

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL held at the Ashford Road Community Association Hall, Ashford Rd, Monday 13th MAY 1991 at 8 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. P. Blackman, Mrs. N. Burton, Mrs. F. Hughes,
Miss S. Knott and Mr. G. Page.
Ex-councillor Dr. C.H. Church, the Clerk and one local elector.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Newly elected Cllr. Miss S. Williams, was on holiday.
Ex-Cllr. Stokes, due for co-option, was also on holiday overseas.
Ex-Cllr. Furness, due for co-option, absent because of family illness.
2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AS PARISH COUNCILLORS: The five councillors present read and signed their declarations.
3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: The past Chairman, Dr. C.H. Church, announced that it was required to elect a new Chairman. Cllr. Hughes proposed Cllr. Page and this was seconded by Cllr. Knott. There were no other nominations and Cllr. Page was unanimously elected. He thanked the councillors and expressed a vote of thanks to Dr. Church for his valued service to the Council. Dr. Church then withdrew from the meeting.
4. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE: Cllr. Page read and signed the acceptance of office of Chairman and assumed the Chair.
5. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS: Neither Cllr. Furness nor Cllr. Stokes were present, but agreement to their co-option was confirmed.
6. DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE: The declarations of acceptance would be made by Cllrs. Furness and Stokes at their next attendance, as would that of Cllr. Williams.
7. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN: Cllr. S. Knott was proposed by Cllr. Blackman and this was seconded by Cllr. Hughes. There were no other nominations and Cllr. Knott was unanimously elected.
8. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE: No separate declaration was required.
9. SELECTION OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO KAPC AREA COMMITTEE:
It was unanimously agreed that Cllrs. Knott & Page should officiate.
10. SELECTION OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO KAPC A.G.M.: It was agreed that Cllrs. Page and Stokes should represent the Council, but the compliance of Cllr. Stokes would need to be obtained.
11. CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE: The Clerk reported that he had received the records from the previous Chairman, to be passed to the incumbent. It was agreed that the allowance be £50, as budgeted, but that the sum of £75 be considered for next year.
12. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: were confirmed and signed.

13. MATTERS ARISING:

- (1.) The Clerk explained that he had nothing further to report on the matter of the responsibility for the damaged fence in Manor Close.
- (2.) Regarding the 'Trees in Your Village' competition, the Clerk said that the entry had been accepted and that Mr. Sharman would be contacted directly.
- (3.) The Clerk stated that he had written to thank Midland Bank in the matter of Bank charges and he had also telephoned to Lloyds & Barclays to thank and explain the current position.
- (4.) The Clerk confirmed that he had written to accept the SEEBOARD estimate. He had also written to CCC Street Lighting about the alley-way installations. Mr. Goldsack had said that installation and maintenance would be paid by CCC.
- (5.) The Clerk confirmed that he had written to KCC Highways and to Lower Hardres P.C. regarding a sharp fall on the Lower Hardres side of Iffin Lane. KCC Highways had replied that marker posts were due to be installed.
- (6.) The Clerk confirmed that he had written to Mr. Beeching, to thank him for speaking at the Parish Meeting. He also took the opportunity to express hopes of co-operation, with a view to up-grading our footpaths and possibly receiving help with obtaining equipment.
- (6.) The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the damaged support and swinging fence on the B.R. property on the Manor side of the Tonford Lane level-crossing. Cllr. Blackman reported that it appeared as though some provisional measures had been taken to rectify the situation.
- (7.) The Clerk had reported the missing paving slab outside 29 Ashenden Close.
- (8.) The Clerk confirmed that he had written to thank Messrs Armishaw and Ives for their interest in Emergency Planning. He also reported that he had written an appeal, to appear in the Parish Magazine, for others to help.

14. TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

SEEBOARD.	Converting 10 lights to photo-cells.	£469,20
	including VAT	61,20
Payment proposed by Cllr. Knott & seconded by Cllr. Burton		
UNIKENT.	Printing of 1000 Reports	£80,00
Payment proposed by Cllr. Blackman & seconded by Cllr. Hughes		
K. A. P. C.	Additional VAT on Subscription	£6,22
Confirmation of payment proposed by Cllr. Page and seconded by Cllr. Hughes.		
D. E. GOULD.	Reimbursement for Petty Cash	£20,00
Payment proposed by Cllr. Page & seconded by Cllr. Burton		

K. A. P. C.	Audit Notices,	£3, 11
		Including VAT 0, 46
Payment proposed by Cllr. Knott & seconded by Cllr. Hughes		
CORNHILL INSURANCE.	Renewal premium	£183. 44
Payment proposed by Cllr. Blackman & seconded by Cllr. Page		

15. FINANCE: Commercial Assurance Policy: The Clerk explained that the premium due to be paid did not allow for the increase in the number of lights. It was agreed that he should enquire about the increase which that extra cover would involve. It was also agreed to await the outcome of the position regarding indemnity coverage through NALC membership, before deciding upon such extra payment.

