



HERNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Hernhill Parish Church on Wednesday 29th March 2023 from 7:30pm to 8:45pm.

Present:

Cllr. B. Heller (Chair) Cllr B. Chipperton Cllr D. Figgis Cllr D. Waters
Cllr K. Wakes Cllr A. Rumble Cllr C. Page

Also Present: Mrs R. Parr (Clerk), Cllr A. Gould (SBC) and 7 members of the public

629 APOLOGIES

Cllr. T Valentine (SBC), Cllr R. Lehmann (KCC)

630 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Chipperton declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to the planning item 22/504625/FULL Cairo Lodge Butlers Hill Dargate as a neighbour.

631 MINUTES

A. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 22nd February 2023 (613-628) having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chair.

632 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. A member of the public reported an issue with the vegetation on the banks of the road at the southern end of Church Hill. Branches have also broken off and were laying on the roadside edge. The issue with the vegetation had caused a loss of a wing mirror. Action: The Clerk is the report to KCC.
- B. Mr A. Clague, the architect for the planning application at The Old Forge Plumpudding Lane Dargate attended and spoke regarding the planning application. A neighbour, Mr J Russon then spoke to the council to voice his objections, which had also been posted to the planning portal. Another parishioner spoke to mention that there was demand for the property as commercial use but it was being marketed at a price that was not feasible.

633 PLANNING

- A. Planning Applications-
- 1) 23/500935/FULL PROPOSAL: Conversion of redundant agricultural building to a 1no. one bedroom dwelling including removal of existing roof and replace with a new raised pitched roof, insertion of roof lights, changes to fenestration and associated parking and access. ADDRESS: The Old Forge Plumpudding Lane Dargate Faversham Kent ME13 9EX

The council discussed the application with many comments in respect of the highways safety given the location close to a blind bend on a narrow road

leading to poor sightlines. Concerns were also raised in respect of possible privacy issues and overlooking with neighbours, reservation on the design in a conservation area, along with whether there was no viable commercial use for the building. The council voted with one in favour, 2 for No Adverse Comments and 4 objections. Therefore the council passed a vote to object to the application with the following comment:

‘Hernhill Parish council voted to object to the application. The objection is based upon concerns of highway safety in what is a narrow road close to a sharp blind bend. The council is not satisfied that the site is redundant from commercial use. There are also concerns regarding the overshadowing of adjacent neighbours and believe the character of the proposed design is not in keeping with the area in what is Dargate's Conservation Area’.

Cllr Chipperton then left the room.

- 2) 22/504625/FULL Location: Cairo Lodge Butlers Hill Dargate Faversham Kent Proposal: Demolition of existing bungalow. Conversion of an existing store/garage to a holiday let with the erection of a front porch with access ramp. Installation of a new metal sliding access gate.

The revised details had been received concerning this application previously commented upon in November 2022. A proposed garage had been removed and a new metal sliding gate added. The council discussed the application, and unanimously voted that the existing comments submitted as per the original submission still apply and remain unchanged.

Cllr Chipperton returned to the room.

B. Planning Decisions -

- 1) 22/503510/FULL | Change of use of land for to siting of 4no. timber glamping pods, along with lighting, recycling/waste facilities, sustainable waste treatment package plant, parking/turning area suitable for 4no. cars, creation of footpaths, and landscaping of the site. Removal of existing shed. | Mount Ephraim Gardens Mount Ephraim Staple Street Hernhill Faversham Kent ME13 9TX - Approved

634 ELECTION

The Clerk reminded the public and councillors as to the deadline for submission of any nomination forms to Swale House by 4pm on 4th April. The Chair reminded people of the requirement for Voter ID.

635 YELLOW LINES WEY STREET/JTB

Cllr Gouyld confirmed that issues for the request for yellow lines could be submitted by anyone on the KCC portal. The next JTB is in June and will be asked to go onto the agenda. Action: Cllr Figgis is the report to the KCC portal.

636 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)

A meeting held on Wednesday 1st March with 23 attendees. Council attendees included Cllr Heller, Cllr Wakes, Cllr Waters. Given the interest shown the council agreed to progress with the NP programme. A further meeting is now to be held on

the 19th April at the Red Lion and a formal working group would be formed with assistance from others as and when required. The Clerk had drafted some Terms of Reference for the NP group to review and then submit to full council for approval in due course. A parishioner had drafted a number of different logo design options also for the NP team to review and then put forward for approval at full council in due course. The NP team would circulate the questionnaire utilised previously by the Boughton and Dunkirk NP community engagement as a starting point for designing the Hernhill Parish questionnaire. Cllr Wakes mentioned that she would be attending Faversham 'Healthy Futures' project pop-up event.

