

Cliffsend Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 17th September 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Meetings of the Council are recorded. AV recordings are retained only until draft minutes are adopted as a true record.

Present – Cllr Chapman (Chair), Cllr Harrison, Cllr Wilkinson, Alison Willoughby-Browne (Clerk), CCllr Trevor Shonk and 9 members of the public.

- 23/24-25 Welcome and apologies for absence** - Sadly, both Cllr Gary Fricker (Chairman) and Cllr Judith Fricker resigned in July. Cllr Chapman offered to chair the meeting, he welcomed those present, introduced the Parish Council and indicated emergency exits. Apologies received from District Councillors Rogers and Davis. Cllr Chapman suggested a slight rearrangement of agenda for grant application - to do immediately after youth as concerning youth.
- 24/24-25 Declarations of interest and co-option of new Councillor** - no declarations of interest. After much debate Cllr Chapman overruled the decision to co-opt at the meeting as he hadn't had time to meet with the individual and believed that the proper process hadn't been followed. Cllr Harrison iterated the urgency in getting more Councillors and casted a vote of no confidence in the decision.
- 25/24-25 Adoption of the minutes of 16th July 2024 as being a true record** - Cllr Wilkinson proposed, seconded by Cllr Harrison, motion carried, Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.
- 26/24-25 Matters arising from the above minutes** - none other than to be discussed.
- 27/24-25 Working Party & Councillor Reports** -
County Councillor – CCllr Trevor Shonk – KCC Member for Ramsgate (Independent). Shame only nine people from village at the meeting with so many important issues going on - planning issues/overloading of housing. Attended meeting at St Laurence (Fernham Homes). Can't move out of Ramsgate because of chaos on highways, going to lose beautiful views/places. Christianity started at Ebbsfleet – St Augustine's Cross, St Augustine's Well, developers see £ signs. Huge movements of soil been going on for over a year, going on by stealth. What are we going to do in village - signs to no housing along by Viking ship? No infrastructure; dentists/hospitals/shop/post office, and bus service not fit for purpose. Millions of pounds spent on Thanet Parkway station. CCllr had been out leafleting to make people aware, Parish Council has to wake up to what is going on, need more people, should have a say in what is going on. Chairman asked CCllr Shonk to respond to planning applications when they go in and NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) consultation, and requested for all of us to go to decision-makers for these things; TDC for planning applications, Planning Inspectorate for appeals, Government for NPPF.

District Councillor – Both DCllrs at Overview and Scrutiny meeting. DCllr Rogers reported that she attended the consultation with Fernham Homes, and had a meeting with TDC re' planning applications (and Minster Marshes). TDC officer assured DCllr Rogers that Cliffsend would never link to Ramsgate (or Minster), unlikely planning permission would be granted (for the amount of houses that they want to build).

Police Officer – invited to meeting, no response.

Meadow and Open Spaces – Cllr Wilkinson reported problems with trees planted on behalf of BAM Nuttall - short on water, originally given a bowser so that we could water the trees but we don't have the means to get bowser around the village and it is currently being stored with Ramsgate Town Council, need to make arrangements with them. The standard trees more of a problem than whips. 12 standard trees on Earlsmead Crescent green, original idea was to plant close to existing mature trees, possibly planted too close. Clerk meeting with TDC Tree Officer in next couple of weeks to discuss. Some of tree chippings have been distributed by previous Cllr whilst tidying the area, Cllr Wilkinson to distribute the rest. Cllr Harrison requested help for Cllr Wilkinson with open spaces. Cllr Chapman explained about the Biodiversity Net Gain statutory requirements now in place, developers not only must show net gain but if trees cut down they must replace elsewhere, with a requirement to maintain for 30 years, to consider.

Planning and Highways – Cllr Chapman, Monson Homes appeal now with Planning Inspectorate, site visit completed. Parish Council had been informed of a 350-house development, leaflets distributed in Cliffsend show 200 houses west side of Cliffsend, public consultation. Further 150 in Minster? The consultation information is on website – www.cottingtonroad.co.uk – Cllr Chapman in touch with Minster Parish Council to coordinate an approach with them. Government announced 1.5million homes, big push to build lots of houses. Changes to key document NPPF - guidelines for development, gone out for consultation, Parish Council submission drafted and ready to send back. Submission highlights that Cliffsend on its own is not sustainable for a large increase in houses, supported by Strategic Planning Officer at TDC, without schools/shops/doctor surgeries, no footpath/cycle path, no useable public transport. Also, not to destroy Grade I agricultural land and the character of the area - particularly open views.

