

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at the Ashford Road Social Club House Ashford Road, Thanington Without, on Monday, 13th October, 1980 at 8 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Mr. C. Day, Mr. E. Kite, Mr. W. Knott, Mr. A. R. Palmer, Mesdames M. Kite, V. Sanders, Miss S. Knott and one other Local Government Elector.

APOLOGIES: There were none.

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Mr. A. R. Palmer in the Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING were confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING:

CORSSING GATES AT TONFORD: The iron gates had been fixed in position but shortly afterwards had been vandalised. The Permanent Way Inspector had informed the Clerk that they had again been fixed and this time soldered in position. Many level crossing gates all over the country are being vandalised.

LITTER DUMPED AT CORNER OF GRAYS WAY: Councillor Mr. E. Kite reported that he had looked there and thought all had been removed.

POT HOLES IN ASHFORD ROAD: These had not yet been repaired. A further letter to be written as they are steadily getting worse.

STREET LIGHTING, NEW HOUSE LANE: Work had not yet commenced.

BUS SHELTER, ASHFORD ROAD: No reply to our letter, possibly due to removal of Council departments to Military road.

RECEPTION OFFICE IN CITY CENTRE: A letter received from the City Chief Executive that present plans have not included such a facility, mainly in view of the additional cost involved, but this can be looked at again at a later date in the light of experience.

Press publicity had been given to methods of making payments to the City Council. It was agreed to thank the City Chief Executive for his letter, but to again press the point that a reception office should be opened in the City centre.

TELEPHONE KIOSK, JUNCTION OF HOLLOW LANE/NEW HOUSE LANE: The Customer Service Department had telephoned the Clerk to say that the kiosk had been vandalised many times. When the glass is broken, the weather gets into the mechanism of the kiosk, resulting in deterioration which is the reason why the kiosk has been taken out of service. They are looking into the possibility of obtaining poly-carbonate sheets which are stronger than glass, and hope to be able to effect repairs at a later date. There is the query as to how many times a kiosk can be repaired because of the cost.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS: There were none.

The Clerk had been told by the Auditing Clerk that a Parish Council should not reclaim VAT on a Clerk's telephone account and had asked K.AP.C for clarification. A reply had been received from the National Association that this is correct in strict law. A local authority may only reclaim from Customs and Excise VAT which has been charged to it by someone registered for VAT. A council cannot reclaim VAT which has been charged to someone else even though the Council is re-imbursing that person for the expenditure including VAT. The strict legal situation is that either (a) the Council reimburses the clerk for the portion of rental (including VAT) and does not reclaim VAT or (B) the liability for the telephone is transferred to the Council and the Clerk reimburses the Council for her portion of the bill - the Council paying the bill in the first place. The difference between (a) and (b) is that the nett cost of (a) to the Council is more than (b) by an amount equal to two thirds of the VAT on the bill. This is about £4.50 per year.

It was proposed by Councillor Mr. W. Knott, seconded by Councillor Mr. C. Day and carried, that the Parish Council reimburses the Clerk with £4.50 per annum. The Clerk in the meantime to study the telephone bills to clarify the sum involved.

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K.A.P.C. Notice of AGM, Saturday, 18th October, in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Maidstone, 2 pm.

Resolutions studied. It was agreed that No. 1 should be supported.

K.A.P.C. Notice of Area Committee Meeting. Venue changed to Sidney Cooper Centre, Room 15. Noted.

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL. Public Participation Meeting. Venue changed to new Council Offices at Military Road.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS. None applicable.

PREVIOUS PLANNING APPLICATIONS: 34 New House Lane. Permission granted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Councillor Mr. W. Knott reported that the seat on the elevated footpath had been vandalised - slats and name plate removed - but the seat was still usable. It was agreed that repairs should be left until the spring.

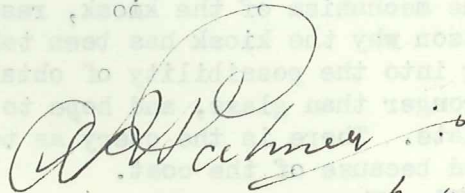
Councillor Mr. C. Day remarked that the notices on the notice board had become unreadable due to the heavy rain. The clerk had endeavoured to obtain a pen which was fast to light and rain and will continue to search.

It was queried whether the board could be covered with perspex sheeting to protect the notices.

Councillor Mr. A. R. Palmer reported that he had noted an item in the local Press regarding the official opening of the new picnic area in Larkey Valley Woods and was concerned that the Parish Council had not been invited to attend, the woods being in the Parish. Chartham Parish Council had been present. A letter to be written to the ~~City~~ Chief Executive expressing the concern of the Parish Council that they had not been notified of this event. The woods are not in Chartham Parish.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 10th November, 1980 at 8 pm.

There being no other business the meeting was closed.



10th November
1980.