

PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL STATUTORY MEETING HELD ON MAY 19TH 2015

PRESENT

Chris Housman – Chairman

Martin Newman

Tim O'Connor

Clair Bell (ABC)

Alan Pickering (ABC)

Also present one parishioner (Dave Clements)

Paul Smith

Mike Whatman

Sue Beattie

Jacqui Housman (Minutes)

Annual Parish Assembly

The Parish Council meeting was preceded by the **Annual Parish Assembly** attended by around 50 parishioners. The Chairman introduced presentations by the new High Sherriff of Kent (William Alexander), our Kent County Councillor (Charlie Simkins) and our two Ashford Borough Councillors (Clair Bell and Alan Pickering).

The High Sherriff also presented the *KALC Community Award* to Dave Clements recognising the unpaid work that he undertakes, particularly around the Village Hall.

The Chairman then presented a brief review of the Parish Council over the past year and various village organisations (Gardening Society, Cricket Club, Tennis, Panto etc.) then described their activities and plans.

Annual Statutory Meeting

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Tim O'Connor and Carol Washer, and Graham Smith (Clerk). Jacqui Housman was taking the Minutes.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on April 20th 2015 had been circulated and were approved and signed by the Chairman.

There were no alterations to members Register of Interests or Declarations of Pecuniary Interest. However, new forms for the latter were handed out for completion by all Councillors.

3 Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman

The Chairman stepped down and Martin Newman took the Chair. **Chris Housman** was proposed by Mike Whatman and seconded by Paul Smith. There were no other candidates, and Chris was therefore unanimously elected Chairman.

The Chairman proposed **Martin Newman** as Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by Sue Beattie. There were no other candidates, and Martin was therefore unanimously elected as Vice- Chairman.

4 Public Session

Dave Clements (resident) provided a diagram of a possible framework to support the Village sign to prevent the oak post from rotting when it is re-installed. The Chairman agreed to seek advice on how this could be achieved with safety in mind.

5 Chairman's Report

The Chairman welcomed all re-elected Councillors, and Mike Whatman as a new Councillor. He also welcomed Clair Bell as a re-elected Borough Councillor, and her colleague Alan Pickering as a new Borough Councillor.

PC roles and responsibilities were discussed and the following was agreed:

- Traffic and Highways – Sue Beattie
- Neighbourhood Plan – Martin Newman
- Planning – Paul Smith
- Recreation Ground / Pavilion – Mike Whatman
- Safety and Security – Tim O'Connor
- Communications / Website – Carol Washer ('Communicate' – Martin Newman)
- Environment – Carol Washer
- Village Hall – Chris Housman and Martin Newman

It was agreed not to allocate 'Village activities' to a single Councillor as this role would be shared across Councillors as necessary.

6 Planning

The list of applications is attached with the PC's decisions and comments noted. The Chairman agreed to put the PC's comments on the ABC Planning website.

There was extensive discussion about the revised 'Brickworks' application, as the PC had not been officially notified of this. It was agreed that the Chairman would contact ABC stating that the PC's objections already put forward remained in that the proposed development was far too large. However, he would comment that the PC did not object to the removal of the small industrial buildings and the retention of the Garage site as potential employment.

Paul Smith agreed to pursue wider concerns about this application with ABC's Planning Officers (Stephanie Andrews and/or Oliver Peel): particularly the continuing confusion over when the application will actually be decided, but also why the PC was not a consultee for the revised plans.

7 Ashford BC report

Clair Bell brought to the PC's attention that it should be putting forward any views on ABC's Community Governance Review. It appeared that the PC had not received/seen a letter asking for input into possible boundary changes and local representation. After some discussion it was agreed that the Chairman would respond with two recommendations:

- a) a minor boundary change in the SE corner of the Parish where the boundary between Pluckley and Bethersden would be more logical running along the railway line rather than cutting across two fields
- b) a reduction in the number of Parish Councillors from nine to seven, as Councillors all agreed that this was an adequate number to serve the Parish.

Clair Bell reported that 'Ward Member Grants' for 2015-6 would be available, and could possibly assist with the cost of installing the Village Sign. The PC agreed to consider where financial support would be most beneficial. The Chairman recorded that Clair's 2014-5 Grants had now been spent on the defibrillator and the Panto store.

8 Neighbourhood Plan

Martin reported that the first two public 'workshops' have now been held, and were very successful in drawing out residents' views and concerns. More workshops were planned for the end of June. Publicity was all up-to-date.

9 Traffic & Highways

Sue Beattie agreed to pursue the provision of a portable interactive speed sign. She also agreed to contact the Highways Steward (Darren Anderson) to discuss wider issues of road conditions and parking.

Martin reported that the HGV movements to/from the clay extraction site were causing problems in Charing as well as in Pluckley, and that a letter had been sent to the company signed by the two PC Chairmen. A meeting was also planned to discuss further action and general concerns on HGV traffic, and Sue agreed to liaise with Martin and attend.

10 Village Hall

Martin reported that the Planning Application for the south-side extension is now out for comments, with a target date of 2nd June for determination. No comments had been received to date. Once permission is obtained, Martin would go to our selected bidders to obtain quotations.

11 Recreation Ground, Sports Pavilion and Tennis Courts

Mike agreed to contact Park Leisure to seek a second opinion on the need to refurbish or resurface the Tennis Court and the likely cost of doing so. He would also ascertain the situation regarding providing posts/nets in the multi-use court.

