

PARISH COUNCIL OF PLUCKLEY

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish held on Tuesday 3rd January 2017, Pluckley Village Hall, 7:30pm

Present	Cllrs Newman (Chair), Beattie, Breach, Housman, O'Connor, Russell, Taylor	
In Attendance	Cllr Bell; Caroline Levett – Clerk; no parishioners	
Item		Action Responsibility
1. APOLOGIES	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Whatman.	
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS & ALTERATIONS TO REGISTER OF INTERESTS	There were no declarations of interest.	
3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	The Parish Council minutes from the meetings held on 13 th December 2016 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	<p><i>i. New Parish Councillors</i> Cllr Newman welcomed new Parish Councillors Debbie Breach, Gavin Russell and Mark Taylor. The new Councillors signed their Acceptance and Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests forms.</p> <p><i>ii. Parish Councillor Responsibilities</i> The following were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning – Cllrs Housman and Taylor • Recreation – Cllrs Whatman and Breach • Communications – Cllr Russell; Publicity and PR – Cllr Newman • Speed Limits – Cllr O'Connor • Highways – Cllr Beattie • Village Hall – Cllr Beattie 	
6. PLANNING CLLR HOUSMAN	<p><i>i. Planning Applications and Decisions</i> Cllr Housman advised that there have been no applications or decisions since the last meeting. He is awaiting advice from ABC regarding work being carried out on an outbuilding at a property as to whether planning permission is required.</p> <p><i>ii. Brickworks</i> Cllr Newman expressed his disappointment that there is no reference in the Section 106 regarding the grazing field. To appeal against this would be expensive and the field may be protected under the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>This condition was removed by Planning Officers in March, although the Parish Council was not advised of this. This again highlights the issue of communication from ABC Planning. Cllr Newman to write to Lucy Holloway, Richard Alderton and Cllr Bell.</p> <p>Cllr Breach asked about funding allocation from the Section 106. Cllr Newman advised that a substantial amount of money would be given to KCC, ABC and the Parish Council. £54,000 will be made available to the Parish Council to be spent on the Village Hall.</p> <p><i>iii. Kent Minerals and Waste – Calls for Sites</i> The Parish Council no comment but will request that KCC is mindful of access to waste sites and HGVs in villages and on country lanes.</p>	
7. ASHFORD BC REPORT CLLR BELL	<p><i>i. Lawful Development Certificates</i> The Parish Council had raised concerns about mobile units/garden annexes which can be positioned without planning permission. This is national legislation and Cllr Bell is waiting to meet with Planning Officers to ensure this is being interpreted properly and see if it perhaps needs flagging at a higher level.</p> <p><i>ii. Recycling</i> Figures from DEFRA confirm that ABC is still the best recycling authority in the county, although figures have dropped slightly, as it has nationally, 55.3% in 2015 and 53.1% in 2016.</p>	

	<p>The EU target is 50% of waste being recycled. ABC will not be complacent and a campaign will be launched in the coming months.</p> <p>The Pilgrims Hospice has a Christmas tree recycling scheme. Trees will be removed in return for a donation to the Hospice.</p> <p><i>iii. Village Caretaker</i></p> <p>Cllr O'Connor asked who is responsible for clearing vegetation from road signs, and whether this could be included in the role of Village Caretaker. Cllr Bell advised that she would be following this up.</p>	CB
8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CLLR NEWMAN	<p>The Examiner has made some modifications to the NHP and it is currently with ABC for their advice as to whether it is ready to go for referendum. Cllr Newman has arranged a meeting with ABC on 10th January to look to ABC to agree with and support the Parish Council. Cllr Newman asked other Parish Councillors and Cllr Bell to join him.</p>	
9. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS CLLR BEATTIE	<p><i>i. Bus Shelter Egerton Road</i></p> <p>Cllr Beattie thanked Cllr Bell for the grant towards the refurbishment which has now been received.</p> <p><i>ii. Fig Tree Cottage, The Street – damage to house by high sided vehicles</i></p> <p>Cllr Beattie had circulated background information, issues and email exchanges prior to the meeting. A warning sign has been erected, funded by Cllr Simkins using his Community Funding Grant. Neither the Parish Council nor the Conservation Officer were consulted. Concerns have been raised by parishioners, and to some extent agreed with by Parish Councillors, regarding the positioning and effectiveness of the sign, and the unnecessary urbanisation. The view of the KCC Highways Officer has been sought but she is yet to visit the site.</p>	
10. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW CLLR O'CONNOR	<p>The full report on the application for reducing the speed limit in Pluckley will be completed by 9th January and submitted to Kent Highways. Parish Councillors will receive a copy of the report. There is no requirement for a Safety Audit, a saving of £1,500. The earliest approval is likely to follow is the end of February, and quotes can then be sought from contractors, with work likely to be completed by the summer.</p>	TOC
11. VILLAGE HALL CLLR HOUSMAN	<p><i>i. Village Hall Management Committee</i></p> <p>Cllr Newman briefed new Parish Councillors on the situation regarding the Village Hall and the transfer of responsibilities. A meeting of the VHMC takes place on 9th January. He highlighted the fact that the committee needs to be aware of additional running costs that the Parish Council has been picking up.</p> <p><i>ii. Village Hall Extension</i></p> <p>Cllr Housman advised that he had submitted a grant application to KCC, which had to be done by 31st December. The grant request is for a total of £50,000, although the Hall is unlikely to receive the full amount. KCC requires match funding and Cllr Housman sought commitment from the Parish Council for £50,000. The Parish Council confirmed that the sum was being held towards the cost of the envisaged extension.</p> <p>The likely total for the extension will be in excess of £100,000. A grant offer had been made by ABC for £8,000 but further grants and funding will be required.</p> <p>Councillor O'Connor suggested that there is an onus on the VHMC to raise funds.</p>	
12. RECREATION GROUND, PAVILION, TENNIS COURTS CLLR WHATMAN	<p>Nothing to report.</p>	
13. SAFETY & SECURITY	<p>Cllr O'Connor reported that Martin Chambers continues to do a good job with Neighbourhood Watch and NextDoor.</p> <p>Cllr Bell asked if a previous antisocial behaviour issue had diminished. The Parish Council confirmed that it had.</p>	
14. ENVIRONMENT	<p>It was agreed that responsibility for environmental matters would be discussed at the February meeting, and a date set for the Village Spring Clean.</p>	
15. WEBSITE & COMMUNICATION	<p><i>i. Broadband Stanford Bridge</i></p> <p>Cllr Russell recapped the situation regarding broadband in the Stanford Bridge area. He has</p>	

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

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

