

MINUTES OF THE THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL held at the Ashford Road Community Association Hall, Ashford Rd, Monday 8th OCTOBER 1990 at 8 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors, Mr. C. Church, Mrs. F. Hughes, Miss S. Knott,  
Mr. G. Page and Mr. K. Stokes.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Mr. R. Eden who is incapacitated.

Cllr. Mrs. P. Blackman was unable to attend.

Cllr. Mr. G. Furness was attending a course.

All of these apologies were accepted. The Clerk confirmed that he had written to express regrets and good wishes to Cllr. Eden.

The Council noted with regret the death of Mr. Kenneth McMillan of New House Close, a former councillor for the South Ward, and agreed to send its condolences to his family.

CHAIRMAN: Cllr. Mr. C.H. Church.

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING were confirmed and signed, after the word 'men' had been corrected to 'people' in the second line of (10) PARISH AFFAIRS..
2. CASUAL VACANCY. The Chairman explained that, together with the Clerk, he had obtained from Mrs. Nancy Burton an expression of willingness to fill the vacancy, at least until the 1991 election. After a few words from the Clerk, in which he said that he was pleased to be able to recommend Mrs. Burton and that it would be satisfying to have representation from the Alfred Close area, it was unanimously agreed to invite Mrs. Burton to be co-opted as a Councillor for North Ward.  
At 8.10 p.m. Mrs. Burton joined the meeting, read and signed the prescribed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and received an Information Pack.
3. MATTERS ARISING:
  - [1.] The Clerk reported that the matter of the possibility of replanting lime trees along Thanington Road was now in the hands of Mr. Long, who has taken over from Mr. Tony Free. No further reply had yet been received.
  - [2.] The Clerk reported that he had written to Mrs. New to add the appreciation by her colleagues of her services, to those sentiments already expressed by the Chairman in his acknowledgement.
  - [3.] The Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Vicar concerning appropriate areas in which help from the Lottery Fund would be appreciated. The Vicar would respond in due course.
  - [4.] It was confirmed that Cllrs. Messrs. Page and Stokes would attend the KAPC A.G.M. on November 3rd. The Clerk had not yet received final details but would pass them on, when they arrive.
  - [5.] KCC Highways: Public Rights of Way Strategy & Definitive Maps guide had been circulated.
  - [6.] The Agreement with CCC City Estates re: Notice Boards in Strangers Lane, had been signed by the Clerk and returned..
  - [7.] The Clerk confirmed that he had written, as instructed, concerning Planning Application: CA/90/0552/THA. Whitegates, Tonford Lane.
  - [8.] Cllr. Knott confirmed that the damaged seat had not yet been restored to its position opposite St. Faith's Hall. She agreed to tactfully follow up the matter with the repairers.

*Clive H. Church*  
12.11.90

- [9.] The Clerk confirmed that he had written to thank the Fire Service, as instructed. No reply had been received.
- [10.] The Clerk reported that he had written about materials left by Council workers; most specifically at the lower end of Strangers Lane. Whereas no clearance had been effected, work had subsequently begun on the nearby pavement and he would monitor the overall completion.
- [11.] Reports from Cllr. Stokes and the Clerk, concerning 'skips' and lorries parked on several occasions, by Old Cockerling Farm, led to an agreement to keep an even closer watch on the situation. Cllr. Stokes referred to extensive painting of several 'skips', on site.
- [12.] The Clerk stated that he had received replies from the Technical Director regarding:-
- (i) possible danger connected with the new footpath at corner of Tonford Lane.
  - (ii) the now missing road name-sign Strangers Close, previously reported as needing repair, and
  - (iii) the overgrown hedging around the pumping station in Hassalls Reach,
- These matters would be attended to. Item (iii) has been dealt with.
- [13.] The Technical Director had informed the Clerk that reparations to the broken fence along the footpath from Tonford Lane CB 456 were the owner's responsibility. The Clerk was instructed to write to the owner.
- [14.] The Clerk had written to C.C.C. to report local discontent over the state of pavement surfaces and street and pavement cleaning. He had received a reply which stated that it was hoped that improvements might be expected during this financial year..

4. TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

KAPC Cllrs. Info Packs (3)	£10,01
inc. VAT	1,31
Payment was proposed by Cllr. Page and seconded by Cllr. Hughes.	
Aids for Business Cantby. Minutes Ledger	£41,92
inc. VAT	5,47
Payment was proposed by Cllr. Church and seconded by Cllr. Stokes.	
D. E. Gould. Clerk's Salary Jly/Aug/Sept	£555,55
2/3 Telephone rental	15,21
Travel. KAPC course, Hollingbourne.	9,52
Reimburse for payt. to Petty Cash.	10,00
GLOSCAT course Travel: £65,15	
Accommodation 20,00	85,15
	<u>£ 675,43</u>

As an item of this payment was under the section of FINANCE, on the Agenda, the Chairman's proposal to consider the Clerk's salary at this juncture was unanimously accepted. It was proposed by the Chairman and unanimously agreed that the Clerk's salary be increased to £1,10 per Community Charge payer, as from July 1st 1990, according to the recommendations of the NALC & SLCC.

It was then proposed by Cllr. Page and seconded by Cllr. Knott that the detailed total of £675,43 be paid.

*David N. Church*  
12th 90

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (K. C. S.) £109,35  
Quarterly rental of photocopier

Payment was proposed by Cllr. Church and seconded by Cllr. Page.

**5. FINANCE:**

Lottery Fund. Notification had been received that the unallocated balance had increased to £553. It was agreed that the Hilltop Club should be approached by Cllr. Knott, to enquire if they required a small amount of financial assistance for a specific, approved item; and that the Clerk would write similarly to Ashford Road Community Association. The eventual response from the Vicar would, however, be given priority. Other suggestions were invited.

The VAT Refund Claim for the last 12 months, amounting to £128, had been submitted.

HICA Interest to Sept. 7th had been credited, in the amount of £435,38

Bank Balances (prior to the above, approved payments) are currently: HICA £12160 & Current a/c £1010

The Clerk's Salary. This item was dealt with previously, under 'APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS'

SEEBOARD: New public Lighting Agreement. A new agreement relating to Public Lighting Supply is generally required. It was agreed that the Clerk should sign and return this.

Parish Precepts & Election Expenses: A reply from the City Treasurer had been received in reply to a query by the Clerk. It recommended budgeting for forthcoming election expenses. Currently these seemed likely to be £160 if elections in both wards were uncontested, otherwise £1040. The Chairman expressed his opinion that, given the infrequency of contested elections; the Council might hope to budget for the lower figure and meet any extra expense out of reserves. It was unanimously agreed to bear this in mind when considering the budget for 1991-2.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- KRCC. 67th Annual Report & Rural Housing Survey. Noted & circulated.
- K.C.C. County Strategy Plan. Circulated
- KCC Railink No: 8. Circulated
- NALC: Review Autumn '90. (A copy each: Circulated)
- The Clerk Autumn 90. Noted
- North Downs Rail Concern: Appeal for support. The contents were discussed and the Clerk was instructed to write to KCC to propose bringing increased pressure on the Government and British Rail, as suggested. A copy should be sent to NDRC.
- KAPC Canterbury Area: Minutes & Highway & Footway maintenance  
These were noted.

- 3 -  
*Clive H Church*  
12 x 190

KAPC Parish News 173 : These had been circulated and the Tree Council leaflet had been sent to the Parish Tree Warden.  
 The Clerk was asked to send for copies of DoE Circular 17/90: Rights of Way Act '90

KAFU 11: Help Children. Noted and filed.

Kent RCC: Oast to Coast. Circulated.

7. REPORTS:

The Clerk reported that he had represented the Parish Council at the Official Opening of the Stour Valley Walk, as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were not free to attend. He commented that the scheme had taken 21 years to implement. The dossier provided for the Opening was being circulated.

The Clerk had attended the K. A. P. C. Finance Course at Hollingbourne. There were 78 present, including 24 Clerks. In addition to commenting on the general benefits in connection with budget preparation, the Clerk referred to the concern expressed, by some at the meeting, over non-registration for VAT. This matter would be further investigated.

The Clerk had attended the first Distance Learning Weekend Meeting for the CNAA Course, in Littledean. He described it as being extremely intensive and generally beneficial.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

CA/90/1111/THA 179-183 Ashford Road.  
 Erection of six 2 bedroom dwellings.

The plans and details had been circulated to those councillors available and the Comments Form has been completed by them. Whilst it was agreed that there was no basic objection to the proposal, there were several areas of concern. These included (i) the number of dwellings, (ii) sufficiency of parking space, (iii) adequate consideration being given to preventing erosion of the chalk bank, (iv) protection against the drop in the rear and steepness of access to the road.

At the same time, it was recognised that approved buildings would be better than the existing waste land.

The Clerk was asked to endeavour to find, from the Parish register and/or the Planning department, details of a previous, similar application and any reservations then imposed.

CA/90/0904/THA 78 New House Lane. Two storey side extension to dwelling. This application had been granted.

9. ST. AUGUSTINE'S DEVELOPMENT AND A 28 ROUNDABOUT:

There was nothing new for discussion.

10. KENT MINERALS LOCAL PLAN: CONSTRUCTION AGGREGATES:

The Clerk reported having read through the full documents, at CCC, for KCC PLANNING: Kent Minerals Local Plan: Construction Aggregates

- 4 -

*John N. [Signature]*  
 12.4.90

He read out the only note referring to the Parish that was not already included in the extract copy, previously supplied and circulated. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for undertaking this and thus obviating unnecessary expense. It was agreed that Comments to K.C.C. were not necessary.

11. PARISH AFFAIRS:

Mr. Smith, 53, New House Lane, had requested attention to the light outside his house whenever general checks/repairs were made. The Clerk reported that he had written to Seaboard.

Given the frequency of such complaints, the South Ward councillors proposed that an estimate should be obtained for the conversion to photo-cell lighting controls in that area. It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain this.

The Clerk had reported faulty lighting at Ashford Road crossing and outside No: 72. Ashford Road.

The Clerk drew attention to a local newspaper comment about the rock fall warning in Hollow Lane.

Cllr. Knott raised the matter of missing 'No Cycling' notices at three places along the elevated footpath. She also reminded about the previous request for a 'Warning-Children' notice at New House Close. The Clerk was asked to write about the former matter and to incorporate a reminder about the latter.

Cllr. Knott drew attention to the dangerous corner on lower Hollow Lane and suggested a central white line or some other warning. The Chairman added his support and it was agreed that the Clerk should write about this potential danger.

Cllr. Stokes commented that the rubbish in Cockering Lane had not yet been removed. The Clerk undertook to include a comment in some future letter.

Cllr. Church remarked that the 'Thanington Road' sign appeared to have fallen, at the entrance to the Parish, on the A 28. The Clerk undertook to investigate and report the matter.

12. FOOTPATHS:

Following the previous Council Meeting, the Clerk had spoken to Miss Stella Williams about the possibility of following up on interest in forming a Footpaths Group. He reported that she had responded enthusiastically and would call together an informal meeting. The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the Kent Messenger, as instructed. Response had been minimal. The Clerk also reported that he had visited the Footpaths Officer at CCC and received helpful information. County Councillor Martin Vye had written about the stiles erected at the points where footpaths CB 464 & 485 cross the road. Mr. Armshaw, of New House Close, had expressed interest in helping with clearing footpaths. Mr. Smith, in New House Lane, had also

*Clive N. Church*  
12 Xc 90

offered support to the Footpaths Group, though his advanced years would limit his participation.

The Clerk commented that he had received materials from various sources, including KCC Highways, and was assembling information for the new Group. Miss Williams had informed him that a group of a few families hoped to walk the paths in the North Ward in the near future and that she would draw up a report. She hoped for support from Cllr. Knott and others in the South Ward. This message was passed on.

13. BRAMLEY AVENUE LIGHTING

The Clerk had been informed by Mr. Bingham, at Seaboard, that the new poles were in position but that fixtures were still incomplete. Correspondence had also revealed that, apparently, the instruction concerning uniformity of photo-cell controls in the Avenue had not been properly carried out and he would investigate that.

14. EMERGENCY PLANNING:

The Clerk had written to ex-P.C. Lungley, but he did not wish to become officially involved with meetings or training. However, he expressed willingness to be called on in any emergency. The Clerk was put in contact with Mr. Armishaw who may be interested, though not if it would involve him in attendance at many meetings. The Clerk has sent him details of what is required.

15. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Chairman reported on residents' concern over the condition of the Neighbourhood Watch organisation and the co-operation with the Police. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Chief Inspector to put forward this concern and to enquire if the Parish Council could assist in any way. The Chairman suggested that he would use his report in the Church Magazine and his annual Parish Meeting report to publicise matters. It was agreed that the Clerk should invite representation from the Neighbourhood Watch to our next Council Meeting.

16. HARRIS CHARITY

A form requesting details of the representation required by the City on the Charity had been received from CCC Chief Executive, addressed to the Vicar, as Secretary. He agreed to deal with it this time, but correspondence should come to the Clerk.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING : this was set for Monday, November 12th 1990 at 8 p.m.

Close of Meeting: There being no other business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

*David H. Shur*  
12th 90.