TDC reviewing parking policy in Thanet, no information yet on responses. Parish Council responded to second consultation from National Grid and asked 13 questions, still no response after almost six weeks. Polly Billington MP was also contacted for her view on the Sea Link Project 8 weeks ago, a holding reply received but nothing further, will keep chasing.

Fernham Homes proposal; just outside Cliffsend parish boundary – 130 properties Chalk Hill, Pegwell – at consultation session, not anyone thought a good idea.

Manston Immigration Centre; Government looking to make permanent and rebuild, to further develop the facilities and upgrade the temporary infrastructure, out for consultation. Sandwich Road being dug up at the moment, when resurfaced did so over the top of a joint box for telecommunications.

Youth – grant application submitted, invited applicant to meeting to discuss. Cllr Harrison questioned Residents' Association funds. Mr Pendlebery explained that he was asking the Parish Council for funds to kick-start the youth club - £200 for hire of the Village Hall for the first 10 weeks, anything on top of that for equipment – he spoke of his background of youth work and what would be made available to those attending the club. Tuesday nights, teenagers 11-18 years, starting 1st October 6.15-8pm; meeting place, activities such as pool, table tennis, arts and crafts, will also offer outside speakers to give advice – fun and educational. Cllr Harrison considered the times and questioned what will happen on night of Parish Council meetings, after a lengthy discussion and suggestion of potential use of St Mary's Church the Chairman proposed that £200 be paid to the Village Hall for 10 weeks' youth club hire, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Harrison in favour, carried.

Communication and Events – feedback from Viking Ship Anniversary event excellent, one of biggest events the Parish Council has organised, although we planned and organised many participants and helpers without whom it wouldn't have been possible – Ost Centingas, English Heritage, Kent Wildlife Trust, East Kent Birdwise, Ramsgate Fire & Rescue, RNLI, National Coast Watch, Thanet Coast Project, 5 Rotary Clubs in Thanet and Rotary Shelterbox, Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Canterbury Historical & Archaeological Society, St John Ambulance, Save Minster Marshes. Food and drink from Njord and Viking Ship Café. Media publicity via Ramsgate Recorder, Academy FM, BBC Radio Kent, Isle of Thanet News and ITV Meridian TV news. Sponsors and helpers – Njord Café and Bar, Walker Traffic Management, Westwood Service & MOT, Kingsheath Construction, Challenge Packaging, Cliffsend resident volunteers.

Ideas for future events – Cllr Harrison would like to resurrect the gardening club, to use her garden and greenhouse as a focal point, facilities to hold meetings and events, if interested please contact Cllr Harrison or Clerk.

28/24-25 Financial Matters -

Cllrs Harrison and Wilkinson checked payment schedule with supporting paperwork. Cllr Harrison proposed acceptance of payments, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson, motion carried. Contractual payments; Clerk's salary, bought-in services. Italicised already paid.

September Payments

Payee	Description	Invoice No	VAT	Ex VAT	Total
<i>Cllr Chapman</i>	<i>Hugin Celebration</i>	<i>A18421229796</i>	<i>12.47</i>	<i>62.41</i>	<i>74.88</i>
<i>Cllr J Fricker</i>	<i>Hugin Celebration</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2.30</i>	<i>11.50</i>	<i>13.80</i>
<i>St John Ambulance</i>	<i>First Aid & Medical Cover</i>	<i>SP24005889</i>	<i>28.60</i>	<i>143.00</i>	<i>171.60</i>
<i>Cllr J Fricker</i>	<i>Hugin Celebration</i>	<i>98023/6AEUI/69188</i>	<i>7.10</i>	<i>35.46</i>	<i>42.56</i>
<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Marquee Carry Bags</i>	<i>701139981</i>	<i>21.50</i>	<i>107.50</i>	<i>129.00</i>
<i>Cllr Harrison</i>	<i>Hugin Celebration</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.19</i>	<i>69.69</i>	<i>70.88</i>
<i>Boxgreen Landscapes Ltd</i>	<i>Meadow Mows - July</i>	<i>8943</i>	<i>28.00</i>	<i>140.00</i>	<i>168.00</i>
<i>St Laurence-in-Thamet</i>	<i>Printing/Laminating</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>25.85</i>	<i>25.85</i>
<i>Cllr Chapman</i>	<i>Land Registry Searches</i>	<i>3302/3383/3455</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>9.00</i>	<i>9.00</i>
<i>Cllr Chapman</i>	<i>Printer Ink</i>	<i>GB03051295</i>	<i>5.06</i>	<i>25.31</i>	<i>30.37</i>
<i>Cllr Chapman</i>	<i>Hugin Celebration</i>	<i>90328/02129</i>	<i>0.85</i>	<i>8.67</i>	<i>9.52</i>
<i>NJL BoxGreen</i>	<i>Meadow Mow - Aug</i>	<i>18130</i>	<i>14.00</i>	<i>70.00</i>	<i>84.00</i>
Total for Month			121.07	708.39	829.46

