

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8TH NOVEMBER 2016

In attendance were Cllrs McCully, Taylor, Miss Grundy, Moore, the Clerk and three member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies

2. Declarations of Interest and Update to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Register

There were no declarations of interest

During the next item the meeting was suspended to allow a member of the public to speak

3. Possible Development in the Parish

Mr Drury from BDB Architects addressed the meeting on possible proposals for development in the Parish. He had been appointed by a local landowner regarding the development of a piece of land in the Parish. Mr Drury explained current policies and guidelines of the LGDF in that parishes should look to providing some small scale development. He considered what may be appropriate for the plot and has drawn up initial plans for a small single-storey development consisting of nine modest two bedroom dwellings which he felt may be suitable for local residents wishing to downsize. He suggested that initially, possibly six months, they are open to local people only to purchase, following that period of time, if not sold they could be offered on the open market. Following a number of questions which included the relocation of the current use of the land, possibility of an open area for community use and the preference for a mixed development, the Chairman thanked Mr Drury for attending.

4. To Approve the Minutes of the last Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Item 3 Matters Arising/Overgrown Hedges: The clerk recorded the Parish Council's thanks to KCC Cllr Simmonds for the prompt attention given by Highways to the hedge growth in Merton Lane. Cllr Simmonds said it was music to his ears to receive a thank you and would report it to the contractors.

Item 5iii Planning: The clerk made enquiries with KALC as to whether any other Parishes had complained about the future loss of hard copy applications and that all applications and responses will now have to be viewed on line. It appears that we are the fourth parish to bring this to their attention and that Cllr Ray Evison, Chairman of the Canterbury District KALC Committee has agreed to take the matter up with the Planning Authority.

Item 6 BP3 PROW: Cllr Moore followed up a complaint that a bridle way has been partially ploughed and planted and found this to be so. He has reported this and others on the KCC PROW portal.

Item 7 Member's Resignation: The clerk has advised CCC Electoral Services of the resignation of Cllr Lucy Markes and they have provided a 'Notice of Vacancy' to be published on 9th November. The clerk has written a letter of thanks to Mrs Markes for her work in the Parish.

5. Financial Matters

- (i) Member gave consideration to a request from St Mary's Church Lower Hardres for funding towards the restoration of a recently found archive parchment entitled; Benefaction James Tillard. As Parish Councils have no powers to donate towards the fabric and contents of a Church other than towards the upkeep of the Burial Ground, the clerk had taken advice from KALC, who suggested a little known power which allows for a Parish to safeguard an archive on behalf of a Parish. It was agreed that we enquire with the Church Wardens where they intend to display the parchment once restored.

- (ii) The following payments were approved.
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|-------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Whitehead Monkton | £ 835.20 | Legal Fees relating to Play Area |
| Mr D. Harrison | £ 100.00 | Upkeep of War Memorials |
| HMRC | £ 50.20 | PAYE – September |
| Parish Clerk | £ 33.11 | Stationery & Expenses |
- (iii) Members noted receipt of £231.27 VAT refund for 2014-2016.
- (iv) **Estimates & Precept:** Having considered the estimates for 2017-18 a budget of £6086.00 was agreed. It was therefore proposed and seconded that subject to the amount of Council Tax Support Grant we receive, we set a precept of around £5920.00. As the CTSG has not yet been confirmed the precept figure may need to be altered. It was therefore agreed that the above is a recommendation to the next meeting.
- (v) **Capital Grant and CFF Funding:** Now that the Community Space proposed for land at the Farm Shop will no longer go ahead, the clerk enquired with CCC about the grant funding we received for the project. CCC suggested that we keep them informed on any further negotiations for a parcel of suitable land, and wait until later in the financial year before they make a decision on whether the funding should be returned or possibly carried over to next year, but this would be with CCC Cllrs permission. The clerk had also communicated with CCC re the concurrent functions funding for the proposed play area. On this she has been asked to deduct the amount estimated and amend the CFF application for 2017-2021. However the clerk has been assured that if we manage to provide a play area for the parish we can apply for maintenance funding through the contingency fund.
- (vi) **Table Tennis:** The offer of table tennis equipment was communicated to the Parish Council and passed over to the village hall management committee for consideration, who stressed to those interested parties that it cannot be a case of a drop in for a quick game as there are costs and room availability to consider. The VHMC advised that a club would need to be formed and fixed dates for usage for which there would be a charge.
- (vii) Members approved the payments sheet and the Draft Level of Reserves as Follows:

