

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL held at the Ashford Road Community Association Hall, Ashford Rd, Monday 9th DECEMBER 1991 at 7.30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mrs. P. Blackman, Mrs. A. Burton, Mr. G. Furness, Miss S. Knott  
Mrs. F. Hughes, Mrs. J. McMillan, Mr. G. Page, Mr. K. Stokes,  
Miss S. Williams and the Clerk.

**CHAIRMAN:** Cllr. Mr. G. Page

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** All councillors were present

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

2. **MATTERS ARISING:**

- [ 1.] The Clerk reported that he had still not received extra copies of the Shell Oil Co. 'Buying Council Home' poster.
- [ 2.] A letter from the City Technical Director was read. It stated that the road name sign at Windsor Road, which had been whited out, would be cleaned.
- [ 3.] The Clerk referred to the fact that an agency had been employed by CCC to attend to litter problems in a winter clean-up campaign throughout the area.
- [ 4.] It was reported that the British Telecom man-hole covers in New House Lane had already been repaired.
- [ 5.] The Clerk reported that there had been no new developments concerning the footway on the north side of Ashford Road.
- [ 6.] The Clerk reported that he had written to Nailbourne Scouts, explaining that the available funds had now already been allocated.
- [ 7.] The Clerk reported that he had consulted with the Tree Officer, Mr. Glenn Sharman, concerning Notcutts Nurseries offer regarding the 40th Anniversary of Queen's Accession, and he awaited a reply in due course.
- [ 8.] Cllr. Knott reported that, together with Cllr. McMillan she had met with Mr. Long of CCC Highways, on November 14th, concerning trees in Hollow Lane. A site visit was made. Cllr. Knott expressed disappointment that the work had not already been carried out. She commented that she had discussed this with the Clerk and that it was agreed to further await the desired action. It was decided to review the matter at the next meeting.
- [ 9.] The Clerk reported that he had informed Southern Water about the un-safe man-hole cover, opposite 163 Ashford Road.
- [ 10.] A reply from the Technical Director was read, concerning the footway between Strangers Lane and Manor Close, which was still in a very bad condition. It was promised that the matter would be attended to, in due course.
- [ 11.] The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the damaged wooden, footpath direction sign, situated off New House Lane.
- [ 12.] The Clerk reported that he had been informed that Wheelie-bins would be introduced in the South Ward in mid-1992, and that he had passed on the message to Cllr. Knott.

3. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:**

D. E. GOULD	Reimbursement for Petty Cash	£20,00
J. A. STOCKLEY	Typewriter ribbons	£17,20
	inc. VAT	2,41
G. PAGE	Travel to Ditton 26/10	£14,78
LMS	Photocopier rental	£103,35
	inc. VAT	£15,39

SHAW & SONS LTD.,	New Ledger	£33, 15
	inc. VAT	£4, 94
NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK:	transfer	£400, 00

It was proposed by Cllr. Furness, seconded by Cllr. Stokes and unanimously agreed that the above payments be made. The cheques were then signed by the two named councillors

#### 4. FINANCE:

A Bank signatories form was completed, to add Cllrs. McMillan & Williams.

A National Savings Bank form was up-dated with all the signatures of current councillors

Under the Agenda item heading 'Seaboard: Lighting estimates' a list of Maintenance was referred to. [PLEASE NOTE that this was not the matter intended; a letter, from KCC HIGHWAYS, recommending care in phrasing requests for estimates, will be read at the next meeting].

Notice-board repairs: Estimates from Mr. T. for £69,50 and £54,00 were discussed. It was proposed by Cllr. Knott, seconded by Cllr. Williams and unanimously agreed that the estimates be accepted. Cllr. Hughes made the point that perhaps two estimates should be obtained, if possible, and it was agreed to bear this in mind for the future.

A letter from City Treasurer, concerning the Parish Requirement for 1992/93, was read. It included the information that the current estimate of the number of Parish charge-payers is 1938.

Budget proposals: The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his preparatory work and for the proposal details which had been circulated to all councillors. The first consideration discussed was that of the budgeted remaining balance in hand, as at March 31st 1993. It was unanimously agreed that the proposed £8000 was acceptable.

There were then no queries about, nor alterations to, the details of the proposed, listed budget items.

It was agreed to apply, for the first time, for £2000 under 'concurrent powers'; sub-dividing this amount between £1600 for revenue expenses (regular power charges, maintenance etc. to Seaboard) and £400 for capital expenses (improvements). The Clerk was instructed to point out to the City Treasurer that the Precept for £3300 was based on the assumption of the £2000 being granted under 'concurrent powers'. If the £2000 was not forthcoming, any shortfall would need to be added to the amount of the Precept.

It was noted that, on the basis of 1938 charge-payers, a Precept of £3300 was estimated as resulting in a Parish charge of £1,70, whereas £5300 would be £2,73.

It was proposed by Cllr. Williams, seconded by Cllr. Burton and unanimously agreed that the proposal be accepted and the Clerk was instructed to inform the City Treasurer.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE:**

KCC Railink No: 15 (circulated)

KCC Highways: Posters for promoting North Downs Way (have been put up)

KCC HIGHWAYS: re. salt bins

CCC HIGHWAYS: re, salt bins

The contradictions in the two letters above were noted.

The Clerk stated that he had sorted this out and that the matter was, hopefully, resolved.

