

# PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> 2011

Present

M Newman – **Chairman**

J Allen

A Evans

C Housman

T Maddrell

A Symonds

M Whatman

Also present Clair Bell, Ashford BC and one parishioner.

- 1 Apologies for absence received from A Wickham (Vice Chairman) and D Hocking.
- 2 There were no alterations to members Register of Interests.
- 3 There were no declarations of interest on agenda items.
- 4 There were no issues raised by the parishioner present but A Symonds, on behalf of the Cricket Club, mentioned the problem of cricket balls possibly impacting on the new children's play area. M Whatman and A Symonds agreed to source a temporary fence by the time the cricket season and the play area both opened.
- 5 The minutes of the meeting held on March 21<sup>st</sup> were approved and signed by the Chairman. (Proposed M Whatman, Seconded A Symonds)
- 6 Report on Annual Assembly April 15<sup>th</sup>.  
The Chairman said he was disappointed at the low turnout (16) but felt the Council must be doing a good job as there were no substantive complaints.  
In discussion it was felt the name "Annual Assembly" may put people off coming and it was agreed to consider a more "attractive" name for 2012 to encourage greater participation.
- 7 Future day and timing of Council meetings.  
Following discussion it was agreed that **after** the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting future meetings would be on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, ie June 14<sup>th</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup>, August 9<sup>th</sup> (if required), September 13<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup>, December 13<sup>th</sup>, January 10<sup>th</sup> 2012, February 14<sup>th</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup>.  
A Village Hall Trustee meeting would follow on June 14, September 13<sup>th</sup>, December 13<sup>th</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup> 2012.
- 8 Local Needs Housing.  
English Rural Housing had presented their initial proposals. These were deemed unsatisfactory and M Whatman proposed (seconded by C Housman) that they be asked to redesign the scheme, particularly to preserve the views across the Weald. All agreed.
- 9 Village Hall refurbishment.  
All agreed the new heating and acoustics were good. The new south end patio doors were the next job followed by the induction loop, redecoration and sanding/resealing the floor.  
The proposals for Phase 2 works had been well received at the public open day and the architect is preparing the necessary planning application.  
A £13,770 grant is anticipated from KCC.
- 10 Recreation Ground refurbishment.  
The scheme is nearly complete and when finished there will be a "grand opening ceremony"!  
The work on the relocated petanque court is nearly complete. It is hoped to reinstall some parts of the skate park. Also the possibility of relocating the "old" swings to the grassed area at the end of Thorne Estate is being progressed.

It was also noted that a parishioner is undertaking some design work on alterations to the Pavilion including relocation of the disabled toilet.

11 Possible Dog Show.

This would not take place in view of the lack of organisers.

12 Traffic matters.

All areas, bar one, had now been measured. The report should be available in May and will then be shown to the village for comment.

KCC Highways were aware of our concerns re lorry routes.

Also KCC Highways are facing a large cut in staff which may affect their ability to progress schemes.

13 Village Clean Up day.(March 26<sup>th</sup>)

This had been very successful with about 20 helpers. We have now purchased the necessary litter pickers, high visibility vests etc. so there is no future need to borrow from Ashford BC.

All wished to record their thanks to A Wickham for a well organised event.

14 Enhanced Broadband.

A Evans said an on line survey was in hand but more responses were needed to show that Pluckley was disadvantaged and there was a real need for improved connection.

15 Possible village sculpture.

No developments.

16 Planning.

There were no applications to consider and the previously circulated Decisions were noted.

It was noted the Council had written to Enterprise Inns about the temporary fence adjacent to the Black Horse wall. A reply was awaited.

There was general opposition to the Westwell Leacon biogas scheme and it was thought the planning application may be delayed to May/June. A petition against it is being organised. The Chairman and other councillors had attended a meeting at Charing.

17 Finance.

The tabled proposals were agreed and the cheques signed.

18 Wealden Wheels.

The request for £1000 was unanimously supported. The Council had budgeted for this sum.

19 Ashford BC. Councillors report.

Clair Bell said there was little to add to the report she'd given to the Parish Assembly last Friday. All is relatively quiet at ABC pending the May 5<sup>th</sup> elections.

20 Clerks report

The Clerk drew attention to an email from A Wickham concerning the "Community Payback scheme" whereby offenders undertake a variety of projects for the benefit of the community. Some ideas were suggested and the Clerk would respond to Ashford Community Safety Unit.

21 Correspondence.

The box was circulated.

The Chairman drew attention to a recent hiring of the Village Hall for a birthday party after which the Hall was left in a dirty state. It was agreed to withhold £25 of the £100 deposit and, in future, to restrict 18<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> party hires to village people only.

Also noted was the presence of some "unauthorised" horses in a field near the station. It was agreed this was not a Parish Council matter.

22 **Next meeting – May 16<sup>th</sup>. The Annual Statutory Meeting.**

Graham Smith, Parish Clerk 01622 890596