

of  
THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
held at  
MINUTES  
Ashford Road Community Association Clubhouse, Thanington Without,  
on Monday, October 9th , 2000 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Mr. I. Bain, Mrs. P. Blackman, Mr. G. Furness, Mr. K. Goddard, Mr. T. Maple, Mr. G. Page and the Clerk.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Cllr. Pringle, who was unwell. The apologies were accepted. Cllrs. Potts and Stokes were not in attendance.

CHAIRMAN: Cllr. Mr. G. Page.

*The Meeting was preceded by a representative of Canterbury City Council's Strategic Planning Department, Mr. Andrew Gale, discussing with councillors the matter of the Local Plan Review.*

*Mr. Gale commenced by referring to the good response from the public to a form requesting comments relevant to a new Local Plan, adding that Thanington Parish Council had not submitted any. He stated that comments received would be considered when preparing a draft Local Plan, hopefully in the spring or early summer.*

*He explained that directives were passed from the Government to KCC and in turn to CCC. Emphasis was being placed on Housing, forward to 2016, and the A28 corridor.*

*He referred to local considerations which included limiting car parking facilities, to encourage the use of public transport, development of residential sites within urban areas plus other additional sites. He commented that he was not aware of any of the latter being considered in Thanington. Mr. Gale referred to the landscape assessment currently in process; a review of the southern and western boundary of the Blean Woods Special Landscape area and the River Valleys of the Great and little Stour. The need for clothing and footwear shops in the city centre was also being considered.*

*Mr. Gale asked if there were any items which councillors would like to raise. Cllr. Page started by stressing the long-standing concern over the heavy traffic on the A28 through the Parish and the very frequent associated delays. Cllr. Bain pointed out the connection with new housing developments such as St. Augustines and Hollow Lane and that there were fears about another rumoured residential development. Cllr. Goddard referred to the delays through Wincheap and commented on the success of a one-way system during a longish period of roadworks, a few years ago. Mr. Gale assured that he was not aware of any applications for new development and referred to a Wincheap Study Group currently considering solutions to traffic problems.*

*Cllr. Bain raised the question of a possible slip-road from the A2 to reduce some congestion. Apparently this is already being investigated, in various possible options and formats. Cllr. Maple referred to infrastructure problems in Ashford and cited schools as an example. Mr. Gale assured that consideration of such problems was already in hand.*

*At 7.40 p.m. the Chairman thanked Mr. Gale for coming and explaining details about the new Local Plan and for answering questions. Mr. Gale thanked the Council for inviting him. He said that he had noted concerns and would send a copy of these to the Clerk for confirmation and approval. In conclusion he handed over copies of two digital maps of the Thanington area.*

( 1.) **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** These were unanimously approved

( 2.) **MATTERS ARISING:**

[ 1.] The Clerk confirmed that he had written a letter to inform the CCC Returning Officer that Cllr. Maple has been co-opted and that he has signed the required Acceptance of Office form.

[ 2.] The Clerk confirmed that the cheques approved at the September meeting have been despatched..

[ 3.] The Clerk reported that he had asked CCC to supply an additional "poop-scoop" container for the Recreation Ground as the present one was insufficient; ideally to be placed in a different part of the grounds. The Clerk also reported that the "poop-scoop" container near Tonford Bridge had been set alight.

CCC telephoned to say that they had examined the Tonford Bridge container and that a replacement is not necessary. Regarding the Recreation Ground, they could supply a new container but they had no support in stock. They were awaiting deliveries. However the Parish Council would be required to pay about £150. They would await instructions.

When this was reported, Councillors reacted in surprise. Cllr. Blackman commented that the Parish Council had not been charged in the past. Cllr. Goddard remarked that the bins were now being emptied twice a week and that this had eased the problem. It was agreed not to immediately pay out that amount, but to monitor the situation. Meanwhile it was agreed that the Clerk should write to express the Parish Council's reaction.

