COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES





An Ordinary Meeting of the above Council was held on Wednesday 9th August at 6.30pm, in the St Marys Community Centre

160/23 To note those, present and record apologies and those not present.
Present: Cllr Alan Cooper (Chair), Cllr Paul Bartlett, Cllr John Seaton, Cllr Jac Wood, Cllr Matthew Bridger, Cllr Nathan Iliffe, Cllr Chris Morley, Cllr Brian Varney, Cllr Chacko Jacob, Cllr Katy Pauley
Apologies: Cllr Charles Ellis (Vice Chair) and Cllr Ellie Crook and Cllr Shafi Khan.
Also Present: The Clerk, PC Adam Staughton, Peter New Neighbourhood Watch, Adam McKinley Community Warden Services.
Not Present: Cllr Diccon Spain

161/23 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.

162/23 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) Neighbourhood Watch and 2) the PC Noted: E-scooter data awaited from Chief Inspector Sarah Rivetts, Clerk to circulate once received. Action: Agreed Facebook / Blog to be published on receipt of data, to ensure residents, report, report

Noted: That Community Council needs to try and promote that everything needs reporting to the police, not just put on social media.

Action: Agreed Councillors and Clerk on writing all media articles where possible to ask all to report every crime. .

163/23 Community Warden: Council to receive a presentation from Adam McKinley, (Interim) Team Leader for Ashford & Swale Districts Kent Community Warden Service on the consultation Kent Community Warden Service Review | Let's talk Kent and what wardens can offer. Resolved: Agreed all Councillors to separately complete this to enable as many suggestions and opinions of the community to be registered and to highlight as much as possible.

Action: Agreed all Councillors to separately complete by 3rd October and bring to the attention of all those that they engage with.

Action: Agreed the Clerk to bring to the attention of Coffee and Chat attendees and circulate to all contacts.

Action Agreed: Adam McKinley if possible, to attend again to go into further details of the Community Warden service, Clerk to action/diarise.

164/23 To consider and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th July 2023.

Resolved: Agreed the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th July 2023 were accepted as a true record.

Action: Agreed Clerk to publish signed minutes on the website

165/23 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 or those previously agreed. Additional payments were also agreed and sanctioned for the Clerk to make payment.

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

2) Bank Reconciliation- Council to note draft bank reconciliation Noted: by all

3) Income and Expenditure - Council to note income and expenditure Noted: by all

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Action: Agreed Clerk to make sure agenda and documents are all marked Receipts and Payments and not Income and Expenditure.

166/23 Casual Vacancies: Council to note all applications for the casual vacancies in the wards, Kennington and Little Burton Farm, agree any actions and vote to co-opt to fill vacancies. In the order of

a) Kennington (1 vacancy)

Noted: By all one application received for this vacancy.

Vote: was taken I abstention, all others present in favour.

Resolved: Agreed new Councillor Co-opted Trish Cornish, Kennington Ward.

Action: Agreed Clerk complete Declaration of Office and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests with Councillor and register with ABC.

Action: Agreed Clerk to set up email address and advise all Councillors.

Action: Agreed Clerk to update website with photo and bio as soon as received from CllrTrish Cornish.

b) Little Burton (1 vacancy)

Noted: No application received to date, but the Clerk had received interest and needed to send out an application.

c) Remaining Casual Vacancies: Council to agree to advertise for any remaining vacancies and agree a future deadline date or to leave open for applicants to apply and consider as and when applications are received.

Resolved: Agreed that application will be reopened as soon as possible with applications closing at 5pm on 1st August in order to be on the Council agenda 13th September 2023.

Action: Agreed Clerk to amend applications, update website, Facebook, notice boards and papers as soon as possible and contact interested parties.

167/23 Non-Councillor Vacancies: Council to discuss and agree how to promote committee vacancies and agree a deadline date or to leave open for applicants to apply and consider as and when applications are received.

Resolved: Agreed that Councillors to promote where possible, continue with social media, website and notice boards and look to add to next Newsletter.

168/23 Sk8side: Council to consider and agree the contribution required with a collaboration of funding with the Ward Councillors for Bybrook and Bockhanger, a sk8side 12-month project which aim is to deliver, the continuation of the Wednesday activity session, holiday activities, deliver a second afternoon and work with young people to set up a Members Forum.

Resolved: Agreed unanimously agreed by all present £9000 towards the £9852 applied for as indications at July's meeting from Ward Councils Diccon Spain and Cllr Alan Dean that they would also want to contribute to this project. With neither Councillors present and unknown intended contribution it was agreed that £9000 be awarded and if in the case additional ward contributions result is that they do not meet the £9852 target, then to advise us so a further discussion can take place and decision reached on the balance still needed. These funds are agreed on the basis that we are advised of numbers that attend, the difference it is making and anything else we would be able to publicise on a quarterly basis. To also be aware that Kennington Community Council would also like to work with Sk8side, where we can assist and learn from our younger residents.

