

# KENNINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

published 05<sup>th</sup> December 2024



**An ordinary meeting of the above Council  
was held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 6.30pm,  
in the St Marys Community Centre.**

- 1/24 To note those, present and record apologies and those not present.**  
**Present:** Cllr Alan Cooper (Chair), Cllr Shafi Khan, Cllr John Seaton, Cllr Charles Ellis, Cllr Chacko Jacob, Cllr Trish Cornish, Cllr Brian Varney and Cllr Chris Morley and Cllr Paul Bartlett (from 19:40)  
**Apologies:** Work – Greg Faulkner, Personal – Cllr Ellie Crook and Cllr Jac Wood and Health Cllr Katy Pauley.  
**Also Present:** Cllr Diccon Spain, Cllr Alan Dean, Peter New, Neighbourhood Watch, Community Wardens (2), Sk8side Representatives (2) and David Adams, Assistant Director Education (South Kent), Kent County Council and the Clerk.
- 2/24 To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other Significant Interests (OSI's) or a Voluntary interest relating to items on the agenda.**  
None Declared
- 3/24 To consider and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023.**  
**Resolved: Agreed** the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December were accepted as a true record along with appendix of payments.  
**Action: Agreed** Clerk to publish signed minutes on the website.
- 4/24 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 and presentations from:**  
1) **Primary Education Provision in Kennington: David Adams, Assistant Director Education (South Kent), Kent County Council**

**Noted:** By all present - David Adams (DA) explained that Kent aims to maintain a surplus of places in primary schools to cope with unforeseen increased demand and give some flexibility. If the surplus falls too low, it has to act to increase supply. If the demand is short-term solutions such as temporary classrooms are used but for long-term shifts in demand a school may increase its annual intake of children or a new school will be planned. Forecasts take account of recent and foreseen births in an area.

For new housing developments, assumptions are made that 100 hundred houses will produce a requirement for 28 school places (across all primary age groups, not each year group). When Kent can show that this demand will reduce the surplus below a safe level, the developer is asked to contribute a given amount for each unit built. Ashford Borough Council, as the local planning authority make this decision.

The Ashford North Primary Planning Group covers schools in much of the town centre, Repton and across all of Kennington. In the year 2022-23, this group showed that primary provision in both the reception year and across ages generally was extremely tight but this is easing. In Kennington, the Conningbrook Park school on the new Willesborough Road estate is planned to accommodate a two-form entry primary school and to be built in the period 2028-31, based on the assumption that the developer will be able to provide access onto the site in 2027.

Councillors expressed concerns that pupils from the development planned on the eastern side of Trinity Road will have to cross a busy road and may not find places in Goat Lees which has no space on site to expand. Councillors suggested that Kent's policy of expanding walking and cycling routes did not marry up to an education policy that led to children travelling significant distances to school.

A specific case for concern of a family that had moved into the area and, while a local place was offered for their child in the reception class, the older child had been assigned to Chilmington Primary School, leaving the parents with an impossible logistical task of getting both children to school safely and on time. DA explained that the Education Authority's placement system followed certain rules which worked well for the most part. However, when it threw up cases which on the face of it were impractical, families or their representatives needed to speak to him and a detailed investigation might lead to a better solution.

Signed:

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Dated: 14.2.24

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### 2) Crime, Prevention and the Warden Services:

#### a) Peter New, Neighbourhood Watch

**Noted:** Report as circulated and available on the <https://www.kenningtoncc.gov.uk> website:  
<https://www.kenningtoncc.gov.uk/webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Notices/NEIGHBOURHOOD%20WATCH%20PLAN%20JAN%202024%20for%20website.pdf>

#### b) Kent Community Warden Service: Adam McKinley

**Noted:** By all present - some of the main services they advised us they can provide are as follows:

- Wellbeing service: help residents join local groups, get their confidence to be among their local community.
- Mental health: help and support residents who suffer from mental health – signpost to organisations/charities that can help.
- Doctors: Help contact Doctors on their behalf.
- Anti-Social behaviour and Neighbourhood disputes: support resident/s who are affected by anti-social behaviour/neighbourhood disputes.
- Vulnerable Adults accessing care or support: help vulnerable residents who are struggling to access to care or support, work with charities on benefits.
- Social Services: work with Social services to make sure support is granted.
- Victims of Scams: support residents who have been victims of scams, and support them reporting to trading standards.
- Reporting: can offer support in reporting fly tipping, potholes, and anti – social behaviour.

### 3) Sk8side Grant Update: Deidre O'Neill

**Noted:** By all present

Sk8side started its new two day delivery programme in October – now being present both Wednesday and Thursdays. Wednesdays outside the shops focusing on games until it became untenable when the weather changed so are now running a club in St Mary's Hall in Rylands Road. This runs from 4.30-6.30 and is open to young people aged 8-19.

Thursday is their detached evening but also teaming up with Sports Connect who have moved their weekly football session from The Ridge to the park in Rectory Way. This session takes place between 4.30pm and 6.00pm. They are making a few new contacts through these detached sessions but are looking forward to the weather picking up.

They have also met with the Team Leader for the Kent County Council Community Wardens and hoping to be able to work together in Kennington in the future.

There is also now a specific Sk8side Bockhanger page - <https://www.facebook.com/sk8sidebockhanger>

### 5/24 Presentations and Reports received: Council to consider presentation and reports in turn and agree any next step actions

#### 1) Primary Education Provision in Kennington

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present the Clerk to add a blog to the Community Council website and a Facebook post reference the information shared, Cllr Cooper agreed to assist with this draft.

