

Cliffsend Parish Council

The Village Hall, Foads Lane, Cliffsend, CT12 5JH
Email: clerk@cliffsendpc.org Telephone: 07849 160192
www.cliffsendpc.org



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 21st March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Meetings of the Council are recorded. AV recordings are retained only until draft minutes are adopted as a true record.

Present – Cllr G Fricker (Chair), Cllr Harrison, Cllr Smith, Paul Chapman, Alison Willoughby-Browne (Clerk), Community Warden and 5 members of the public.

- 56/22-23 Welcome and apologies for absence** - Chairman welcomed those present and indicated the emergency exits; Clerk advised that the meeting was being recorded. Apologies received from Cllrs J Fricker and Barton, DCllr Rogers.
- 57/22-23 Declarations of interest and co-option of new Councillor** - no declarations of interest. Chairman introduced Paul who had kindly volunteered to come onto the Council (previously interviewed) proposed by Cllr Harrison, seconded by Cllr Smith, all in favour. Paul read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance and was welcomed. Chairman advised that Code of Conduct is available on the website.
- 58/22-23 Adoption of the minutes of 25th January 2023 as being a true record** - proposed by Cllr Harrison, seconded by Cllr Smith, motion carried. Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.
- 59/22-23 Matters arising from the above minutes** - none other than to be discussed.
- 60/22-23 Working Party & Councillor Reports** - County Cllr/District Cllr - no reports.

Community Warden – a few walks around Cliffsend, weather not been good - difficult as no facilities for sheltering. Cliffsend very self-sufficient but would like to get involved with litter-picks, has reported the fridge in car park twice and was advised that not Council land (TDC).

Meadow and Open Spaces - need to order trees and shrubs that BAM Nuttall is going to pay for. We have a list of suitable species, following soil testing of areas, have to decide on which and how many. Still trying to arrange meeting with representative of Bakers Field re' mini orchard. Jet garage; originally earmarked for trees suitable for shoreline, scanner showed a lot of activity, electrical cables are present but need to establish how deep they are, both cable and trees are already present in Sandwich Road. Will be reaching out to residents now we know what species are suitable. Self-seeded hawthorn and blackthorn shrubs have been harvested for distribution around village; benefit of leaving the area around hedging in meadow untouched. Litter picking equipment purchased to distribute to those who have kindly volunteered. Resident mentioned stickers for litter bins to indicate that bagged dog mess can be deposited in them, unfortunately, no longer available from Dog Warden. Narcissi are now coming up by the beacon, might take a couple of years to fully come to fruition, Cllr J Fricker has planted native primrose in Primrose Way. Unfortunately, the Holm Oak in Cottington Road had to be felled due to die-back, rather than getting weaker and potentially falling onto highway it was removed.

Planning and Highways - Toolkits for 20/30mph being delivered 22nd March for raising awareness. As predicted not everyone sticking to 20mph, Chairman encouraged anyone who is concerned to sign up to Speedwatch, prosecution of drivers is now possible using camera evidence. Community Warden explained that if a few volunteers then registration numbers can be recorded and speeding drivers will get a warning letter. A resident wondered about the use of speed bumps; Chairman stated that they are expensive - £8,000 a pair! A raised table is in the region of £17,000.

Chairman - whole of Thanet is concerned with the amount of development going on at the moment. A 'Call for Sites is when landowners/farmers/charities put forward land that they own. Before being co-opted, Cllr Chapman had been in correspondence with the Maudsley Trust which owns the play area/north of Cliffsend Road/asparagus field Sandwich Road, various parcels of land. The contention is that they responded to the Call for Sites as they are obliged to understand the value of the land that they own, not necessarily to build on it. It is easy to get emotive with current situation, a number of landowners have responded who potentially consider selling for development, but no planning has been submitted, or approved yet for those pieces of land. We should be making efforts to make sure that no applications do come forward, we need a green buffer of land between us and Ramsgate, and should be making representations to TDC. Resident mentioned the lorries at bottom of Foads Lane – burden on system despite the new sewage pipework being fitted. Cllr Harrison claimed that Cliffsend isn't as proactive as Minster; Chairman suggested that as head of planning Cllr Harrison might want to lead that.

