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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at the Ashford Road Social Clubhouse, Ashford Road, on Monday, 24th August 1987 at 8 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mr. C. H. Church, Mr. G. Page, Mr. C. H. Day, Mr. J. Bertram  
Mr. R. Eden, Mrs. V. Sanders, Mrs. L. New, Miss S. Knott.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Mrs. P. Blackman.

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Mr. C. H. Church.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING:

CONTROLLED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING, ASHFORD ROAD: Letter with copies of items arising on the Canterbury City Council minutes relating to the proposed controlled pedestrian crossing received from Councillor Mr. F. Whitmore.

MINUTES 67. It was proposed by Councillor Mr. F. Whitmore, seconded by Councillor Miss L. Keen that the recommendation in Minute 67 be amended by the addition of the following recommendation: d) That the County Council be informed that the City Council is strongly of the view that a pelican crossing is justified on the Ashford Road, given that this heavily-used road divides the community at Thanington and the road is much used by elderly pedestrians. Upon being put, the foregoing amendment is carried. Other items regarding speed limit and reduction of refuges noted.

Councillor Mr. F. Whitmore's letter to be acknowledged with the information that the Parish Council will continue to re-affirm their commitment for a pedestrian crossing.

The Clerk had written a personal letter, copies of which had been sent to K.C.C. Chairman of Highways Sub Committee; Mr. M. Bacon and Mr. D. Planner, Canterbury City Council; Canterbury City Council Ward Councillor Mr. F. Whitmore, Miss L. Keen; K.C.C. Councillor Mr. L. Shirley.

Acknowledgement of letters received from Councillor Mr. F. Whitmore and Councillor Mr. L. Shirley stating that this letter will be helpful.

The Vicar, Revd. Len Cox, having an interview with a member of Canterbury City Council regarding the problem of refuges and double yellow lines at the entrance to the lychgate. The Vicar has stated that he will continue to take a positive stand.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME: Councillor Mr. C.H. Day reported that a further meeting has been arranged with the 'link persons' but there now seems to be a lack of interest. He will be resigning as Co-ordinator at this meeting and hopefully someone will take over from him, otherwise it will be up to local residents to keep a watching brief on properties in their areas.

MRS. BUNN, NEW HOUSE LANE: Councillor Mr. C. H. Church reported that he had no further information regarding the cyclist injured in an accident caused by a falling flint. 'Falling Rocks' signs had been installed but he considered them inadequate i.e. they are placed too high and also there should be signs on both sides of the road.

A further accident had occurred to a car driven by Mr. Pritchard, 74 New House Lane which had caused £70 damage to his lighting unit, Mr. Pritchard would be submitting a claim for this damage.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE BOARDS: An estimate received from Mr. M. Langley for renovating the existing board and making two additional smaller ones for £125. It was proposed by Councillor Mr. C. H. Day, seconded by Councillor Mr. G. Page and carried, that this estimate be accepted. Councillor Mr. G. Page and Councillor Mr. J. Bertram to investigate possible sites at Strangers Lane and the verge by the Community Centre, Thanington Road.

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MATTERS ARISING:

GAS PIPES IN TONFORD LANE: Councillor Mrs. P. Blackman had asked the Clerk to report that Segas was still making some new connections in Tonford Lane. But as yet, the work not completed. It was agreed to leave the matter for now as obviously work would be completed in due course.

MANOR CLOSE FENCE: Councillor Mr. J. Bertram reported that this fence had been replaced satisfactorily.

ITEM FOR PARISH MAGAZINE: Councillor Mr. C. H. Church thanked for writing this which was much appreciated. He would be making a quarterly feature on this.

GARAGE IN COCKERING ROAD: No reply received to letter written to Mr. J. Mathews, the owner. Councillor Mr. R. Eden reported that repairs are still taking place on the highway (a car had been left standing propped up without an engine) and also spraying was taking place on the highway. The Clerk to take the matter up with Canterbury City Council and also the City Police.

PARISH COUNCIL TRAINING COURSES: Councillor Mr. J. Bertram intimated there was a problem regarding his attendance on 26th September. He would see the Clerk regarding a possible change to another date. Councillor Mr. C. H. Church reported that he had attended a training course and considered it very helpful.

