

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held at
Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre, THANINGTON WITHOUT
on
Wednesday, April 6th, 2005

PRESENT: - Councillors Mrs Pam Blackman, G. Page, T. Maple, T. Davis, T. Baker and the Parish Clerk.

D. Swain – South Ward	C. McCaul – North Ward	N. Salmon – North Ward	M. Church – South Ward
N. Baker – North Ward	W. Reynolds – North Ward	A. Martin – North Ward	R. Miller – North Ward
J. Miller – North Ward	S. Guest – South Ward	D. Sackett – South Ward	A. Lauman – North Ward
T. Lawson – North Ward			

CHAIRMAN: - Councillor G. Page

1) WELCOME:

Cllr. Graham Page welcomed all to this meeting and expressed appreciation of the support. He introduced Dennis Button of Kent Highways Services.

2) APPOINTMENT OF CLERK:

It was agreed that Mr Roger Cheeseworth, Clerk to the Parish Council, should take the Minutes of the Meeting.

3) APOLOGIES:

Paula Spencer, Nick Eden-Green

4) NOTICE CALLING THIS MEETING:

The Clerk confirmed that a notice had been posted on various Parish notice boards and had been entered on the Parish Web Site.

5) MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

The Clerk issued all parishioners with a copy of the Minutes of the last meeting, They were unanimously approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

6) GUEST SPEAKER

Dennis Button – Kent Highways Services

Dennis gave a power point presentation on the Highways changes from Canterbury City Council to KCC Kent Highways Services > East Kent Division > Canterbury.

Highways will be made up of four divisions.

Highways Operations
Highways Projects

Traffic & Transportation
Development & Highways Services

He talked through the four teams, and also mentioned the three outside agencies.

Jacobs Babbie

Colas

Ringway

He also explained the Canterbury City Council Transport Team and Parking Team.

Dennis did an update of the Thanington problems as seen from the Thanington Web Site. Most important was the dangerous fence along Ashford Road had been repaired

The new Email address for Highways – canterbury.highways@kent.gov.uk

Dennis invited questions

Jeane Millar – Asked about bus shelter in Ashford Road by Warren Lodge.

DB – I think that is a PC matter

Clerk – We have written to Jeane stating the PC will look at it when other shelters have been completed.

Margaret Church – School Parking Hollow Lane, Traffic in general in Hollow Lane, New Round About and mud coming down Hollow Lane.

DB – to get back to Clerk

Naomi Salmon – Slip roads for A2

DB – needs Government funding, lobbying going on.

Sarah Guest – Planning for New Estate Traffic Study.

DB - to get back to Clerk

The Chairman thanked Dennis for his informative talk and help with Parish Problems.

7) **MATTERS ARISING:**

8) **CHAIRMANS REPORT:**

The Council lost the services of Tom von Etzdorf who resigned due to moving away from the area, but were fortunate to welcome Mrs Toni Baker onto the Council.

After months of pressure from the Parish Council, the car abandoned in the river Stour was removed.

The Parish Council requested that the compound next to the flats opposite the playing field be either renovated or demolished as it was an eyesore. It was renovated.

We are updating the Parish Appraisal which was first published in 1989.

Following introduction of 30MPH speed limit along the Ashford Road, which the Parish Council had campaigned for over 20 years, the long awaited interactive speed camera which had been requested by the Parish Council was installed.

The Council is keen to get the area at the corner of Iffin Lane/New House Lane tidied up, and we are waiting for quotations for this work.

Car Parking at road junctions cannot only be a nuisance factor, but can also be downright dangerous. Following representations from the Parish Council, the following have been included in the Kent Highways 2004 Traffic review for installation of yellow lines. Junction of Grays Way/Tonford Lane and Cockering Road/St Nicholas Road.

The Council has presented Hilltop Community Association (Canterbury) with £1,000.00 towards the cost of provision of play equipment. This follows our long standing commitment to provide assistance to community associations in the parish.

On 23rd June 2004, an enquiry was held by a Government appeals inspector into an objection by Pelham Homes into the refusal by Canterbury City Council not to include their proposal to build approximately 450 dwellings behind Warren Lodge, off the Ashford Road and lying along the Cockering Valley, in the local plan.

Canterbury City Council considered that a good supply of land had already been allocated for housing on brown field sites, without the need for development on green field sites.

As yet the developers have not submitted any official planning application. Following various rumours since April 2000 of a large scale development in Thanington, the Parish Council agreed in principle at the May 2000 Council meeting, that it would object to any large scale development, and we maintain our stance on this matter. The Inspector's decision should be known very shortly – possibly during March 2005.

The Parish Council distributed information concerning the above proposal to a large number of affected householders, including Ashford Road, Ashenden Close, Bramley Avenue and Manor Close in August 2004.

Information on the activities of the Parish Council can be found on our Website.

www.thanington-pc.gov.uk

9) **FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

The Chairman referred to the Balance Sheet provided on the back of the agenda. He worked through all the items of the Receipts and Payments columns, giving explanations on each of the items. He invited question. There were none. Proposed by Margaret Church, seconded by David Swain. He thanked the Clerk for preparing the accounts.

10) **HARRIS CHARITY FUND:**

The Chairman referred to the details of this fund found with agenda.

11) REPORTS:

- a) Ashford Road Community Association
Report by David Swain
- b) Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre
Report by Charlotte McCaul
- c) Canterbury Detached Youth Work Project
Report by Naomi Salmon & Andy Lauman
- d) Hilltop Community Association
Report by Mr David Sackett on behalf of Mr Colin Smith Chairman of HCA
- e) St Nicholas Church and St Faith's
Report read by Chairman
- f) Woman's Institute
Report read by Margaret Church
- g) Credit Union
Report by Tim Lawson
- h) Riding for All
Accepted invite but did not arrive.

The Chairman then asked if there were any other Parish organisations wishing to report, There were no others.

12) QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR / ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

The Chairman explained how councillors gave their time freely to the Parish Council, he thanked them for their hard work and support. He said that the Clerk, Roger Cheeseworth had started with the council at a time when all the new laws were coming into effect, He thanked the Clerk for his hard work.

13) CLOSURE: The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:12