

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
of  
THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL  
held at

Ashford Road Community Association Clubhouse, Thanington Without,  
on Monday, April 10th, 2000 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Mr. I. Bain, Mrs. P. Blackman, Mr. G. Furness, Mr. K. Goddard,  
Mrs. J. McMillan, Mr. G. Page, Mr A. Pringle, Mr. K. Stokes, and the Clerk.

CHAIRMAN: Cllr. Mr. G. Page.

APOLOGIES: There was none. Cllr. Potts was not present

( 1.) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: These were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman, as a correct record.

( 2.) MATTERS ARISING:

[ 1.] The Clerk confirmed that all the cheques approved at the March meeting have been despatched.

[ 2.] The Clerk confirmed that he has written to Mr. Pitcher, expressing appreciation of his meeting with Cllr. Pringle, his immediate action in some areas and stressing concern over the poor standard of work carried out by contractors and the apparent insufficiency of subsequent checks.

A letter from Highway Unit was received 17/3. The Clerk 'phoned to thank Mr. Pitcher the some day. Mr. Pitcher explained that his reference to the road width at a bend in Hollow Lane referred to the Oast House area and not the junction with New House Lane, as expressed in the Council Minutes extract sent to him.

A letter from Kent Highways, Canterbury, ref: Mr. Pitcher , dated 23/3, was read out by the Chairman.

A letter from Julian Brazier [referred to below under Item 14], was also read out by the Chairman. Cllr. Pringle spoke, at some length, about his continued dissatisfaction with Highways with the over-all reaction to the complaints made, although he recognised that some action had been taken and promises made. When he referred to the comment made that there would be no objection to the Parish Council funding repairing a chestnut fence along the elevated footpath in Hollow Lane, Cllr. Blackman asked if this would be financially possible. The Clerk replied that he would consult with CCC Finance Department about the possibility of Capital Funding. He added that KCC PROW (PPP) had undertaken to investigate the matter of ownership of the land on which the elevated footpath is situated and the history of its origin.

[3.] The Clerk confirmed that he has written to CCC Health & Environment about the still uncleared armchair and other rubbish, thrown over the barrier opposite the Hanging Banks lay-by.

Cllr. Bain commented that, whilst the armchair had been removed, cushions, other litter and some additional rubbish remained. The Clerk noted this with the intention to incorporate this fact into a general letter to CCC Health & Environment department.

[ 4.] The Clerk confirmed that he had informed CCC Planning that the Council recommended that CA/00/0149/THA be APPROVED.

[ 5.] The Clerk confirmed that he has left a recorded message for Mr. T., asking him to delay placing the new seat until after our April meeting.

The Chairman raised the matter of the decision of the placing of the new seat in New House Lane, which had been postponed until this meeting to allow Cllrs. Pringle & McMillan to confer with local residents, consider possible local alternative sites and report on their considered recommendation for the general good of the majority of the South Ward community.

Cllr. Pringle reported that, after deliberations, they had come to the decision that the seat should be positioned where the old, damaged one had been. He added that the very strong model, which had been selected by the Council, should prevent its use by skate-boarders and was designed to be vandal-proof.

The Council members unanimously agreed on the proposed siting for the new seat and the Clerk was asked to inform Mr. T of this fact, with apologies for the unexpected delay. The Clerk was also instructed to write to Miss Sue Knott to inform her of the Council's decision. The Chairman added that he would like it to be stressed that whilst considering her objections, the Council's duty was to consider what was best for the general community.

The Chairman thanked Cllrs. Pringle & McMillan for their help with this matter.

[ 6.] The Clerk confirmed that he had unsuccessfully endeavoured to find out about the ownership of the seat outside the Hall. He had asked the Vicar if he had old records and also Mr. Clive Church.

[ 7.] The Clerk confirmed that he has left a recorded message with Mr. Stebbing, about the delayed delivery of the new notice-board, stating that the Council understood and accepted his difficulties. There has been no further development.

[ 8.] Regarding the posts remaining in Strangers Close, the Clerk confirmed that he has asked Highways, yet again, to remove them.

The Chairman read out a reply from KENT HIGHWAYS, Canterbury: Re: Strangers Close & Millennium Close.

The Chairman read out a reply from Highways. The Clerk has written to Mr. Sullivan.

[ 9.] Referring to a hole in the road in the turning circle at the end of Strangers Close, the Clerk confirmed that he has informed CCC Highways.

