

PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 21ST 2015

Present

C Housman – Chairman
Martin Newman – Vice Chairman
Sue Beattie
Graham Smith (Clerk)

Mike Whatman
Paul Smith
Carol Washer

Also present 1 parishioner (David Clements)

- 1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Tim O'Connor and Clair Bell (Ashford BC)
- 2 The minutes of the meeting held on August 17th 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 3 There were no alterations to members Register of Interests or Declarations of Pecuniary Interests.
- 4 The member of the public present had no issues to raise.

5 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported he had attended a recent KALC (Ashford Area) meeting at which it was reported that the Concurrent Functions Grant would continue to be paid in future years. In the case of Pluckley this amounts to income of £1,050pa.

Chris reported that he was still having issues concerning a supplier for an external cabinet for the defibrillator. Mike Whatman confirmed that he was still pursuing a suitable location for its installation.

The week commencing 16th November has been designated as 'National Democracy Week' and this may give an opportunity to invite more residents to attend the PC meeting then!

6 Planning

Applications were discussed and decisions noted as per the attached schedule. It was agreed that Paul Smith would be responsible for sending the PC's comments to ABC, normally via the on-line form.

It was agreed that Paul Smith would prompt ABC for enforcement action at Frith Court Barn, where there are two planning breaches.

7 Ashford BC report

In the absence of Cllr Clair Bell there was no report.

8 Neighbourhood Plan

Martin Newman reported that the working group had now met all 8 site owners who had proposed plans for 10 housing developments around the village. The sites have now been 'scored' by the group and identified as acceptable or unacceptable. A public meeting would be held on Wednesday 21 October (at 8pm in the Village Hall) to present these conclusions and the reasons for them.

The old brickworks site will need to be discussed as a separate issue. Martin reported that a new application was likely to be forthcoming for 25 'executive' homes, with the remainder of the site managed by some form of Management Committee, including residents and the PC. Paul and Martin would continue to act on the PC's behalf in this matter.

9 Traffic and Highways

Sue Beattie is to arrange a meeting concerning the Forge Hill drainage issue which remains a concern.

Martin reported that a discussion with ABC about residents parking bays along Station Road concluded that this would be impractical because the road was not wide enough.

The proposed interactive speed sign has yet to be decided, and Sue would pursue this.

10 Village Hall

Martin had now received one quotation for the extension work. Martin would chase the others. The PC has applied for a grant (up to £10k) from ABC, and Mike Whatman would be presenting our case to ABC on October 7th (in Martin's absence).

Chris suggested that it would make sense for a member of the VH Committee to take over 'treasurer' duties from The Clerk, further distancing the VH from the PC. This was agreed by the PC and Chris would discuss this with Judy Pool.

11 Recreation Ground, Sports Pavilion and Tennis Courts

Mike Whatman reported that the tennis court has been resurfaced (Park Leisure's invoice is awaited), the car park pedestrian gate relocated, and the vehicle entrance reinforced. Vegetation has all been cut back, and weeds sprayed (this was ongoing).

There was confusion over what had been claimed for and paid as a result of the attempted break-in at the Pavilion, as the builder (Andy Samson) had not yet completed all the work. It was agreed that Mike and the Clerk would meet to clarify this and take appropriate action.

12 Safety and Security

In the absence of Tim O'Connor there was no report.

13 Environment

No report this time

14 Website and Communications

Mike commented that it was difficult to identify specific sets of minutes on the website. Carol Washer agreed that some rationalisation would be worthwhile. Adam Finch is helping Carol to redesign the Website using an application called 'Wordpress', and this work is continuing.

The Chairman noted that Jackie Grebby was giving up the editorship of the Egerton and Pluckley Parish Magazine. It was agreed to consider a more 'commercial' approach to the PC website – perhaps including advertising.

15 Finance

The cheques were agreed and signed as per the attached schedule.

16 Correspondence

The Correspondence Box was made available to councillors. In future the Clerk agreed to draw attention to items of importance that had been received.

17 Next meeting

The next meeting will be on **Monday 19th October** at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Graham Smith, Parish Clerk

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**THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE FOLLOWING PAYMENTS AT ITS MEETING ON
SEPTEMBER 21ST**

£96	Rospa – Playground inspection
£40	Pluckley Village Hall (Neighbourhood Plan meetings)
£429	Clerks salary* One cheque
£13.52	Postage stamps* One cheque
£90	David Heasman, Street sweeping
£45	Jenny Johns, Recreation Ground tidying
£31	Cyril Hoad, bus shelter sweeping
£84.20	Clerks tax to HMRC
£42.98	Staples, 2 ink cartridges
£12.78	EDF Energy. Recreation Ground electricity

As at 1st September 2015 the PC current a/c stood at **£42,802.98**, with the Reserve a/c at **£8,908 67**

The following Village Hall payments were approved

£122 Sue Exell, Keyholders wages

£27.51 Initial Hygiene, Hygiene equipment

As at 1st September 2015 the VH a/c stood at **£1,043.32**

**THE COUNCIL CONSIDERED THE FOLLOWING PLANNING MATTERS AT ITS
MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 21ST 2015**

APPLICATIONS

15/01008 Land adjacent to the old Blacksmiths Arms public house. Erection of a detached dwelling. **The PC voted to OBJECT to this application. Although we did not object to the design of the building, the proposed black weatherboarding was out of keeping with surrounding poroperties. Paul Smith would provide the detailed wording to ABC.**

15/01135 30, Thorne Estate. Retrospective application for erection of a sun-lounge to the rear, a detached garage and 1.8m boundary fence. **The PC regretted this was a retrospective application. It was agreed to COMMENT that the fence needed to be better screened by planting. Paul Smith would provide the detailed wording to ABC.**

15/01204 Ashurst, Lambden Road, Erection of 2 storey rear extension, first floor roof extension and erection of front porch. **The PC voted to COMMENT that it was felt that the proposal would be very dominant in the street scene. Paul Smith would provide the detailed wording to ABC. (Cllr Whatman declared an interest and did not vote).**

15/01201 Surrenden Bungalow, Surrenden Rd. Erection of first floor roof extension. **The PC SUPPORTED this.**

DECISIONS

15/00760 Stanford Bridge Farm, Replacement porch and detached swimming pool building **PERMITTED** The PC had no objection to this.

15 00291 Littlebrook Lodge, Forge Hill, Recladding in cedar boarding. **PERMITTED** The PC had no objection.