Action: Agreed Clerk to liaise with Sk8side and update Council at next suitable Council meeting.

169/23 Bybrook-Bockhanger Community Facility: Council to

- 1) consider the resolution of Ashford Borough Council (Council Thursday 20th July 2023 7.00pm) in regard to the proposed facility.
- 2) receive an oral update and agree on any next step/actions.

Resolved: Agreed Councillor Harman and Barret to be invited to next Environment and Places Committee at the end of September.

Action: Agreed Clerk to invite Councillor Harman and Barret to the next Environment and Places committee at the end of September.

170/23 Allotment Pricing: Council to receive a recommended proposal from the Environment and Places Committee and agree rental charges for 1 October 2023 - 30 September 2024.

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Resolved: Agreed to raise as recommended by the Environment and Places Committee the charge per perch for 1 October 2023 – 30 September 2024 is increased to £13.91 per perch, with the charge for existing concession holders discounted by 50% to £6.96 per perch. This represents a subsidy of approximately £5,250 to be charged to the precept.

Action: Agreed Clerk to write to all tenants as soon as possible to advise of increase. Action: Agreed Clerk to add to Allotments Subcommittee agenda for noting.

171/23 Planning App 21/02146/AS, Land at Eureka Business Park, Trinity Road, Boughton Aluph: Council to consider the report circulated and agree the comments and recommendations to be made to ABC

Resolved: Agreed to send paper as circulated with additional comments re ensuring the roads are not just adequate but sufficient width size to enable emergency vehicles and routine visitors such as delivery drivers to easily use the roads whether there are parked cars without hindrance to pedestrians or safety. **Action:** Agreed Cllr Cooper to amend the paper and forward to the Clerk to then send to ABC for recording.

Cllr lliffe left the meeting at 19:50

172/23 Swimming at Conningbrook Lakes: Council to discuss and agree any next step/actions.

Resolved: Agreed to support the principle as long as concept agreed and run by recognised group.

- 173/23 School Crossing: Council to
 - 1) discuss and agree to meet the additional shortfall in cost with the committed contribution from Clair Bell, Kent County Councillor, Ashford Rural East
 - 2) agree to delegate this to the Clerk to take forward with support from the Environment and Places committee
 - 3) discuss and agree any further next step/actions.

Noted: That Kent County Council had since agreed to meet the costs without financial support from Cllr Clair Bell or Kennington Community Council.

Action: Agreed Clerk to continue to liaise with Kent County and keep Council updated as appropriate. Action: Agreed Clerk to write to Kennington Juniors head teacher and advise of current status. Action: Agreed Clerk to write to PCSO Adam Brookes, who assisted on this and PC Adam Staughton Action: Agreed Clerk to write to Cllr Clair Bell and thank her for all her help support and offer of financial support.

174/23 Bockhanger Square Litter tidy and concrete ball painting: Council to receive an oral update and agree any next steps actions and budget for late summer/early Autumn event. Noted: Clerk awaiting ABC to make contact when this can happen and will update Council once heard.

175/23 Monthly Reports: Council to consider/note information received relevant to the Council and agree any action necessary.

1) Correspondence received.

Action: Agreed Clerk to write to ABC re parking issues along and within the Spearpoint Recreation Ground, marking up could improve and where people park. Addition of no parking signs along the Ridge would also be welcomed.

Action: Agreed Clerk to send street names ideas as requested by Redrow to be that of some of the smaller villages that can be seen from the crown such as Crundale, Hinxhill, Bodsham, Brook etc Action: Agreed other names to be explored like local patents in readiness and Clerk to add to next Planning agenda for a committee member to research

2) Ward Councillor Reports

Noted: By all present.

Action: Agreed Cllr Bartlett to look at the street lighting that these all be modernised and not transferred to the responsibility of Parish or Community Councils.

Cllr Matt Bridger left the meeting at 20.10

3) KALC Ashford.

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Noted: Currently a clerk vacancy for KALC Ashford.

4) Councillors Training attended

Action: Agreed Clerk to circulate all update on training available

176/23 Action log: Council to review of action log, to discuss developments for items to then to be considered for motion for next or future meeting or to note and be recorded as complete. Action: Agreed all Councillors to review and send in update before September's meeting.

177/23 Items for inclusion on the next agenda. Resolved: Agreed Youth Council to be brough back to Council, Cllr Cooper advised would update papers. Community Resilience for November's meeting or most suitable meeting after this.

178/23 Date of next meeting.

Resolved: Agreed the date of the next meeting is second Wednesday at 6.30pm in St Marys Community Centre on the 13^{th of} September.

179/23 To exclude the public under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and sections 100 & 102 of the Local Government Act 1972. Noted: This item was not required.

180/23 Close of Meeting.

The meeting closed at 20:30.

