

ICKHAM & WELL PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary Parish Meeting 19th February 2018 at 7.30 pm

Minutes of meeting

Present: Councillors de Graft-Johnson (Chair), S Hipkin, L Shouls, D Morse, K Tatman, G Wyant; P Heath (clerk)

2017/157: Apologies

Councillor Northey (KCC); Councillor Walker (Canterbury CC); Councillor Kate Richards

2017/158 Declarations of interest

Councillor Tatman declared that he lived opposite Milestone Cottage which was the subject of the planning application being discussed.

2017/159: Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 15th January

The minutes were signed as a true record.

2017/160 Matters arising

There were none that would not be discussed via items in the current agenda.

2017/161: Correspondence

There was none.

2017/162 Planning Applications

18/0075 Milestone Cottage – there were no objections to the proposed single storey side extension and detached garage with office above.

2017/163: Finance

Councillor Hipkin reported that the finances were healthy.

2017/164 Highways

164/01: **Bramling Road sign** demolished last month, and we are still waiting for a replacement.

164/02: **Drains:** The drain near Councillor Richards' house in The Street had not yet been cleared. Councillor Tatman had spoken to Highways who had informed him that they had run out of money and it would not be done until April 30th at the earliest, (new year's budget), unless the blockage was causing damage to property or was a safety hazard – which Councillor Tatman did not believe it was.

164/03: **Potholes:** Councillor Shouls had reported some at the junction of The Street and Wingham Lane and Councillor Tatman said that he would forward this to KCC as soon as possible.

164/04: **Baye Lane:** An email had been received from David Hodges regarding speeding vehicles in Baye Lane, which he suspected were mothers going to and from Wickhambreaux School, judging by (most of) their ages and the fact that they did not turn off down to the farm. He wanted the Council to send a letter to the Head of the school as speeding cars were a danger to walkers, horse riders etc. Mrs Dwyer, who was in the audience at the meeting and who was the Chair of the Governing Body of the school, offered to ask the headmistress, Mrs Campling, to send a letter to parents reminding them to drive carefully.

164/05: **A257 Plan:**

- Councillor Tatman reported that the Plan was in its final stages and will then go to the Press, etc. He said that it was potentially contentious in many ways, for example, the suggestion of installing speed cameras; stopping access on to the A257 from Cherville Lane etc.
- It was mentioned that the 50-mph speed limit had been implemented in Shatterling.
- In order to be able to use OS maps, Councillor Tatman will join the public licence agreement, which is free of charge.

164/06: The police statistics of crashes involving injury have limited detail and it was agreed that Councillor Tatman could purchase a Crash Map licence, at a cost of £65 for 100 maps, to obtain further information.

164/07: The problem of litter left in the laybys on the A257 and elsewhere and fly tipping was discussed. Canterbury CC fine fly tippers but this does not deter them. Councillor Shouls will ask Councillor Walker for advice. Councillor Tatman pointed out that volunteers can only clear litter from 30 mph max. roads and that Serco clear motorways. Councillor Shouls suggested that, as the first county entered by foreign visitors arriving by sea, signs should

be created in several languages reminding people not to leave litter and that maybe a trial sign could be created initially.

2017/165: River Management

165/01: Councillor Wyant reported that the Little Stour Group had met the previous Saturday and had stated that the water table was rising but was still safe.

165/02: There is a budget of £95k at the Environment Agency for work at Ickham. This was possibly designated to enlarge the exit from the relief channel under the road, but Councillor Wyant will clarify this before the next meeting.

165/03: It was reported that Martin Twyman had cleared out the ditches in Drill Lane and the clerk asked to express the Council's thanks to him.

165/04: A drain pipe in the channel had been exposed, possibly part of the blocking arrangement, and Councillor Wyant undertook to inspect it and try to determine its function, if any.

2017/166: Clearance of village pond

Councillor Wyant had received a quotation from Inside Out Services of £180 to clear the vegetation from the village pond and to cut back the laurels and other foliage overhanging it and the Council approved this.

2017/167: TPOs on sycamore trees on Village Green

167/01: Councillor Wyant had contacted Tree Ventures, who had inspected the trees two years ago, and had been told that it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to get the Orders lifted.

167/02: It was also stated that it was not possible to get the trees pollarded as they were too old and would die and, therefore, this would not be allowed.

167/03: A member of the public did, however, point out that a branch, approx. 20" in diameter, had broken off and had fallen into his garden, causing £500 worth of damage, plus damaging nearby oak trees and he felt that the sycamores were dangerous.

2017/168: Parish Plan

Councillor Hipkin reported that the Plan had been revised 10 days ago and that there were 49 questions. It was suggested by a member of the public that a map of the parish be added, and Mrs Dwyer offered to ask her husband if he had a suitable one. The questionnaire will be given to anyone who lives or works in the parish, regardless of age to get a sense of what people want prior to any submission for funding later in the

year. Jacque Grimsley will be asked to publicise the questionnaire and a notice will be placed in The Gazette encouraging participation.

2017/169 AOB

169/01: Councillor Shouls raised the suggestion, initially made last year, about having a welcoming party for the Mansfield workers. Councillor Wyant had spoken to the manager who was happy with the idea, as was the field foreman. There will be approximately 50 – 60 people in the 15 caravans on site. Sandra deGraft-Johnson said that the FOI will support the party and ideas, including the most suitable timing, will be discussed and agreed at the next meeting

169/02: A member of the public mentioned that the obsolete telephone box in Wickhambreaux had been used to house a defibrillator. It was not, however, an option for Ickham as the box in The Street was privately owned and, also, it had been agreed at a previous meeting that a defibrillator in the village would have very limited benefits.

169/03: It was suggested that the council consider buying a ‘swift tower’ where swifts, swallows and house martens could nest. There were already 6 swift boxes in Ickham, bought by Wendy Sansom (FOI). It was stated that swifts are colonial, and the tower could attract a large number. More information will be gathered pending discussion at the next meeting.

169/04: A resident from Forge House asked if there had been any outcome from the meeting with people from The Duke pub. It was reported that a sign had been placed, without consultation, over the residents’ own sign which had stated that there was ‘No Admittance to Patrons’. Councillor Shouls offered to check the signage change. It was also mentioned that, as no one appeared to open the pub for morning deliveries, these tended to go through the residents’ pathway to be left at the pub’s back door.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

The next parish meeting will be on Monday 19th March at 7.30 pm.