

ALKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Statutory Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 9th May 2022 at 7.15pm in Alkham Village Hall

Present: Cllrs N Burrows (Chairman); M Hibbert; A Barrier

Also present: I Bowie (Clerk) and members of the public.

Representations from the public *will be taken for a period up to fifteen minutes before the opening of the formal meeting. Individuals may speak for up to three minutes, on agenda items, at the discretion of the Chairman.*

- An update on the status of Speedwatch and Lorry Watch was given. The Speedwatch team reported that they needed more people to volunteer.
- Concerns were raised re accidents on the Alkham Valley Road.
- Volume of Lorries using the Alkham Valley Road

1. To elect a Chairman and receive the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

It was **RESOLVED** to duly elect Councillor Burrows as Chairman. Cllr Burrows signed the Acceptance of Office.

2. To elect a Vice-Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to duly elect Councillor Hibbert as Vice-Chairman

3. Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

3.1 Apologies for absence received and confirmed by the Council.

Members who cannot attend a meeting shall tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings, under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted. No apologies were received.

3.2 Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests. There were none

3.3 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. There were none
In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers. There were none

3.4 Requests for Dispensations. There were none

3.5 Declarations of Lobbying. There were none.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting:

To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th March 2022 to be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Consideration of items to be taken in private (Exclusion of Public and Press)

In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting by the reason of its confidential nature. There were none

6. Finance:

6.1 To note Receipts of Income (to be provided at the meeting).

6.2 It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the payments on the schedule.

Payee	Description	£
Harmer and Sons	Village Maintenance	205.20
Ionos	Emails and Domain (April)	33.00
HMRC	PAYE Q4	153.00
Easy Pc	Accountancy Software	50.00
KALC	Subscription	341.74
Greentec Products	Non Slip Decking Strips	92.50

It was **RESOLVED** that the PC would proceed with the quotation received for a new tarmac footpath path to connect Newlyn Meadow to the path network. It was **RESOLVED** that the quotation for £221 to repaint the railings and posts. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would match fund to a maximum of 50% of the cost the provision of equipment for the Speedwatch team. The total cost of equipment was given as £ 2319.52.

6.3 To confirm bank reconciliation.

The bank reconciliation was presented and accepted. The combined bank reconciliation as at 31st March 2022 was £49,661.72

7. To receive the AGAR for the financial year ended 31st March 2022

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was not returned by the Internal Auditor. It was **RESOLVED** to bring forward the July meeting to the 27th of June to facilitate the AGAR requirements.

7.1 To receive the Internal audit report:

7.2 Accounts to be approved and signed:

7.3 The parish council considered and approved the Annual Governance Statement for the year ending March 2022.

7.4 Acceptance of Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)

8 Planning:

8.1 To table planning applications received for consideration:

8.1.1 22/00531 Sunningdale Alkham Valley Road Alkham CT15 7EW

Erection of a outbuilding for use as a garage, workshop, gym, office, with balcony to side elevation (existing outbuilding to be demolished). **APC No Objection**

8.1.2 22/00497 Drellingore Farm Stombers Lane Drellingore CT18 7ER

Erection of two storey and single storey rear extensions **APC Concerns re large footprint in a rural setting.**

8.1.3 **22/00499 Removal of Condition 25 (affordable housing) of planning permission**

DOV/16/01450 (outline application for the erection of 19 dwellings) (application under Section 73) | Land South East Of Fernfield Farm Fernfield Lane Hawkinge CT18 7AW
APC Objection

8.2 To receive late planning applications and other late planning matters: There were none

8.3 To table planning applications dealt with since last meeting: There were none

8.4 To table decisions by the Planning Authority since the last meeting:

8.4.1 21/01568 Greenwood Farm North Chalksole Green Lane Alkham CT15 7EE

Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing) for the continued use of land as a two runway private airstrip and use of building as hangar for aircraft **Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing) Granted**

9 Allocation of Responsibilities:

It was **AGREED** to defer this item until the next meeting.

