

Alkham Parish Council

Minutes the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21st November 2022 at 7pm in Alkham Village Hall

Present: Cllrs N Burrows (Chairman); M Hibbert; A Barrier; R Marczin-Bundy

In Attendance: Irene Bowie (Parish Clerk) and 9 Members of the Public

The Parish Council held a minute's silence to mourn the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and reflect on her life and legacy.

PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MAIN MEETING:

Representations from the general 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 at the discretion of the Chairman. The minute book will be closed

To receive reports from (if present): Kent County Councillor David Beaney; Dover District Councillor Martin Hibbert; and the PCSO.

1. Apologies and absences:

- 1.1 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 75(1) of the Local Government Act 1862, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted. There were none
- 1.2 Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests. There were none
- 1.3 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2010 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1862 in respect of officers. There were none
- 1.4 Requests for Dispensations. There were none
- 1.5 Declarations of Lobbying. There were none

2. CO OPTION of Parish Councillor/s:

- 2.1 To consider candidates for co-option. There were no candidates for co-option

3. 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 1850, the public and press be excluded from the meeting by the reason of its confidential nature. It was RESOLVED that Agenda Item 14 - Confidential Staffing Matters would be taken as a confidential item .

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

It was AGREED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th September 2022 would be reviewed at the 9th January 2023 meeting.

5. Matters arising from the minutes: (not included in other agenda items)

6. Finance:

- 6.1 To receive and authorise payments listed on the schedule (to be provided at the meeting)
It was RESOLVED to make the payments on the schedule.
- 6.2 Late Payment Request/s to be discussed for approval and payment. There were none
- 6.3 To note Receipts of Income (to be provided at the meeting). The receipts of income 2022-23 to date, were noted as £16,015.55
- 6.4 To confirm bank reconciliation (to be provided at the meeting). The Bank Reconciliation was received and noted .
- 6.5 Telephone Box at Ewell Minnis. Clerk to follow up with BT and a resident of Ewell Minnis
- 6.6 To receive the report from the External Auditor Conclusion of Audit 2021/22. The report from the external auditor was received.

7. Planning:

- 7.1 To table planning applications received for consideration: There were none

- 7.2 To receive late planning applications and other late planning matters: There were none
- 7.3 To table planning applications dealt with since last meeting:
 - 7.3.1 22/01165 Romany Acres Belsey Lane Ewell Minnis CT15 7DY
Proposal Siting of 4no. mobile homes for residential use (part retrospective). APC Objection
- 7.4 To table decisions by the Dover District Council since the last meeting
 - 7.4.1 22/01134 Land Adjacent The Old Coach House Alkham Valley Road Alkham CT15 7EL
Proposal Formation of a new vehicular access, entrance gates and fencing
Decision- Grant Planning Permission
 - 7.4.2 22/01001 Peartree Green Lane Ewell Minnis CT15 7DX
Erection of a single storey side extension
Decision - Grant Planning Permission
 - 7.4.3 22/00622 Forstal Cottage Alkham Valley Road Alkham CT15 7DF
Proposal Creation of a vehicular access, driveway and erection of garden gate and fence (existing wall and patio to be removed)
Decision - Grant Planning Permission
 - 7.4.4 22/00718 Carpenters Arms Meggett Lane Alkham CT15 7EN
Proposal Erection of single storey rear, two storey side and rear extensions, rear balcony with glass balustrade to create annexe for dependent relative (existing rear extensions to be demolished)
Decided - Refuse Planning Permission

8. To receive Reports:

- 8.1 Byways Cllr Barrier
 - 8.1.1 Proposed diversion of public footpath ER150 at Alkham in the District of Dover. CT15 7FF
APC Objection It was AGREED that Cllrs would meet with the PROW Officer to discuss the diversion. Clerk to organise
- 8.2 Parish Plan Cllr Burrows

