

PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st February 2022 at 7.30 pm in Pluckley Village Hall

Present : Cllrs Dracott (in the Chair), Taylor, Whatman, Breach, Mills, Marchbank & Washer

In attendance : Mr. G Eaton, Clerk to the Council, ABC Cllr Bell and Peter New, Community Neighbourhood Watch team

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence

2 Declarations of Cllrs Interests in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of Cllrs interests in items on the Agenda

3 Minutes of the last Meeting & Matters arising

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th December 2021 were approved and signed

4 Co-option onto the Council

After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr. Guy Washer onto the Council. Cllr Washer thanked the Cllrs and joined the Meeting

5 Public discussion and Parishioners questions

There was a general discussion with Peter New of the Community Neighbourhood Watch team. Peter spoke about trying to prevent local crime and stressed the importance of reporting all crime so that patterns could be established

6 Planning & Enforcement

New Planning applications

22/00010 - Replacement of 2no. external Crittal door sets with double glazed aluminum doors
Pluckley C/E Primary School, The Street, TN27 0QS

Pluckley Parish Council fully supports the replacement of the doors as specified in the application

20/00508 – Reserved matters application pursuant to outline planning permission 18/00029/AS to consider the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for up to 135 dwellings (including up to 40% affordable housing) introduction of structural planting and landscaping, informal public open space and children's play area (LEAP), vehicular access from the A20/Maidstone Road and associated ancillary works

Land south of Swan Hotel, Maidstone Road, Charing

It was agreed that Cllr Taylor would contact the Chair of Charing Parish Council to discuss possible further objections to the application

Cllr Taylor

21/02257 - Proposed building to store agricultural machinery and equipment. The building will also be used to store forestry machinery, equipment and timber required to manage the farming estate

Stanford Bridge Farm, Station Road TN27 0RU

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Case Officer – the Parish Council would be very grateful if you would address the following point regarding the adjudication of this application. The Parish Council requires to understand whether the application is adjudicated by Ashford Borough Council in isolation (as it stands), or in the context of and reference to previous recent applications on this site, and the associated decisions. This seems to us a binary question: either it is examined in isolation or in historical context. Whichever process is followed, there are implications for local democracy, and it is therefore important for us as Parish Councillors to understand the process more fully

Other Planning Matters

There was a discussion concerning a large barn near Invicta Pallets and it was agreed a letter be sent to Planning asking for confirmation of planning permission

7 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Taylor reported that a letter had been sent to ABC Head of Planning asking him to reconsider his decision that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening, and a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening were required as part of the Review, as the Planners previous advice was that these were not required

It was agreed to employ Mike Goddard Planning to undertake the Basic Conditions Statement (BCS) at the quoted cost of £3000.00 plus VAT

8 Nature Reserve

Cllrs Taylor & Beach updated on progress with the Nature Reserve. A meeting with Kentish Stour Partnership had been held on 19th February which was well attended and productive

The following quotes for works were approved –

FGS Pilcher - hire of excavator to clear pond	£1300.00 plus VAT
Tree and Ground Maintenance – remove to ground level 12 Turkey oaks	£950.00 plus VAT

9 Station parking/Transport connectivity

Cllr Taylor provided a short report. It was noted that the area had been tidied up and that a chaser letter had been sent to Network Rail asking for an update on the site and rental details. There was a brief discussion about possibly making the Coal Yard a Village Asset

10 Traffic and Highways

Cllr Marchbank updated on the roadworks and on-going issues with HGVs in particular. The Highways Improvement Plan being developed with Highways was discussed. The immediate priority was speeding followed by HGV traffic. It had been decided by Highways that no hard traffic calming measures (bumps etc.) would be progressed only soft options. It was agreed to invite a representative from Highways and KCC Cllr Simkins to a Meeting to discuss the issues and preferred solutions

Cllr Marchbank

11 ABC Cllr Bell report

ABC Bell updated on bin collections, local roadworks, and ABCs housing targets

12 Finance Matters

The following accounts were approved for payment:

	£
Cheque No 501762 J Johns, recreation ground tidying	45.00
Cheque No 501761 D Heasman, street cleaning	90.00
Cheque No 501754 M Newman, distribute Communicate	50.00
Cheque No 501755 D Breach, distribute Communicate	50.00
Cheque No 501757 Four Seasons Fencing, fencing works	4824.00
Cheque No 501758 Ashford BC, grounds maintenance	3088.15
Cheque No 501759 M Whatman, Christmas tree lights/cable	68.51
Cheque No 501760 Ashford BC, spraying MUGA court	178.74

It was noted that the Clerk's salary of £453.37 is paid by monthly Standing Order

13 Correspondence

Email received from ABC Monitoring Officer about a Parishioner's complaint that information was withheld about Martin Newman's resignation. Cllr Dracott/Clerk to reply

Cllr Dracott/Clerk

14 AOB and items for future consideration

Cllr Dracott updated on the superfast broadband project – the scheme was now fully approved. A letter had been sent to Openreach detailing the current road works and requesting that their installation works are aligned with South East Water's works to avoid unnecessary disruption or duplication

There was a general discussion regarding Assets of Community Value and the need to review the assets listed. The Clerk confirmed that he was in contact with ABC regarding this

15 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on **Tuesday 1st March 2022 at 7.30 pm** at Pluckley Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm