

MINUTES OF THE THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL held at the Ashford Road Community Association Hall, Ashford Rd, Monday 18th FEBRUARY 1991 at 8 p.m.

NOTA BENE: The originally-called Meeting, for February 11th, was postponed due to extreme weather conditions and travelling difficulties. All councillors were advised by telephone of the postponement and Public Notices with notification of Meeting were altered.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. N. Burton, Mr. C. Church, Mr. G. Furness
Mrs. F. Hughes, Miss S. Knott, Mr. G. Page, Mr. Stokes and the Clerk.

One local elector attended.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Mrs. P. Blackman was away from the Parish on an engagement arranged prior to the postponement of the meeting. Her apology was noted and accepted.

Cllr. Mrs. F. Hughes was congratulated on the birth of a son. The Clerk reported that he had sent a card on behalf of the Council.

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

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** were confirmed and signed.

2. **MATTERS ARISING**

- (1.) The Clerk reported that the 'Thanington Road' sign, near the A2(T) is now in place.
- (2.) The Clerk reported that Mr. Armishaw had informed him that he had now been contacted by the Emergency Planning Officer (Mr. Gulvin). During the period of snow Mr. Gulvin had telephoned the Clerk in order to reach Mr. Armishaw. The Clerk also reported that his course currently involved an assignment on Emergency Planning and that he hoped to visit Mr. Gulvin.
- (3.) On the subject of the Lottery Fund, the Clerk reported that he had not heard anything further from the Vicar of St. Nicholas Church. Cllr. Knott had brought to the meeting a reply from the Hilltop Club. The Club was grateful for the offer of £50 for the purchase of new cups and saucers. The necessary papers were returned and the Clerk was asked to forward these with the usual letter of support.
- (4.) The Clerk reported that he had made arrangements in connection with the appeal by Kent Rural Community Council, as instructed.
- (5.) The Clerk confirmed that he had submitted the record of signatories to the National Savings Investment account authorities.
- (6.) The Clerk reported on the current position regarding having been advised by KAPC to await a response from NALC, concerning Bank charges for Audit information. It appeared that the procedure was correct but that the charges were heavy. The Bank had declined to reduce them. It was agreed to reluctantly accept the charge but to bear the matter in mind in the light of possible future annual charges.

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- (7.) The Clerk informed that the papers in connection with the Village Halls Conference 1991 had already been received by the Ashford Road Community Association, who planned to attend.
- (8.) Clerk reported that he had written to Mr. & Mrs. Kimberley of Westwinds, New House Lane, to say that their comments had been noted by the Parish Council.
- (9.) The Clerk reported that he had written again about the state of the Children's Playground. Cllr. Burton observed that some tidying appeared to have been carried out, but that the situation still left much to be desired.
- (10.) The Clerk confirmed that, concerning the matter of the poor state of the fencing, he had written to Tilbury Builders. He had also queried the matter with the Footpath Officer. No reply to the former had yet been received but a reply from the latter (dealt with later under 'Footpaths') referred to fences, in general.
- (11.) The Clerk stated that he had reported the damaged and partially dangerous state of the footway (pavement) between Strangers Lane and Manor Close. Cllr. Stokes added the comment that it looked as though some rather minor repair work had been carried out
- (12.) The Clerk confirmed that the KCC Transport Challenge documents had been passed to Cllr. Page for further study in preparation for the KAPC Canterbury Area meeting. Cllr. Page commented that he had studied the documents and returned them to the Clerk.
- (13.) On the subject of the existing casual vacancy, the Clerk reported that he had spoken to the Housing Officer for Thanington, regarding possible suitable candidates for consideration. He had promised to bear this in mind. The Chairman said that he would follow up on the matter as far as Miss Williams and Mr. Smith were concerned.

3. TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS


SLCC Subscription renewal:	£24, 00
Payment was proposed by Cllr. Church and seconded by Cllr. Hughes.	
National Savings Investment a/c	£350, 00
Payment was proposed by Cllr. Page and seconded by Cllr. Knott.	
KCC (KCS) Remaining items on stationery order.	£14, 70
Payment was proposed by Cllr. Stokes and seconded by Cllr. Burton.	

The change of date from 11/2/91 to 18/2/91 was initialled on all 3 cheques.

4. FINANCE: The SLCC Subscription renewal was approved.

It was proposed by the Chairman and agreed that the National Savings Investment Account payments for 1991/92, to fund the Clerk's retirement gratuity, should be £380.