Opening Balance 01.04.16		9405.32
Income Received to Date		
Precept	6573.58	
Concurrent Functions Funding	2235.41	
CCC Capital Grant	5084.00	
KCC Members Grant – Speedwatch	1172.00	
Butts Court Funding	859.15	
Total	15924.14	
Total Income & Reserves		25329.46
Less expenditure to date		3180.66
Balance		22148.80
Bank Balances as at 29 th October 2016		
Lloyds Account sheet 54		14978.56
National Savings Account		7170.24
Balance		22148.80

6. Planning Matters

- (i) CA/16/02416/TPO Dane Court, 3, Nackington Park, Nackington
TPO No 8 of 1991/B to fell one Larch tree and plant suitable replacement. No objection
- (ii) CA/16/02429/FUL Farnham House, Merton Lane, Lower Hardres
Proposed detached garage and driveway alterations. No objection
- (iii) CA/14/00085/FUL S shaped field north of Bridge Road Bridge. Site C
CA/14/00086/FUL North part of field that borders A2 and southern part to the east & south of Nackington, Lower Hardres. Site B
CA/14/00087/FUL Field west of Nackington Road and south of A2. Site A.
There is no update on these applications.

- (iv) CA/16/02379/FUL & /16/02380/LB The Old Rectory, School Lane, Lower Hardres
Proposed internal and external alterations to listed building including reinstatement of windows to north east elevation, replacing porch with carport – pergola, replacing bay window to south west elevation with conservatory infill extension for sun-room in lower ground floor to rear.

Members studied the proposals carefully and heartily endorse the restoration of this grand listed building which appeared to be in an unstable condition and in danger of collapse. They looked in detail at the proposed improvements to the Old Rectory dwelling house and the plans for the outbuildings including the solar panels area and can find no objection. The Parish Council therefore fully supports and welcomes the planning application.

7. Planning Decisions

- (i) CA/16/02115/FUL & CA/16/02122/LB Cooks Farm, Tapleys Hill, Lower Hardres
Proposed single-storey rear extension and internal alterations following removal of conservatory including replacement of windows. Granted by CCC

8. Highways and Footpaths/PROW

- The clerk is to report severe overhanging of trees along and on both sides of the B2068 from the top of Faussett Hill to Church Lane. She will also report again, the damaged 30mph sign and overgrowth of foliage obstructing road signs and the Bridge Road junction sign. These are hampering the use of speedwatch equipment in monitoring the traffic speeds.
- KCC has now approved the appropriate speedwatch equipment that is recommended for use in the County. The speedwatch co-ordinator reported that she will be trialing the new equipment in a couple of weeks.
- Cllr Taylor having obtained the criteria for a 30mph speed limit in villages, asked councillors for their support in continuing to pursue the matter. Members were fully supportive.
- The clerk to report to CCC that graffiti has been sprayed on the bus shelter at Street End. It was further agreed that we arrange to have the bus shelter painted with wood preservative.

9. Correspondence, Publications and Other Matters of Importance

Notice of CPRE Kent AGM 2pm on 18.11.16 Lenham Community Centre
Notice of KALC AGM to be held at Ditton Community Centre on 19th Nov 2016 9.30 for 10am
Copy of Clerks & Councils Direct
Copy of Kent Voice

10. To confirm the date of the next meeting as 13th December 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed.....Date.....