

THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held
Ashford Road Community Association Clubhouse, Thanington Without,
on Monday, November 13th, 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, Mr. A. Pringle, Mr. K. Stokes, the Clerk. and one local elector.

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies received. Cllr. Potts was not in attendance.

CHAIRMAN: Cllr. Mr. G. Page.

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

- [1.] Regarding the KAPC AGM on 4/11 at Ditton. the Clerk confirmed that he sent an e-mail to KAPC, apologising for the fact that no representative would be attending the AGM on November 4th. He also thanked for the Welcome to New Councillor pack and requested a couple of spares.
- [2.] The Clerk confirmed that the cheques approved at the October meeting have been despatched..
- [3.] The Clerk reported that he had written again to CCC regarding the supply of an additional “poop-scoop” container for the Recreation Ground.
The Chairman read out a reply from the CCC’s Principal Environment Services Officer regarding the Provision of Extra Dog Bins.
- [4.] The Clerk reported that he has not yet received instructions from the Audit Office. However, he had met the officer in charge at a meeting in Sevenoaks and she is aware of the situation. She promised to follow up on the matter. The instructions have not yet been received but Miss Jones telephoned on November 13th to say that a letter would be posted shortly.
- [5.] The Clerk confirmed that he has informed CCC Planning that regarding the application CA/00/ 0974/THA the Council recommended APPROVAL.
- [6.] Regarding Cllr. Goddard having supplied the Clerk with an address and telephone number, he had made another request for the provision of a name-plate, at Millennium Close. Cllr. Goddard telephoned to inform the Clerk that one has been put in place.
- [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 Cockerling Road junction with Milton Manor , the Clerk has now spoken to Mr. Sherliker about this matter, and was told that the matter is satisfactorily under control.
- [8.] The Clerk reported that he has had no reply regarding possible help with photographs, in connection with Tamara Marshall, KCC Recreation & Access Assistant’s project, from Mr. Butler, Mr. Swain does not have suitable materials available but is willing to co-operate if required. Ms. Mettam replied supportively.
The Clerk telephoned to tell Tamara [new surname?] of the responses.
- [9.] The Clerk said that he had written to our usual contractor and requested estimates for specific areas, to be carried out as supplementary to the somewhat insufficient cuts by KCC.
No reply has yet been received.
- [10.] Cllr. Blackman telephoned to inform the Clerk that cutting , near Tonford Bridge had been carried out satisfactorily. The Clerk thanked Mike Ellis, when returning a PPP report.
- [11.] The Clerk reported that he has informed CCC about two burnt-out cars in the Larkey Valley Woods car park.

[12.] The Clerk has informed CCC about excessive water lying on the A28 in the Hanging Banks area, east of the roundabout.

[13.] The Clerk has returned to KCC PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER (Mike Ellis) the Six months Returns - Form B, as requested.

(3.) APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

D.E.GOULD Travel Claim [SLCC Sevenoaks] 17/10 £45.10

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

(4.) FINANCES : HSBC Bank Statement: Treasurer a/c Balance at 12/10/00, £2,460.57, including £3.89 gross interest to 11/10/00 .
The Balance was reconciled and has been checked by the Chairman in an Internal Audit.

KCC: Copycharge increases on the Ricoh Photocopier of 2.2% as from 1/1/20001.

H. M. CUSTOMS & EXCISE: Supply of new claim form and notification of full payment of the latest VAT claim of £177.43 into the HSBC a/c.

CCC: COMMUNITY SERVICES RE: Parish Precept & Concurrent Function Grants 2001/2002 requesting submission by 31/12/00. The Clerk has submitted a request for a Precept in the sum of £17,626.

The Clerk has requested a form for a new signatory, Cllr. T. Maple, from HSBC.. Cllr. Maple provided two specimen signatures for possible submission to HSBC.

(5.) CORRESPONDENCE: CCC MINUTES: Circulated

KRCC: Annual Meeting 14/10 postponed to 8/12/00 at Ashford Business Point.