Clerk's Contract: The Clerk referred to the fact that certain aspects of his present contract required re-examination, but he suggested awaiting the outcome of the Audit Commission's comments on Clerks' gratuities. This was agreed.

The Clerk announced that the Audit for 1990/91 would take place on May 24 & 30th. He had posted the required Notices and preparations were well in hand.

Lottery Fund: (i) Toddlers (ii) Scouts

(i) The Clerk reported that the completed application form for Mothers & Toddlers had been forwarded to CCC, with the required covering letter.

(ii) A letter, regarding numbers involved at Nailbourne troop, was read. The Clerk reported on a telephone call with a representative of Worthgate troop, which had promised further details. None had yet been forthcoming. The Council decided to wait until next meeting before deciding about either troop.

SEEBOARD: The Clerk announced the new, considerably higher New Direct Debit. He made percentage comparisons, but explained that there were three contributory factors: (i) increased lighting responsibility, (ii) charges increased by 11% and (iii) increased VAT. However, increases had been allowed for in the Council's budget

Contributions towards Parish Expenditure: Concurrent Powers. An explanatory letter from CCC was read out.

The Clerk announced that the Precept for £5800 had been received and paid into the Bank.

Chairman's Allowance: it was agreed that this would be paid next month.

Cornhill Insurance: It was confirmed that the possible additions to the policy, discussed above, are now handled under this new company name.

Councillors' Election Expenses: Signed forms were returned to the Clerk.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

KAPC: Parish News No: 178; circulated and noted..

KAPC: Enclosures; NALC Legal Topic Notes 22 & 29 were noted.

ADC: 'Closer to the People

ACC: 'The Strengths of the Counties'

ACRE: Annual Rural Life Conference.

KAPC: CANTERBURY AREA: Agenda & Minutes were circulated and copies provided to the two representatives.

KCC: The International Rail Link; circulated.

CCC: Uncontested elections. Noted

CCC: Minutes collected 24/4 & circulated. These were not returned to the meeting for specific comment.

CCC: Street Lighting Transferred to Parish responsibility. The letter was read out. The Clerk undertook to send a copy to Mr. Bingham at SEEBOARD, for future reference.
 KTNC: Requesting information about Iffin Wood. As this area lies outside our Parish the Clerk had telephoned that comment.
 GAME & PLAYTIME: Commercial brochure; Playgrounds. To be filed.
 BEACON EUROPE. circulated, noted & to be filed.
 BBC: Notice of Canterbury Meeting on May 30th. Noted.

17. REPORTS Cllr. Page commented that the KAPC Canterbury Area Meeting had been one of the liveliest he recalled, apparently mainly due to differences of opinion about party politics in parish councils. He gave an account of other proceedings, referred to the circulated minutes and had provided the Clerk with a copy of his notes, for the records

The Clerk reported on his latest GLOSCAT meeting and examination, in Cirencester, which had been combined with a conference for Gloucestershire Parish Councils. He had found many aspects to be helpful. He thanked the Council for their support in encouraging his participation in the Course.

18. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

CA/90/1190/THA. Wincheap Farm. Golf Course

An amended plan, showing access from Cockerling Road, had been received and circulated. The Clerk had received councillors comments and had submitted a summary, by the requested reply date. Concern was still unanimous about traffic. The Clerk reported that he had contacted Mr. Britnell (Planning Dept.) to express surprise about there being no overall plan. There appeared to have been an oversight and a plan of a suggested course lay-out (dated February) was forwarded, which the Clerk had circulated for further comment. This was returned to the meeting and the Chairman read out some of the main comments. The Clerk had asked Mr. Britnell for a reply date and whether there would be a meeting called by CCC. Mr. Britnell replied that he had written again to all the people originally contacted and also to those who had submitted comments. He added that responses had not been numerous. CCC did not intend to call a meeting. Any comments received by May 28th would be taken into consideration.

In the light of this situation the Council deliberated on the situation regarding calling a further Open Meeting at such short notice and with little new information to present. It was agreed not to call a meeting, but that the Clerk should write to state that the Council was very concerned about the application. They felt that there was still far too little information provided and much detail was missing, particularly as far as the club-house was concerned. The question of the proposed access road and doubts about possible future use of a New House Lane entrance was worrying. But the overall and unanimous objection is based on the increase to an already difficult traffic situation in the immediate area and its contribution to the over-busy A 28. At the same time, concern was registered over a possible 'set-aside' alternative. It was regretted that the course lay-out plans had been so late in coming to our notice. Some more time would have facilitated deliberations and possibly the calling of an Open Meeting. As the application stands, the Council is unanimous in its

rejection. It would certainly not wish to move from that position without being able to present an Open Meeting with more information.

CA/91/0218/THA 60, New House Lane. First floor extension. Granted.

Application: CA/91/0252/THA Rear of Strangers Close.

8 one-bedroom flats & assoc. parking + access.

