



**An Ordinary meeting of the above Council
was held on Wednesday 11th December at 6.30pm in the
St Marys Community Centre**

- 220/24 To note those, present and record apologies and those not present.**
Present: Cllr Alan Cooper (Chair), Cllr Matthew Bridger, Cllr Paul Bartlett, Cllr John Seaton, Cllr Chacko Jacob, Cllr Chris Morley.
Apologies: Health – Cllr Trish Cornish and Cllr Brian Varney, Work - Cllr Jac Wood, Cllr Charles Ellis, Cllr Greg Faulkner and Cllr Nathan Iliffe, Personal – Cllr Ellie Crook
Not Present: Cllr Payal Khandalaker and Cllr Shafi Khan
Also present: Peter New Neighbourhood Watch and the Clerk.
- 221/24 To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other Significant Interests (OSI's) or a Voluntary interest relating to items on the agenda.**
Noted: Cllr Morley declared a voluntary interest re 231.24 for any Chilmington development discussion within this item and 230.24. Cllr Alan Cooper reference 234 Canterbury Road and agreed will not be included in the vote, discussion nor comments should any be made.
- 222/24 To consider and adopt the Minutes of the November 13th 2024.**
Resolved: Agreed to defer the minutes to the website as although available on website were not readable from the shared meeting folder.
- 223/24 Public Open Session, this included report and presentations from Peter New, Neighbourhood Watch.**
Noted: As circulated, report received from Peter New, Neighbourhood Watch
Resolved: Agreed by all that Council wanted to thank Peter New for his presentation on the 13th November Council, as well as his tireless voluntary work in Kennington as well as in Ashford.
Resolved: Agreed that the presentation from Chief Insp Sarah Rivett left the Council still requiring answers to questions that could not be answered. It was also note that Kennington ward was the only considered ward and Kennington is made up of 4 additional wards that were not included in the figures presented.
Resolved: Agreed Cllr Alan Cooper as Chairman of the Council to write to Peter News bosses in Neighbourhood Watch team to recognise our appreciation and Peters News dedication and the incredible work he does for Kennington as well as the wider area on behalf of the Community Council.
Resolved: Agreed all Councillors to send in questions they would like sent for reply by Chief Inspector Sarah Rivett to the Clerk.
Resolved: Agreed that the Clerk to summarise with the assistance of Cllr Cooper the questions to be sent, responses to be reported back to Council as soon as responses received.
- 224/24 Finance Payments**
- 1) Council to authorise and note expenditure and payments for October to December be made as per documents circulated.**
Resolved: Agreed payments to be made as soon as possible see appendix below.
Noted: Local Government increase in pay agreement 23/24 finalised.
 - 2) Bank Reconciliation - Council to note draft bank reconciliation as at 31st October (to note will only include payments agreed up to 31st August)**
Noted: By all present bank position of all account not reconciliation.
 - 3) Receipts and Payments - Council to note receipts and payments as at 31st October (to note will only include payments agreed up to 31st August)**
Resolved: Agreed virement of £22.15 from Internal audit line to cover overspend on Insurance.
 - 4) Council to consider and agree arrangements for the Internal Auditor for financial year ending 24/25.**



Resolved: Agreed the current auditor to continue agreeing that this be for a further 3 years up until and including 26/27.

5) **Council to note the internal auditor report at financial year ending 31st March 2024.**
Noted: Auditors report as circulated and recommendations noted.

6) **Council to note the external auditor report at financial year ending 31st March 2024.**
Noted: Report as circulated.

225/24 **Budget 24/25: Council to consider and discuss proposal to adopt the budget and agree to the proposed expenditure as listed under the budget headings.**
Proposed by Cllr Barlett and seconded by Cllr John Seaton and Cllr Chacko Jacob. Voted with 4 in favour and 2 abstentions.

Resolved: Agreed after extensive discussions that the budget be agreed as circulated see appendix below.