KENT POLICE AUTHORITY: Policing Priorities; Questionnaire to be returned by 13/11.
Duplicated to all councillors with Agendas with a request for replies.

KENT POLICE at CANTERBURY: Rural Crime Statistics.

KENT COUNTY CONSTABULARY: Minutes of the Parish Council Forum 5/10 (Copied to Cllrs. Page & Bain)

KENT HIGHWAYS, Highway Unit, Canterbury. Re: Hollow Lane- Carriageway resurfacing.

KCC POLICY OFFICER: Opportunities for Kent: The Vision. Additional venue at Great Mongeham near Deal3/11

KCC (KCS): Warehouse reorganisation completed.

ANN MARTIN, St. NICHOLAS CHURCH: Thanks for donation towards churchyard tree treatment.

KENT HIGHWAYS Highway Unit Canterbury. Hollow Lane- Carriageway Resurfacing.

Work commencing 23/10 until 27/10. A letter being circulated to all residents in vicinity, with details of closures and diversions.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION for ENGLAND: Draft Recommendations & Periodic after Electoral Review of Canterbury. Comments requested by 11/12

Highlighted and passed to Chairman. These are being circulated and can be dealt with at the next meeting.

KAPC Parish News: Special edition on AGM.

Press Release from Local Government Commission for England, local electoral arrangements.

Enclosure from KCC:-: A framework for Rural Safety.

A questionnaire enclosed for return by November 10th. The Clerk contacted KCC to explain the time difficulty and a response immediately after our 13/11 meeting would be acceptable. The Chairman suggested that, together with the Clerk, a draft response be prepared for presentation to the full council at the next meeting. This had been done and was read out by the Chairman. This draft was unanimously accepted.

A final question asked if there were any additional options. It was suggested and unanimously agreed that (i) Traffic and (ii) Telephone access to the Police, be added.
KRCC: Opportunities for Kent - the Vision. Additional venue for meetings, at Great Mongeham Village Hall on 3/11.

KCC: White Horse Wood Project.

KENT COUNTY CONSTABULARY.: Location grid guide.

Also notification of Parish Council Forum meeting on 18/01/01

THE COUNTRYSIDE AGENCY: NATIONAL RURAL SERVICES SURVEY 2000.

Thanington Without Parish. Completed by Clerk, approved by Chairman and returned.

NHS: EAST KENT HEALTH AUTHORITY: Request to post a Notice of Meeting for 20/11 at Westgate Hall.

JULIAN BRAZIER, M. P. : The Chairman supplied the Clerk with a copy of a reply to letter he had written, regarding threats to local post offices

SLCC: "The Clerk" November 2000.

WICKSTEED LEISURE: Advertisement; playground safety.

HOWLETTS & PORT LYMPNE: Request for co-operation in passing on information regarding Christmas activities, including posting a notice.

It was unanimously agreed that the notice could be posted on Parish notice-boards and Cllr. Blackman agreed to receive one for the ARCA Clubhouse.

NALC: "Local Council Review November 2000. [To be distributed]

KCC(KCS): Open Day. 23/11-24/11

KRCC: Invitation for the Clerk to attend a screening of "Tracks" at the Gulbenkian Theatre on 9/12 at 3 p. m.

J. TOMS Ltd.: Catalogue. Tree Care.

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

CCC Agenda of meeting on 7/11 and List of Planning Applications were received and passed to the Chairman.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SUB-COMMITTEE: Supplementary Report of the Head of Development Control..

CCC: LOCAL PLANNING & RESEARCH: Consultation on Draft Affordable Housing Plan Guidance. This was being circulated and would be dealt with at the next meeting.

(7) REPORTS: The Clerk reported on the AGM of the SLCC [Society of Local Council Clerks] held at Sevenoaks on Tuesday October 17th. The AGM was preceded by a question & answer session with four representatives from the District Audit Commission which the Clerk found to be both helpful and interesting.

