

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL held at Ashford Road  
Community Association Clubhouse, Thanington Without,  
Monday 13th JULY 1992 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. P. Blackman, Mr. K. Goddard, Miss S. Knott,  
Mrs. F. Hughes, Mrs. J. McMillan, Mr. G. Page, Mr. K. Stokes,  
& the Clerk.  
One local elector was also present.

CHAIRMAN: Cllr. Mr. Graham Page

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr. Williams and for September.

Kent County Cllr. Mr. M. Vye had telephoned the Clerk to apologise  
for not being able to attend the meeting, as hoped.  
Cllr. Furness had another commitment. All apologies were accepted.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

These were unanimously agreed and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING:

Mr. Goldsack, of the CCC Street Lighting Dept. had kindly agreed to  
attend the meeting, to answer councillors' various queries.  
On the question of changing to all-night lighting without photo-cell  
he replied that this was easy and that the previous KCC policy was  
'unofficially' probably changing towards this. This would result in  
extra charges. Otherwise the P.C. could make its own arrangements.  
He quoted an example increase to £6.31 from £4.82 per lamp. His  
suggested preference was for individual supplies by photo-cell.

About all-night lighting complaints from residents, he  
commented that 'you cannot please everybody' but that on balance it  
appeared to be approved.

In response to the suggestion that Strangers Lane was badly  
lit, he replied that 'everything is relevant' and that theoretically  
according to the plan, it was adequate. Cockering Lane would appear  
be less well supplied. KCC policy is to up-grade and CCC are improv  
as needs arise. He made no promises for that in the near future.

When asked about the durability of lamp posts, he estimated  
about twenty years. There is no 'regular' programme of painting.

Cast-iron posts are apparently cherished by conservationists  
They are not normally supplied as new. For technical reasons the old  
type now need a supplementary box. The adapted models are expensive.  
Mr. Goldsack considered the question of relationship between  
the density of lamp-post placements and traffic speed-limits to be a  
'grey area'. The often quoted '200 yards limit' is not easily  
regulated or interpreted. At present he was not optimistic about it  
being strictly adhered to.

He expressed understanding of the fact that councillors may  
be confused over the apparent discrepancies and illogicalities of th  
division of responsibility between CCC and the Parish, and who pays  
for what. He endeavoured to explain the historical and existing  
practical reasons, confirming what had been set out in the Clerk's  
Report on Parish Street Lighting.

Mr. Goldsack expressed his opinion that any up-grading paid  
for by the Parish would most probably be matched by the CCC for thos

roads still under their responsibility.

He thought that it would probably be 'a long time' before CCC changed all lighting to photo-cells.

In reply to a comment that shrubbery easily reduced the efficiency of existing lamps in Cockering Road, he remarked that the easiest solution would be a change of lantern type, up-grading to 35W, which would cost about £70 to £80 per lamp.

At 8 p.m., the Chairman thanked Mr. Goldsack for giving his time to answer councillors questions so clearly. Councillors and the Clerk expressed their appreciation.

- ( 1. ) A reply from the CCC D. of A. & E. was read, concerning the dangers caused by parking on the corners of Strangers Lane/Ashenden Close. This promised future investigation and a reply.
- ( 2. ) The Clerk had received from Mr. Potts, of Ingoldsby Road, a photocopy of a letter he had received from City Cllr. Dolby, regarding numerous, outstanding complaints. The Chairman read out this letter.

At 8.05 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the Meeting and invited the only local elector present, Mr. Potts, to comment on the response he had received from Cllr. Dolby. He remarked that nothing had been done over a period of 16 months and that now that Cllr. Dolby was making a fresh start and had enumerated and requested departmental attention to specific items of complaint, he was hoping for action. As Cllr. Dolby had given August 4th as a date for a response, it decided to await the future outcome.

The Meeting was re-commenced at 8.10 p.m.

- ( 3. ) The Clerk confirmed that he had arranged the transfer of £500 from HICA at Midland Bank, in order to maintain a small but sufficient working balance on the current account.
- ( 4. ) The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted CCC Environmental Services concerning non-delivery of Wheeled Bins to some parts of South Ward. Upon hearing Cllr. Knott's report that some had still not been supplied, the Clerk was asked to follow up his enquiry.
- ( 5. ) The Clerk confirmed that, regarding Planning Application CA/92/0464/THA Rose Brae, Iffin Lane (extension to dwelling to include Granny/Living Room & WC, he had advised the Planning Department of the Parish Council's recommendation for approval.  
  