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL LOTTERY FUND: Thanington '87 Club for the over 60s had supplied a completed application form for a storage cupboard and table games to the value of £150. It was agreed that the Parish Council should support this application. The Chairman of the Club had stated they were most appreciative of this help. The Ashford Road Social Club had not yet held their meeting and a report would be made at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

FILING CABINET FOR THE CLERK: The Parish Council had registered with K.C.C. Supplies Department and the Clerk now supplied a list of items needed:- 4 drawer filing cabinet with necessary files and folders; envelopes and typewriter ribbons; amount to £91.33. It was proposed by Councillor Mr. C. H. Day, seconded by Councillor Mr. J. Bertram and carried, that these items be ordered. There was a considerable saving of expenditure on these items.

LIGHTS IN BRAMLEY AVENUE AND BROKEN CURB IN STRANGERS LANE: Lights now satisfactory. Letter received from Canterbury City Council that the footway had been inspected and the vegetation overhanging not considered to be unduly nuisance value. It would be kept under review. The footway had been assessed against other footways in the City area and did not rate a very high priority. With the limited funds available, early attention could not be promised.

FOOTPATH 490: Cocking Road to New House Road: Report received from the City Council that the Footpath Warden has visited the footpath on 13th August and unable to find any areas over the entire length that would appear to have been recently ploughed. Councillor Miss S. Knott and Councillor Mr. C. H. Church confirmed that this footpath had been recently ploughed and the land planted right up to the verges. Councillor Mrs. L. New reported that it is almost impossible to gain access to the footpath from Cocking Road. The Clerk to get in touch with the Footpath Warden suggesting a site meeting.

ELEVATED FOOTPATH, HOLLOW LANE: Acknowledgement of our letter, that arrangements have been made to clear the brambles etc., and the problem of falling trees and rubble being investigated by the Highways section. As the recent torrential downpours of rain had made the problems even more demanding, the Clerk to get in touch with Canterbury City Council asking for the road to be cleared of mud and rubble.

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MATTERS ARISING cont:

SPACE BETWEEN NEW HOUSES: There is no legislation with the Town Planning Acts or Building Regulations which specify distance from boundaries. The only current legislation quoting access for the Fire Brigade is found under the K.C.C. Act of 1981. Section 53 covers access for fire fighting appliances.

DELIVERY OF BLACK REFUSE SACKS: Deliveries of 20 sacks per 13 week period. Deliveries separate to refuse collection and are not for a variety of reasons so dependable. Deliveries being monitored.

ASHFORD ROAD: The carriage way will be patched in a programme due to commence in the next few weeks, weather and emergencies permitting.

OVERHANGING TREES, ASHFORD ROAD: Councillor Mr. G. Page reported that these had been trimmed back.

OVERHANGING HEDGES: All apart from Long Reach, Tonford Lane, have been trimmed. A further letter to be written to Mrs. Warner.

MONTESSORI SCHOOL, NEW HOUSE LANE: Reply received from Miss Mary Fowler, that she is circulating a letter to all parents regarding parking problems and is also increasing the parking area in front of the school.

SECOND ENTRANCE TO HOUSE, JUNCTION OF HOLLOW LANE/MERTON LANE: Nothing further heard regarding this.

FINANCE: Transfer of sum of money to N.S. INVESTMENT AC. Forms completed and submitted and paying in book now awaited. It was proposed by Councillor Mr. C. H. Church, seconded by Councillor Mr. G. Page and carried, that a cheque be drawn for £1,000, so that when the paying in book arrives the transfer may be completed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

K.C.C. TRANSPORT PLAN: To be circulated to Parish Councillors.

" Impact Plan: To be circulated to Parish Councillors.

K.A.P.C. RECOMMENDATION RE CLERK'S SALARIES: The recommended increase for ordinary part time clerks from 1st July 1987 is 60.5% of the one penny product of the parish, or of the population, whichever is the lesser. It was proposed by Councillor Mr. C. H. Church, seconded by Councillor Miss S. Knott and carried, that the Clerk's salary be increased to £104 per annum, being the 60.5% of a penny rate product of the parish. The Clerk expressed her thanks.

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL. Village Hall Capital Projects, Grant Aid: K.C.C. ask for survey of the needs of village halls/community centres to be carried out and the results notified to them. It was agreed that St. Faith's Hall, New House Lane, and the Ashford Road Social Club, Ashford Road, be informed and for applications for grants to be made to Canterbury City Council by mid September.

~~KENT STORAGE PLAN~~ --- This has

KENT STRUCTURE PLAN. This had been circulated and points noted were: Mineral development, new developments (it is hoped that Manor Close will be the last in the area); tourism; that Canterbury should be a protected area except for office and warehouse development; houses for the elderly; queries on supermarkets being sited all on the north side of the city; The Kent Structure Plan accepted with some reservation on housing, shortage of food shops on the western side of the city as transport is not always available; if a supermarket was built on the Wincheap Industrial estate there would need to be an additional road.

