

ICKHAM & WELL PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary Parish Meeting 22nd May 2017 at 7.00 pm

Minutes of meeting

Present: Councillors J deGraft-Johnson (Chair), S Hipkin, P Hodges; K Richards, L Shouls, K Tatman, G Wyant; P Heath (clerk)

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

Public: 5 members of the public present at the start of the meeting.

2017/020 Apologies

There were none.

2017/021: Declarations of Interest

There were none.

2017/022: Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 24th April

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

2017/023 Matters Arising

023/01: Councillor Shouls stated that the gate at the rear of the garden of The Duke was open last weekend. It was stated that this was regularly the case. Councillor deGraft-Johnson responded that there was a meeting arranged with Josh de Haan, the pub owner, on 21st June at which this and other matters, such as parking, would be discussed.

023/02: Councillor Wyant reported that the plank in the ditch in Drill Lane, used to divert water, had been replaced by a soil bank but that a new system to divert and control water had been installed in the stream alongside Nargate Street making the system in Drill Lane redundant. As the original plank had not been removed, she offered to ask Martin Twyman to dispose of it.

2017/024: Annual Return

024/01: The Annual Governance Statement was circulated and accepted by the Councillors.

024/02: Copies of the 2016/17 accounts were then circulated and the Littlejohn returns formally accepted by the Councillors. The clerk was asked to publicise the accounts on the noticeboards and on the web.

024/03: The clerk will submit the reconciled accounts for audit by Littlejohn.

2017/025 Revised Standing Orders

The Councillors had all received and read copies of the revised Standing Orders updated by Councillor Hodges and all agreed them. The Orders had been archived into Box and the clerk was asked to place them on the web.

2017/026 Highways

026/01: A257: Pavement from Duckpitt Cottages to Littlebourne:

No progress

026/02: Potholes at Port Rill, Wingham Lane. No real progress but there are white lines painted around the worst sections, but they have been there over 4 weeks.

026/03: Interactive sign opposite Bramling House: No progress

026/04: A257 Road sign damage on junction of Bramling Road and A257: Road sign re-installed and damaged safety pole has been replaced.

026/05: A257 Road surface at the Bramling bend: Still waiting for BT to raise their inspection hatch to the new road surface level.

026/06: Accidents: Nothing since the last meeting.

026/07: A257 Traffic Group: Councillor Tatman reported on the group meeting on Saturday May 13th where, as expected, there were no MP's or District Councillors and only one Country Councillor present, so there was no major progress on any item. As there were three new representatives at the meeting, the group spent most of the time answering questions and covering old ground. Littlebourne and Wingham are petitioning Kent Highways to use the non-vibrating roller when re-surfacing near housing, to avoid noise and damage.

026/08: Ickham Village road safety features: Councillor Tatman had had an email exchange with various people from Highways last June, and reported back to the Council, about the potential to introduce such features to Ickham. e.g. 20 mph zone, flashing speed lights, chicanes, bumps, pinches and additional signage. Councillor Tatman was advised that such changes, particularly to road architecture, would require the Council to hire a consultant to produce a scheme. Councillor Tatman had placed a call to Highways Schemes to discuss the expected proficiency of such a consultant and the potential costs.

026/09: Road closures: Councillor Tatman reported that he had just received notification that part of Bekesbourne Lane was to be closed for, possibly, the whole day on Thursday 25th May. There are two Bekesbourne Lanes and he did not know which one was to be closed but would try to find out.

2017/027: River Management

Councillor Wyant reported that the water levels of the River Stour were still very low, including underground.

2017/028: Debris and litter

028/01: Councillor Richards reported that she had contacted Strutt and Parker, (agents for the Church Commission who owned the land behind The Duke public house), and that the barn, which had been reported at the previous meeting as a potential danger to children, had now been wired off – although the wiring was only waist high and could be scaled.

028/02: The issue of the flapping tin roof and the debris within the barn was raised. Strutt & Parker are checking whether there is any asbestos within the barn but would not reveal the tenant's name to allow direct contact.

028/03: Councillor Richards will talk to the agents, Strutt & Parker, about closing off access to the field from the rear garden of The Duke, which had been requested previously.

2017/029 Pathway by Church, hedgerows etc.

Councillor Shouls suggested that this item was deferred until the next meeting due to lack of time before the AGM was due to start.

2017/030 Correspondence

An application received from Kent Environment & Community Network (KECN) for £500 funding for a judicial review of the Canterbury South Urban Extension Development was unanimously rejected and the clerk will write to KECN.

2017/031 Planning

There were no planning applications to consider.

2017/032 Pre-wedding drinks on the Village Green

It was agreed that pre-wedding drinks could be served by The Duke staff on the Green on the 4th August, following Sam's assurance that they would clear up afterwards. Councillor Wyant was asked to request a contribution from the couple towards the cost of grass cutting.

2017/033 AOB

033/01: Councillor Richards reported that she had been told that the finger post down Baye Lane pointing towards Seaton needed repair and that she would get a photo of it and asked for it to be an item on the next agenda.

033/02: Councillor Shouls stated that the old noticeboard in the village was smashed. The cost of repairing or replacing it will be discussed at the next meeting.

2017/034 Participation in Canterbury consultations

Due to the recent County and District, and forthcoming General, elections, there were no ongoing or scheduled consultations in which to participate. This matter will be discussed at a later meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 7.30 pm and refreshments were offered prior to the start of the AGM.

The Annual General Meeting follows the closure of the Ordinary meeting