10 To receive reports from:

10.1 Kent County Councillor No Report Cllr Beaney

10.2 District Councillor Cllr Hibbert

Ward Cllrs have been given £500 to distribute within their wards to assist with the platinum jubilee projects. It was **AGREED** that the parish council would apply on behalf of the Community jubilee Celebration Team. Cllr Hibbert gave an update on the TAP (Traffic Activation Protocol).

10.3 Byways Cllr Barrier

Cllr Barrier reported that two sections of the Pimlico byway had been re-surfaced. He raised concerns re the Slip Lane end in that there was glass in it and it was not a proper sub base. He raised concerns that it may be 'washed away' in heavy rain. It was **AGREED** that Cllr Barrier would contact the Kent PROW Officer.

Cllr Barrier reported that he had contacted KCC and asked them to inspect the steps behind the Church to prevent any further falls by residents.

10.4 Parish Plan – The Parish Plan is still with the working group chaired by Den Barnard. The parish council looks forward to this project progressing in the near future. Cllr Burrows

10.5 Drainage and Flood Warden Report Cllr Hibbert

Latest work updates for submitted Alkham drainage fault reports to Kent Highways department are as follows:

596053 – Martin Vale, Hogbrook Lane – work still to be completed.

630656 – Thorn Lane, repeat request for work to roadside silt trap and culvert to clear silt

Little to report this month. Rainfall levels low for time of year. Underground water levels low.

Need to look out for sharp showers or thunderstorms. Run-off water will flow and pick up the last few months debris and potentially block local lanes and cause possible flash floods. If you live near a drain, please pick up a broom and remove any drain surface debris

- 10.6 PCSO Report- No report PCSO Keehner
- 10.7 Environmental Initiatives Group Cllr Marczin-Bundy
 - 10.7.1 To agree member
 - 10.7.2 To agree Terms of Reference

It was **AGREED** to defer this item to the next meeting.

11. Highways:

- 11.1 To Review the Highways Improvement Plan It was **AGREED** to proceed with the The HIP was circulated, and it was **RESOLVED** to accept it and place it on the PC Website. It was **RESOLVED** that the PC would proceed via KCC Highways but would first clarify the cost breakdowns.
- 11.2 To receive the Alkham Speedwatch reports;
The reports were received. Cllr Hibbert thanked the Speedwatch team for their hard work and also that the reports had been utilised by the PC when completing the HIP. Clerk to send a copy of the PC public Liability insurance to the Kent Freight Team for Lorry Watch.
- 11.3 To receive the parish portal report
The report was received and noted.
- 11.4 Lorrywatch. Clerk to send the volunteer agreement to G Jones.
- 11.4 To receive any other Highways matters

12. Play area and Village Green

- 12.1 To receive the Monthly Inspection Report.
- 12.2 To consider any other matters pertaining to the play area and Village Green:
It was **RESOLVED** to set a budget of £1000 for a commemorative bench to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

13 Clerks Report:

BT Telephone Box. The Clerk reported that the application had been sent to BT. Clerk to establish if it is possible to relocate the telephone box after adoption if necessary.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Contract Managing Manager for DDC to complete a site visit to replace the litter bin on the Village Green.

It was **RESOLVED** that a section 137 grant of £200 would be made to the Kent Air Ambulance.

14. Parish Council Policy Review:

It was **RESOLVED** to re-adopt all policies.

15. Correspondence :

- 15.1 Activation of Dover TAP
- 15.2 White Cliffs Walking Festival 25th to the 30th August
- 15.3 Resident email re bins on village Green
- 15.4 Minutes - AGM/General Meeting and presentation
- 15.5 KALC - Men's Sheds Kent
- 15.6 Crossroads Care Kent: May 2022 Open Days
- 15.7 My Community Voice
- 15.8 Carbon footprint tool
- 15.9 KCC Strategic Statement Consultation

All communication was noted.

There being no further business to be transacted the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:26 pm

Signed : Chairman

Date: