

PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

In attendance : Mr. G Eaton, Clerk to the Council, Peter New, Community Neighbourhood Watch team, and five members of the public

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from ABC Cllr Bell

2 Election of new Chairman

Cllr Dracott confirmed that he was resigning from the Council at the conclusion of the Meeting and requested that a new Chairman be elected with immediate effect. Thanks were offered to Paul for acting as Interim Chairman following Martin Newman's resignation

After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed to elect Cllr Taylor as Chairman, and to elect Cllr Marchbank as Vice Chairman. Cllr Taylor took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the Meeting

3 Declarations of Cllrs Interests in items on the Agenda

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

4 Minutes of the last Meeting & Matters arising

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st February 2022 were approved

5 Public discussion and Parishioners questions

There was a discussion with representatives of the Tennis Club who requested that there be a written agreement with the Council regarding the use of the tennis court and pavilion. As the condition of the court was an ongoing concern it was agreed to arrange a meeting to discuss the options, costing and fundraising. Cllr Mills to organise

Cllr Mills

There was a brief discussion with Peter New, Community Neighbourhood Watch team, and it was agreed to add his contact details to the website. Mr. New was thanked for his report

6 Chairman's report

Cllr Taylor presented his Chairman's report which focused on –

a/ Asset management comprising Leisure & Sport, the Village Hall, and the Nature Reserve, and he proposed that each be managed by a subgroup, representing the main users and reporting to the Parish Council on a regular basis

It was agreed that the Leisure & Sport group would comprise Cllrs Mills & Whatman

b/ Effective financial management including budget preparation and financial planning

c/ Communications to include an upgrade of the website and to develop new ways of communicating with parishioners

It was agreed that the Communications group would comprise Cllrs Washer, Taylor and Marchbank, with Paul Dracott and Ivan Rattray as advisers. An initial budget of £1000 was unanimously agreed

7 Planning & Enforcement

Decided Planning applications

22/00104 – prior notification of proposed agricultural produce store
Frith Court Farm, The Pinnock, TN27 0SY

PRIOR APPROVAL REFUSED

21/01513 – change of use of sections of buildings A and E to commercial use Class E
(a),(b),(c),(e) and (g) – revision to planning permission 20/01415
Unit at Frith Court Farm, The Pinnock, TN27 0SY

PERMIT

22/00011 – replacement of 2no. external Crittal door sets with double glazed aluminum doors
Pluckley Village Pre-School, Pluckley C/E School, The Street, TN27 0QS

GRANT CONSENT

Other Planning Matters

It was noted that barn on or adjacent to Invicta Pallets, opposite Watercress Farm, Smarden Bell Road, was now under investigation by ABC Enforcement

It was agreed that Cllr Washer would act as the Council's lead on all planning matters replacing Cllr Taylor who had taken on the Chairman role

8 ABC Cllr Bell's report

There was no report from ABC Cllr Bell

9 Neighbourhood Plan

The email from Martin Newman was discussed and his helpful update noted

10 Station parking/Transport connectivity

There was nil of note to report

11 Traffic and Highways

Cllr Marchbank gave a general updated on the ongoing roadworks and current issues

It was noted that Highways were unable to attend evening meetings but they had offered a day time Zoom meeting to further discuss traffic calming measures. They had stated that 'hard' traffic calming measures were not appropriate in Pluckley and that only 'soft' measures would be considered. It was agreed that Cllrs Taylor, Whatman & Marchbank would meet to confirm the Council's position prior to a meeting with Highways

Cllrs Taylor Whatman & Marchbank

12 Spring litter pick

There was a general discussion about the spring litter pick and it was agreed that this should take place on 26th March @ 10.00 am. Cllr Whatman kindly offered to liaise with ABC and make the necessary arrangements

Cllr Whatman

13 Community engagement & Priorities/Annual Parish Meeting/Website upgrade

There was a full discussion about the importance of improving engagement with Parishioners, and addressing areas and concerns that are important to them

Cllr Marchbank spoke about various initiatives that could be considered to help those in need in the Village – for example health and well-being services, keep fit classes, mother and toddler group, drop-in sessions and a community larder. It was agreed that individuals or groups wanting to organise such events should work up a plan and approach the Council for support potentially including financial support

14 Finance Matters

The following accounts were approved for payment:

	£
Cheque No 501764 J Johns, recreation ground tidying	45.00
Cheque No 501765 D Heasman, street cleaning	90.00
Cheque No 501766 Tree & Ground Maintenance, tree works	1140.00
Cheque No 501767 EDF Energy, electricity at pavilion	36.81
Cheque No 501768 Whitstable Designs, website hosting	180.00
Cheque No 501769 FGS Pilcher, works at Nature Reserve	1500.00

It was noted that Cheque No 501763, Four Seasons Fencing, for £776.51 was approved between Meetings

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

Annual Review of the Clerk's salary

After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed to increase the Clerk's hourly rate of pay to £13.50. The Clerk thanked the Cllrs for the increase

15 Correspondence

Email from parishioner objecting to the proposed traffic calming on Smarden Bell Road junction

ABC Briefing – Solar Together scheme

Greater Ashford Borough Environment & Land mapping – Consultation Briefing and Questionnaire. It was agreed that a group of Cllrs would meet to agree a response

Email from Pluckley Tennis Club following Meeting with Cllr Whatman

16 AOB and items for future consideration

It was agreed to include the following items on the April agenda – Assets of Community Value and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Clerk

17 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on **Tuesday 5th April 2022 at 7.30 pm** at Pluckley Village Hall

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9.10 pm