

The Minutes of the Meeting of Thurnham Parish Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022.  
Held at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel, at 7:30pm.

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

*Also: Mrs Babington, Clerk and Members of the public.*

*The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Skinner.*

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received, and reasons for absence accepted from Cllr Smith, Dunlop, and KCC Councillor Shellina 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 Wise and agreed by all present.

The Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Noticeboard – It was reported that the new noticeboard had been ordered and would be delivered to Cllr Shelley.

Litter Pick, Community Pay Back Scheme – Clerk to liaise with litter pick group regarding this matter.

5. Public Comments and Observations.

Representatives from Bearsted Parish Council attended the meeting to speak regarding highways matters and their Highways Improvement Plan. They spoke regarding the possibility of holding a joint meeting with Bearsted PC and Thurnham.

They reported that Bearsted PC were pressing for a review of the speed limit on the A20.

The Chairman stated that Thurnham Parish Council would support this review.

This was discussed. Cllr Skinner raised concerns regarding the parking along Ware Street near to the double yellow lines.

**6. Clerk's Report.**

The Clerk's Report was noted by members.

Mayors Garden Party – Cllr Horne to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

**7. External Reports.**

a. MBC Ward Councillors Report.

MBC Councillor de Wiggondene-Shepperd was not present at the meeting.

b. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast gave her apologies to the meeting.

c. Police Report.

No police report was given.

d. Liaison with external parties

Cllr Stark reported on the progress of the King George V Memorial Hall.

**8. Joint Parish Group/Local Plan.**

Cllr Horne reported on the timetable for the Local Plan Inquiry and the Planning Inspector, and the work of the Coordinating Team.

**9. Saint Mary's Church.**

No matters were raised.

**10. Financial Matters.**

a. Financial Statement.

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

**11. Parish Council Committee Reports.**

a. Planning Matters.

22/502512/FULL - Land Northeast of the M20 and Southeast of Water Lane

Proposed engineering operations for the excavation of soils and deposited materials, and regrading and levelling of land for agricultural use.

22/503112/FULL - Bangor Weaving Street Weaving Maidstone Kent

Loft Conversion with new roof, a side dormer and solar panels. Erection of a single storey rear extension with 1no. roof light. (Resubmission of 22/501340/FULL)

22/502934/FULL - Land Adjoining Little Dane Thurnham Lane Thurnham

Demolition of an existing structure and conversion of existing storage barn to a residential dwelling with associated parking, landscaping and private amenity space (resubmission of 21/504914/FULL).

**Action - PC Objection.**

22/503337/FULL - Glenrowan House Roundwell Bearsted Kent ME14 4HL

Conversion of home office/storage building with insertion of roof lights and changes to fenestration to create a separate dwelling with amenity space and parking (Part retrospective) (Resubmission of 22/501425/FULL)

22/503374/FULL - 14 Caring Lane Bearsted Maidstone Kent ME14 4NJ

Loft conversion with front dormer and roof alterations. Erection of a first-floor rear/side extension and front porch including changes to fenestration.

MBC Planning Decisions

22/501875/FULL

11 Mamignot Close Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 4PT

Erection of a first-floor side extension.

Application Permitted

22/501463/FULL

Gorse Tor Detling Hill Detling Maidstone Kent ME14 3JG

Conversion of 2 no. Buildings into garage/store and habitable space ancillary to the main dwelling.

Application Permitted

22/501425/FULL

Glenrowan House Roundwell Bearsted Kent ME14 4HL

Conversion of office/storage building with insertion of roof lights and changes to fenestration to create a separate dwelling with amenity space and parking (Part retrospective).

Application Refused

The Council hereby REFUSES Planning Permission for the above for the following Reason(s):

(1) The application has failed to demonstrate that every reasonable attempt has been made to secure a suitable business re-use for the application site building, contrary to policy DM31 of the Maidstone Local Plan (2017).

Cllr Stark reported that the land at Caring Lane had now been withdrawn from auction.

b. Highway Matters.

Cllr Stark reported that the area of land at the top of Caring Lane had now been cut back.

It was reported that the planned work along Ashford Road has been postponed due to the hot weather, the signage was still on site.

Cllr Shelley raised concerns at the bright lights on the warehouse buildings at the Woodcut development, he stated that these may be a hazard to drivers on the M20.

It was agreed that he would liaise with the developers regarding this matter.

c. Quiet Lanes Scheme.

The Clerk updated members on the discussions and work undertaken with KCC regarding the Highways Improvement Plan and the Quiet Lanes Scheme for Thurnham Lane, Pilgrims Way and Water Lane.

12. Ward Boundary Review.

Cllr Horne reported on the Ward Boundary Review currently being undertaken by the Boundary Commission. He spoke regarding the draft proposals and the impact that these could have on the parish of Thurnham.

He suggested that the PC should object to the draft proposals and submitted a paper outlining his concerns.

This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would submit representations from the PC to the consultation.

*Action: Clerk to action.*

13. Parish Council Publicity.

Members discussed ways in which the Parish Council could promote itself within the parish following the closure of the Downs Mail.

It was agreed that it would look to having a periodic newsletter that it could circulate to its residents and also publish on the PC Website.

*Action: Clerk to draft an outline newsletter for consideration by members.*

14. Heritage Award.

Possible recipients for the Award were discussed – to be agreed by October 22.

15. Future Agenda Items.

No matters were raised.

16. Date of next Meeting.

19<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.17pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....