

PETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH NOVEMBER 2016

In attendance were Cllrs Mrs Spratt, Clark, Mrs Obry, Warden and the Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Knox, Sewell and Patrick

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

There were no declarations of interest

3. To approve the Minutes of the last Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

4. Financial Matters

(i) Members approved the payments as follows:

Scottish & Southern Electric	£	52.18	St Light Energy – October 2016 DD
Streetlights	£	675.88	Half Year Lighting Maintenance
HMRC	£	73.20	PAYE
Parish Clerk	£	33.97	Stationery & Expenses

Members noted receipt of £2245.48 VAT refund 2014-2016

(ii) Members approved the Draft Level of Reserves and Payment Sheet as at 01.11.16

Balance B/Fwd 01.04.16		22571.96
Income Received to Date		
Precept & Council Tax Support Grant	12495.42	
Concurrent Functions Funding	4065.48	
VAT Refund 2014-2016	2245.48	
Bus Res Account Interest	7.42	
Village Assets Account Interest	2.35	
Total	18816.15	
		41388.11
Less expenditure to date		7737.50
Balance		33650.61
NatWest Current Account sheet 329		50.00
NatWest Reserve Account sheet 192		25641.49
NatWest Village Assets Replacement Fund sheet 114		7959.12
Total at 1st November 2016		33650.61

(iii) **Concurrent Functions Funding:**

Having adjusted downward, the figures for Concurrent Functions Funding 2017 – 2021, CCC has accepted the revised application in the sum of £4324.00 each year from 2017-2021.

(iv) **Estimates and Reserves:**

Members considered the detail of the draft estimates for 2017-2018 but as CCC has not yet advised us of the council tax base and the amount of Council Tax Support Grant we are to receive, ratification of the estimates and precept was deferred to the next meeting.

During discussion of the estimates it was proposed and seconded that we obtain separate quotations for fencing the play equipment area, the renewal if necessary of the vehicular entrance fencing to the recreation ground and full refurbishment of the notice boards.

Funding for this to be taken out of the current year's reserves.

A member also referred to the need for a new computer. The clerk explained that in order for smaller Parishes with an annual turnover of less than £25000.00 to meet the requirements of the Transparency Act, a fund has been set up for computer/scanner/website. This is subject to three consecutive years being under the £25000.00 limit.

(v) **S106 Payments:**

It was proposed and seconded that we obtain a quotation for the clearance of the brambles on Gardeners Plot, subject to the agreement of the gentleman who currently maintains the area. Dependant on funding we also look to replace the damaged tree which has to come down. The funding for this area will be through a S106 payment we are to receive. As there is also some funding under S106 that can only be spent on sport, members are to consider Kenfield Cricket field.

(vi) **Petham Christmas Tree Festival:**

Having been invited to take part in the Petham Christmas Tree Festival, it was agreed that the Parish Council obtain a Christmas tree – to be decorated by two members and entered in the Church Festival.

5. Planning Matters

(i) CA/16/02497/FUL Canterbury Fields Holiday Park, Stone Street, Petham
Proposed widening of access to site. No objection

(ii) Denge Wood Development.

An ex resident of the Parish has complained to planning enforcement about the excessive development taking place and is also contacting the Forestry Commission to enquire whether a license has been issued to fell the trees.

A reply from the Enforcement Officer advised that he had visited the site and apart from some deviations from the approved plan there is nothing sufficiently material to justify formal enforcement action requiring the demolition of the building.

He confirmed that the building is single-storey albeit at a split level. The lower level is fitted to be storage and has headroom only for the first metre or so. The higher level is used as a workshop. He further confirmed that there is a wood burning stove but no washing or bathing facilities.

He explained that whilst he appreciates there may, at some time in the future, be an attempt to use this for purposes other than forestry, it was clear in his visit that this is the current use, and therefore cannot take action against something that may happen in the future.

6. Recreation Ground

- Having circulated the annual ROSPA Inspection Report, members considered that there is nothing that needs immediate attention other than monitoring.
- The clerk suggested that a photographic file of our village assets is produced. The clerk to supply members with a copy of the fixed assets register.
- Members noted the October Inspection Reports

7. Highways

- To date there has been no response from CCC regarding the costings of kerbing the damaged corner and the eroding bank of the Green at Garlinge Green. The clerk to follow this up.
- Following receipt of several communications between a resident, KCC Cllr Simmonds and KCC drainage department about the drainage problems in Church Lane, the clerk to make enquiries as to why an agreed meeting has not yet taken place to which it was suggested that a representative of the Parish Council attend.

8. Consultation on Canterbury City Council Parish Charter.

Having circulated the draft Canterbury City Council Parish Charter, a councillor provided some response to those points listed below.

Section 2 Consultation:

It is stated acknowledge receipt of correspondence and estimate when a formal response will arrive and inform parish of outcome. This does not always happen.

Section 6 Advice and Support:

States ensure an officer from the relevant service will respond to specific queries/issues raised by Parish Councils. Again this does not always happen and our request is sometimes even ignored.

Section 7 Planning:

We are not convinced that CCC actually take any notice of comments we make and do not actively check up on development and enforce any contravention of conditions.

9. Correspondence, publications and other matters of importance

- Following the success of the village celebrations of the Queens 90th birthday, Cllr Clark has again been contacted by Bruno Peake, The Queens Pageant Master, to enquire whether the Parish would be prepared to commemorate in 2018, the end of World War 1, in a similar way.
- Notice of CPRE Kent AGM 2pm on 18th November at Lenham Community Centre
Notice of AwCRK AGM 14th December 3.30pm at Godmersham & Crundale Village Hall

Circulated in the folder

Copy of Clerks & Councils Direct

Copy of Kent Voice

10. Confirmed the date of the next meeting as 8th December 2016 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

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