Youth - following success of various events organised during half-term and summer holidays, will continue along same lines e.g. Halloween, summer camping. Cliffsend Arts and Crafts Club have offered help with events - show children how to crochet, knit, make wreaths etc. February expenses shown on payment schedule. After clarifying, Cllr Harrison proposed that the Parish Council reimburse the Club for the hall hire for the planned Arts and Crafts events at £20 a session, seconded by Cllr Smith, all in favour. Actively trying to get Kent Wildlife Trust and RSPB involved with other events.

61/22-23 Financial Matters -

Budget Monitoring – 4th Quarter (not a full quarter as have to report before end of financial year), bank balance at 21st March - £35,989.91. Cllr Harrison had verified that accounts and bank statement reconciled. Cllrs had checked the bank statement against accounts and the current budget was compared with spend to date; overspends - general maintenance (includes re-wilding projects) and subscriptions (joined KALC). However, total expenditure still expected to be within budget due to underspends (implementation of 20mph from reserves). Due to retirement of previous Auditor, Clerk had contacted others for availability and quotations.

Cllrs Harrison and Smith checked payment schedule and supporting documents. Contractual payment: Clerk's salary. Payment schedule proposed by Cllr G Fricker, seconded by Cllr Harrison, all in favour. Italics indicate already paid. Awaiting invoice from Archers Low and bank details for TRRG.

Payee	Description	Invoice No	Method	VAT	Ex VAT	Total
<i>Cllr J Fricker</i>	<i>Reimburse bulbs/seeds</i>	-	<i>Transfer</i>	<i>26.08</i>	<i>130.40</i>	<i>156.48</i>
Cliffsend Arts & Crafts	Hall Hire – Crafting Event	-	Transfer	-	20.00	20.00
Cllr J Fricker	Crafting Event supplies	-	Transfer	-	13.22	13.22
Cllr J Fricker	Nature Walk refreshments	-	Transfer	0.97	8.32	9.29
Clerk	Home Working Allowance	-	Transfer	-	312.00	312.00
Gallagher	Council insurance	-	Transfer	-	523.01	523.01
Archers Low Nursery	Christmas tree	-	Transfer			
Clerk	Mobile phone top-up	-	Transfer	-	10.00	10.00
HMRC	NI/Tax	-	Transfer	-	67.20	67.20
South East in Bloom	Parish in Bloom entry	3551	Transfer	-	50.00	50.00
TRRG	Subscription	-	Transfer	-	25.00	25.00
Cllr J Fricker	Easter craft supplies	-	Transfer	3.43	17.18	20.61
Cllr G Fricker	Litter-pick equipment	7140/10274/117064	Transfer	29.27	146.18	175.45
Total for Month				59.75	1322.51	1382.26

62/22-23 **Planning Applications -**

FH/TH/23/0015 52 Canterbury Road West (single storey rear extension)

F/TH/23/0100 Sportsman Inn (to allow alterations to fenestration of houses)

FH/TH/23/0123 21 Foads Hill (single storey rear extension, conversion of garage)

F/TH/23/0235 Little Cliffsend Farm, Chalk Hill (retrospective – change of use of land to siting and storage of containers, materials, plant and machinery and for the parking of vehicles)

FH/TH/23/0314 Park Ville Windsor Road (single storey side extension, demolition of garage)

Cllr Harrison had visited Chalk Hill a couple of times with CCllr Trevor Shonk, and DCllr Brenda Rogers, also movement of earth/hardcore in field opposite side of Sandwich Road. Retrospective application only received 20th March, further investigation required. Resident suggested it might be to do with development north of Canterbury Road West. Will see what documents available in planning portal, need a joined-up approach with Ramsgate Town Council.

63/22-23 **Current Topics -**

Elections – 4th May 2023; Cllrs aware of procedure, anybody who is not currently a Council member can stand, will be before the next Parish Council meeting (AGM). Cllr Harrison emphasised how important photo ID is, residents will not be able to vote if they do not have photo ID with them (see website/Facebook/noticeboards). District and Parish elections are organised by Thanet District Council, would only have a Parish Council election if more than seven (quota for Cliffsend) apply. £3,000 in budget for election.