[10.] Referring to the fact that there was still no road-name sign for Millennium Close/Terrace;(not even a temporary one), the Clerk confirmed that he has written to CCC Highways. [See Item 8 above]

[11.] Referring to Cllr.. Potts' comments on the disgraceful condition of the Playground area which appears to be completely neglected and is deteriorating still further. The Clerk confirmed that he has written to CCC Health & Environment. He also referred to the unsatisfactory appearance of the area between the Community Centre and the A2,, which has still not been cleared since it was previously reported. [See Item 15 below]

[12.] The Clerk reported that he had telephoned to CCC Landscaping Department to express the Council's appreciation of the new flower beds at the bottom of Strangers Lane.

[13.] The Clerk confirmed that the BTCV membership affiliation fees and insurance payments had been despatched

[14.] A letter from Julian Brazier M. P. and his enclosed letter from Mr. Pitcher, CCC Highways Senior Engineer, was read out by the Chairman.

[15.] A letter headed Various Matters from CCC's Principal Environmental Officer was read out by the Chairman. The Clerk explained that he had telephoned and had explained **where the playground is situated.** Mr. Wallis said that he had no record of the complaints.

(3.) APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

KRCC Subscription for 2000/2001		£30.00
D.E.GOULD Clerk's Salary for Jan/Feb/Mar	£1196.52	
2/3 telephone rental	<u>23.69</u>	
		£1220.21
INLAND REVENUE: Contributions for Jan/Feb/Mar 2000		£14.28
ARCA : Donation towards miscellaneous items to equip new Community Clubhouse [As agreed at October '99 meeting; this was confirmed]		£2000.00

COLAS: Street Lighting Maintenance £190.36  
Including VAT £28.35

[This item had been received after distribution of the agenda and the contract with Colas ceases on 31/3/00]]

Payment of these amounts was proposed by Cllr. Page, seconded by Cllr. Pringle, and unanimously agreed. The cheques were then signed by the named councillors

- ( 4.) FINANCES: HSBC Statement of the Treasurer a/c showing balance of £1,857.32 at .10/3/00, including gross interest of £ 0.43 to 9/3/00 .  
Balance reconciled.

Statement of the Business No-notice a/c showing balance of £4,211.34 at 27/3, including gross interest of £12.72 to 3/3/00

The Clerk had requested further statements to 31/3/00 and these have been received, showing balances of £1,512.10 on the Treasurer a/c and £4,211.34 on the Business a/c.

INLAND REVENUE. New forms received for National Insurance contributions.

ARCA TREASURER visited the Clerk for him to check through the Annual Balance Sheet, on behalf of the Parish Council who are trustees. The balance sheet will be available at the Parish Meeting.

DISTRICT AUDIT: Audit of Accounts 1998/99. Auditor's Certificate & Opinions.

Reports to the Councillors were read out, in detail, by the Chairman.

The Clerk has noted the recommendation to compile a list of P. C. assets and asked for suggestions for inclusion.

With regard to the comment on Standing Orders, the Clerk spoke to Kevin Haugh at KAPC and his comment was that KAPC strongly recommend their adoption.

Notices of Completion of the Audit have been posted in both Wards, with an invitation to inspect the audited accounts.

The Council unanimously agreed to establish Standing Orders and a List of Council Assets. The Clerk was instructed to process these matters.

The Clerk referred to his draft list of assets and asked councillors to remind him of any additional items. The list was agreed.

The Clerk presented the ledger showing the balance of the Receipts & Payments account for the financial year ending on 31/3/00 was £ 10,944.22 . This was signed by the Clerk (Proper Financial Officer) and the Chairman. The Clerk distributed a revised edition of the Receipts & Payments Account Balance with a corrected typographical error.

BANK ACCOUNTS: A transfer form to move £3,000 from the Business a/c to the Treasurer a/c was duly signed. by Cllrs. Page & Pringle.

CORNHILL INSURANCE: Re: deletion of Street lights, cheque for £39.52 for return premium and request for itemised list for unspecified street furniture. The cheque has been credited to the HSBC Treasurer account.

ASHFORD ROAD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: The Clerk has been supplied with a list of articles to equip the new building, totalling £2002.59. The Council had offered £2,000.

Invoices will be made available to the Council.

- ( 5.) CORRESPONDENCE:

CANTERBURY & THANET COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL:

Public meeting "The Future of Local Hospital Services" at Westgate Hall. Canterbury  
Tuesday.4/4/00 17.30 to 20.00 Poster for the notice board, copy to Cllr. Pringle  
and the Chairman.

STAPLES: Catalogue

NALC: "Local Council Review" for distribution,

THE KENT MEN OF THE TREES: Trees in the Village Competition.