Recommendation for approval was similarly forwarded for CA/92/0472 17 Ashenden Close (extension to form ground floor W.C. and kitchen and additional first floor bedroom.), as instructed.
- ( 6. ) The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the owner of 72 Ashford Road, to request that the hedge be cut back to the property boundary line. He had written similarly to 1A Tonford Lane and to Kings Estate Agents regarding Flint Cottage.

- ( 7. ) The Clerk had written about accidents in Hollow Lane by The Oast and requested a central white line marking and/or a warning sign. A reply was read, which referred to intended investigation.
- ( 8. ) The Clerk confirmed that he had reported that a street-light near 12 New House Close had not been alight, a few nights earlier than the last meeting.
- ( 9. ) The Clerk reported that Cllr. Knott had telephoned him almost immediately after the June Meeting to explain that the damaged post box in South Ward had already been repaired.
- (10.) The Clerk had reported that the footpath along Hollow Lane, from The Oast towards the school, was badly overgrown and causing difficulties for pedestrians. He had been informed that the footpath was on the list for regular attention and that it was due very soon. A letter subsequently received from KCC Highways was read out. Cllr. Knott commented that, after an initial, moderate trimming, the whole length of hedging had apparently been grubbed out. The Clerk was instructed to enquire about the reason for this.
- (11.) The Clerk confirmed that he had reported to the authorities the fact of a caravan having been parked at Larkey Valley Woods for the last two or three days before the June meeting.
- (12.) The Clerk confirmed that he had sent the form to KCC Highways: 'Public Paths Partnership', in connection with Cllr. Williams attending a Seminar at County Hall on June 25th at 7.30 p.m.
- (13.) The Clerk reported that he had received a copy of the completed questionnaire and covering letter, from the Chairman, regarding Local Government Review.

**3. APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:**

GEERINGS		£36, 98
	Photocopier inc VAT £5, 50	
D. E. GOULD	Clerk's Salary 1/4/92-30/6/92	£594, 89
	& 2/3 telephone rental	
S. WILLIAMS		£6, 05
	Travel Expenses to Footpath seminar	

Approval in general was sought for obtaining the cheque signature of any two councillors before the next meeting, in order to facilitate the ordering of a strimmer. This action would be detailed and approval confirmed at the next meeting.

Approval of all the above payments was proposed by Cllr. Knott, seconded by Cllr. McMillan and unanimously agreed. The three specified cheques were then signed by the named councillors.

*C. E. H. 1*  
*14 9 92*

The Clerk reported that the LMS: Photocopier lease was now arranged for Direct Debit

A letter from the CCC LOTTERY FUND was read, referring to the unallocated balance now being £481.

The Chairman encouraged Councillors to think of appropriate beneficiaries, by the next meeting. The Clerk was asked to write to ARCA to enquire if they had requirements.

A letter from CCC was read, regarding the Parish Council Capital Fund. The contents were noted for possible future needs.

The Clerk reported that a SHELL BETTER BRITAIN GRANT cheque for £450 has been received and paid in to the Bank

CLERK'S SALARY. The Clerk reported that he had asked CCC to inform him of the number of Community Charge payers in the Parish, as at July 1st 1992, as his salary is based on that figure. They had replied that it is currently 1939. The Chairman clarified that, at existing rates, this represents a decrease in the Clerk's salary of £47,97 per annum.

MIDLAND BANK: Statements of accounts show the following balances as at June 30th 1992: -

Current a/c £865,52 HICA £12837,13

It was noted that the HICA included £317,64 Net Interest, to June 5th.

FINANCIAL REPORT: copies of this were distributed to all councillors, to facilitate an over-view of the financial position as at July 13th 1992. It showed budgeted amounts for 92/93 under itemised headings, the totals spent to date and comparisons with last year's item totals. The Chairman read through, making comments where appropriate. There were no queries. Expressions of appreciation and thanks were made to the Clerk.

#### 5. CORRESPONDENCE:

KAPC Questionnaire: Councillors and Clerks Training Survey 1992  
The Clerk explained that he had already made 'unofficial' replies by telephone, promising to confirm in writing. The Chairman read through the questions and the Clerk noted agreed replies, to forward to KAPC.

KAPC: Co-operative Bank: Details of conditions of banking were read, considered not to warrant a change from present facilities with Midland Bank, but to be filed for future reference

KAPC: Parish News: No: 190 (Circulated) In particular, details of the AGM on October 24th were noted.

KAPC: CANTERBURY AREA COMMITTEE: MINUTES & AGENDA.

The Clerk had forwarded copies to Cllrs. Page & Goddard.

KCC: Sportsheet: to be displayed at ARCA.

KCC: HIGHWAYS: Re: Road Squads. The letter was read and brochures exhibited. These will be displayed. The Chairman undertook to further publicise this scheme by using it as the basis for his

next Newsletter contribution.