It was noted that the Church would be holding a boot fair on the following Saturday, and concerns were expressed about possible damage to the Rec/outfield if cars were parked there in wet weather. The Chairman agreed to ask the organisers to consider using the Orchard for parking (*note: this was subsequently agreed, but the event was cancelled*)

The double notice board erected to advertise the Church's 'boot fair' was thought to be a good idea, and very visible. Something similar would be useful to replace the current notice board. The Chairman would ascertain standard poster sizes so that this can be considered and costed.

12 Safety and Security

In the absence of Tim O'Connor there was no report. This item was therefore deferred to the next meeting.

13 Village Activities

It was agreed to remove this as a standard agenda item, only including it when a specific need arises.

14 Environment

In Carol Washer's absence there was nothing to report.

15 Website and Communications

Several people at the Neighbourhood Planning workshops had expressed the need for a more up-to-date and dynamic village web site. Martin agreed to include a piece in 'Communicate' seeking expertise in this area.

The Chairman reported that the Annual Report had been distributed.

16 Clerks Report

Nothing to report in the Clark's absence. Audited accounts were awaited.

17 Finance

Various cheques were approved and signed as per the attached list. This included a donation to the BHF towards the Defibrillator, and a donation to Kent Air Ambulance as requested by Dave Clements as 'Villager of the Year'.

18 Correspondence

The Chairman drew attention to a meeting invitation about NHS/999 services on 27th May if anyone could attend. He also stated that the BHF support included material to run a course (or course) on CPR, and he would be following this up.

19 Next Meeting

The next PC Meeting will be on **Monday 15th June at 7:30pm.**

Chris Housman (Chair)

Jacqui Housman (Minutes)

**PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL CONSIDERED THE FOLLOWING PLANNING
MATTERS AT ITS MEETING ON 18th MAY 2015**

APPLICATIONS

- 15/00519/AS Glebelands, The Street. New window in first floor side elevation
SUPPORT
- 15/00524/AS Ardaraich House, Forge Hill, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent, TN27 0SJ
Erection of a garage extension
SUPPORT, but with comments concerning the large size of the extension.
- 15/00526/AS Ardaraich House, Forge Hill. Erection of single storey extension with basement.
SUPPORT, but with comments concerning the large size of the extension.
- 14/01116/AS Pluckley Brickworks and Station Garage, Station Road. Proposed development of 50 dwellings, new access and replacement employment building (Amended Description and Plans)
OBJECT. The PC's objections to the previous plans still hold. It was agreed to respond stating that 50 dwellings remains excessive. However, the PC does not object to the retention of the 'Station Garage' as employment instead of any new development as originally planned.
- 15/00642/AS Greystones, Station Road, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent, TN27 0QX
Front entrance porch extension
SUPPORT – the PC agreed that this would enhance this property
- 15/00545/AS Dowle Street Farm, Dowle Street Road, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent, TN27 0RY
Outdoor heated swimming pool with patio surround
SUPPORT
- 15/00222/AS Land Adjacent to Dering Arms, Dering Terrace. Conversion of existing garage to dwelling (revised plans submitted 19th April)
SUPPORT, but with comments that the hedgerow fronting The Grove should be retained as screening in this Conservation Area.

DECISIONS

- 15/000310/AS1 The Grove. Demolition of existing derelict and disused outbuildings and construction of new garage, workshop and garden room. **PERMIT - NOTED**
- 15/00382/AS Saint Nicholas's Church, The Street. Certificate of lawful development. Display of 5 signs surrounding the churchyard. **PERMISSION NOT REQUIRED**
The PC was concerned that this application still showed the blue signs on large poles that the PC, and various neighbours, had objected to. The Chairman agreed to query this with the Parochial Church Council.

14/01625/AS The Hollies, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent, TN27 0ST First floor rear roof extension
and balcony **PERMIT - NOTED**

**PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL APPROVED THE FOLLOWING PAYMENTS
AT ITS MEETING ON MAY 18TH 2015**

£429.00	Clerk's salary *	500998
£100.00	Clerk's <u>annual</u> petrol allowance *	500998
£6.36	Second class postage stamps *	500998
£65.00	Annual subscription to AWCiRK (includes Village Hall)	500999
£84.20	Clerks tax to HMRC	501000
£90.00	D Heasman, Street sweeping	501001
£45.00	J Johns, Recreation ground tidying	501002
£31.00	C Hoad, Bus shelter sweeping	501003
£40.80	Budget Graphics (Posters)	501004
£104.73	Chairman's expenses (various)	501005
£202.11	Headley Brothers (Digital) – Annual Report printing	501006
£260.33	Pluckley Panto Unlimited – VAT refund	501007
£400.00	British Heart Foundation – Defibrillator	501008
£100.00	Kent Air Ambulance Trust (via Dave Clements)	501009

* One cheque

Income: **£17,960** - Annual Precept/Concurrent functions/Council Tax Support grant

Current a/c Balance as at 30th April 2015 **£51,025.54** Reserve a/c **£8,908.67**

The following Village Hall payments were approved

£122	Sue Exell, Keyholders wages	500523
£27.51	Initial, Hygiene equipment	500524

VH account as at 1st May 2015 stands at **£971.90**