

KENNINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

agenda published 03rd November 2023



**An Ordinary Meeting of the above Council
was held on Wednesday 8th November starting at 6.30pm,
in the St Marys Community Centre**

228/23 To note those, present and record apologies and those not present.

Present: Cllr Alan Cooper (Chair), Cllr Charles Ellis (Vice Chair), Cllr Paul Bartlett, Cllr Matt Bridger, Cllr John Seaton, Cllr Jac Wood, Cllr Nathan Iliffe, Cllr Greg Faulkner, Cllr Katy Pauley, Cllr Chacko Jacob, Cllr Shafi Khan and Cllr Chris Morley.

Also Present: The Clerk, 2 member of the public, Glenn Holliday from Redrow and the PC Adam Staughton (from 18.55)

Apologies: Personal, Cllr Trish Cornish and Cllr Ellie Crook and Work Cllr Brian Varney.

Resolved: Agreed by all present to accept all apologies received.

229/23 To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other Significant Interests (OSI's) or a Voluntary interest relating to items on the agenda.

None were declared.

230/23 Public Open Session for members of the public who may make representations, give evidence, ask and answer questions regarding items on the agenda or to suggest issues for discussion at a future meeting. This item included reports from

1) Redrow -

Noted: Works cut short on Willesborough Road as further works on paths and lamp posts etc are scheduled before & after Christmas, the roadworks will return at this time. The next off-site works will involve installing a footway on the rail bridge in the direction of the hospital. Beyond that improvements to the hospital roundabout and the Simone Weil/Canterbury Road junction follow. The hope is to phase these but timing will ultimately be led by Kent Highways. The reed bed, believed to be the first in England designed for the purpose of ensuring nutrient neutrality for the estate, should be open the end of this year.

Resolved: Agreed to invite Redrow back for March/April meeting subject to development and for site visits to be arranged.

Action: Agreed Clerk to schedule Redrow to return for an update March/April subject to the progression of this development.

Action: Agreed Clerk to liaise with Redrow for a time to have a site visit when convenient and sufficient progression and reed bed complete.

2) Neighbourhood Watch and the PC

Noted: Circulated document noted by all present.

231/23 To consider and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th October 2023

Resolved: Agreed the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th October were accepted as a true record.

Action: Agreed Clerk to publish signed minutes on the website.

232/23 Finance:

1) Payments – Council to authorise and note expenditure and payments to be made as per document circulated

Resolved: Agreed by all present payments noted and verified already agreed and paid under delegated authority. All additional payments were also agreed and sanctioned for the Clerk to make payment (see Annex)

Action: Agreed Clerk to make payments as appropriate as soon as possible

2) Bank Reconciliation - Council to note verified bank reconciliation as at 30th September by Cllr Charles Ellis and Cllr Jac Wood.

Noted: by all present.

3) Bank Reconciliation - Council to note draft bank reconciliation as at 31st October

Noted: by all present.

4) Receipts and Payments - Council to note receipts and payments as at 31st October

Noted: by all present.

5) Payments - Council to approve as recommended by Fund GP committee

Resolved: Agreed by all present payments to be transferred to the Stationery budget from Internal Audit, External Audit, Homeworking and Software licences.

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Action: Agreed Clerk to make the virements within the budget

Noted: By all issues with accounts not yet opened for Cambridge Building Society and Nationwide and bank signatory for Metro bank.

Action: Agreed these to be added to December agenda to ensure to reagree so as minutes timely for banks and building societies to action can now *upon open*.

233/23 Budget 23/24: Council to consider initial draft proposal in advance of December's decision to agree to adopt.

Noted: by all present to the draft budget with no issues or concerns raised.

Action: Agreed by all present Councillors to feed into the Clerk any additional budget they would like considered to add or issues to the Clerk by no later than 8th December to allow revisions to be considered at December Council meeting.

234/23 Bybrook-Bockhanger Community Facility: Council to receive an oral update from the Chair of Environment and Places committee and agree any next step/actions.

Noted: By all present update

Action: Agreed Clerk to add to next meeting for continued updates.

235/23 Safeguarding Children, Young people and Vulnerable Adults ("Safeguarding") Policy 2023: Council to consider and adopt as proposed from Personnel and Development and recommended by the Finance and General Policies committee.

Resolved: Agreed by all present to adopt this policy with no changes.

Action: Agreed Clerk to add to website policies page.

236/23 Committee Membership: Council to consider current committee members and appoint for vacancies

1) Planning (2 spaces) - Noted: No further interest from Councillors to join the Planning committee.

Action: Agreed Clerk to add to future agendas to allow for vacancies to be filled.

Noted: By all present Councillor vacancy in Grosvenor Hall ward following Cllr Diccon Spain's resignation within Kennington Community Council and to be on Decembers agenda for decision on co-option, following receipt of notification that no requests have been received for an election from Ashford Borough Council. An appointment should be made as soon as is practicable.