The Clerk reported that he had received a telephone call from the Treasurer's


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Department on the matter of his enquiry about concurrent powers. This had confirmed that lighting expenses could be met under this power, leading to perhaps £1800 of P.C. expenditure being covered. The Clerk added that some specific details in his letter had not been answered and that he had written again.

The Clerk informed that a Statement received for the National Savings Investment account showed a balance at Dec. 31st '90 of £106.88, before adding the interest for 1990 of £67.65

The Clerk reported that he had received the Commercial Union Assurance receipt for the extra premium and an up-dated Summary of Cover.

The Clerk had written to query a few details in the SEEBOARD contract and to clarify the position regarding the take-over from CCC. A telephoned reply had dealt with these points and added the fact that numbers would be removed from previous CCC columns. If requested, replacements would cost about £1 each. When the Clerk explained that SEEBOARD do not insist upon these numbers, it was agreed not to spend money on them until such time as they may prove to be necessary. The Clerk also reported having received the new Maintenance Schedule with 10% increases. This was noted.

The Clerk reported having had a telephone call from the Auditor about:

(i) Bank charges and (ii) a coming audit.

(i) :-This confirmed the procedure, queried and referred to under 'Matters Arising: item (6.).

(ii) :-The date of Audit for year ending 1990 is March 25th - 26th.

The Statutory Notice has already been posted, as instructed. The Clerk pointed out that this would cover the period back to the last triennial audit and that he had enquired at Midland Bank if they still held some paid cheques from that time, in case the Auditor requires to see them.

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

CCC: MINUTES had been circulated and the points highlighted by the Clerk had been noted.

CCC. Environmental Protection Act 1990. New statutory duty. The Clerk was asked to request details of the existing street cleansing schedule. He commented that he had tried, in vain, twice previously.

CCC Cleansing Inspector (Rural). Re: Larkey Valley Woods.

The Clerk was asked to contact Mr. Watmore as the excuses given for not clearing the rubbish did not seem to be acceptable.

KAPC Parish News: It was noted that this had not yet been received.

KCC: Supplies: The Clerk reported having received a Questionnaire which he had completed and returned.

Geerings: The Clerk reported having received the usual Photocopier meter card and also a bulk-buying offer for paper. These were noted.

Rubber Bedded Systems. Re: Playgrounds. This noted as being currently irrelevant.

Kimberly-Clark: South East in Bloom. This was noted.

A.R.C.A.: Various announcements included an invitation to the A.G.M. on March 19th. The Chairman encouraged councillors to attend, but asked the Clerk to present his apologies. Thanks were also expressed for the Lottery Fund contribution.

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CCC: Electoral Registers. The Clerk had photo-copied from the one free copy of the new registers of the two wards and had distributed them to all councillors. The Chairman thanked him.

CCC: Dog Bye-laws. Maps referred to, had not been included. The Clerk had requested delivery. Meanwhile, he was instructed to await receipt of them before circulating to all councillors. As a response was requested before the next meeting, the responsibility for doing so was delegated to the Clerk. He would confer with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman; councillors were encouraged to make their views known. This was agreed.

CCC Health Agenda: Noted and to be circulated.

SEEBOARD: Maintenance charges. (Referred to under 'FINANCE Item 4.)

6. REPORTS: Cllr. Page reported on the quarterly meeting of the Canterbury Area of KAPC. He covered a wide range of topics, including Transport, Post buses, Transport Challenge, Post Office Users Council, Broad Oak Reservoir, Village appraisals, Election year etc. He submitted a copy of his report for the Clerk to file.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- (a) CA/90/1190/THA. Wincheap Farm. Golf Course & Driving Range.
Upon hearing from the Clerk that there had been no new developments, the Chairman requested him to contact Mrs. Lepelley at the Planning Department.
- (b) Miscellaneous: CA/91/0072/THA 133 Ashford Road.
First floor extension to dwelling; bathroom over kitchen. This had been circulated. Due comment date: Feb. 15th.
The Clerk had explained the postponement situation and was asked to submit a response immediately after the meeting. The Council had no objections to the Application and the Clerk was instructed to convey that information.

CA/81/1036: Milton Quarry: regarding letter of 26/6/90 concerning extension of conditions.

Second KCC letter re: Milton quarry: Storage of Inert material.

It was agreed that there was no need to make further comments about either of the above Milton Quarry matters

The Clerk drew attention to the fact that the St. Nicholas Church vestry extension application now also had a listed buildings number [CAL 91/0022/THA], but the Planning Department had informed him that no further reply was required.

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

No new information for discussion had been received.