KCC: Education: Re: Secondary School Provision in Herne Bay & Whitstable. The letter was read out by the Chairman.

KCC: SUPPLIES: Order form for 1993 calendars etc. It was proposed Cllr. Page and seconded by Cllr. Hughes that the Clerk should order a wall calendar for his 'office'.

KCC: COMMERCIAL SERVICES: The Bulletin July 1992 (to be filed)

KCC: RAILINK (circulated)

CANTERBURY URBAN STUDIES CENTRE: Info Sheet No; 3 ( to be displayed)

CCC Environmental Health: re: Lyme disease. Letter read & noted.

CCC : re: minor personnel changes. Noted

CCC: Local Govt. re-organisation. Highways maintenance meeting 29/ The Clerk was asked to notify the intended attendance by Cllr Page & Knott.

CCC MINUTES (to be circulated)

SLCC. THE CLERK: Clerk's copy received.

MR. RICHARDSON, THANINGTON NEWS. A letter received by the Chairman was read by him. He had requested the Clerk to write to CCC and the Clerk's letter was also read out.

CCC telephoned that they could not give a written reply in time for this meeting, but explained that:-

(i) they would be writing to Mr. Richardson to explain that a claim under Section 49 (Hardship) would require substantiation by 5 years audited accounts, and

(ii) CCC had accepted the non-use of the bungalow but that the Valuation Officer had not and had assessed both bungalow and Office. Mr. Richardson could appeal.

Confirmation to the Parish Council, in writing, was promised. The Chairman referred to a recent article in Oast to Coast, regarding possibilities of Parish help in similar circumstances. After some discussion, with contributions by most councillors present, it was agreed to await the outcome of appeals. In the interim, the Clerk was asked to write to Mr. Richardson to express full support by the Parish Council for any such appeal.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS: The Clerk reported that he had passed the usual Agenda and Report to the Chairman. The only Parish item noted was that of White Lodge. (see below).

CA/92/0397/THA "The Sheiling, Iffin Lane: GRANTED

CA/92/0213/THA 17 Manor Close GRANTED

CA/92/0472/THA 17 Ashenden Close. GRANTED

CA/92/0335/THA "White Lodge", Tonford Lane.

Recommended that permission be granted for a further period of a year but that the applicant be advised to seek, alternative accommodation in the intervening period.

After some discussion, it was agreed that this was a case which needed to be carefully monitored.

CA/92/0519/THA North side of No: 2, "The Birches", Iffin Lane. Erection of bungalow.

Replies due before next meeting and so circulated for comments. The Clerk reported that he had informed CCC Planning Dept. that there were no objections and that all councillors had expressed approval

He undertook to confirm an expected resolution to that effect from this meeting.

The Clerk reported that, in agreement with Cllr. Page, the Planning Dept. had been requested to direct correspondence to 140 Ashford Road, during the forthcoming period of the Clerk's absence.

#### 7. REPORTS:

A written report from Cllr. Williams on the seminar on Parish Paths Partnership (on the Agenda under "Footpaths") was read by the Clerk, in her absence.

Cllr. Page regretted that, due to ill-health, he had been unable to attend the Structure Plan seminar. (On Agenda under Item 12) However, he did present a report from a meeting of June 25th on Planning Issues. He referred, in particular, to difficulties in Planning Enforcement, largely due to staffing problems. He gave the Clerk a copy to file.

Cllrs. Goddard and McMillan had attended a Councillors' Information course, in Holingbourne. Cllr. McMillan gave a very positive account of their impressions of the meeting itself. It had been unfortunate that they were greeted with the news that they had not paid in advance. The Clerk commented that he was virtually certain that this was not the case, but that he would check. Cllr. Goddard had been presented with a new invoice. The Clerk has the report, to file.

#### 8. STREET LIGHTING:

A letter from WSD, regarding Street Lighting Maintenance, was read by the Chairman. Comments by the Clerk of Westbere Parish Council, who employ WSD for such maintenance, were conveyed by the Clerk. It was unanimously agreed that a transfer from Seeboard to WSD seemed to promise to be beneficial. The Clerk was instructed to inform Seeboard and WSD of this decision. It was stressed that the limiting of extra payments without notification would be set at £25.

The Chairman asked for any comments arising from Mr. Goldsack's earlier session. After agreeing that it had been very helpful and recognising that only the timing of the maintenance contract was immediately pressing, it was agreed to await other considerations until the next meeting.

