

The Minutes of the Meeting of Thurnham Parish Council held on 16th April 2018
at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel at 7:30 PM.

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

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Daniel Skinner.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast, MBC Councillor Nick de Wiggondene and 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 Stark to accept these as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed by all present.

The Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Cllr Horne reported that he had attended the Civic Service on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Skinner thanked him for attending.

5. Public Comments and Observations.

No public comments were raised.

6. Police Report.

No matters were raised.

7. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman reported that an email had been sent to Bearsted Parish Council to request an update regarding the parking on Ware street, however he had not yet received a response.

8. Clerk's Report.

The Clerks Report was noted by members.

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.

Cllr Denham spoke regarding an item in the local news on the shortage of school places. He stated that it would be good to hear the local position for the KCC Councillor.

A discussion took place regarding the school spaces and the need for new schools in the area.

Cllr Horne stated that clarification was needed regarding the KIMS site as a School was rumoured to be built on the site.

Cllr Smith stated that the local MP was due to look into this matter to give clarification.

c. Liaison with external parties

No matters were reported.

10. Joint Parish Group/Local Plan.

Cllr Horne reported that Maidstone Borough Council was holding a workshop on the Local Plan and lessons learned.

He stated that the Coordinating Team was due to send a letter to MBC regarding items they felt should be raised, and he outlined details of this.

He spoke regarding the Park and Ride and stated that he had attended a meeting at MBC regarding the Park and Ride charges and said that his points were ignored by MBC.

He stated that he had now raised this with the Equality and Human Rights Committee.

Cllr Smith spoke regarding air quality monitoring tubes and Cllr Horne stated that this was an antiquated system, and air quality could be more effectively monitored by other means and more advanced methods.

He stated that MBC were deficient in their monitoring devices, that air quality was a serious issue and he suggested that the PC should be looking at this matter with Stockbury and Detling Parish Councils.

The Chairman thanked him for his report.

11. Saint Mary's Church.

The Clerk reported that the new Vicar of St Mary's Church was due to attend the June 2018 Parish Council Meeting.

12. General Data Protection Regulations.

The Clerk circulated Policies and information regarding the General Data Protection Regulations to all members, it was agreed that these would be considered for adoption at the May Parish Council Meeting.

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

The financial statement was circulated to all members for consideration. This was proposed by Cllr Stark, 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	£38023.14
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£1006.75
Closing Balance on Current Account	£37503.14

Cooperative 14 Day Account

Opening Balance on Current Account	£40266.19
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£0.00
Closing Balance on Current Account	£40,266.19

<u>Total Balance of all Parish Council Accounts</u>	<u>£77769.33</u>
--	-------------------------

The Clerk informed members that the 2017/18 Accounts would be placed on the next agenda.

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**

18/501254/LBC

Howe Court Crismill Lane Thurnham Maidstone Kent
Listed Building Consent for installation of a new door opening through existing facing brick wall to create access into new snug area and a conservation roof light within roof space of ground floor annexe addition.

MBC Decisions

18/500794/FULL

10 Creve Coeur Close Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 4PR

Erection of a single storey side and rear extension.

Application Permitted

18/500617/FULL

Milgate House Ashford Road Bearsted ME14 4NN

Erection of a greenhouse

Application Permitted

18/500254/FULL

Cobham Cottage Water Lane Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 3LU

Erection of a single storey side extension, two storey rear extension and internal/external alterations.

Application Refused

14/506738/OUT

Land At Barty Farm Roundwell Bearsted Kent ME14 4HN

Outline application for the erection of 100 dwellings - reserved matters for which approval is being sought: Access, including access widening comprising relocation of wall forming part of outer curtilage of Barty Nursing Home (Grade II listed)

Application Permitted

b. Enforcement Matters.

The Clerk was asked to establish an update on the enforcement action for the Wargames activities on Detling Hill.

Action: Clerk to progress.

c. Highway Matters.

It was reported that the drains were block past the bridge in Caring Lane.

Action: Clerk to report to KCC.

Cllr Stark reported that cars were still parking on the verges near to the Bearsted Woodland Trust Land.

The Clerk reported that she had asked KCC to consider installing more bollards along this route to prevent the parking.

Cllr Waite spoke regarding the traffic survey of Caring Lane and stated that he did not feel that the information gathered from this was sufficient, Cllr Stark stated he felt that the information was adequate.

This was discussed, and it was agreed that the information would be forwarded on to Councillors for further consideration.

Cllr Stark raised concerns about the the trees along Caring Lane encroaching on the telephone cables.

Action: Clerk to report to Kent Highways.

Cllr Smith reported that trees had been felled by the land for the Boys Brigade on Thurnham Lane, he said that these served as a sound screen for properties. He stated that he would establish further details and report back to members.

16. Fly Tipping.

It was reported that a consultation was currently taking place regarding the waste disposal sites and the increase in flytipping.

This was discussed, and it was agreed that Cllr Waite would look at the consultation document and respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

17. Parish Tour and Thinking Day.

Cllr Horne suggested that the Parish Council should undertake a tour of the Parish towards the end of the year and meet with Parishioners.

Cllr Denham stated that he did not feel that a Parish Tour enabled people to meet with Parish Councillors.

Cllr Smith spoke regarding the resources of the Parish Council and stated that residents knew where the Council met, and they were able to attend the meetings if they wished.

He stated that the PC could react to events when they occur and then act on the issue.

A Parish Tour was discussed further, and it was noted that the last one took place in June 2016 and little had changed in the Parish since then.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would arrange a tour when the proposals for Binbury Park on the A249 had been submitted.

Cllr Horne circulated a paper to members regarding his suggestions on a Thinking Day. The Chairman asked for comments on this.

Cllr Smith spoke regarding the suggestion to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan and stated that the Parish Council had undertaken a Parish Plan in the past and this had become a wish list as the PC did not have the resources or authority to deliver the plan.

Cllr Horne suggested that the Neighbourhood Plan would enable the CIL Levy and be adopted by MBC as Planning Guidance.

Cllr Smith spoke regarding the list of suggested areas for a Thinking Day and stated that to look at all areas in one day would be impossible. He suggested that the Parish Council grouped the issues and discuss over a period of time at the end of a meeting for an allotted time. He stated that this would allow thoughts to develop.

Members agreed with this suggestion and Cllr Horne was asked to reband the items to be dealt with over a period of time.

It was agreed that the document would be considered, and a way forward would be agreed at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to place item on the next agenda.

18. Thurnham Heritage Award.

Members discussed and agreed a recipient for the Heritage Award.

It was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Horne would progress this and the presentation would take place at the June 2018 Parish Council Meeting.

Action: Clerk to progress.

19. Future Agenda Items.

No matters were raised.

20. Date of next Meeting.

21st May 2018.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.58pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....