PARISH NEWS NOS. 144 and 145. Noted.

PARISH MAP: The Parish Councillors expressed interest and the Clerk intimated that she would be prepared to work on an embroidered parish map. A larger scale map would be required and the possibility of obtaining a 1:2500 scale to be investigated. The cost possibly in the region of £20. It was proposed by Councillor Miss S. Knott, seconded by Councillor Mr. C. H. Church and carried, that this should be undertaken. Thanks expressed to the Clerk for her offer.

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*Handwritten signature: R. C. H. Church*

CORRESPONDENCE cont:

K.V.S.C. Village Hall's advisory service for Kent. Noted.  
 NATIONAL ASSOC. OF SWIMMING CLUBS FOR THE DISABLED: Proposed guide for Kent.  
 Halls - new Community Centre  
 Ashford Road Social Club. No toilets for disabled.  
 St. Nicholas Church. Query on access and no toilets for disabled.  
 NEW HOMES REVIEW: New housing in inner cities. Noted.  
 CAMP AIGN FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE: Noted.  
 K.C.C. Civil Protection. Noted.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Two dwellings at Grays Way. amended plan. No objections.  
 Thanington Within Community Centre. Wooden storage shed for playgroup equipment. No objections.  
 Previous applications granted: Garage and widening of vehicular access, 17 New House Close.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

REPORT ON K.A.P.C. District Meeting. Councillor Mr. G. Page reported that the Chairman, Mr. Charles Farr had retired and had been succeeded by Mr. Scruton. No one stood for Vice-Chairman and the position vacant. Mrs. Baker continuing as Secretary. Subscriptions would increase by £300 within the next four years.

THE CLERK enquired whether the Parish Council would consider making a representation for an additional bus to run by the E.K.R.C.C. in the mornings, The 652 bus from Chartham at 9.20 am is invariably full by the time it reaches Thanington Church stop, More people get on at the Strangers Lane, Cocking Road and St. Nicholas Road stops resulting in those getting on have to stand and the bus is considerably overloaded. When the bus is already overloaded by the time it reaches Thanington Church it does not always travel round the estate but runs straight down Thanington Road into the bus station. It was proposed by Councillor Mr. G. Page, seconded by Councillor Mr. J. Bertram and carried, that the Parish Council asks the Road Car Co. to put on an additional bus either just before the 652 at 9.20 am or just after that time daily.

COUNCILLOR MRS. V. SANDERS queried the light aircraft which had been flying very low over the houses in the area. The Clerk had seen this and had telephoned the police and received the information that there had been other complaints and the station officer was endeavouring to find out who it was and what they were doing. The Clerk to ask the Police if they have any information on this.

Councillor Mrs. V. Sanders also reported that the footpath at the rear of the Cocking Road houses which joins both the Ashford Road and St. Nicholas Road is considerably overgrown and in places impassable. The Clerk to write to Canterbury City Council on this.

COUNCILLOR MR. R. EDEN reported that during the torrential storm on Friday night the storm water ran down from the farmland at the rear of Cocking Rd. flooding the cul de sac at the bypass. Two houses had been in danger of being flooded and although the Fire Brigade was called they were unable to pump the flood water away as there was nowhere, other than the main Ashford Road, to which it could be diverted. Residents had done their best to clear the storm drains but these were solid with mud and stones and the road at this point 3 to 4 inches deep in water. The Clerk had reported this to enquire what could be done, and was asked to again contact the City Council asking what steps are being taken to prevent a further occurrence.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS cont:

COUNCILLOR MISS S. KNOTT reported that the street light outside 37 New House Lane was out of phase. The Clerk to report this.

COUNCILLOR MR. G. PAGE reported that the litter bins at the Hanging Banks are now Missing. Canterbury City Council to be asked to replace them.

Councillor Mr. G. Page also reported that the 'Ashford Road' sign is still awaiting re-siting at Reed Cottage and the 'Neighbourhood Watch' signs still need aligning. In addition, Councillor Mr. G. Page reported that he had received two leaflets from CADET which he would be duplicated for the Councillors relating to job vacancies and home helps.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 28th September 1987 at 8 pm.

As the Chairman, Councillor Mr. C. H. Church will be away during August, the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Mr. G. Page and Councillor Mr. C. H. Day asked to deal with any matters arising.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

*Clive H Church*  
29/9/87