

PARISH COUNCIL OF PLUCKLEY

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish held on Tuesday 7th February 2017, Pluckley Village Hall, 7:30pm

Present	Cllrs Newman (Chair), Beattie, Breach, Housman, Russell, Taylor, Whatman	
In Attendance	Cllr Bell; Caroline Levett – Clerk; no parishioners	
Item		Action Responsibility
1. APOLOGIES	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr O'Connor	
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS & ALTERATIONS TO REGISTER OF INTERESTS	Cllr Housman declared a personal interest in planning application 17/00062/AS	
3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	The Parish Council minutes from the meeting held on 3 rd January 2017 were unanimously approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.	
4. PARISHIONERS' QUESTIONS	No parishioners present.	
5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT CLLR NEWMAN	Items covered elsewhere on the agenda.	
6. PLANNING CLLRS HOUSMAN & TAYLOR	<p align="center"><i>i. Planning Applications and Decisions</i></p> <p>A full report of planning application and decisions had been circulated prior to the meeting. The new format of the report was complimented.</p> <p><u>Enforcement</u></p> <p>Home Cottage, Station Road ABC Enforcement has raised an enforcement case.</p> <p><u>Applications</u></p> <p>17/00008/AS & 17/00009 LBC 1 Surrenden Dering, Surrenden Rd Conversion of ground floor stables and harness room to residential use as part of existing first floor residential use, modifications to first floor and separate conversion of adjacent single storey range to residential use, all to be used for short term lets. Whilst the Parish Council supports in principal concerns were raised about the impact on neighbours and any preclusion of business use. The Parish Council objected to the use of the 4 bed unit for short term lets. Cllr Housman to draft a response and circulate to all.</p> <p>17/00030/AS Woodstock, New House Lane Erection of new timber framed garage. Unanimously supported.</p> <p>17/00062/AS Chambers Green Farmhouse, Station Road Replacement of existing rear elevation garden room with erection of an oak framed garden room. Cllr Housman took no part in discussions. Unanimously supported.</p> <p>14/01116/CONA/AS Pluckley Brickworks, Station Road Discharge of conditions 24, 29 & 30. Cllr Taylor had raised concerns relating to light pollution, ponds, reed bed and ongoing management. Cllrs Housman and Taylor to draft a response commenting on the conditions and concerns and circulate to all.</p> <p>17/00048/AS The Rose and Crown, Pluckley Replacement externally illuminated fascia sign with 2 No. additional externally illuminated fascia signs. Unanimously supported.</p> <p>17/00105/AS The Acorns, Smarden Road Erection of car port and shed (revision to planning permission 16/01417/AS). The Parish Council unanimously objected to this significantly larger re-application. It was felt there could be a threat to the tree canopy but, above all, it would be unsightly and out of keeping with the surrounds from the roadside, in contravention of the Design Statement and Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p align="center">CH</p> <p align="center">CH/MT</p>

Chairman..... Date.....

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting, but a summary of discussion and decisions taken at the meeting.

