

ICKHAM & WELL PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary Parish Meeting 20th March 2017 at 7.30pm

Minutes of meeting

Present: Councillors K Tatman (Chair), P Hodges; K Richards, L Shouls, G Wyant; Pat Heath (clerk)

Public: None

2016/152 Apologies

Councillors J deGraft-Johnson, S Hipkin.

Councillors Michael Northey (KCC) and Stuart Walker (Canterbury CC)

2016/153: Declarations of Interest

None

2016/154: Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 20th February 2017

Councillor Tatman requested some changes to be made and the minutes will be recirculated and signed at the next meeting.

2016/155 Matters Arising

Councillor Wyant reported that the ditches in Drill Lane and Baye Lane did not require dredging.

2016/156 Correspondence

A request for a donation towards the cost of running the Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance was debated. Although all councillors expressed their appreciation of the service and their wish to support it, it was not felt appropriate to donate an amount from the precept, particularly as the budget was tight. Councillor Tatman reminded the meeting that Bramling residents had raised £2,423 over the last 4 years for the Air Ambulance by holding garden parties and cricket matches and that a garden party was scheduled for 30th July this year, with a possible later cricket match. Everyone agreed that fund raising in this manner was the best option and the clerk was asked to write to the Air Ambulance.

2016/157 Planning Applications

There were none.

2016/158: Finance

In the absence of the Treasurer, there was nothing to report.

2016/159 Highways

159/01: A257: Pavement from Duckpitt Cottages to Littlebourne:

Councillor Tatman reported that he had had to open a new issue to try to get the pavement repaired, not just cleaned.

159/02: Potholes at Port Rill, Wingham Lane: Apparently one pothole has been filled, (it's very hard to tell), and another is under investigation.

Councillor Tatman queried why two potholes close together needed to be investigated separately and commented that repairing these potholes is only scratching the surface and the whole S-Bend needs attention. Work-in-progress

159/03: Interactive Sign opposite Bramling House: Awaiting outcome of speed limit discussions.

159/04: A257 road sign damage on junction of Bramling Road and A257:

Councillor Tatman reported that he has had to raise three separate issues with Highways because they keep closing them without doing anything and that he has now written to Councillor Northey and put in an official complaint.

159/05: Accidents: There has been one since the last meeting, (15/03/17).

Details are scant but apparently a farm vehicle shed some equipment that was on the back – possibly destroying a 50mph sign. The road was cleared within 20 minutes by other farm vehicles.

159/06: A257 Traffic Group met on Saturday 18 March.

- A core group has now been split off, (The Parish Councils and Associations), and it will meet every two months with MPs and County / District Councillors attending every other meeting.
- Councillor Tatman is continuing to work on the A257 Plan.
- The Group has written to Julian Brazier and Craig McKinley, (at their request), highlighting the necessity of 20 mph zones in Wingham and Littlebourne, buffer zones of 40mph to allow cars to slow from 50/60 to 30 mph, and a reduced speed limit between Wingham and Littlebourne and are awaiting responses.
- Wingham are pressing KALC to campaign for 20 mph limits to be imposed, (subject to local opinion), in every village in Kent. Wingham accept that Highways have no money to deliver this, but if traffic orders were passed which permitted it, then local Parishes would be at

liberty to finance what would be necessary. This could be of some interest to Ickham in the future.

- At present Wingham Parish Council finance all costs of the Group, e.g. hall hire every two months plus the costs of the Group secretary. In future, it may be that Wingham might seek costs from each Parish.

2016/160: River Stour

Councillor Wyant reported that water levels were low and if there was not much rainfall and a hot summer, the river could dry out as happened in the early and mid '70s. The ford at Drill Lane was already dry.

2016/161: Standing Orders

Councillor Hodges had emailed and requested that councillors read and comment on the draft version. Councillor Richards had noted an error in Section 21 (b) referring to '22a above' and Councillor Tatman mentioned that section 9(b) should read '7 clear days' not 14 and that (d) should be amended from 7 to 5 days. He also stated that section 1(f) did not read correctly and perhaps it should be "the amended motion becomes the substantive motion". All councillors agreed to pass further comments on to Councillor Hodges so that a revised draft could be issued in due course.

2016/162: AOB

162/01: Councillor Wyant reported that the rubbish bin collection lorry did not go down the lane to her house but only the upper lane and that it had toppled a few weeks ago, when it was icy and then did not come for several weeks. She was asked to keep a diary and the matter will then be raised with Serco.

162/02: Councillor Hodges asked if there were any laws preventing neighbours using noisy machinery in the gardens on Sundays. She was advised to make a note of disturbances.

162/03: Councillor Shouls commented on the large mound of plastic from the polytunnels but it was confirmed that these would compost down eventually.

162/04: It was noted that the tin barns at the top of the concrete path by Drill Lane contained barbed wire, corrugated iron etc. and that children had been seen playing in them and this could be dangerous and there might be asbestos. It was also noted that there was a lot of litter in the car park behind the flats. Councillor Richards added that she had been in touch with Strutt and Parker, (agents for the Church Commission who owned the land), and that they were looking into it.

162/05: It was reported that Wingham PC responded to Canterbury CC consultations, each member being allocated one at a time, and it was suggested that Ickham might do likewise. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 8.20 pm.

The next parish meeting is the APCM on Monday 24th April 2017 at 7.30 pm