Cllr. Page reported that he had attended a meeting of the Thanington Community Resource Centre on 16/11. He commented very favourably on the progress being made. He had met the new Manager, Miss Paula Spencer and had been shown the impressive new facilities of the Centre. He arranged for Miss Spencer to supply the Clerk with notices in connection with the appointment of two support staff.

The Clerk interjected to confirm that the notices had been posted on the board. Cllr. Blackman added that she understood that these new appointments had now been made.

(8) STREET LIGHTING: There were no items for discussion.

(9) PARISH AFFAIRS: The Clerk drew attention to a newsletter from People Against Canterbury Expansion; in particular sections on Wincheap News & Transport Plan Agreed.

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Bain had telephoned him early on Monday morning, October 16th, to inform him about two matters:

(i) There had been flooding in Hassall Reach when Southern Water's pumping station had failed. Cllr. Bain had obtained their assistance, but he was concerned about the long term. The Clerk called CCC but they were aware of the problem and said that it was not their responsibility, but Southern Water's. The Clerk reported this back to Cllr. Bain who felt that the four storm water

drains were contributory factors and possibly CCC's responsibility. He offer to speak to CCC. The Clerk called CCC Highways again, explained Cllr. Bain's reaction and gave his telephone number. CCC undertook to refer the matter to the engineer responsible and to contact Cllr. Bain

(2) Mrs. Smith at 121 Ashford Road had informed Cllr. Bain that the newly laid footway surface had been left with a protruding lip. Apart from any danger of tripping there was also an accumulation of rain water. Cllr. Bain had inspected and notice similar conditions in other places. The Clerk contact Highways who undertook to visit and inspect during the same morning.

Subsequently the Clerk received a copy of a letter the Chairman had written to CCC Highways on this same matter. The Clerk up-dated the Chairman and also spoke to Highways who recognised that attention to the danger was needed and undertook to revisit the site with the engineer responsible, upon his return on Monday October 30th

The Clerk mentioned that he had submitted a short piece on the Parish name, to SLCC's "The Clerk" magazine", as requested.

The Clerk reported that the Chairman has supplied him with the name of Paula Spencer, the new Manager at Thanington Community Resources Centre (01227 767720)

The Clerk drew attention to the Thanington Partnership Bulletin October 2000 which has been distributed to households.

Ms. Paula Spencer, the newly appointed Manager at the Resources Centre, visited the Clerk in connection with advertisement notices, for which the Chairman had offered the possibility of a one-off use of the Parish notice-board.

The Clerk accepted her invitation to visit the Centre and see the new facilities.

Reference was made to the possibility of the Parish Council being willing to make a grant towards a new garden project. The Clerk undertook to bring this to the notice of councillors at the next meeting.

The Chairman suggested that the Clerk should write to Miss Spencer to request further details, in writing, and Cllr. Blackman suggested the possibility of reference to specific items required. It was agreed that the Clerk should so write.

The Clerk referred to a copy of a letter supplied to him by the Chairman, which was addressed to Julian Brazier M. P. regarding the Future of Local Post Offices.

The Clerk reported that the new notice board has been delivered to his house. He has inspected it, approved, handed over the payment and received a receipt. He has contacted Mr. T and awaits his collection and replacement of the old board.

The Clerk reported that he has informed CCC about the graffiti on the Welcome to Thanington Without board, on the A28 near the A2(T).

The Clerk reported that he has informed CCC Highways about chalk falls onto the new road surface in Hollow Lane, following the stormy weather.

Cllr. Goddard referred to the financial wastage and environmental pollution currently being caused by the excessive use of floodlighting at the Resource Centre.

