respect of us all and having lived locally all his life had a good insight into how Coxheath has developed over those years. For his wisdom, knowledge, dedication, and good humour he will be sorely missed.

All present then observed a one-minute silence.

PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MAIN MEETING:

Representations from the general public will be taken for a period up to fifteen minutes before the opening of the formal meeting. Individuals may speak for up to three minutes at the discretion of the Chairman.

Representations were made by members of the public re:

Traffic Speed on Forstal Lane, Lorries blocking the road when delivering to the Development Site, egress problems for a resident from Ash Tree View Farm. Cllr Mickleburgh will contact residents and report back at the next meeting.

To receive reports from (if present): Community Warden J Watson; Kent County Councillor Simon Webb; Maidstone Borough Councillors Richard Webb, Lottie Parfitt-Reid and/or Simon Webb. The minute book will be closed.

KCC Cllr Simon Webb gave an update on the proposed works by KCC Highways at Linton Crossroads. The proposal would allow traffic to flow freely. He reported that the scheme would cost approx. £1.9 million and that KCC were currently had a £1m funding shortfall. If the proposals were agreed the works may start at the end of 2023. Cllr Parker and the Clerk to attend a KCC Highways meeting to discuss the proposal.

MBC Cllr Richard Webb reported on the MBC Local Plan. He reported that the Strategic Planning Meeting had taken place and that the amendments to the plan had been passed and that it would be submitted to the Government Inspector. He also reported that a site had been included that was not in either the Regulation 18 or 19 consultations thereby depriving the parish council and residents of Coxheath a democratic say in the proposed developments. He reported on the need to follow up on the Londis Section 106 funds for the parish council.

Start of the Main Meeting:

1. Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

- 1.1 Apologies for absence received and confirmed by the Council Members who cannot attend a meeting tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings, under Section 75(1) of the Local Government Act 1862, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted. Apologies were received and the reasons given accepted from Cllrs Crickett, Bird and Carpenter.
- 1.2 Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests. There were none
- 1.3 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2010 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1862 in respect of officers. There were none
- 1.4 Requests for Dispensations. There were none
- 1.5 Declarations of Lobbying. There were none

2. CO OPTION of Parish Councillor/s:

- 2.1 To consider candidates for co-option. There were no applicants

3. Consideration of items to be taken in private (Exclusion of Public and Press): In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1850, the public and press be excluded from the meeting

by the reason of its confidential nature. There were none. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Parker would conduct the Clerks' appraisal.

4. Reports:

4.1 Chairman of the Parish Council

Cllr Parker reported that he had installed the new noticeboard at the MUGA.

4.2 Playground Inspection. The MBC playground inspection was received and noted.

4.3 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Mickleburgh reported that he had communicated with and had a meeting with the primary school. He reported that the children would like to become involved in the parish council tree planting initiative. It was AGREED that the Clerk would investigate the supply of saplings to the school for the children to plant. He reported on a meeting with Chartway and that the open space at Linden Meadows would soon have a definitive plan in place to ensure it was properly landscaped. He informed members that he had reported faded white and yellow lines on Stockett lane via the KCC Highways portal. It was AGREED that all Cllrs would look at the roads in their local area and report back at the April meeting. Whitebeam and Fairhurst Play area were not well poorly maintained. They are the responsibility of MBC. However, the parish council is trying to adopt the them both. The issue of dog mess on Stockett Lane was raised. It was confirmed that the additional bin from MBC had been ordered but Chartway will not have the bin on the open space at Linden Meadows. It was RESOLVED to purchase a bin to be placed inside the MUGA. It was RESOLVED to change the location of the bin ordered by MBC. Cllrs Webb and Mickleburgh to advise the Clerk for the location of the bin. **Cllr Down** reported that the debris from several properties which had fallen onto public footpaths had not been cleared. Clerk to follow up.

4.4 Litter Pick Cllr Down reported that the dates for the next litter pick had been advised and also posted on the website.