Upcoming events – Coronation of King Charles III – Big Lunch on Sunday is a national event, will participate. Early stages – picnic in park with projection of live Windsor Castle concert Saturday 6th May, joint venture with Village Hall.

Easter Family Fun Day; Saturday 8th April 12-3pm in Village Hall and park – treasure hunt in woodland with Easter egg prizes, craft stall, guess the size of the cake, how many eggs in the jar and other activities. In report Cllr J Fricker suggested a budget of £200, proposed by Cllr Chapman, seconded by Cllr Smith, motion carried.

64/22-23 **Clerk's Reports -**

- TDC Planning Enforcement updated on Clive Road development; site visited, planning permission has expired and will not be able to commence any development on site as unable to comply with approved application due to the removal of the trees (not able to take action as trees weren't protected) residents to advise if any activity on site.
- KCC Community Engagement Team meeting – Highways Improvement Plan updates; prices for potential works.
- Update on anti-tank pimples/tank traps/crocodile teeth/pillbox – advice from Historic England on maintenance, and to contact Conservation Officer at Dover District Council. Officer said would take too long to identify structures from grid references, so need to give an indication of what settlements are nearby, can then check to see whether in district, if privately owned then not their responsibility (resident advised that could be MOD).
- After 9 years of Central Harbour/Cliffsend PCSO Litchfield is moving to another area, PCSO Williams will cover Nethercourt, Cliffsend and Pegwell.
- WW Martin – lights in Cottington Road; dispute over main power cable, will update when sorted.
- Picnic bench – should be installed by end of March.
- Notification that defibrillator may have been used 18th March, checked pads etc, no sign of use.
- Grit bins not topped-up, hopefully nicer weather coming.
- Network Rail community engagement drop-in session – 2-7pm 25th April, St Mary's Church.

65/22-23 Correspondence Received -

- Resident – call for sites/potential new developments; circulated, discussed.
- Landowner – acknowledgement of survey results.
- Resident – Pegwell Bay beach PSPO; contacted.
- Resident – update on mowing of Earlsmead Crescent green/bluebells.
- TDC – notification of cabinet meeting re' Port of Ramsgate.
- Resident – how to advertise cleaning services; advised.
- Resident – Councillor vacancies; replied.
- Sunbelt Rentals Limited – Canterbury Road West closure: 17th-21st April.
- Enquirer – seeking a parcel of land for Shetland ponies/store/stable block/communal community garden space/allotments; circulated, replied, to minute.
- Resident – advised on broken planter; responded.
- Kent Wildlife Trust – upcoming events at Pegwell and Sandwich; published.
- Hall Management – revised Hall hire charges; £3 per hour, to complete booking form for meetings in new financial year and pay in full to secure (£180) proposed by Cllr G Fricker, seconded by Cllr Chapman, motion carried.
- Resident – information on increased parish precept; acknowledged, responded.
- Resident – sycamore overhanging garden; inspected, reported to KCC.
- Resident – rehoming hedgehogs in Clifsend a possibility if we can make hedgehog homes.
- Resident – update on allotments and survey; often raised, we don't own any land, we asked residents to register an interest, 3 people did so, need 6 plus to be taken further. Previously a joint venture was proposed by Ramsgate Town Council but land and preparation too expensive. Cllr Harrison to approach local farmer to see if land behind Orbit houses could be gifted.
- Hall Management – Chairman read out a thank you letter to all Council members for their support with the Council's contribution towards the installation of the kitchen.

66/22-23 Public Questions -

- Resident said it was good to see graffiti removed from bridge; out of our boundary but Community Warden had chased about graffiti in the areas she covers.
- Resident asked whether Cllr Harrison had seen the block paving on corner of Foads Lane at Sportsman development; has come over footpath the gap between path and paving filled with concrete, consequently, tarmac breaking up, Cllr Harrison to check whether exceeded boundary.
- Resident – TR32 pathway, informed that it was open. Council hasn't received notification that it has been reopened, to check. Most likely a safety issue at the moment.

Meeting concluded at 21:05