637 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Clerk confirmed that the invites had been sent and all were able to attend other than for Hernhill News. An agenda would be sent out shortly.

638 KCC HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Cllr Page had met with Jennie at KCC Highways to discuss placement of signs and terminal points. As a result of the visit, it was agreed that the terminal point on Church Hill would now move from the northern end of Swale View to pass the school and into Fostal which was welcomed. Estimated timescale would be 6 months and anticipated cost of £10k due to requirement for road closures for the sign installation. The budget for the current year allowed for £4k for the project and the 2023/2024 financial year allowed for a further £3k, leaving a possible £3k shortfall. Support for the project by Cllr Lehman had previously been mentioned and once the election had passed, approaches could also be made to the Ward councillors for possible grants. KCC Highways is to provide a full breakdown of the costs. A public consultation would be required but it is considered unlikely that there would be any objections.

639 MATTERS ARISING

- A. Neighbourhood Watch - Nothing to report
- B. Dale Farm Oast - The SBC Conservation officer had responded and stated that he was looking at options and would provide an update in due course.
- C. Monkshill Lorries - Cllr Waters updated the council with ongoing issues with the condition of the road, road closures for water works and ongoing traffic. In addition, there was a blocked dyke previously filled by KCC. Action: Cllr Waters is to report to KCC.
- D. Queen's Canopy- The trees, one at the church yard and one at the school had been planted with their respective Queen's Canopy plaques. The Clerk confirmed that the trees had been registered at the Queen's Canopy website.
- E. EV Charging Points - Cllr Heller confirmed that discussions are occurring between the village hall and KCC for the licensing. The location of the point is likely to be at the bottom of the car park closer to the road from which the supply would be taken.

640 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- A. Cllr Wakes is to run the litter pick on the 2nd April. Action: The Clerk is to provide the risk assessment and litter picking equipment to Cllr Wakes. The Clerk would also arrange with SBC for the collection of the rubbish. It was also discussed that Staplestreet may not be appropriate for picking at the present time due to increased traffic as a result of the Boughton Hill Road closure.
- C. Cllr Wakes had investigated the allotment grant and initial research suggested that we were not suitable for eligibility. Action: Further investigations would take place as to other possible grant funding options.
- D. Cllr Figgis raised concerns about road closure on the Thanet Way between

Whistable and Herne Bay and the impact this caused on local roads on the Waterham side as traffic backs up from the Whitsbale turn-off. Action: The clerk is to investigate details of the closures and if appropriate raised with KCC in advance for additional signage deterring people from using local back roads.

641 FINANCE

- A. The March Bank reconciliation was approved and signed.
- B. March's 2023 cheques for payment were approved and signed.

Chq-1675 Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (Mowing March)	£144.02
Chq-Advice Only S/O R Parr (Salary & Expenses)	£322.25
Chq-1676 Hughes & Son (February Church Cutting)	£130.00
Chq-1677 Finns (Annual allotment lease)	£500.00
Chq-1678 Air Ambulance (Donation)	£100.00
Chq-1679 Village Hall (February Hall Hire)	£17.00
Chq-1680 R Parr (Defibstore renewal of paediatric pads)	£108.00
	£1,321.27

- C. The Clerk confirmed that the approval of January's cheques and bank reconciliation was undertaken by S101 approval upon the Clerk's return from holiday at the end of January by the Chair and Vice Chair.
- D. The Clerk confirmed that the bank mandate changes had been completed with Cllrs Wakes, Figgis and Waters as bank signatories.
- E. The Clerk confirmed that the appointment had been made with the auditor, Lionel Robbins for the 12th May 2023.

642 CORRESPONDANCE

- A. The Clerk had received notification from a parishioner of a missing give way sign on Kemsdale Road approaching the crossroads with Staple Street. The Clerk had reported the missing sign to KCC.
- B. The Clerk had also been advised by a parishioner of branches left on the verge at Dargate Common with concerns that some were sticking out into the road and it was preventing cars from passing each other easily. The Clerk had reported this to KCC and KCC had undertaken a site visit stating no action was required.

643 CHAIRMAN & CLERK'S SUNDRY REPORTS

- A. None.

644 ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON APRIL'S FULL MEETING AGENDA

- A. Neighbourhood Watch
- B. Village Speed Limits/HIP/TRO.
- C. Dale Farm Oast
- D. Neighbourhood Plan
- E. Wey Street Yellow Lines/ JTB

- F. Elections
- G. Defibrillator training
- H. Allotment fencing grant.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the Meeting closed.

CHAIRMAN