It was unanimously agreed to pay the £10.00 entrance fee to this year's competition and to thank Mr. Glen Sharman for his willingness to act as Tree Warden again and to receive the judge. The Clerk undertook to process this matter.

KCC (KCS): New Millennium Catalogue

JULIAN BRAZIER M. P. re Government Threat to Abolish Parish Councils.

The Chairman proposed, and it was unanimously agreed, to instruct the Clerk to write to thank Julian Brazier expressing the Parish Council's strong support for the continuation of parish councils. We dispute the comments made in the enclosed newspaper article, about "unrepresentative cliques", and would point out that as long ago as 1894 communities have had parish councils and parish meetings (annual assemblies). These are sufficient to provide a democratic way forward.

JULIAN BRAZIER M. P. Re: letter from Brian Pitcher of Kent Highways, Canterbury.

KRCC; Oast to Coast

Rural News Issue 21 March 2000

Kent Association of Councils for Voluntary Service

Membership of KRCC; Notification of subscription

KRCC Staff contact list.

Building Skills in Kent's Charities

CCC: NEWS from CCC: All change for kerbside recycling collection.

GLASDON: Advertisement

SLCC to the Clerk: Notice of AGM in Nottingham 30/4/00

also Minutes of Emergency General Meeting on 7/7/99

SOUNDS NEW: Request to post notice re: Canterbury Cathedral *Quire* BBC Broadcast 8/4 at 7.30 p. m.

KRCC: Re: Attendance at Annual Council Meeting 7/4 at Hollingbourne.

RICOH: Request for meter reading for end of March; supplied by the Clerk.

CCC Housing Officer: Land at Manor Close. Decision to renew the chain link fencing.

Cllr. Stokes requested a copy of this letter and the Clerk undertook to supply it.

CANTERBURY COLLEGE: Request to put up poster re: ACORN short courses.

“ “ Later replacement poster.

KAPC:(Canterbury Area): Agenda for meeting on 12/4 [forwarded to Cllrs. Page & Bain]

KCC: Request to put up poster for The Great Kent Pub Quiz 2000 on BBC Radio Kent.

CCC COMMUNITY SERVICES: Appeal for Community Advisors, in connection with KASH (Kent Action to Save Heat) [Copied to all councillors].

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY: Kentish Stour Environment Agency Plan (LEAP)

The Clerk has requested a copy of the final plan.

DUDLEY MARSH:; Architects, Building Managers, Building Surveyors. Offer of assistance with future projects. This was passed to Cllr. Pringle for possible future consideration in connection with St. Faith's Hall.

KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES: Kent Design; a guide to sustainable development. {to be circulated}

CCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Periodic Electoral Review: Meeting at Guildhall 5.45 p. m. 3/5.

The Chairman announced that he and the Clerk hoped to attend.

CCC: CCC NEWS; Flooding; once in 20 years storm.

KCC: BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN [to be circulated, with an invitation for councillors to make comments, which the Clerk would combine and return to KCC].

(6.) PLANNING: CCC: Agenda and List of Applications for 28/3/00, passed to the Chairman.

Planning Services Special Meeting 11/4; mainly re: Canterbury College. [passed to the Chairman]

CCC: CONSULTATION - London/Manston Airport. Meeting at Guildhall 28/3 6 p. m..

Agenda Item No: 10 , draft legal agreement between Thanet District Council & Wiggins Group PLC, was received later.

CA/00/0237/THA Land opposite Manor Close, Cockerling Road

Erection of eight dwellings. (Outline application) . Circulated.

The Clerk was instructed to inform CCC Planning of the Parish Council's recommendation to REFUSE this Application.

CA/00/0255/THA Wistaria Cottage, Iffin Lane.

Revised details for erection of detached garage, carport and garden store with playroom over.

The Clerk was instructed to inform CCC Planning of the Parish Council's recommendation to GRANT this Application.

CA/00/0149/THA 26 Manor Close. APPROVED

A letter: White Gates, Tonford Lane, was read out by the Chairman.

CCC: Re: Local Plan Review - Issues Paper.

- (7.) REPORTS. The Clerk and Cllr. Potts attended a meeting of the Thanington Drop-In Centre Steering Group on March 20th. The Clerk had informed Cllr. Potts, at very short notice.

The Clerk reported on the improved attendance and the planning for the proposed exhibition at the Community Centre on April 7th & 8th. Minutes of the meeting would be filed when received,

Cllr Blackman had attended as a representative of ARCA, together with Chairman Brian Reynolds and Tony Martin.