5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting:

To consider the minutes and if in order sign as a true record

5.1 Minutes of Parish Council held on the 22nd March 2022. It was RESOLVED that the minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. Matters arising from the minutes (not included in other agenda items):

6.1 Multi Use Games Area. It was AGREED that an honorarium would be discussed by the Recreation and Youth Working Group for a 'caretaker' for the MUGA

6.2 Tree Contract. Cllr Parker reported that the planned works and additional works had been completed. The survey following the low-level clearance had not been received. Clerk to follow up. It was AGREED to follow the contractors' advice and delay the planting of the 5 Beech Trees for the Queens jubilee until the autumn as this would increase the likelihood of the trees thriving. It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Bartletts from additional work as identified during their last visit. Clerk to obtain a starting date and advise Cllrs.

6.3 Defibrillator Clerk to follow up with Tesco

6.4 Noticeboards Order is with MBC. Clerk to follow up.

7. Finance:

7.1 To receive and authorise payments listed on the schedule (to be provided at the meeting) It was RESOLVED to make the payments as listed on the schedule.

Irene Bowie	Total Expenses	105.57
HMRC	Q4 Jan, Feb, march (506.60 x 3)	1,519.80
Dave Mann	Grass Cutting	400.71
MBC	Litter Bins March 2022	130.00

7.2 Late Payment Request/s to be discussed for approval and payment.

It was RESOLVED to pay the following late payment:

Bartlett Tree Works £6,924.00

7.3 Banking Arrangements – The Clerk circulated the paperwork for the Unity Bank Account.

8. Planning:

- 8.1 To receive the draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting 17th March 2022. Cllr Page gave her report. The draft minutes were received and noted
- 8.2 To table late planning matters. Cllr Webb to circulate the dates when they become available for the MBC Planning Committee meeting to enable the parish council to schedule meetings one week in advance of these.

9. Working Groups: To receive Updates

- 9.1 Recreation & Youth Working Group.
It was AGREED that a joint meeting of the Recreation and Youth and the Seasonal Events working groups would be held in April. Cllr Potts reported that she and Cllr Parker would have a meeting with the VHMC to discuss future plans. It was AGREED that the parish council would consider Section 137 Grants towards the Queen's Jubilee events.
- 9.2 Traffic & Community Safety Working Group.
 - 9.3.1 Linton Crossroads - Proposed Improvements the Chairman and the Clerk to attend the virtual meeting with KCC Highways. Clerk to follow up with KCC Highways the CPC Highways Improvement Plan.
- 9.3 Seasonal Events Working Group.
It was reported that the VHMC would be holding a fete on the 2nd June 12-5pm
The parish council would organise the lighting of the Beacon on the 2nd June.
Sunday 5th June the Church would organise The Big Lunch to round of the celebration for the Queens Jubilee.
It was AGREED that the parish council would fly flags on some lamp posts. Cllr Webb and then Clerk to progress the licence via KCC
- 9.4 Environmental Initiatives Group.
Cllr Small reported that he would be investigating way the parish council could increase wilding and any other ideas and that he would present these at the next meeting . Clerk to investigate if the PC can still register the Beech Trees as part of the Queens canopy if they are planted in the autumn.

10. Correspondence:

- 10.1 To Table items of late correspondence were noted.
- 10.2 To Table items circulated:
 - 10.2.1 Environmental Dog Complaint update
It was RESOLVED that the PC would. Order its own sign for parish council land asking dog walkers to keep dogs under close control. Cllr Parker to progress
 - 10.2.2 County Councillor Annual Report
 - 10.2.3 Notice of Election 2022
 - 10.2.4 Invitation to Rural Kent Stakeholder Workshop - NEW DEADLINE
 - 10.2.5 Enforcing moving traffic offences: Traffic Management Act 2004 - Part 6
 - 10.2.6 Boundary Review (Maidstone KALC and KCC Cllr Webb)
 - 10.2.7 Maidstone Electoral Review:
 - 10.2.8 The Queen's Green Canopy Map
 - 10.2.9 KCC have your say on our bus funding reduction consultation

All correspondence was noted.

- 11. Dates of Future Meeting:** 26th April, 28th April Annual Parish Meeting, 24th May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, 28th June, 26th July, 30th August, 27th September, 25th October, 29th November.

There being no further business to be transacted the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

Signed: *Clive Parker*

Chairman

Date: 26th April 2022