9. NOTICE BOARD: The Clerk reminded councillors about a previous mention of the possibility of a local sign-writer undertaking the job of titling a Parish notice-board. He thought that this might be appropriate for the Thanington Road board. It was agreed to accept Cllr. Blackman's offer to attempt to report back on this, by the next meeting.

10. PARISH AFFAIRS: The Chairman announced the very recent death of previous Council member, Mrs. Nancy Burton. The funeral service would be held at Barham Crematorium at 11 a.m. on Tuesday July 14th. The Chairman said that he and the Clerk intended to attend to represent the Parish Council. The Clerk had sent condolences to Mr. Burton on behalf of the Council.

It was proposed by Cllr. Page and seconded by Cllr. Knott that a cheque for £25,00 be sent to Pilgrims' Hospice, in memory of

KENT  
GAZETTE  
10.7.92

BURTON — Nancy  
Passed away peacefully  
on July 6, 1992. After a  
long illness, born with  
bravery and good  
humour, she will be sadly  
missed, by her Husband  
Tom, Son Richard,  
Grandchildren Mark and

G. S. P. S.  
10.7.92

the late Mrs. Burton. This was unanimously agreed and a cheque was made out and signed by Cllrs. Page and Knott. The Clerk was instructed to forward this to the Hospice.

The Chairman had passed to the Clerk a complaint he had received about faulty lighting outside "Lyndhurst" Cockering Road. The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted Seeboard about this.

Mrs. Jones in Hassell Reach had reported faulty street-lighting the Clerk had passed to Seeboard, who promised prompt attention.

The Clerk reported that Miss Eyles had telephoned to express her thanks for the flowers sent to her at the time of her illness. These had been sent from the Chairman's allowance. The Chairman announced that he had just heard that Miss Eyles had returned to hospital.

The Clerk reported that a 'poop scoop' box had been erected just inside the main gate of the Playing Field.

Cllr. Knott reported that a resident of South Ward had complained her about a heavy lorry travelling along Hollow Lane. She asked advice. The Chairman said that he felt that it would be wise to, avoid over-reacting to what might be a one-off event. His comment was met with general agreement.

Cllr. Knott also reported that the South Ward telephone box was currently out of action, due to vandalism. It was agreed to keep low-profile and monitor the situation, with the hope of speedy rectification.

Cllr. Blackman expressed the opinion that she did not think the Strangers Lane grass bank had been cut. She added that the same applied to the footpath between the Tonford bridge and level-crossing. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries.

Cllr. Stokes referred to loose stones on the footways at the bottom of Strangers Lane. It was reported that children were seen throw these. The Clerk was asked to request removal of the loose stones.

Cllr. Stokes reported the dumping of rubbish on Footpath CB 464. Clerk was asked to request clearance of this.

#### 11. FOOTPATHS:

There was only a brief discussion on Parish Paths Partnership including notes made by Cllr. Williams at the seminar at KCC, which she had recently attended.

A letter from KCC Highways was read, concerning the PPP seminar. Clerk had phoned Shell, to be informed that we would get a grant that the amount was to be decided. A cheque for £450 has subsequently been received by Cllr. Williams, passed to the Clerk and paid in the Bank. It was agreed to accelerate purchase of the strimmer that other matters could await the action of KCC. The Clerk had supplied Cllr. Stokes with the up-dated details of the strimmer.

consideration at earlier meetings. Cllr. Stokes informed councillors that this would now cost £415.00. The addition of VAT carried the price just above the grant money, but VAT would be retrieved. He added that some additional tools and equipment would be helpful, but considered that these could await later, less hurried deliberation. [ A cheque for £487,63 was made out and signed by Cllrs. Page & Stokes, immediately after the meeting, as proposed. ] This payment will be approved at the next meeting. The Clerk undertook to expedite the order.

12. KENT STRUCTURE PLAN:

Comments due by September 25th. The Chairman asked for comments. As none seemed very readily forthcoming at the late hour, the Clerk commented that County Cllr. Vye had requested a meeting with the Chairman and/or Clerk, to discuss the submission. He suggested that it might be wise to postpone the Parish Council deliberations on the comments to KCC until after any discussion with Cllr. Vye had taken place. This was agreed. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Vye.

13. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW: The Chairman read out the copy of his submitted reply.

14. CLERK'S GRATUITY:

The Clerk reported that, having still not heard from KAPC on the matter of Clerks' gratuities, he had telephoned yet again and had spoken to Mr. Williamson. He had been informed that there were unresolved differences of opinion between NALC and the Audit Commission. He also added that other methods of payment were under consideration. He undertook to confirm this in writing. A letter received from KAPC, which referred to the unresolved differences, was read out by the Chairman.

