

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Thurnham Parish Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019  
at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel at 7:30 PM.**

***Councillors present: Duncan  
Horne  
Rani  
Skinner  
Smith  
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 the Cllr Stark, Baigent and Shelley, the Police, MBC Councillor de Wiggondene-Shepperd 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 Horne 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.

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

**5. Parish Councillor Vacancies.**

The Clerk informed members that an application from Geeta Rani had been received for the vacancy, her details were circulated to all members.

It was proposed by Cllr Smith to co-opt the applicant onto the Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr Duncan and agreed by all present.

Cllr Rani signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took her seat around the table.

**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.

Members discussed correspondence received from a resident regarding a site on Detling Hill. This was circulated and noted.

It was agreed that the information should be passed onto MBC Councillor de Wiggondene-Shepperd.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

Correspondence from residents at Castle Hill requesting a litter bin in the area was noted. It was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with MBC regarding this.

**Action: Clerk to progress.**

Poppy Wreath – It was agreed that Cllr Smith would lay the PoppyWreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

**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 apologies 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.

He stated that the Coordinating Team had a meeting with the Director and Head of Planning to discuss the number of houses in the Local Plan. He stated that the results of the meeting had been summarised in a letter to William Cornell and was currently awaiting a response.

He reported that a meeting of the Joint Parish Group was due to be arranged to discuss the Local Plan, call for sites, housing numbers and the infrastructure.

This was discussed by members.

**12. Saint Mary's Church.**

Cllr Smith reported that the Remembrance Service on 10<sup>th</sup> November was due to take place at the Holly Cross Church and not St Mary's, he stated that traditionally a Poppy Wreath was laid at St Marys on behalf of the Parish Council.

This was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Smith would lay the Poppy Wreath at St Marys Church despite no service taking place there.

**Action: Cllr Smith to action.**

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

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

It was agreed that an additional cheque for £30 made payable to the Royal British Legion would be raised.

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

**Bank Balances****Cooperative Community Direct Plus Account**

Opening Balance on Current Account	£49966.15
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£1242.15
<b>Closing Balance on Current Account</b>	<b>£48723.21</b>

**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** **£89079.52**

**b. 2020/2021 Budget.**

*The Clerk stated that she would circulate a draft budget for consideration at the next meeting.*

**14. Parish Matters.****a. Play Areas.**

No matters were raised.

**b. Footpath and Bridleways.**

No matters were raised.

**15. Parish Council Committee Reports.****a. Planning Matters.****Application Received**

19/504626/ADV Land at Barty Farm Roundwell Bearsted Maidstone Kent  
Advertisement Consent for 1no. V-board sign at The Sycamores  
development site.

***No objections.***

17/504923/FULL Longton Wood Stockbury Valley Stockbury Kent ME9 7QP  
 Retrospective application for change of use of woodland to airsoft activity centre and erection of associated structures, camping, filming, re-enacting, woodcraft, Duke of Edinburgh and life skills.  
***PC Objections still stand.***

### **Application Decisions by MBC**

19/504248/NMAMD  
 Barty Farm Roundwell Bearsted Maidstone Kent ME14 4HN  
 Non-material amendment application in relation to planning permission 18/506167/REM - Replacing car ports with garages for Plots 38-40, 47-52, 77-78 and 99-100.  
 Application Permitted

19/504176/SUB  
 Radar Studio Coldblow Lane Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 3LR  
 Submission of details pursuant to conditions 7 (remediation method statement); 8 (closure report); 10 (landscaping); 14 (external lighting); and 16 (renewable energy) for planning permission 18/502281/FULL.  
 Application Permitted

Members discussed the blue fencing that had been placed on the perimeter of the new school site.

It was reported that the developers had agreed that they would change this to green following the number of complaints they had received.

***b. Highway Matters.***

No matters were raised.

***c. Parking on Ware Street.***

The Chairman stated that following the Parish Council correspondence with Bearsted PC supporting double yellow lines on Ware Street, Bearsted PC had now come back to ask what other options the Parish Council would like to see considered.

Cllr Smith stated that BPC saw the parking as a positive way to assist with the speeding traffic, however TPC believe that there is a safety issue for Thurnham residents crossing between the parked cars.

Members discussed the issues along the route and options that they felt would assist with the problems.

Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council would suggest the following options to Bearsted Parish Council:

- 20mph limit
- Speed Indicator Sign

- Pedestrian Crossing
- Traffic Lights at the Railway Bridge

It was agreed that a response would be sent to Bearsted Parish Council

**Action: Clerk to action.**

**16. Artwork at Barty Farm Development Site.**

Cllr Horne reported on an artwork project being carried out for the Barty Farm Development. The artwork would then be placed at the entrance to the development.

He stated that there had been an issue with their brief as it described the site as Bearsted rather than Thurnham. He said that he had written to the organisers raising concerns regarding this. He reported that he had been due to attend a commissioning meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> November, however he no longer felt that he could assist with the project.

This was discussed by members.

**17. Future Agenda Items.**

The Clerk reported that there was an issue with the Parish Councils Website, as the site was no longer compatible with the hosting site. She stated that she had been in contact with the webmaster regarding this and it may be necessary to have the site transferred and updated. It was agreed that an item should be placed on the next agenda.

**Action: Item to be placed on the next agenda.**

***It was agreed that Call for Sites would be placed on the next agenda.***

**18. Date of next Meeting.**

18<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

***There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.20pm.***

Signed.....Dated.....