Action: Agreed Clerk to add casual vacancy for a decision on co-option and engagement on next agenda.

237/23 Daffodils: Council to receive an oral update for bulb planting from the Clerk.

Noted: By all present continued Interest from schools to engage and will be arranged subject to weather conditions to allow.

Noted: By all present continued a number of daffodils will be grown by the Chairman and Clerk to fill spaces within the blooming season.

Action: Noted Clerk will continue to make every effort to arrange this with the school.

238/23 Litter Picking: Council to receive an oral update for a litter pick with the Amber Foundation.

Noted: By all present continued interest from Amber to arrange regular litter picks

Action: Agreed Clerk to approach ABC again for the litter pickers so as a date can be set, Clerk to update Councillors once date confirmed. A date has been set but not acknowledgment received from ABC as yet re borrowing additional equipment required.

239/23 Action log: Council to review of action log, to discuss developments for items to then be considered for motion for next or future meeting or to note and be recorded as complete.

Noted: By all present.

Cllr Chacko Jacob left at 20:05

240/23 Monthly Reports: Council to consider/note information received relevant to the Council and agree to any action/s necessary.

1) Correspondences received and sent

Noted: By all present an oral update on communication received and responded to within the last month.

2) Clerk update on ongoing projects

Signed:

Dated: 13.12.2023

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Councillors Id badges – Noted Clerk working with Cllr Ellie Crook and these can now be ordered, agreed these to be ordered with an expiration date of May 2027.

Kennington Parochial Charity – Noted by all the Nominative Trustee Vacancy, Cllr Nathan Iliffe volunteered and filled the one of two positions, but still currently one position to be filled.

Resolved: Agreed by all present to advertise the remaining position, with Cllr Chris Morley and Cllr Nathan Iliffe to work together on the wording for a Facebook and Blog post and send draft to Clerk to publish. The vacancy to be considered at the January Council, with letter applications for the position accepted.

Action: Agreed Cllr Chris Morley and Cllr Nathan Iliffe to write a draft blog and Facebook, for the Clerk to publish and send to previous applicants.

Action: Agreed the Clerk to add to January Council agenda.

Clerk Salary Agreement: Noted by all the 22/23 Local Government Services Pay settlement as published on 6th November 2023, as well as the impact this will have as to take effect from 01/04/22 salary and therefore backdated and to show in December pay.

Little Burton Playpark: Noted by all present that Cllr Katy Pauley, the Clerk and Non Councillor Justin Amitage are now in the process of reconfirming the quotes as some time has passed to ensure quotes are still valid and a recommended proposal will be brought to Decembers meeting to spend the reserved monies and Ward monies awarded in the hope that installation can take place before the Spring.

Kennington Coffee and Chat – Noted by all present the next Coffee and Chat will be on 20th November at 10.3 to 12.30 at the Spearpoint Pavilion (The Ridge) all are welcome.

Ashford Active Retirement Association - Clerk advised that she is awaiting a conversation with Lynne the Hon. Secretary of KentARA and Ian Sharp KentARA Chairman, following a new group they are hoping to start in Kennington. Cllr Paul Bartlett also advised he has made contact with them also.

Action: Agreed Clerk to on contact to send First Hire Scheme details and application. invite to Kennington Coffee and Chat, make aware of Annual Assembly, newsletter and open talk about we can help and work together on items such as Community Garden.

Cllr John Seaton left at 20:15

3) Ward Councillor Reports

Noted: By all present, those circulated with action re Salt Bin at Zig Zag path, for Clerk to research and speak with Cllr Diccon Spain re progressing with the site owners. Clerk to speak with Kent, Cllr Paul Bartlett to supply contact to clerk.

4) KALC Ashford.

Noted: By all present oral update, with no actions required at this time.

5) Councillors Training attended

Noted: By all present oral update, with no actions required at this time.

Noted: By all present that if a Councillor has an interest in training to advise the Clerk who can agree to this financial spend and make the booking.

241/23 Items for inclusion on the next agenda.

Agreed: Salt bin at the zig zag path to be investigated further, Clerk to speak again with Cllr Diccon Spain who is liaising with site owners and arranging a meeting for us all to attend to progress. Clerk to also investigate with Kent Highways and update at next suitable meeting.

242/23 Date of next meeting. December 13th meeting at the earlier time of 6.00pm and January 10th 2024 start time 6.30pm. **Resolved: Agreed by all present** dates and times as detailed.

243/23 To exclude the public under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and sections 100 & 102 of the Local Government Act 1972.
This item was not required.

244/23 Close of Meeting. The meeting closed at 20:30.

Signed:

3

Dated: 13.12.2023