- [ 4.] The Clerk confirmed that the materials have been returned from the Auditors after collection date postponements. There was no discussion about details The auditor commented that there were a few minor details to be adjusted but that he would explain these in writing Adjustments could then be made and approval should ensue.
  
- [ 5.] The Clerk confirmed that he has informed CCC Planning that regarding the application CA/00/0962/THA 39 Thanington Road for Formation of vehicular access, that whilst approving in principle any moves to tidy up the existing state of vehicle parking in front gardens in this area, the Council had serious concerns about traffic along the A289 at this point. The Chairman referred to the Notice of Refusal which would be dealt with under Item 6, PLANNING.
  
- [ 6.] The Clerk reported that he has replied to the letter from Mr. Andy Hutchinson regarding the Tonford Bridge Amenity Area.
  
- [ 7.] Regarding the copies of two letters which had been sent by Kent Highways, Beer Lane, Canterbury to Brett & Sons, regarding the access track at Cocking Road junction with Milton Manor , the Clerk has endeavoured to talk to Mr. Sherliker about this matter, so far in vain.
  
- [ 8.] The Clerk reported that the new seat in South Ward has now been erected. He explained Mr. T's concern over interference with the protective materials placed around the seat and possible vandalism. Cllr. Maple had kindly inspected the seat, at the Clerk's request and reported that apparently some small amount of scratching had been carried out on the plaque but that the damage was not serious. He recommended repolishing, but not until some time in the future.
  
- [ 9.] The Clerk reported that he had contacted Tamara Marshall, KCC Recreation & Access Assistant, and a meeting on September 28th was arranged. PRWO Mike Ellis also attended. An outline of hopes, intentions and plans was presented. The Clerk offered assistance and areas of possible assistance were discussed.. The Clerk undertook to approach Mr. Butler & Mrs.. Mettam. Mr. Ellis explained the possible reason for misunderstanding over the grass clearance of the Tonford right of way and confirmed the promised one-off clearance of the whole width of grass. The Clerk said that he would be contacting our usual contractor and request estimates for specific areas, to be carried out as supplementary to the somewhat insufficient cuts by KCC. Cllr. Blackman said that she thought that cutting , near Tonford Bridge, may already have begun and that she would check and report back.

**(3.) APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:**

|                      |   |          |
|----------------------|---|----------|
| D.E.GOULD            | Reimbursement for payment to Petty Cash | £20.00   |
|                      | Clerk's Salary JUL/AUG/SEP 2000         | £1232.41 |
| 2/3 Telephone Rental | <u>28.88</u>                            |          |
|                      |   | £1281.29 |
| <br>                 |   |          |
| INLAND REVENUE       | National Insurance                      | £ 16.11  |

Plus a late invoice received too late for inclusion in the Agenda, with a request for payment within 14 days. As details of this item has previously been approved, it is proposed to process payment now, but despatch delayed until the goods are examined.

HARRY STEBBING      Notice board & lettering      £705.00

Cllr. Page proposed, Cllr. Bain seconded and it was unanimously agreed that these payments be approved.

The Clerk reported that Mr. T. had discussed payment, but that he had not yet submitted his account for work on erecting the seat. The Clerk proposed writing to Mr. T. to suggest that he should inform the Clerk as soon as possible after the expected delivery of the new notice-board when it would be convenient to check on its good condition. Hopefully he would then be able to erect it and submit his account for both jobs together, in time for inclusion with the distribution of the next Agenda and thus enable payment to be processed at the next meeting. This was agreed.

- ( 4.) **FINANCES** : HSBC Bank Statements: Treasurer a/c Balance at 12/9, £4,051.72, including £ 4. 40 gross interest to 11/9.  
HSBC Business No-notice Account: Balance at 27/9 £1,232.13, including £6.73 Gross Interest to 31/8. Reconciliation is delayed because the ledger has only just been returned from the Audit.

INLAND REVENUE: Employer's Bulletin Issue 6.