The Chairman thanked Mr Den Barnard and the Parish Plan Team for their hard work and dedication. It was AGREED that Mr Barnard would send a copy of the latest version of Parish Plan to the Clerk and Cllr Marczin-Bundy as neither had received it. Mr Barnard informed the Parish Council that the updated report was their final version and that the Team would not make any further changes or amends to it. It was AGREED that the Parish Council would review the plan and circulate the version it would be happy to adopt to all parties ASAP.
- 8.3 Drainage and Flood Warden Report Cllr Hibbert

Cllr Hibbert reported that: Latest work updates for submitted Alkham drainage fault reports to Kent Highways drainage department are as follows: 666264 – Martin Vale, Hogbrook Lane – resubmitted, work not completed. 642292- Village Sump, request for annual maintenance and clearance. Work programmed. 652656 – Alkham Ditch, Valley Cottages. Request to clear out whole length of ditch. This section falls within the responsibility of KCC under an agreed contract. Under investigation for work programming. The Village Green swale. To discuss for annual clearing funding from APC.

9. Highways:

- 9.1 Highways Improvement Plan (Update). Clerk to contact KCC Highways to arrange a meeting to discuss the APC HIP.
- 9.2 To receive the Alkham Speedwatch reports. The reports were received. It was noted that the Speedwatch Team had identified drivers without a valid MOT or Insurance. An increased Police presence had been noted. It was reported that new volunteers were needed. It was also reported that Alkham Speedwatch may lose full access to the Kent Police Equipment as other local Speedwatch teams become active.
- 9.3 To receive the parish portal report. The report was received and noted
- 9.4 To receive feedback from meeting with a resident. It was reported that Parish and DDC Cllr Hibbert and KCC Cllr Beaney had met with a resident to discuss his concerns.
- 9.5 To receive any other Highways matters.

10. Play area and Village Green:

- 10.1 To receive the Monthly Playground Inspection Report. The report was received.
 - 10.1.1 Adventure Trail Equipment – Update. It was AGREED to arrange for a supplier to visit the play area and provide quotations and ideas for the replacement of the Adventure Trail.
- 10.2 Provision of a commemorative bench. Clerk to follow up.
- 10.3 To consider any other matters pertaining to the play area and/or the Village Green.
It was AGREED that the Clerk would contact KCC Cllr Beaney for the details for the resident who wished to discuss Football Nets on the Village Green.

- 11. To Receive and Consider Dover District Local Plan Regulation 19 Submission (The Local Plan) Consultation.**
It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would respond to the consultation.
- 12. Community Support: Cost -of -Living-Crisis.** This was discussed and it was AGREED that any communication from DDC or KCC that may benefit residents would be added to the PC Website. It was AGREED that this it would remain on the agenda for the next few meetings.
- 13. Correspondence:**
- 12.1 To table items of late correspondence :
 - 12.2 Items circulated for information: For further information contact the Clerk
 - 12.2.1 Southern Water draft Water Resources Management Plan
 - 12.2.2 Kent Fire and Rescue Service - Free Fire Safety Talks
 - 12.2.3 Cost of Living Support Document - East Kent
 - 12.2.4 Utility Aid NALC - An update on the Energy Bill Relief Scheme
 - 12.2.5 Sleighing Saturday Shopping Parking Charges - Free Parking and Christmas Events This December
 - 12.2.6 M20 Moveable Barrier: overnight closure notification
 - 12.2.7 Kent's Plan Bee October 2022 Newsletter
 - 12.2.8 Flood Action Week: please help us spread the word
 - 12.2.9 Speed awareness wheelie bin stickers
 - 12.2.10 NATIONAL CSSC Green Message - NaCTSO Protect UK Bulletin - 5 Nov 2022
- All correspondence was noted.
- 13. To agree dates of meeting for 2023. The Meeting dates for 2023 were AGREED as :**
9th January, 6th March, 3rd April, 15th May, 3rd July, 4th September and 6th November.
- 14. Staffing Matters. NALC Annual Salary Award 2022.**
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 1850, the public and press be excluded from the meeting by the reason of its confidential nature.
It was RESOLVED that the Clerks Annual Salary Review was AGREED in line with the NALC 2022-23 National Salary Award and would be backdated to April 2022.

There being no further business to be transacted the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Signed : *Neil Burrows* Chairman

Date : 9th January 2023