KCC (KCS) Bulletin: circulated

KCC: PUBLIC RELATIONS: Posters; these were discussed and it was agreed that the names of all councillors be listed showing the Wards they represent and addresses and telephone numbers of the Chairman and Clerk be added. The posters would be put up on all four notice-boards

KENT COUNTY CONSTABULARY: booklet (to be circulated)

KAPC: PARISH NEWS NO: 184 & 185(circulated); BT Village Grants Scheme/ KRCC Local Govt. review, Ditton Dec. 11th; Clerks' Salaries (up-date); Parochial balances; NALC Annual Report KAPC Calendar of Meetings; (Shell) Village Ventures Competition

KRCC: Coast to Coast, Local Charity & various misc. (circulated)

SEEBOARD: Lighting maintenance schedule. (noted)

McCLOY: Playgrounds installation & maintenance. (noted)

**6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

It was reported that re-direction of plans to Chairman, if necessary, had been arranged for the period of the Clerk's absence over the Christmas period.

**7. REPORTS**

Cllr. Page presented an account of the proceedings at a Planning Open Evening, which he had attended on 19-11-91. He gave details of the three presentations on (i) Development & Control, (ii) Conservation & design and (iii) Forward Planning. He explained that further study of these details could be made by referring to copies of his notes, which the Clerk has on file.

**8. PARISH AFFAIRS**

Cllr. Williams raised the matter of litter around the 'lakes' on Bretts property and the wider issues of general responsibility. The Clerk was instructed to write to Bretts to express the Council's concern and to request elucidation.

Cllr. Blackman queried the position regarding the eventual return of the damaged seat removed from Grays Way corner. The Clerk offered to follow up this matter.

Cllr. Knott brought to the attention of the meeting the fact that Mr. & Mrs. Miles, of 39 Tonford Lane, were due to celebrate their Golden Wedding on December 20th, and asked whether a traditional gift would still be made. The Chairman replied that he would make a presentation, on behalf of the Council, to be paid for out of the Chairman's Allowance. He thanked Cllr. Knott for informing the meeting.

Cllr. Page referred to enquiries from Cllr. Frogley concerning possible contributions from Thanington Without, to the Kent Gazette, about community activities. Cllr. Page gave an explanation for the present situation based on past experience. He offered to make a monthly contribution in the form of a summary of Parish Council meetings. He would also contact the Secretary of the Ashford Road Community Association to discuss the possibility of including more general activities. Following a suggestion from Cllr, Hughes, the Clerk undertook to provide the Chairman with a contact address for Thanington Within Community Centre.

The Clerk reported that he had informed Seeboard of a malfunction in lighting outside St. Margarets in Iffin Lane. CCC had informed him, following a report by a resident.

The Clerk reported that he had brought to the notice of the Water authority, the fact that there was a missing cover in the footway of Strangers Lane, outside number 64.

The Clerk suggested that thought be given to the question of a speaker at the next Parish Meeting, at a still undecided date in the Spring. It was decided to deal with these matters at the next meeting.

The Clerk told of a comment, passed to him informally, by the local Neighbourhood Watch representative, that some residents of Thanington Farm Court were concerned about there being insufficient street lighting in their area.

#### 9. EMERGENCY PLANNING:

The Clerk reported that Mr. McDonald, Treasurer of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, had supplied him with a comprehensive list of contacts. The Clerk had sent a copy to Mr. Armishaw, the Parish Emergency Planning representative, and had requested to be kept informed of future developments.

#### 10. FOOTPATHS

The Clerk reported that posters had been put up on all notice-boards announcing Larkey Valley Woods walks. He had participated in the one on December 1st at which only 'officials' and their relatives had attended

A letter from Shell Better Britain Campaign was read announcing that a grant for a strimmer and tools would not be forthcoming this year, but inviting application again in 1992. The Clerk wondered whether it might be possible to add relevant photographs to the application.

Cllr. Williams suggested that clarification of the 'first-come first-served' procedure be requested and the Clerk was instructed to enquire.

Cllr. Williams circulated a Footpaths leaflet distributed by Bridge P.C. and proposed the idea of producing something similar to accompany the Chairman's Letter at the time of the Parish Meeting. Various details concerning content, presentation and production were discussed. It was agreed that Cllr. Williams would produce a draft and then investigate photo-copying possibilities, with the Clerk.

**11. CANTERBURY DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN:**

A letter dated 27.11.91, from the Technical Director, was read. The public consultation draft, referred to in it, was presented, discussed in outline and will be circulated to all councillors for perusal and comment.

The Chairman referred to a video which the Clerk had obtained from the Planning Department and which they had viewed together. It would be circulated to all councillors before being returned.

Posters regarding Exhibitions & Public Meeting were presented. The Chairman announced that he may attend at Rough Common. It was noted that there were other alternatives, especially at Chartham on January 30th and 31st.

**12. CLERK'S CONTRACT:**

The Clerk stated that he had still had no reply from KAPC, despite another letter about a week before this meeting, expressing the hope of a reply in time to report to it, on December 9th.

Norwich Union, at Canterbury, had referred him to the Maidstone branch, who claimed no knowledge of a scheme for Parish Clerks. He has subsequently written to Head Office, where his enquiries had originally commenced nearly a year ago.

**13. KENT MINERALS LOCAL PLAN**

There was nothing new to report.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday January 13th, at 7.30 p.m.

**CLOSE OF MEETING:** There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed, at 9.02 p.m.

G. S. B. Ray  
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