It was proposed by Cllr. Page, seconded by Cllr. Blackman and unanimously agreed that a cheque for the amount of £400,00, already budgeted for, be signed to allow for immediate payment into the National Savings Bank account.

15. GYPSY POLICY DOCUMENT: The covering letter to this was read out by the Chairman. The document had previously been circulated. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to point out the unequal distribution of recognised sites and that Canterbury appeared to have an unduly large share compared, for example, with London. The Chairman suggested reference to Item 11 of the Document.

*At 10.20 p.m., before closing, the Chairman adjourned the meeting, and invited any comments from Mr. Potts. He referred to grubbing out of about 10 m. of hedging at the bottom of Cockerling Road. The Clerk was asked to add this to his enquiry about Hollow Lane. Mr. Potts also commented on car sales at EKV, which is outside the Parish. It was agreed to monitor this temporarily approved application.*

*Mr. Potts also drew attention to the commercial activities at 64 Strangers Lane. Cllr. Blackman reminded that the Parish had expressed concern about this at the time of application. The Clerk was instructed to contact CCC Planning Dept. about this.*

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14th 1992 at 7.30 p.m.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 10.27 p.m.



# Parish says farewell to vicar

THE Vicar of Thanington, the Rev Leonard Cox, has retired after running the parish for eight years.

His departure leaves the parish of St Nicholas's temporarily without a vicar.

A rota of clergy will take the services as part of an interregnum until a new vicar is named.

Church warden Hazel Haynes said it was hoped that the interregnum would not last too long.

Mr Cox, 65, whose wife, Marilyn, works as a health visitor on the Isle of Sheppey, was ordained 13 years ago after many years spent working as an engineer.

He was a curate at Hythe before moving to the Thanington parish and will continue to live in Canterbury.

A spokesman for the Bishop of Dover, the Rt Rev Richard Third, said the diocesan pastoral committee would name a new vicar after discussions.

Parishioners made a number of presentations to Mr and Mrs Cox at the Ashford Road community centre hall.

Verger Molly Richards gave a cheque to Mr Cox and a bouquet to Mrs Cox, while children's group representatives also gave a number of gifts.



Thanington parishioners have said goodbye to the Rev Leonard Cox, his wife Marilyn and Hermes the rabbit, a puppet Mr Cox used in the pulpit to illustrate his sermons

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# END OF THE ROAD PLAN

PLANS for a relief road in the Wincheap area of Canterbury have come to a dead end.

Mr. John Peer, chief executive of Robert Brett, whose company was involved in the plan, told Adscene this week that each of the various schemes put forward met with local hostility.

"I don't think there was ever any chance of a relief road being built," he said.

"We commissioned two sets of consultants to look into it several years ago but everything we came up with met with huge hostility.

"You've either got to have a couple of one-way systems, involving the Wincheap Industrial Estate, which everyone hated, or you've got to bash your relief road

## Report by Matthew Presland

through the estate. "The other alternative was to punch it through water meadows and you can imagine what happened when that was talked about.

### Crucial

"The cheapest price quoted for a relief road was £16 million. I think it

was wishful thinking." Wincheap councillor, Liberal Democrat Simon Dolby told Adscene this week that investment from Bretts - which planned to re-develop its head office site on the A28 at Wincheap - was crucial to the scheme.

But Bretts has confirmed that it has "scaled down" its shopping centre proposals for the site, due to be submitted to Canterbury City Council next week.

"There is no way legally we can get them to pay for a relief road for this much smaller plan, and I know residents in Wincheap will be as bitterly disappointed as I am about this," said Mr. Simon Dolby.

He is now pleading with



Cllr. Simon Dolby

the council to provide a £400,000 scheme for environmental and traffic calming improvements for Wincheap.

### Impact

Cllr. Dolby said: "The area is already saturated with traffic and if more is to come to the area because of a supermarket, Wincheap should have funds spent on it to reduce the impact of the traffic."

**RESIDENTS** are to hold a meeting on Thursday to discuss revised plans for a golf course at Thanington, near Canterbury, which would extend the proposed course from 18 to 27 holes. Chaired by parish councillor Graham Page, it will be held at Ashford Road Community Association Clubhouse at 7.45pm.

**EDEN** — On August 25, 1992, in Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Raymond Albert, aged 70 years. Beloved husband of Nancy, dear Father of Michael and Margaret, and a much loved Grandfather. Funeral at Barham Crematorium (for family and close friends only), Wednesday, September 2, at 10.30am., followed by a service of Thanksgiving, to which all are welcome, at The Baptist Church, St. George's Place, at 12.00 noon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the League of Friends, Kent and Canterbury Hospital (Wincheap group) or to the Baptist Church.