

PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 3rd April 2018 at 7.30 pm in Pluckley Village Hall

Present : Cllrs Newman (in the Chair), Breach, Taylor, Whatman, Fewsdale & Dracott

In attendance : Mr. G Eaton, Clerk to the Council, Ashford BC Cllr Bell and three members of the public

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence

2 Declarations of Interests in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of Cllrs interests in items on the Agenda

3 Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th March 2018 were agreed and signed

4 Parishioners Questions

Two Parishioners wished to observe the meeting and the third was later invited to speak on the Village Hall Planning application

5 Chairman's Report

Cllr Newman offered thanks to Cllr Whatman for his efforts in organising the Village Spring Clean. Other items in Cllr Newman's report are covered elsewhere on the agenda

6 Planning

Cllr Taylor noted that there were few planning alerts to 19th March:

Alex Autos, Dowle Street Road – retrospective application for erection of stables and change of use of the land for the keeping of horses

Lambden Farm, Lambden Road – removal of agricultural occupancy condition on former single storey cow shed. Difficulty apparently in finding genuine agricultural workers as tenants. After a full discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should object to the application as

the Parish Council understood from local farmers that there was a need for agricultural dwellings for workers

Cllr Taylor

Community Hall, Station Road – variation of condition 4 on planning permission to alter roof design and external materials and finishes on the approved development. C Houseman was invited to outline the application and there followed a detailed discussion about the application. It was generally agreed that the application was not necessary at this point in the overall development. There were also concerns about the materials being proposed and roof pitch. C Houseman agreed to take these comments back to the Village Hall architect and to possibly withdraw the application

Cllr Newman asked for there to be a closer working relationship between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee and offered to attend the next Village Hall Committee Meeting to be held on 7th May (tbc)

It was noted that the new extension was nearing completion. There was a discussion about a new ramp and fire alarm and Cllr Newman reminded C Houseman that any changes required the written approval of the Parish Council. It was hoped these matters would be discussed in more detail at the next Village Hall Committee Meeting

7 Ashford BC Report

Ashford BC Cllr Bell spoke about her Ward Member grant which was now available for applications. Cllr Bell reported on the signaling upgrades for Euro Star trains at Ashford Station which had just been completed and Ashford BC's Local Plan which had been submitted for examination

8 Finance

Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were approved for payment:

	£
Cheque No 501371 J Johns, Recreation Ground tidying	45.00
Cheque No 501372 C Hoad, Bus Shelter sweeping	31.00
Cheque No 501373 D Heasman, Street sweeping	90.00
Cheque No 501374 G Eaton, Clerk's salary & expenses	453.04
Cheque No 501375 S Beattie, Expenses Village Spring Clean	22.90
Cheque No 501376 Kent Pond Wardens, Donation	50.00
Cheque No 501377 Dewar Green, Web site hosting	288.00
Cheque No 501378 Printing.com, Communicate printing	302.00

Budget 2018-2019

There was a general discussion about the 2018-2019 budget figures and it was agreed to make some minor amendments to some budget lines – Clerk's salary, miscellaneous expenditure and Neighbourhood Plan

It was also agreed to include within budgeted expenditure amounts for the set up costs and running costs for the Brickworks nature reserve, possible modifications to the Neighbourhood Plan, interactive speed sign and a donation for the final phase of the Village Hall extension so that budgeted expenditure equated to budgeted income

9 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Newman reported that there was no further news from the Brickworks or Thorne Yard.

Cllrs Newman & Taylor to attend a free seminar in London for Parish Council's regarding Neighbourhood Planning

It was agreed that as a result of the Braintree ruling it was even more relevant that the Neighbourhood Plan should be reviewed – to be considered further at the next Meeting

10 Traffic and Highways

Cllr Taylor noted that the Speed Watch volunteers were currently being trained

11 Village Hall

There was nil else of note

12 Recreation Ground, Sports Pavilion & Tennis Courts

Cllr Whatman presented his report:

Tennis Club – it was agreed that weed control spraying for both courts four times pa to be included in overall contract. Another quote was being sought from Park Leisure for the possible refurbishment of the courts

Pavilion – some maintenance work is required. Cllr Whatman will obtain quotes to present at the next meeting but this work could be funded from the £1500 maintenance allowance previously agreed by the Parish Council

Children's Play Area – some maintenance work is required – Park Leisure to provide a quote

Cricket Club - the cricket ground had received its first cut of the season today. Some of the Heras fencing has been damaged beyond repair a result of the Club not storing or securing

the fencing as had been agreed. It was agreed that the Cricket Club be reminded of this requirement. Cllr Fewsdale kindly agreed to donate some Heras fencing

Cllrs Whatman & Fewsdale

13 Communications

Cllr Newman reported that the Annual Report would be going to the printers this week

It was noted that M Chambers the web master was moving house soon and was no longer able to update the website. Various options were considered – find a new volunteer, attend training offered by Dewar Green, or worst case, pay someone to update the site. Cllr Newman suggested that he and the Clerk attend the free training

14 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that he had submitted the VAT return for just under £13k, was able to add Minutes and agendas to the website and was liaising with David Buckett, Internal Auditor, regarding dates for auditing the accounts

15 Correspondence

It was noted that the Heritage Centre opening had been put back to the end of June

Letter received from Ashford BC re Community Emergency Plan – Clerk to access the template and discuss at the next meeting

Clerk

Email received from a Parishioner regarding the Brickworks reptile receptor site offering reptiles from a site in Ashford. It was agreed that nothing could be done until ownership had been transferred to the Parish Council

Email received from The Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust, offering a free plaque. It was noted that there was no airfield in the Parish. Clerk to reply

Clerk

16 Diary: Meetings and Events

It was confirmed that the Annual Parish Assembly would be held on Tuesday 8th May 2018 at 7.30 pm in Pluckley Village Hall

17 AOB and items for future consideration

There was a brief discussion about where the new trailer should be stored – ideas welcomed

Cllr Taylor reported that he was still trying to speak to someone at Network Rail regarding the former coal yard and plans for its future

18 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on **Tuesday 1st May 2018 at 7.30 pm** in Pluckley Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm