

The Minutes of the Meeting of Thurnham Parish Council held on 21st March 2022.
Held at the Marriott Tudor Park hotel, at 7:30pm.

Councillors present: *Horne*
 Skinner
 Smith
 Shelley
 Wise

Also: Members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Skinner.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received, and reasons for absence accepted from Sherrie Babington (Parish Clerk), Cllr Dunlop, Duncan, Baigent, Stark 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 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 of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Noticeboard – The Clerk stated that she was awaiting a response from Dandara.

5. Public Comments and Observations.

Land at Caring Lane - It was reported by a local resident that the land had not sold at auction.

Quiet Lanes

Cllr Smith had spoken to resident, Richard Horton after the meeting.

It had been agreed not to send out the letter that had been proposed for the time being.

Mr Horton would be invited to the meeting with KCC.

Clerk would chase KCC re the meeting.

It was slightly disappointing to note that the PC had been looking into Quiet Lanes with KCC over 20 years ago, and they had previously said no.

It was noted that the changes to the Highway Code in January had supported cyclists and pedestrians.

Old Library – The Bearsted and Thurnham Society had received an acknowledgement of their application but had been warned the bar was very high for such applications.

Village Signs – Cllr Horne had not yet heard from Bearsted Councillor Richard Ash.

The next meeting would be moved to Tuesday 19th April 2022.

6. Clerk's Report.

The Clerk's Report was noted by members.

The notice board at the Bell had been repaired. It was commented that the notice boards often look a little bare and we could encourage community notices.

The PC received a letter from a resident of Aldington Cottages and agreed with the sentiments therein. It was agreed that the Clerk would be asked to write back.

The PC had had looked to put a litter bin previously, but MBC were not willing to send bin lorries up there.

The idea about Community Payback was a good idea. Clerk would contact the officer mentioned and if he was willing to come to a meeting then the resident would be asked along.

Action: Clerk to action.

7. External Reports.

a. MBC Ward Councillors Report.

No matters were raised.

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

No matters were reported.

8. Joint Parish Group/Local Plan.

Cllr Horne reported that the Strategy Planning & Infrastructure Committee of MBC were meeting. They had a letter from CPRE before them querying the 17K housing total which they believed was flawed. MBC had said an urgent update would be put before Councillors.

It was noted that the plans of other local authorities had failed over proper consultation.

Cllr Horne had previously spoken to SP&I about water supply. He had been told by Paul Copper they are getting a specialist consultant to look at the issue. It transpired they were in fact only looking at the Lenham scheme. He had pointed out that was different from what he had been told and was awaiting a reply. MBC said Southern Water had not asked them to do anything about the water supply.

9. Saint Mary's Church.

The meeting arranged for this week was now to take place on Thursday 5 May at 7pm. Cllr Smith noted the roof did look in a poor state in parts.

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 Smith, and agreed by all present.

11. Parish Council Committee Reports.

a. Planning Matters.

22/500356/OUT - Land at Thurnham Lane Thurnham Kent ME14 3LD

Outline application for the erection of 1no. three bedroom "bungalow with cycle storage shelter and Bin storage "attached, associated hardstanding for two car parking "spaces, the creation of two bunds and associated "landscaping (Access being sought).

Planning Committee objected and objections have been submitted to MBC.

MBC Planning Decisions

22/500232/FULL

20 Longfields Drive Thurnham Maidstone Kent ME14 4PD

Erection of a single storey side extension creating a link between the house and garage. Ancillary alterations with partial garage conversion into gym.

Application Permitted

Other Planning Matters.

Trees – Crismill Lane - MBC had said the trees in the new property up Crismill Lane had not in fact been subject a TPO

b. Highway Matters.

The Officer dealing with the planned changes on Bearsted Rd would be invited to make a presentation to the Parish.

12. Future Agenda Items.

No matters were raised.

13. Date of next Meeting.

Tuesday 19th April 2022.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.50pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....