9. PARISH MEETING

The Chairman confirmed the date for the Parish Meeting, to be held held at ARCA Clubhouse, as April 4th. He proposed that it should commence at 7.30 p.m. and this was agreed. It was suggested and agreed

Oliver N. Sturges

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that Cllr. Blackman be asked to arrange the refreshments and the Clerk was instructed to request her to do this. Payment would be made from the Chairman's allowance. The Chairman gave the Clerk a copy of the Harris Pension Fund bank statement, for presentation at the Meeting.

He also requested councillors to inform him of any items which they would like to be featured in his Annual Report. It was agreed that distribution of the Report to every house in the Parish, was very successfully achieved last year and that the Clerk be asked to arrange a similar system this time. In this way, each councillor would arrange for delivery to all houses in an area close to his/her home.

It was agreed that advertising the event need not be so extensive in local newspapers, this year. It was agreed that insertions in Adscene and a letter to the Kent Gazette would suffice. The Clerk was asked to arrange these.

On the question of a speaker at the Meeting, the Clerk said that he had already followed up the suggestion of writing to the KCC about a talk by a Public Rights of Way Officer. The Chairman suggested writing again and specifying Mr. Dwight as a possible person to come to speak. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach Miss Williams regarding the possibility of adding a brief outline about the Footpath Group.

10. PARISH AFFAIRS:

The Clerk had been informed by the CCC that a resident in Ashenden Close reported a street-light timing fault. The Clerk had contacted Seeboard. The Clerk was asked to follow-up with Seeboard in the matter of the conversion to photo-cells.

A Neighbourhood Watch meeting had been attended by the Clerk and Cllr. Blackman. The Clerk reported that all the officers had declined to, continue and as no successors were forthcoming the present organisation has ceased. However, local groups will endeavour to continue in a less centrally organised manner.. The Council noted the Clerk's report with regret.

The Clerk reported that the footpath paving stones, near the entrance to Thanington Farm, had been repaired..

The Clerk reported that he had attended meetings of both Lower Hardres & Harbledown P.C.s, in connection with the GLOSCAT course. He had found them to be informative, worthwhile visits. He added that he had just returned from a weekend meeting and examination in Littledean, near Gloucester, from February 15th to 17th. The administration was slow in processing the invoices for fees and accommodation, but they would be coming through in due course.

On Sunday Feb. 10th, Cllr. Furness had informed the Clerk of 'complaints', by some residents, about Strangers Lane hill not having been cleared/gritted. The Clerk had telephoned CCC Emergency service who promised that it was due to receive attention that

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afternoon or on the next day.

Cllr. Blackman had reported that lights in Tonford Lane were badly out of synchronisation. The Clerk had informed Seeboard.

She had also, in a letter, passed on residents' concern over reports in 'Focus' and 'Kent Gazette' involving gravel diggings. The Clerk was asked to inform her that the situation was being carefully watched. The Chairman and other councillors commented on the fact that grit bins had been well used during the recent period of snow and ice. It was agreed that the Clerk should request KCC to refill them.

Cllr. Page drew attention to the fact that a considerable amount of building work appeared to be being carried on at 191 Ashford Road. It was agreed that the Clerk should check on the position regarding planning application, with the Planning Department.

Cllr. Stokes reported that the banks along Cockering Road and the corner near the footpath had been cleared of litter, but that there were already some early signs of new offences.

The Clerk reported that he had informed CCC Street Lighting that a column, on the corner of Thanington Road/St. Nicholas Road, had been flattened in the early hours of Monday February 18th. It had been removed a few hours later.

At 8.55 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the meeting and invited the only local elector present, to make any contribution that he wished. His comments were mainly in connection with the Strangers Lane area. He criticised the condition of the unrepaired side of that road and the uncleared surface materials near the corner, that has already been repeatedly reported. He also commented on street lighting, black bags and unsatisfactory street cleaning. The Chairman asked the Clerk to note these comments.

The meeting was re-opened at 9.05 p.m.

11. **FOOTPATHS:** A letter had been received from the Technical Director (reference Footpaths Officer) in reply to several items raised by the Clerk. It referred to Damaged Stiles, Fences, Bridleway CB358A and CB491. It was agreed that, initially, the Clerk should consult with the Footpath Group leader, Miss Williams, and perhaps contact the land-owners 'in a friendly way'.
12. **SKIPS: BY OLD COCKERING FARM** A letter had been received from the City Technical Director, stating that no commercial use was involved and no further action was necessary.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: This was set for MONDAY MARCH 11th 1991 at 8 p.m.
There being no other business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Shel N. Burrell

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