RICOH: Request for photocopier meter reading for end of September received and details submitted.

The Chairman reported that the transfer of £3,000 from the National Savings Investment a/c to the HSBC Treasurer a/c had been processed.

The Clerk presented the budget and precept proposals for 2,001 / 2,002.

The Clerk commenced by commenting that the over all financial position of the Council's funds was less substantial than in past years. He gave his explanation for this. They included the Auditor's instructions during the last three years to aim at a working balance no higher than half of the submitted precept application. and also the recommendation to substantially increase the sum budgeted for contingencies. This had had the effect of lowering the amounts invested, which in turn now gave much lower interest rates.

The Clerk also pointed out that in budgeting for 2001/2002 he had taken into consideration his forthcoming resignation, within that period, and the not inconsiderable expenses associated with that, both known and possible. He did not wish to bequeath a critical position to his successor, His current proposals, although resulting in a marked increase in the Precept, should avoid this.

The Clerk then worked through the prepared papers Budget Preparations for October 2000 for the year 1/4/01 to 31/3/02 and Calculation for Precept 01/02 . He dealt with each item in turn and explained significance and the reason for his budgeted amounts. He then asked if there were any questions or objections. After the Clerk had clarified a couple of points,, the Chairman proposed that the budget be accepted as presented and that the Precept be requested in the sum of £17, 626.. Cllr. Blackman seconded and it was unanimously agreed.

The Chairman requested that thanks and appreciation of the Clerk's efforts in preparing the budget and explaining it, be minuted.

- ( 5.) **CORRESPONDENCE**: NLCC Local Council Review Sept. 2000  
CCC: LEAD OFFICER. TRANSPORT REVIEW: Best Value Review of Transport in the Canterbury District. Questionnaire to be returned by October 6th. Draft returned.  
The Chairman explained that he and the Clerk had discussed the submission of a draft, to be submitted by the closing date.. He read out the questions and the answers supplied, explaining that adjustments could be made, if so desired. No alterations were suggested.  
KCC; Sandy Bruce Lockhart, Leader of the City Council: Opportunities for Kent: "The Vision".  
KCC, STRATEGIC PLANNING:: Kent's Local Transport Plan.  
KRCC: Housing for Rural Communities: Seminar 25/11 at Egerton.  
KENT HIGHWAYS, Highway Unit, Canterbury: Hollow Lane. Carriageway resurfacing..

[Copies sent to South Ward councillors].

CCC: CLLR. VYE: New address/telephone number. [Copy to Chairman]

SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL. Town Clerk Vacancy.

BEACON MILLENNIUM LTD.: Advertisement re: Beacon Bonfire on 31/12.

The Clerk wondered if he should forward a copy to the ARCA Secretary, but this idea was not followed up.

CCC: Chief Executive: Local Government Act 2000 - Proposed Principles of Conduct

GLASDON: Advertisement.

CANTERBURY & THANET COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL: Annual Report 99/00.

CCC: Agenda for an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council 28/9 [received 27/9] forwarded to the Chairman.

CCC: HEAD OF HOUSING SERVICES: Housing Strategy Review Workshop on Monday 30/10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p. m.

KRCC: 77th ANNUAL MEETING on Saturday October 14th at 10 a. m. at Ryarsh

Membership List

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Egerton 21/7

Leader+ What it could mean to rural Kent.

KAPC: Notice of AGM on 4/11 at Ditton. No representatives attending this year. The Clerk was asked to send apologies. Copies of the Annual Report have been forwarded to the

Chairman.

SLCC: Notice of AGM at Sevenoaks Town Council Offices on Tuesday October 17th at 10. 30 a.m.. There will be a question & answer session with a representative from the District

Audit. The Clerk hopes to attend.

CCC: Agenda for 10/10 Council Meeting and list of Planning Applications.

KAPC PARISH NEWS No: 268

Annex J Town & Parish Councils.

