

## PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> 2011

#### PRESENT

M Newman – **Chairman**

C Housman

T Maddrell

A Symonds

M Whatman

There were no parishioners present.

- 1 Apologies for absence received from J Allen, D Hocking, A Wickham (Vice Chairman) also Mrs C Bell, Ashford Borough Council.  
The Chairman reported that J Moody had resigned from the Council.  
*The Clerk subsequently established that the Council could, if it wished, co opt to fill the vacancy without any election as there was less than 6 months before all the councillors must seek re election in May.*
- 2 There were no alterations to the Members Register of Interests.
- 3 T Maddrell declared an interest in planning application 10/01723 and did not vote.
- 4 As there were no parishioners present no items were raised.
- 5 Local Needs Housing  
Alison Thompson (English Rural Housing) and Jennifer Shaw (ABC) contributed to the meeting.  
Mr Newman explained that over the last year or so the Council had considered many possible sites for a small development of homes for local people and the most viable site was in the existing Westfields estate. Given the small number of homes proposed it is felt this can be achieved with a minimal intrusion on views. Ashford BC, who own the land, had agreed to make it available. Mr Newman emphasised that the recent village housing survey had only indicated a demand for about four homes.  
Mrs Thompson explained that the site lent itself to two semi detached properties, one comprising two 1 bedroomed homes and the other two 2 bedroomed homes ie 4 homes in all. They would all be for renting.  
Ashford BC's housing policy meant that the homes would be offered to Pluckley residents and only if demand was insufficient would they be offered to neighbouring parishes.  
Mrs Thompson agreed to draw up outline plans within the next four weeks for presentation and consultation with the village.  
Mr Newman thanked Alison and Jennifer for their valuable input.
- 6 Minutes of the meeting held on December 13<sup>th</sup> 2010  
These were approved and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by M Whatman, Seconded by A Symonds.
- 7 Matters to report not on the agenda  
The chairman reported that the next edition of "Communicate" should be available in about a week. He also reported that the owner of a property on Forge Hill had agreed to make a length of about 18 feet available to the Council to widen the narrow footpath at this point.
- 8 Parish Plan review  
Playground. Mr Whatman explained in detail the proposals which largely reflected the input from the village consultation. The cost was about £25k which represented a discount on "list prices" for the chosen equipment.

A Symonds raised concerns about the need for fencing to protect children from an adjacent cricket match. Messrs Whatman and Symonds would report back on this issue.

#### Village Hall improvements

All the proposals had been re examined by the Architect, the Chairman and M Whatman with a view to cost reduction. The result was that a new lowered ceiling, incorporating improved lighting and heating, would cost £13,945. A Hearing Loop, resanding and sealing of the floor plus redecoration would cost an additional sum. It was noted that the architect was preparing drawings for further "Phase 2" improvements. The plans would be available for presentation and consultation with the village.

#### Traffic

T Maddrell had been carrying out some speed recordings but more were necessary. Councillors agreed to help.

#### 9 Hog Fair – July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011

It was agreed that the tasks involved should be split with a leader for each category. The leaders would then report to the Council to seek approval for their proposals. The Chairman and M Whatman would report to the next meeting.

#### 10 Planning (See attached)

As regards the forthcoming appeal over the Pivington Mill site it was agreed that any councillor with a view should contact J Allen by January 21<sup>st</sup> so that she could write to the Planning Inspectorate to reinforce the Parish Councils opposition to the scheme.

#### 11 Finance (See attached)

In discussion it was noted that Ashford BC still holds some £4.5k of an earlier grant to the Parish Council and it was agreed a scheme for a Parish store on the end of the pavilion would be a sensible use of this money. M Whatman agreed to progress.

#### 12 Budget review to December 2010

This was noted and the Clerk agreed to examine the make up of the 2009/10 budget estimate for "Subscriptions & Donations" which seemed high.

The Councils insurance premium is included in "Statutory Requirements"

#### 13 Next meeting – February 21<sup>st</sup>

Graham Smith, Parish Clerk      01622 890596  
Email      grahamsmith36@talktalk.net