

The Minutes of the Meeting of Thurnham Parish Council held on 17th June 2019
at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel at 7:30 PM.

***Councillors present: Horne
Shelley
Skinner
Smith
Stark
Baigent
Wise***

Also: Parish Clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington, and Kate Kersey, CPRE Representatives, KCC Cllr Prendergast and members of the press and public.

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Skinner.

The Chairman welcomed all to the Meeting.

He spoke regarding the Heritage Awarded and the background of this and welcomed Kate Kersey to the meeting.

Cllr Skinner invited Cllr John Horne to speak on the history of the Heritage Award.

Cllr Horne gave a short speech and CPRE presented the Award.

Kate Kersey thanked the Parish Council for the award and spoke regarding her work.

The meeting was then adjourned for refreshments for a short period.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from the Police.

2. Declaration of Interest.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all members.

It was proposed by Cllr Wise to accept these as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Horne and agreed by all present.

The Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters arising.

5. Parish Councillor Vacancies.

The Clerk informed members that an application for the vacancy had been received from resident Ruth Duncan, she had been unable to attend the meeting, however she had stated that she was happy for her application to be considered in her absence.

Members considered the application from Ruth Duncan, it was proposed by Cllr Smith to co-opt her onto the Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr Shelley and agreed by all present.

6. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised.

7. Police Report.

PCSO Matt Adlington gave his apologies to the meeting.

8. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

9. Clerk's Report.

The Clerks Report was noted by members.

Mayors Garden Party.

Cllr Horne stated that he would attend this event to represent the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to inform MBC.

Correspondence regarding speeding in rural lanes.

Members discussed correspondence received from a resident regarding the speeding along Thurnham Lane, Pilgrims Way and Water Lane.

Cllr Horne spoke regarding the Quiet Lane Scheme and suggested that this may be an initiative to have in Pilgrims Way.

Cllr Prendergast spoke regarding the cost of the Scheme and the need for police enforcement for it to be successful. She suggested that other measures could be considered to engineer the problems out.

Members stated that they had never witnessed excessive speed or unsafe driving along the lanes, however it was agreed that this matter would be raised with the PCSO.

Action: Clerk to respond to resident.

10. External Reports.

a. MBC Ward Councillors Report.

MBC Councillor de Wiggondene gave his apologies to the meeting.

b. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast gave her report to the meeting.

c. Liaison with external parties

No matters were reported.

11. Joint Parish Group/Local Plan.

Cllr Horne spoke regarding the Maidstone Borough Councils Local Plan Review and stated that the Coordinating Team had drafted a response challenging the housing numbers. He stated that a meeting with Maidstone Borough Council to discuss the first draft of the Local Plan, a Regulation 18 Consultation, was due to be held and parishes would be invited to attend.

He reported that a Gypsy and Traveller Consultation would take place in September.

12. Saint Mary's Church.

Cllr Smith reported that he had attended a meeting with the new Vicar and Archdeacon. He stated that Detling PCC were now responsible for Thurnham Church, however the funds for the church would be kept separate.

He stated that it was a positive meeting and the group would continue to seek other uses for the church.

13. Financial Matters.**a. Financial Statement.**

The financial statement was circulated to all members for consideration. This was proposed by Cllr Shelley, seconded by Cllr Wise, and agreed by all present.

The cheques for payment were then signed by two authorised signatories.

Bank Balances**Cooperative Community Direct Plus Account**

Opening Balance on Current Account	£55149.51
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£1419.74
Closing Balance on Current Account	£53729.77

Cooperative 14 Day Account

Opening Balance on Current Account	£40278.78
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£0.00
Closing Balance on Current Account	£40,278.78

<u>Total Balance of all Parish Council Accounts</u>	<u>£94008.55</u>
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b. 2018/2019 Accounts and Annual Return.

The Clerk circulated the 2018/19 Accounts and Annual Return to all members. She stated that these had now been audited and the Annual Return and Auditors Report were circulated to all present.

Cllr Shelley informed members that he had inspected the accounts and proposed that these were accepted and approved by members, this was seconded by Cllr Baigent and agreed by all present.

14. Parish Matters.

a. Play Areas.

No matters were raised.

b. Footpath and Bridleways.

Members noted correspondence received from KCC regarding a footpath diversion for KH141.

They questioned the reason for the diversion and asked the Clerk to establish the reasons for this.

Action: Clerk to action.

15. Parish Council Committee Reports.

a. Planning Matters.

Application Received

19/502275/FULL 2 Keepers Cottage Thurnham Lane Thurnham Maidstone
Proposed timer framed carriage house/garage for two cars and storage of garden equipment.

19/502557/FULL Land to The Rear Of 12 Caring Lane Bearsted Kent ME14 4NJ
Erection of one four-bedroom detached house with detached double garage.

Cllr Stark declared an interest in this application and withdrew from discussions.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had objected to the previous planning application for this site as there were concerns regarding the access, he stated that the Planning Committee would consider the application and submit its views to the Borough Council.

19/502791/FULL Howe Court Crismill Lane Thurnham ME14 3LY
Stationing of a mobile home designed as a log cabin on land within the curtilage of Howe Court to provide Holiday let Accommodation.

19/502841/ADV The Potted Garden Nursery Ashford Road Bearsted
Advert Application for the replacement of the 2no. non illuminated signs

Application Decisions by MBC

19/502020/FULL
7 Ace High Close Thurnham Kent ME14 3ND
Erection of double garage.
Application Permitted

19/502021/FULL

6 Ace High Close Thurnham Kent ME14 3ND

Erection of double garage

Application Permitted

19/501894/FULL

The Potted Garden Nursery Ashford Road Bearsted Maidstone Kent ME14 4NH

Retrospective application for the erection of new boundary fencing and installation of proposed planters

Application Permitted

b. Highway Matters.

Cllr Horne spoke regarding the proposed Junction 5 M2 Improvements.

c. Parking on Ware Street.

Cllr Smith reported that he had attended a meeting in Ware Street with Bearsted Councillor Frank Jagger and KCC Officer Jennie Watson.

He stated that following the meeting he felt that some controlled parking would be beneficial.

He said that KCC were resistant to spending any money on the road, cars were visibly speeding around the parked cars and the issues were made clear during the meeting.

The conclusion of the meeting was that a four-car parking bay would be installed towards Bearsted Park to slow traffic down and break up the straight run giving oncoming traffic a visual line.

He stated that this was a sensible solution put forward by Bearsted Councillor Frank Jagger and these measures would be trailed to see if they worked. They were currently being costed by KCC. This was discussed by members.

The Chairman stated that the 30mph repeater signs along Ware Street installed by Highways England needed to be removed as these were illegal, and the police were unable to enforce the road whilst these were there. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Highways England regarding this matter.

16. Thinking Day discussion points.

It was agreed that we would consider this at a future meeting.

17. Future Agenda Items.

No matters were raised.

18. Date of next Meeting.

15th July 2019.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.05pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....