ENGLISH NATURE. Open Day. Wye 30/11/00

KCC: A-Z of Council Services

Finance Information Day, Larkfield, 21/10/00

Local Heritage Initiative: Celebrate the past, etc.

KAPC Canterbury Area Committee; Agenda for 11/10 at Tyler Hill Memorial Hall. Forwarded to Cllrs. Page & Bain.

KAPC: Welcome Pack, for new councillor, requested by the Clerk.

KCC: The Kentweek Festival 17-25 June 2001.

CCC: Kent Highways, Highways Unit: Rural Speed Limit Traffic Regulation Order.

CCC: CIVIC WARDEN (Helen Bennington) Public Cleansing Section; Street Monitors

Meeting. 11/10.00

KRCC: Annual Report 99-00

( 6.) **PLANNING:** CA/00/0974/THA 3A Tonford Lane

Canopy to front of dwelling and variation of Condition 04 of Planning Application

CA/99/1005/CAN to allow the conversion of garage to living accommodation.

The Clerk queried 1005/CAN

(Circulated)

The Clerk was instructed to recommend APPROVAL

CA/00/0742/THA 72 New House Lane Application GRANTED.

CA/00/0962/THA 39 Thanington Road.

REFUSED

CCC: Development Control Committee. Supplementary Report of the Head of Development Services.

( 7.) **REPORTS :** There were no reports.

The Chairman commented that he had sent his apologies for not attending a meeting of the Thanington Neighbourhood Resources Centre committee, on 18th September, He has, not yet, received a copy of minutes of that meeting.

The Chairman also reported that he had sent apologies to the Secretary of the KAPC Canterbury Area, for the meeting to be held in Tyler Hill on 11/10. Cllr.Bain said that he would be doing likewise.

(8.) **STREET LIGHTING:** There were no items to discuss.

(9.) **PARISH AFFAIRS:** Cllr. Goddard referred to his previous comments about the provision of a road name sign for the new Millennium Close. The Clerk had contacted Mr. Sullivan about this, but had received no response. Cllr. Goddard was now able to supply an address and telephone number and the Clerk undertook to make another request for the provision of a name-plate, as CCC state that it is not their responsibility.

Cllr. Bain elaborated on his remarks at the September meeting, concerning the disruptive behaviour of a group of young people in the Tonford Lane/Grays Way area. He reported that the egg-throwing episodes had started again. He had had meetings with the Police who had agreed to patrol, for a limited period.. Typically, nothing further has happened recently.. Cllr, Bain referred to an increase in their use of noisy cars, but that motor-cycles are not a current problem. He would continue to monitor the situation.

Cllr. Maple commented on positive comments he had received about improved relationships between young people and the community on the estate, and their use of the Resources Centre.

He expressed his pleasure on hearing about the proposed resurfacing of Hollow Lane and added his hopes that it would be a thorough repair.

Cllr. Blackman made a plea, on behalf of the Neighbourhood Watch, to be allowed to use the Parish Council notice-board to display relevant notices. The Clerk said that he, personally, had no objection, with the proviso of there being space available.

The Council approved and the Clerk suggested that notices be delivered to him for inclusion, after the provision of the new notice-board, as the board would be locked

Cllr. Furness reported that there were two burnt-out cars in the Larkey Valley Woods car park. The Clerk undertook to inform CCC.

Cllr. Furness also reported excessive water lying on the A28 in the Hanging Banks area, east of the roundabout. The Clerk undertook to inform CCC.

(10.) **FOOTPATHS:** KCC PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER (Mike Ellis): Re: Six months Returns - Form B..

Also enclosed: Copy of letter from Countryside Agency to Andy Hutchinson re: Volunteer Involvement in the Rights of way 2000 Survey and The Countryside Agency Research Notes: Parish Paths Partnership evaluation 1992-1998. These were circulated.

(11.) **TREES:** There were no items to discuss.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be on Monday, November 13th, 2000 at 7.30 p.m. in the ARCA Clubhouse.

**CLOSURE :** There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.