226/24 **Precept 24/25: Council to consider and agree proposal to adopt the 24/25 Precept request, for the Clerk to submit this request to Ashford Borough Council within the required timescale.**
Proposed by Cllr Barlett and seconded by Cllr John Seaton and Cllr Chacko Jacob. Voted recorded and unanimous.

Resolved: Agreed that the Precept request to Ashford Borough Council be requested at £115k.

227/24 **Bybrook-Bockhanger Community Facility: Council to**

1) **receive an update on the Architect engagement and note next steps**

Noted: By all present update on current architects interviewed.

2) **receive an update on the visit to Painters Forstal Community Facility**

Noted: By all present report from Cllr Alan Cooper and Cllr Matthew Bridger.

3) **consider on receipt of both the updates to agree any additional next steps/actions that to that already proposed.**

Resolved: Agreed the Clerk to write to all companies and give deadline for responses by 17th January.

228/24 **Strategic Objective Meeting January: Council to receive an oral update on the January meeting.**

Resolved: Agreed by all that the Strategic Objective meeting to be held on 22nd January.

Cllr Bartlett left the meeting at 20:20.

229/24 **Agricultural Property Relief (APR): Council to note the changes to inheritance tax announced by the Government in the recent Autumn budget, discuss and consider the recommendations for action proposed and agree to next steps/response.**

Item withdrawn: Agreed that this item was out of scope for this Council to consider.

230/24 **Correspondence from David Adams, Assistant Director Education (South Kent) RE: Downs View Infant School: Council to discuss and consider a response to this letter**

Noted: Although the Clerk had written to Downs View Infant School no response had been received.

Resolved: Agreed with the assistance of Cllr Alan Cooper a letter be sent with concerns. The response to be circulated to all Councillors as soon as received.

231/24 **Planning applications: Council to**

1) **consider and agree to any comments or actions, on any applications received that need a response before the next Planning committee meeting is held.**

PA/2024/2082, 234 Canterbury Road– Resolved agreed by all Councillors with the exception of Cllr Alan Cooper who took no part, that no comments needed to be made.

PA/2024/1637, Unit 1, Rutherford Road – Resolved agreed by all Councillors no comments to be made.



- 2) **consider and agree to make comments on any developments in the area that may have an impact on our community**

Chilmington Green s106B Appeal: Resolved: Agreed Council to oppose to the Chilmington Green s106B Appeal entered into with Ashford Borough Council and Kent County Council by the appellants. Cllr Alan Cooper to assist the Clerk with this submission before 18th December deadline.

- 3) **consider responses received on application 19/00025/AS: Land between railway line and, Willesborough Road, Kennington, Kent reference works on Simone Weil Avenue and Canterbury road and agree any next steps/actions.**

Responses: Noted by all present as circulated.

232/24 **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**
Resolved: Agreed Councillors to review and send updates to the Clerk before each meeting as appropriate.

233/24 **Reports: Council to consider/note information received relevant to the Council and agree to any action/s then necessary.**

- 1) **Correspondences received**

Noted: Correspondence re anti social behaviour at Eureka park and responses received from ABC

- 2) **Clerk update on ongoing projects**

Noted: Update of Filtration testing at the Ridge, Change in personnel at Freedom Julie Rose, Kennington Coffee and Chat meeting meeting third Monday of each month.

- 3) **Ward Councillor Reports**

Noted: As circulated.

- 4) **KALC Ashford**

Noted: Last meeting 27th November, draft minutes circulated.

- 5) **Councillors Training / Training attended**

Noted: Councillors to look at training opportunities and advise Clerk for booking.

- 6) **Health and Wellbeing**

Developer Contributions to Primary Care in Ashford: Noted Clerk has invited a representative from the ICB to brief on future plans for health care provision in Kennington?

234/24 **Items for inclusion on the next agenda.**

Resolved: Agreed by all present that Village signs be added to next Council agenda.

235/24 **Date of next meeting.**

(8th January with agenda motions by 2nd January and reports/papers by 6th).

Resolved: Agreed the next meeting 8th January at 6.30pm in the St Marys Community Centre.

236/24 **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.

237/24 **Close of Meeting.**

The meeting closed at 21:20.