He also referred to the Thanington Partnership Bulletin and the unfortunate mis-spelling of Thanington. In addition he commented on the latest edition of Focus [Liberal Democrats' circular] and its reference to efforts to obtain a crossing outside the Resource Centre. He added that claims for credit for the provision of previous crossings on the A28 had then annoyed the Parish Council had striven for these long before

Cllr. Goddard also mentioned that much mention was being made about concern over the traffic congestion around the A28/A2[T] junctions, but that conditions at the junctions of the A28 at St. Nicholas Road and Strangers Lane are also becoming reasons for concern.

Cllr. Page took up the matter of conversations with Mr. Richardson, of Thanington Post Office, and his subsequent correspondence with Julian Brazier M. P. The Chairman read out these letters.

Cllr. Bain explained further details about the soak-aways in Hassall Reach, referred to previously by the Clerk. He also reported that CCC had informed him that they hoped to include the necessary work in their next budget.

Cllr. Blackman referred to the youth with a motor-cycle, in Tonford Lane, who was currently only pushing it on the street, but that this was being monitored. In general the previously mentioned disturbance, by young people in the area, had abated, but that it may well be due to the inclement weather.

Cllr. Blackman informed that Mr. and Mrs. Jude, in Ashford Road, were shortly due to celebrate their Golden Wedding. These occasions are usually recognised, out of the Chairman's Fund and Cllr. Blackman offered to look after the arrangements. The Chairman thanked her and accepted her offer.

Cllr. Blackman referred to equipment, left after the recent repairs to the Ashford Road footway, having been scattered. The Clerk undertook to inform CCC Highways.

Cllr. Blackman mentioned that she had been asked by residents to renew efforts for the provision of a crossing over Ashford Road, opposite the Residential Home, which has previously been refused
The Chairman said that this could be followed up and the Clerk undertook to report this concern to CCC..

Cllr. Maple referred to the work on road-surfacing, in Hollow Lane, as being "quite reasonable".

He added the comment that the new surface may be more hazardous in icy conditions and suggested the possible provision of an additional sand-bins.

He also commented on the future need for attention to the banks at the sides of Hollow Lane.

The Clerk undertook to bring these concerns to the attention of CCC.

Cllr. Blackman interjected to query the position of the Grays Way bin, from which sand had been removed, and the Clerk undertook to include reference to that bin.

Cllr. Pringle expressed his pleasure that funding had suddenly been found to resurface Hollow Lane and he hoped that, in the next budget, funds would extend to include Iffin Lane and New House Close. The Clerk undertook to include this comment in his letter to CCC about Hollow Lane.

Cllr. Pringle drew attention to the fact that the street-light over the telephone kiosk, at the top of Hollow Lane, is on permanently. He also referred to several acetate sheets having been dumped behind the kiosk. The Clerk undertook to bring these two matters to the notice of relevant departments at CCC.

Cllr. Pringle spoke about indications and rumours concerning activity in New House Lane, on the opposite side of the road opposite approximately numbers 40 to 50. He wondered if there was any need for change of usage permission, about which the Parish Council has received no notification. The Clerk undertook to enquire.

Cllr. Stokes mentioned that a notice had appeared on a fence in Manor Close bearing the legend "Anti Climbing Paint". The provider is unknown.

(10.) **FOOTPATHS:** BTCV: Kent Connections Annual; Review. October/December 2000 [passed to Cllr. Stokes]

BTCV: From Field to Forest...in 3 days. A record breaking Tree Planting event. Ashford 24/25/26 Nov.

BTCV: "The Conserver" Autumn 2000.

(11.) **TREES:** There were no items for discussion.

At 8.45 the Chairman offered Mr. Jenner, of New House Lane, the opportunity to ask any questions. But there was none,

NEXT MEETING: Before closing the meeting, the Chairman asked Cllr. Blackman if she were willing to

provide the usual mince pies for the end of the year meeting. Her expenses would be reimbursed from the Chairman's allowance. She kindly agreed.

The next meeting will be on Monday, December 11th, 2000 at 7.30 p.m. in the ARCA Clubhouse.

CLOSURE : There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed
at 8.47 p. m.