The Clerk confirmed that he had conveyed the Council's approval, subject to neighbours not objecting.

After submitting a summary of councillors' comments, an amended plan was received, but upon enquiring the Clerk was informed that this was virtually only 'informative' and no further comments were expected.

The Chairman referred to a letter from CCC regarding the District Local Plan, together with a 'Review of Parish Appraisals'. These will be circulated, but he drew attention to the fact that the comments on P.22 concerning traffic are not acceptable. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to draw attention to this fact.

CA/91/0362/THA: 135 Ashford Road. Application for vehicle cross-over

The Clerk confirmed that the details had been circulated.

The comments were all "no objections" and the Clerk had submitted that reply by the dead-line date.

CA/91/0323/THA: 1 New House Close: Porch & sitting-room extension.

This application had been circulated and 'no objections' was the unanimous comment. The Clerk reported that he had submitted that information to the Planning Dept..

19. PARISH AFFAIRS: The Clerk reported that, following Cllr. Hughes request at the previous meeting, he had spoken to CCC Cllr. Simon Dolby, about traffic calming proposals and had sent a written request for any available detail. The Clerk reported that he had again taken up the matter of a 'WARNING CHILDREN' sign for New House Close, including investigating the legal position of a DIY notice.

The Clerk reported a promising telephone conversation with KCC HIGHWAYS concerning Hollow Lane trees, including renewed investigation of land ownership.

The Clerk reported on Village Appraisals by computer. Material from Cheltenham & Gloucester College was circulated.

Cllr. Page had obtained a report on future transport strategy in Canterbury, which was circulated.

The Clerk notified that he had made contact with the new CITY WATCH, anti graffiti campaign and requested a supply of report forms. He asked councillors to keep him informed of any details, in future, and he distributed brochures. He also commented on the fact that the THANINGTON WITHOUT sign on the A 28 had been cleaned.

The Clerk advised that he had reported a missing Water Board cover in the pavement on the corner of Strangers Lane/Close.

Cllr. Blackman reported that there appeared to be signs of the Neighbourhood Watch being revived.

Cllr. Blackman also reported an abandoned car, near the level-crossing. A police notice had been placed upon it. The Clerk was asked to inform CC

Cllr. Blackman also spoke about the apparently temporary repairs to the damaged fence near the level-crossing.

Finally, she referred to complaints about the altered polling venue and wondered what could be done to get it back to the ARCA clubhouse, in future. The Clerk was asked to enquire about this.

Cllr. Burton referred to the area at the end of the flats about which she had previously been so encouraged when seeing a tidying up of the litter. She stated that it is now very bad again. It was decided to monitor this until next meeting.

Cllr. Page referred to the site of the three demolished cottages, formerly 179-183 Ashford Road. It appears to be used as a dumping ground. There is also the danger of a uncovered well. The Clerk was asked to inform CCC.

20. **FOOTPATHS:** Having seen the condition of the CB 464, during the April 10th walk, the Clerk had written to the farmer. Mr. Day and to Brett's Estate Manager. As he was writing to the newly appointed KCC Public Rights of Way Officer, Barbara Andrews, at Barham, he enclosed a copy for her information. A reply indicated that Mrs. Andrews would investigate CB464. Subsequently the Clerk received a 'none too happy' telephone call from Mrs. Day. Miss Williams has been kept informed and the matter is being pursued. The newly appointed Parish Footpaths Officer at KCC Maidstone, Chris Dale, telephoned about possible future co-operation. He will contact Cllr. Williams regarding the Parish Paths Programme. Meanwhile the footpath obviously needs to be walked, in order to establish its position. A letter from Cllr. Williams was read out. It told of nothing having apparently been done by the farmer, about the broken stiles or footpath. She had not yet had an opportunity to contact the farmer. She hoped to do so upon return from holiday. She reported that she, unfortunately, had no better response for the Saturday, April 20th walk. It was agreed to await Cllr. Williams' report of progress in these matters.
21. **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:** Kent Minerals Local Plan; Construction Aggregates. The Chairman announced that, as comments had been required before the date of this meeting, he had drafted an outline of the Council's attitude to the situation. He read these to the meeting. The Clerk reported that he had written a letter, based on those notes.
22. **EMERGENCY PLANNING** The Clerk reported that he had submitted the suggested Appeal, to appear in the Parish Magazine.
23. **CASUAL VACANCY** The current position was discussed. This included a comment by the Clerk that if confirmation in writing, of intent to make a co-option in July, were sent to CCC, that this would be acceptable. It was proposed by Cllr. Knott, seconded by Cllr. Page and unanimously agreed, to invite Mrs. Janet McMillan to attend the July meeting, with a view to being co-opted. The Clerk was asked to inform CCC.

CLOSE OF MEETING: The Chairman asked the sole local resident if he had any comments. Mr. Potts criticised the state of the playground area and also the Ingoldsby alley. These points were noted.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 10.00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY JUNE 10th 1991 at 8 p.m.