

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Thurnham Parish Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel at 7:30 PM.**

***Councillors present: Duncan  
Dunlop  
Horne  
Shelley  
Skinner  
Smith***

***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 Cllrs Stark and Baigent, the Police, MBC Councillor de Wiggondene-Sheppard 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 Dunlop to accept these as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Shelley 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. Public Comments and Observations.**

New residents to Thurnham attended the meeting, they were welcomed by the Chairman.  
No matters were raised.

**6. Police Report.**

PCSO Matt Adlington gave his apologies to the meeting.

**7. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

**8. Clerk's Report.**

The Clerks Report was noted by members.

Members discussed the Coronavirus situation and agreed a form of delegated powers should this be necessary at some point in the future. In the meantime, it was agreed that the PC would make a decision as to whether the April PC meeting would take place by 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

Conference Call meetings were discussed, and it was agreed that the Clerk would look into the legislation regarding these.

***Action: Clerk to action.***

**9. 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.

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

Cllr Horne reported in the work of the Coordinating Team regarding the MBC Local Plan. He referred to correspondence circulated to all members and stated that MBC was supposed to use the next six months to analyse the call for sites information, in October 2020 the Local Plan would be presented as a Regulation 18 Consultation. At this point MBC would be seeking views on Garden Village Development and he stated that the Parish Council needed to be prepared to make the necessary comments at that point.

He stated that there seemed to be no will from MBC to do anything about the housing numbers put forward by central government, MBC had admitted that with regards to infrastructure, there was a thirty-year deficit.

He spoke regarding the proposed development at Lenham and the campaign that they had put together to fight this.

Members thanked Cllr Horne for his work on behalf of the PC.

**11. Saint Mary's Church.**

No matters were raised.

**12. Financial Matters.**

*a. Financial Statement.*

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

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

**13. Parish Matters.**

*a. Play Areas.*

No matters were raised.

*b. Footpath and Bridleways.*

No matters were reported.

**14. Parish Council Committee Reports.**

*a. Planning Matters.*

**Application Received**

20/500855/FULL 15 Caring Lane Bearsted Maidstone Kent ME14 4NJ

Proposed first floor extension with Juliet balcony and rooflights. Existing dormer flat roofs replaced with hipped roofs (resubmission: 19/505527/FULL).

**Application Decisions by MBC**

19/506390/FULL

2 Keepers Cottage Thurnham Lane Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 4PW

Erection of 1no. detached garage with log store, widening of existing access with insertion of double gate and creation of new parking area.

Application Permitted

19/506240/FULL

4 Chapel Lane Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 4PF

Retrospective change of use of land to residential (Class C3) with associated ground works, creation of a vehicular access, and erection of a retaining wall.

Application Permitted

19/504402/FULL

2 Friars Cottage Thurnham Lane Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 3LQ

Retrospective application for raising of part of the ground level inside garden and erection of a pergola and chicken coop, plus proposed construction of steps and a path

Application Permitted

*b. Highway Matters.*

The Chairman stated that at the last meeting concerns were raised regarding the parking on the verges outside of the Woodland Trust Land. He stated that the draft letter had now been approved and would be sent.

In addition, the Clerk had drafted a Highways Improvement plan and included additional bollards on this as a possible option.

He asked members to consider additional highways matters that could be included in the HIP.

**b. Parking on Ware Street.**

Cllr Skinner updated members on the current situation regarding Ware Street, he stated that at present Bearsted PC had no plans to support the double yellow lines along Ware Street as they had received objections to this from residents.

This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk should seek further clarification regarding this matter from Bearsted Parish Council.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

**15. Parish Council Website.**

The Clerk reported that she had received two quotations for the building of a new Parish Website. These were discussed and it was proposed by Cllr Skinner to progress with the Hugo Fox Website with a budget of £500. This was seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed by all present.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

**16. Parish Council Notice boards.**

The Clerk reported that she had sought a quotation for the refurbishment of the PC notice boards and this was in the region of £550.

This was approved by members.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

**17. Parish Council Policy Review.**

The Clerk stated that she had emailed the Parish Council Policies to all members for their consideration and review at a future meeting.

The Chairman suggested that each member was allocated a policy to review as this would ensure that a comprehensive review was undertaken. This was agreed.

**18. Future Agenda Items.**

It was agreed that the Heritage Award would be placed on the next agenda.

**19. Date of next Meeting.**

20<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

***There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.35pm.***

**Signed.....**

**Dated.....**