**Action: Agreed** Clerk to add a blog to the Community Council website and a Facebook post.

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present that Planning committee members consider this when looking at future developments and any comments we then make on that application.

#### 2) Crime, Prevention and the Warden Services

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present to add a blog to the Community Council website and a Facebook post reference the Community Warden Services

**Action: Agreed** Clerk to add a blog to the Community Council website and a Facebook post

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present to look at adding more under the Crime and reporting and make easier for users to navigate this on the Community Council website page

**Action: Agreed** Clerk to look at the website and look to amend for easier navigation re Crime and Reporting

**Resolved: Agreed** for Clerk to invite ABC to next suitable Council meeting to discuss Safer Streets concept and CCTV in Ashford

**Action: Agreed** the Clerk to invite ABC to next Council meetings 14<sup>th</sup> February or 13<sup>th</sup> March.

Signed:

Dated: 14-2-24

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**Resolved: Agreed** by all present the Clerk to invite Matthew Scott, the Kent Police Crime Commissioner to a soon Council meeting.

**Action: Agreed** Clerk to invite Matthew Scott, the Police Crime Commissioner to the nearest Council meeting he can attend.

### 3) Sk8side

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present the Clerk to do a Facebook post and short note on minutes of information shared at this meeting rather than actions only

**Action: Agreed** Clerk to do a short note on minutes re information shared

**Action: Agreed** Clerk to do a Facebook Page post and share the Sk8side Bockhanger page - <https://www.facebook.com/sk8sidebockhanger> and upcoming events of both Sports Connect and S8side.

### 6/24 Crime and Business in Kennington: Council to consider report circulated and agree recommendations and any additional next step/actions.

**Noted:** By all present report circulated by Cllr Chacko Jacob.

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present, the Clerk to write to Alison Oates within ABC to find out more re the APAC and possible extension of this throughout Kennington

**Action: Agreed** the Clerk is to write to Ashford Borough Council.

### 7/24 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.

Name	Reason	Net	Gross
Clerk	Salaries, Pensions, PAYE, HMRC and Expenses	£n/a	£2555.99
Giff Gaff	Mobile phones	£5.00	£22.00
Metro	Bank Fees	£n/a	£30.00
Microsoft	MS365 licences (P/card)	£99.00	£118.80
Epson	Printing (P/card)	£13.74	£16.49
Itseeze	Website	£45.00	£54.00
BT	Monthly internet (P/card)	£27.50	£33.00
Lok N Store	Storage unit	£146.67	£170.00
Ashford Churches	Council - 10 <sup>th</sup> January	£n/a	£44.00
United Reformed Church	Planning – 25 <sup>th</sup> January	£30.00	£30.00
Wealden Leisure	December Kennington Coffee and Chat	£n/a	£50.00
Email blaster	Email fees (P/card)	£n/a	£15.59
KALC	Training Courses	£95.36	£114.44
East Kent Distributors	Newsletter	£1725.00	£1850.00
We are Beams	Grant / Donation under S137	n/a	£250.00

#### 2) Bank Reconciliation - Council to note verified or draft bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> December

**Noted:** Draft noted by all present.

**Action:** Clerk and Cllr Wood to sign off bank reconciliation at earliest opportunity

#### 3) Receipts and Payments - Council to note receipts in and payments out as at 31<sup>st</sup> December

**Noted:** by all present.

### 8/24 Committee Membership: Council to consider current committee members and appoint for vacancies

#### 1) Planning Committee (2 spaces)

**Noted:** No further interest.

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

### 9/24 Kennington Parochial Charity: Council to consider applications received for membership and agree appointment to this position.

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present Cllr Matthew Bridger to be appointed to vacancy

Signed:

Dated: 14.2.24

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**Action: Agreed** Clerk to write to Kennington Parochial Charity once heard back from the Charity Commission re outstanding concerns.

**10/24 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.**

**Noted:** By all present.

**11/24 Planning applications: Council to consider and agree any comments or actions, on any applications received that need a response before the next Planning committee meeting is held.**

PA/2023/2260 82 Bybrook Road: Details - Change of use of amenity land to garden, two-storey side extension, and relocation of the side timber fence

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present that this appears to be public land to which they attend to build on and for the Clerk to investigate.

**Action: Agreed** the Clerk to write to the Planning Department and ask for validation on ownership of land before making comment.

PA/2023/2356 19, Hillcrest Close: Details - Change of use of partial garage and rear garden to create admin office and cattery including 1.9m garden boundary fence

**Resolved: Agreed** by all present that concerns over position and parking for the business.

**Action: Agreed** the Clerk to write to the Planning Department and raise concerns re parking constraints in the cul-de-sac

**12/24 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**

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

**3) Ward Councillor Reports**

**Noted:** By all present as and that circulated by Cllr Paul Bartlett, no other reports received.

**4) KALC Ashford.**

**Noted:** 2024 dates are Thursday 7 March, Wednesday 29 May, Wednesday 31 July, Wednesday 25 September and Wednesday 27 November.

**5) Councillors Training attended**

**Noted:** Winning Strategies slides and notes circulated to all Councillors.

**13/24 Items for inclusion on the next agenda.**

**Resolved: Agreed** that Crime and Safer Streets to continue to be ongoing motion and for Alison Oates, Safety and Wellbeing Manager (ABC) and a police representative to attend our earliest meeting.

**14/24 Date of next meeting.**

**Noted:** By all present the next meeting is Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at St Marys Community Centre, just off Rylands Road.

**15/24 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 no required.

**16/24 Close of Meeting.**

The meeting closed at 21:30

Signed:

Dated: 14.2.24.