She remarked that only two representatives of the Residents' Association were present.

The Clerk had attended the exhibition at the Community Centre on the Friday morning. He commented favourably on the various sections of informative display. There were plans of the new Community Centre building and playground areas and also of the new ARCA building which is nearing completion.

When he commented on the initial optimistic response to the attendance, Cllr. Blackman interjected to say that when she had attended, on the Saturday, the attendance was extremely poor. The Clerk thanked her for completing a more balanced assessment.

- (8.) STREET LIGHTING: KCC Transport Operations: New Street Lighting Contract for 2001, including a Questionnaire. The Clerk telephoned to explain the CCC acceptance of responsibility and he queried whether return of the questionnaire was necessary and was told that comments would still be appreciated. The Clerk undertook to comply.

- (9.) PARISH AFFAIRS: The Clerk reported that the ARCA Chairman had commented on the traffic light new system and queried whether a turn right arrow in the green light needs to be incorporated [to clarify the position for drivers towards Canterbury], The Clerk spoke to CCC who expressed interest and promised to pass on that point to KCC.

Councillors agreed with this suggestion.

The Clerk referred to the letter circulated to residents announcing the new Community Hall and the AGM to be held there on May 10th.

Cllr. Page commented that he was pleased to see that the footway through the Hanging Banks area was being worked on, at long last.

He also referred back to the matter of the promised SLOW marking, on the road surface, of the A28, at the entrance to the Parish. He commented that a warning sign had been positioned, but NOT the road marking. The Clerk was asked to follow up on this and the Chairman undertook to supply him with the original correspondence references.

Cllr. Goddard commented on water meters installed in Millennium Close, stating that they were left protruding some inches above the grass and he considered them to be dangerous to pedestrians. The Clerk undertook to follow up on this matter

Cllr. Bain reported 2 pot-holes outside 35 Grays Way. The Clerk undertook to inform Highways. Cllr. Bain also up-dated on the position regarding two meetings with the Police, in connection

with rowdiness and vandalism in the Tonford Lane/Grays Way area. He commented that police task force involvement seemed to have brought about some improvements, but there was a disturbing, direct relationship between their presence and the cessation of disruptive, youthful activity.

Cllr. Blackman referred to a dip in the footway outside No: 3 Grays Way. The Clerk undertook to inform Highways.

She also commented that Mr. Derek Butler had contacted her about his Data Box involvement, with which he was pleased to co-operate. In this connection he was arranging to photograph activities at the new ARCA building.

Cllr. Blackman also commented that the litter box near Tonford Bridge was over-full and appeared not to have been emptied. The Clerk undertook to follow up on this matter with CCC Health & Environment

Additionally, at the Community exhibition she had heard comments about the need for a bus-shelter outside the Community Centre. She had subsequently made enquiries about the provision of a shelter, only to be told that it was unlikely, because of the financial position. However, she was promised that the possibility of obtaining one carrying advertisements would be investigated,

Cllr. McMillan drew attention to the fact that the new house at No: 30 New House Close did not feature in the latest Electoral List. The Clerk undertook to enquire about this.

- (10.) FOOTPATHS: BTCV: Thanks for renewing Group Membership and new application forms, with insurance information.

BTCV: Kent Connections; April/June 2000 and notes of various courses [to be circulated]

BTCV: Certificate of Insurance & Insurance Guide.

BTCV: Re: Kent BTCV Reaffiliation Form for Thanington Without P. C. Acknowledgement of receipt of renewal.

BTCV: Conservation Holidays [to be circulated]

- (11.) PARISH MEETING: The Clerk confirmed that copies of the Chairman's letter had been delivered to councillors, for distribution.

He reported that he had recently spoken to Mr. Bob Porter to confirm arrangements for his attendance as Guest Speaker at the meeting on 18/4

He confirmed that the advertisement had been placed in Adscene. The Chairman had reminded Mrs. Edna Blake about mentioning the Parish Meeting in her usual Kentish Gazette report.

The Clerk confirmed that remaining invitations to attend, had been sent

The Chairman said that Mrs. Gould had offered to assist Cllr. McMillan with the refreshments. He extended his thanks to those ladies.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on Monday, May 8th. 2000 at 7.30 p.m. in the ARCA Clubhouse.

This will be the Annual Meeting

The venue will most likely be in the NEW ARCA Clubhouse.

CLOSURE : There being no further business, the Chairman closed **the final meeting in the OLD ARCA Clubhouse** at 9.27 p. m.