	<p>17/00114/AS Wenny House, Surrenden Road, Pluckley Erection of a 2 bay oak frame garage with external staircase and store above. Unanimously supported.</p> <p><u>Decisions</u></p> <p>16/00233/TP Shaw House, Station Road Oak Tree (1) – Fell. Refused. PPC did not comment.</p> <p>16/01495/AS Ridge House, Egerton Road, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent, TN27 OPD Conversion of existing stables with associated works to form ancillary annexe. Refused. PPC Supported with proviso that annexe must remain with property.</p> <p><i>ii. Land sale at Little Farm, Smarden Road</i></p> <p>The Parish Council discussed possible threats from the sale of this site and any options to mitigate these. It was agreed that any development on the site would be in conflict with the Local Plan, the Design Statement and the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	
7. ASHFORD BC REPORT CLLR BELL	<p>i. <i>Lawful Development Certificates</i> Parish Council concerns regarding LDCs and the lack of response to correspondence had been raised with a senior planning officer at ABC and assurance given that applications are carefully scrutinised.</p> <p>ii. <i>Local Plan</i> A revised draft is likely to be published after the June cabinet meeting and formally submitted by the end of the year.</p> <p>iii. <i>Village Caretaker</i> Little progress has been made on the Village Caretaker Scheme because of internal changes at ABC and lack of take-up. However the Scheme and grant is still available and can be discussed with ABC. The Parish Council will consider when it discusses budget.</p>	
8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CLLR NEWMAN	<p>ABC has published the notice of referendum which takes place on 9th March. More than 50 of those voting need to support for adoption to be considered by ABC. Cllr Newman to organise a large poster to advertise.</p> <p>It was agreed to pursue making the Green Heart an amenity asset at a later date.</p>	MN
9. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS CLLR BEATTIE	<p>i. <i>Bus Shelter Egerton Road</i> The Highways Steward has not been able to visit at a time when a puddle has formed in the dip. Cllr Beattie will photograph and send to him.</p> <p>ii. <i>Lambden Road</i> KCC Highways engineer visited Lambden Road and is exploring further options on how to improve the surface of the road. This would need to come under the next financial year's budget and be prioritised accordingly.</p> <p>iii. <i>Roadside warning sign erected on The Street</i> KCC Project Manager advised that there were no other options in this case. As a safety issue, KCC has the right to install the sign without consulting the Parish Council. The work was only possible due to funding by the KCC Councillor. KCC Highways would not have funded this. The KCC Project Manager was apologetic that the Parish Council was unaware of the work. It was agreed that Cllr Newman would raise the issue with Cllr Simkins and requests that in future the Parish Council is consulted on any proposed Highways changes.</p> <p>iv. <i>Station Bus Shelter</i> Cllr Housman advised that the bus shelter at the station is covered in ivy and surrounded by hoardings and suggested that it is cleaned and moved. It was agreed that Cllr Housman will cut back the ivy.</p>	SB MN CH
9a. SPEED LIMITS ON RURAL ROADS	<p>The Clerk had circulated a response from KALC regarding the reduction of speeds on rural roads which was not previously supported at a national level. KALC's Transport Advisory Committee is looking at the proposal set out in the current petition and will make recommendations to its Executive Committee. It was agreed that the Parish Council did not support the petition and would await further action from KALC.</p>	
10. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW CLLR NEWMAN	<p>The application has been submitted to KCC and the outcome is awaited.</p> <p>Cllr Beattie asked why Station Road had not been included the proposal as it had been indicated that it would be.</p> <p>Cllr Newman explained that the minimum possible had been submitted to seek speed limit reductions but this does not preclude work on other roads.</p>	