29/24-25 Planning Applications -

FH/TH/24/0915 37A Sandwich Road (erection of single storey rear extension) no direct input.
F/TH/23/0482 Land adjacent to 1 Mansfield Villas, Windsor Road, refused permission.

30/24-25 Current Topics -

Ongoing review of Council procedures – after raising queries Cllr Chapman proposed the revised NALC Financial Regulations, Code of Conduct, Complaints, Public Questions and Communications procedures for acceptance, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson, resolved.

S106 play area equipment – to confirm purchases, deferred.

Commemorative plaque – Cllr Harrison and Clerk had met with the Chief Executive of TDC that morning to discuss the charges associated with the B17 memorial plaque. Mr Carmichael wasn't aware of the project but will look into it, to move it forward.

Grant application – discussed under Youth.

Councillor vacancies – full complement is 7, we have 3, looking to co-opt people onto the Council.

31/24-25 Clerk's Reports -

- second tranche of precept received.
- Government domain name and emails will be offered by current provider of website, likely to be in October.
- Woodland Trust hedging species being delivered between 4th and 15th November; Earlsmead Crescent garages, Primrose Way.
- Parish Forum 3rd September at TDC offices. Chairman explained that this is an opportunity to meet with TDC officers, salaried people, rather than Councillors who are voluntary and elected. Still finding our feet as to what topics to discuss.

32/24-25 Correspondence Received -

- Resident – dangerous horse-riding; reported to TDC/KCC/District Cllrs, horse galloping on Hugin's Green with children present. TDC reported that PSPO doesn't cover that activity so referred to KCC.
- Resident – need to raise awareness for National Grid proposals; published
- Resident – dog fouling Cliff View Rd/Clive Rd; reported to TDC, Thanet Parkway Asset

keeps pathway and area around station clear.

- Resident – thank you to Cllr J Fricker for her hard work on our green spaces
- Resident – Earlsmead Crescent dead/dying trees; consulted TDC, discussed.
- Residents – sea link consultation responses
- Resident – woodland walk – removal of hedgehog habitat and fly-tipping
- Community organisation – request for someone to give a talk about Viking ship
- KCC – notification of works on epicormic growth Holm Oaks, one cut back, Cllr Harrison suggested brambles and Elder needs clearing.
- Resident – meadow trees, encroachment; to investigate further. Appears not memorial trees, likely to be the conifers not within boundary of meadow, Cllr Wilkinson offered to visit.
- Community organisation – circus use land ownership; responded
- Resident – memorial tree in meadow; advised
- Enquirer – protection of land behind Sea View Road? Responded

33/24-25 Public Questions -

Parish Minister – problem with further development is a lack of infrastructure – post office/schools/doctors/transport, is there any way that church can help? Trying to think of ideas i.e. hosting community pharmacy/consultation days etc. Can certainly help with sense of community.

Resident – Cliffsend now a commuter village, new houses going to people who want a house in the country but to work in London. Losing the sense of community, that's why people don't come to local events/meetings.

Resident – clarified Residents' Association (RA) situation, a lot of people attended the meeting when the previous head left. Anyone there could have asked about the money, it has not disappeared, it is in a bank account but cannot be accessed by those who took on the responsibility of the RA, or the previous head, the RA is not viable.

Meeting concluded at 20:57