

The Minutes of the Meeting of Thurnham Parish Council held on 9th December 2019
at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel at 7:30 PM.

***Councillors present: Duncan
Horne
Rani
Shelley
Skinner
Smith
Stark
Wise***

Also: Parish Clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington, and members of the press and public.

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Skinner.

The Chairman welcomed all to the Meeting.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Baigent, the Police, and KCC Councillor Prendergast .

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 Stark 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.

Cllr Shelley spoke regarding the advertising consent for the Sycamores and stated that this had been refused by the Borough Council. He stated that the sign had now been changed and he questioned whether this was acceptable with Maidstone Borough Council.

5. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised.

6. Police Report.

PCSO Matt Adlington gave his apologies to the meeting.

Cllr Horne reported that he had attended the Neighbourhood Watch AGM and raised the question how often PCSO's should attend the parish council meetings and the answer was once every three months.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would only invite the PCSO to attend if there was a need.

7. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

He stated that he would be giving a reading at the Church Christmas Service on behalf of the Parish Council this coming Sunday.

8. Clerk's Report.

The Clerks Report was noted by members.

9. External Reports.

a. MBC Ward Councillors Report.

MBC Councillor de Wiggondene was not present at the meeting.

b. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast gave her apologies to the meeting.

c. Liaison with external parties

No matters were reported.

10. Joint Parish Group/Local Plan.

Cllr Horne reported that a meeting of the Joint Parish Group had taken place on 19th November 2019 and this had been well attended.

He stated that Helen Whateley MP had also attended and had said that she would liaise with Ministers if re-elected, to seek their views regarding the housing numbers.

He said that it was a well-informed meeting, the most immediate action was for Parishes to arrange a meeting with MBC to discuss the sites in their Parishes.

When MBC had clarified the potential sites, a further meeting of the JPG would then be arranged to discuss this.

He suggested that a joint meeting was arranged with Stockbury representatives and MBC to discuss the sites in Thurnham and Stockbury. This was agreed.

Action: Clerk to arrange joint meeting with MBC.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Horne for his work on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Stark circulated a list of sites that may affect Thurnham, this was discussed by members.

The Chairman suggested that members put their comments to Cllr Horne prior to his meeting with Stockbury PC and MBC.

A general discussion took place regarding the development in the area and that already approved by the Borough Council.

11. Saint Mary's Church.

Cllr Duncan reported that she had laid the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council at St Mary's Church.

12. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The financial statement was circulated to all members for consideration. This was proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Shelley, 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	£47525.66
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£1029.50
Closing Balance on Current Account	£46496.16

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

Total Balance of all Parish Council Accounts **£86852.47**

b. 2020/2021 Budget.

The Clerk circulated a draft budget and report to all members for their consideration.

Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Smith to set the 2020/2021 Precept at £19530, this was seconded by Cllr Shelley and agreed by all present.

Action: 2020/2021 Precept £19530.

13. Parish Matters.

a. Play Areas.

No matters were raised.

b. Footpath and Bridleways.

No matters were raised.

14. Parish Council Committee Reports.

a. Planning Matters.

Application Received

19/505836/FULL Scammell Lodge Friningham Detling ME14 3JD

Demolition of existing commercial buildings and the erection of 2no. replacement buildings for B1 use, including ancillary parking facilities and improvements to access road.

19/505657/TPOA The White Lodge Loddington Lane Linton ME17 4AG
TPO application to coppice one Catalpa; Fell one Ash.

Application Decisions by MBC

19/505267/FULL
21 Shillingheld Close Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 4QA
Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension to include rooflights.
Application Permitted

b. Highway Matters.
No matters were raised.

15. Parish Council Website.

The Clerk reported that the PC Website had now been recovered by the webmaster, however it had lost the past five years data and there were issues with updating this at present.

16. Parish Council Notice boards.

The Clerk reported that she was in the process of seeking quotations for the refurbishment of the PC notice boards.

17. Future Agenda Items.

It was agreed that the following items would be placed on the next agenda:

- PC Policies.
- Litter Bins

Action: Clerk to place item on next agenda.

18. Date of next Meeting.

20th January 2020.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.30pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....