11. VILLAGE HALL CLLR BEATTIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Management Committee Meeting</i> This took place on 9th January and comments made by the Parish Council at its last meeting were feedback. The VHMC expressed a wish that they would like to setup a working group with the Parish Council for the Village Hall extension. Cllr Newman proposed Cllr Whatman and this was agreed. ii. <i>Defibrillator</i> KALC had offered a free defibrillator and external case for the Village Hall. The VHMC were advised of this offer and this has been gratefully accepted. iii. <i>Chairs</i> Egerton PC has 150 surplus chairs for sale. VHMC has viewed and agreed to purchase 100 chairs. iv. <i>Electrical Inspection</i> An electrician has been found who will carry out periodic inspections at a cost of £500 plus VAT. He has also made some suggestions to improve heating in the Hall at a cost in the region of £2-3,000. The VHMC would need to seek grants and fundraise for such a project. Some draught proofing of the Hall needs to be carried out first. 	
12. RECREATION GROUND, PAVILION, TENNIS COURTS CLLR WHATMAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Fence</i> The fence has been vandalised. Cllr Whatman to look into installing steel parts to prevent. ii. <i>Guttering</i> Still no response. iii. <i>Tennis Courts</i> A booking system, fee payment and access to the tennis court has been agreed by the Tennis Club. Cllr Russell explained that it has registered with the LTA and County. The cost of registration provides insurance and a booking system. The Club needs 20 members to cover these costs. A fee of £250 payable to the Parish Council was agreed and it should be known by the beginning of October if the club is viable. iv. <i>Short Mat Bowls</i> Cllr Whatman advised that he is able to purchase a kit at a very favourable price of £1,000 and suggested this could be used for social evenings at the Hall and requested financial support from the Parish Council. Parish Councillors asked if Pluckley Sports Association is able to contribute to the cost and perhaps Cllr Bell. Concerns were also raised about where the equipment would be stored. Cllr Whatman to find out about other funding and advise the Parish Council. 	<p>MW</p> <p>MW</p> <p>MW</p>
13. WEBSITE & COMMUNICATION CLLRS NEWMAN & RUSSELL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Website</i> Cllr Newman advised that the website has been decluttered and revised with a new visitors section added. ii. <i>Noticeboard</i> The Clerk advised of continued problems in accessing and using the noticeboard at the School. Cllr Whatman to follow up. iii. <i>Mobile Communication</i> Cllr Russell has emailed CEOs of the four main providers (o2, Vodafone, EE, and Three). Only Vodafone has responded to date advising that it has no plans locally to increase coverage. iv. <i>Stanford Bridge / New House Lane Broadband</i> Cllr Russell had circulated a full update. BT has quoted a total cost of £14,932 to connect the 15 properties to fibre optic broadband. This can be reduced by vouchers from BDUK. Most properties are eligible for a £350 voucher. BT has also agreed to waive some costs. The households affected will be contributing towards the costs and Cllr Russell asked the Parish Council to support the project financially. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to a grant of £1,000. 	<p>MW</p>
14. PLUCKLEY PRE- SCHOOL CLLR NEWMAN	<p>CLLrs Whatman and Newman are meeting with staff from Pluckley Primary School on 8th February to discuss pre-school provision.</p>	<p>MN/MW</p>
15. CLERK'S REPORT	<p><i>Parish Councillor Vacancy</i></p> <p>The Notice of Casual Vacancy (previously circulated) has been published and the closing date for submission of interest is 3rd March. After this date a new Parish Councillor can be co-opted.</p>	
16. FINANCE	<p>The finance report and bank reconciliation for December had been circulated by the Clerk and expenditure for February agreed, with appropriate cheques being signed.</p> <p>Cllr Whatman sought clarification regarding the payroll payments. The Clerk explained that the invoice for 2015-16 had not been paid and therefore appears in this year's accounts. The Clerk confirmed that the annual payroll fee is £60.</p> <p>Cllr Newman advised that the budget for 2017-18 needs to be set and suggested a small group meet to discuss. This was agreed as CLLrs Newman, Housman and Whatman and the Clerk.</p>	<p>MN/CH/ MW/ CL</p>

17. CORRESPONDENCE	None to report.	
18. DIARY	It was agreed that the village Spring Clean would take place on Saturday 25 th March.	
19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS	<p><i>i. War Memorial</i> Cllr Housman advised that he had met with a specialist Monumental Mason and discussed the best way to add two names and an extra inscription. He said that it would be very difficult and time consuming to carve out a smooth panel on the side of the memorial base in situ and that it is unusual for inscriptions to be on the back or sides of a memorial. He therefore proposed a wedge-shaped tablet of granite to sit at the base of the existing memorial containing the new inscriptions. The tablet would be made off-site and it would be asked if the family of Marc Taylor could watch this. Cllr Housman has submitted a pre-application form to the War Memorials Trust to determine if the Parish Council is eligible to apply for grant funding.</p> <p><i>ii. Joint initiative of St Nicholas Church Pluckley and ABC re Syrian Refugee Family</i> Cllr Taylor reported on the work that ABC does resettling refugees, and, working with St Nicholas Church, a family will be hosted in the area.</p>	
20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING	The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday 7 th March 2017, 7:30pm, at Pluckley Village Hall.	
	The meeting closed at 10.15pm	

Caroline Levett, Clerk to Pluckley Parish Council
10th February 2017