

THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
held  
Ashford Road Community Association Clubhouse, Thanington Without,  
on Monday, December 11th, 2000 at 7.30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mr. I. Bain, Mrs. P. Blackman, Mr. G. Furness, Mr. K. Goddard,  
Mr. T. Maple, Mr. A. Pringle, Mr. K. Stokes, the Clerk and one local elector.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cllr. Mr. G. Page who was unwell. The apologies were accepted.  
Cllr. Potts was not in attendance.

**CHAIRMAN:** Cllr. Mrs. Pam Blackman..

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

- [ 1.] The Clerk confirmed that the cheques approved at the November meeting have been despatched..
- [ 2.] Regarding possible help with photographs, in connection with Tamara Marshall, KCC Recreation & Access Assistant's project, she visited the Clerk on November 17th.
- [ 3.] The Clerk has processed a form for a new signatory, Cllr. T. Maple, from HSBC
- [ 4.] Regarding the KCC:-: The framework for Rural Safety questionnaire has been returned by the Clerk. A final question had asked if there were any additional options, and as agreed, (i) Traffic and (ii) Telephone access to the Police, were added.
- [ 5.] The Clerk has put up HOWLETTS & PORT LYMPNE notice with information regarding Christmas.
- [ 6.] The Clerk confirmed that he has written to Miss Spencer, as instructed, to request further details, in writing, giving specific items required. for the Centre's garden project.  
The Clerk mentioned that a councillor had referred to the financial wastage and environmental pollution currently being caused by the excessive use of floodlighting at the Resource Centre  
The Chairman read out a reply. A subsequent telephone call confirmed that the light controls have been repaired.
- [ 7.] The Clerk reported that regarding the new notice board he has requested Mr. T. to collect it by November 19th. The Clerk has contacted Mr. T. on subsequent occasions, the latest being on December 8th, when he again requested collection and erection of the notice-board.
- [ 8.] The Clerk confirmed that he has reported, to CCC, the equipment, left after the recent repairs to the Ashford Road footway and it having been scattered.
- [ 9.] The Clerk has informed CCC that the Council has been asked by residents to renew efforts for the provision of a crossing over Ashford Road, opposite the Warren Lodge Residential Home, which has previously been refused
- [10.] The Clerk has written to CCC Highways and referred to the work on road-surfacing, in Hollow Lane, with appreciation. 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 also queried the position of the Grays Way bin, from which sand had been removed.
- The Clerk included the comment that a South Ward councillor had 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 Lane.
- [11.] The Clerk reported to CCC Streetlighting Department that the street-light over the telephone kiosk, at the

top of Hollow Lane, is on permanently. He also referred CCC Health & Environment Department to several acetate sheets having been dumped behind the kiosk.

Having subsequently noticed that the light was still on during the day, the Clerk telephoned on December 11th to point this out and was informed that the matter would be looked into.

[12] Concerning the indications and rumours concerning activity in New House Lane, on the opposite side of the road opposite approximately numbers 40 to 50, and the question as to whether there was any need for change of usage permission, about which the Parish Council has received no notification; the Clerk raised the matter with CCC Planning Department. They will monitor the situation and asked the Parish Council to do the same. If necessary, contact Mr. Trotter in the Enforcement Department.

Subsequently, a planning application for the erection of stables and shelter for horses, along New House Lane has been received and circulated.

[13.] The Clerk commented that a reply to Cllr. Page, regarding Ashford Road footway overlay, had been received and that CCC Highways had stated that the matter would be attended to.

### (3.) APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

Kent County Council (KCS) Photocopier £82.47

Including VAT £12.29

It was proposed by Cllr. Bain, seconded by Cllr. Pringle and unanimously agreed that this cheque be paid.

(4.) **FINANCES : DISTRICT AUDIT:** Audit of Accounts 1999/2000. Re: Amendments The Clerk explained that he was awaiting a reply from the Audit .

HSBC: Statement for Treasurer Account showing Balance of £4,598.52 at 10/11, including £1.63 gross interest to 9/11/00.

HSBC: Form for new signature of Cllr. Maple, duly processed via Chairman and Cllr. Maple.

HSBC: Two spare forms for new signatories.

HSBC: New cheque book received for Treasurer a/c.

(5.) **CORRESPONDENCE:** CCC: Request to put up poster for The Lord Mayors Award Scheme.

[The Clerk drew councillors attention to the fact that the notice boards in Cockerling Lane and Strangers Lane are deteriorating.]

CCC: News from the CCC; Local groups invited to light millennium beacons.

KAPC Canterbury Area. Agenda of Meeting 12/7, forwarded to Cllrs. Page & Bain.:

STOUR COUNTRYSIDE PROJECT: Four posters to put up on notice boards.

KAPC: PARISH NEWS No: 269

Highways Agency Major Road Works in Kent.

Kent Association for the blind.

Kent County Constabulary; special Constables.

ROSPA: Children's Playgrounds Annual Inspection 2001.

RUSHETTS JOINERY: Unsolicited advertisement.

CCC; Agenda for 5/12 & List of Applications, received directly by the Chairman this month, have been passed to the Clerk.

CCC: Environment & Street Scene: Christmas Arrangements 2000.

CCC STRATEGIC PLANNING: The Chairman read out a letter from Andrew Gale regarding his Local Plan meeting on 9/10, with the Parish Council.

CCC STREET MONITORS: Minutes of 11/10 and Agenda for 14/12.

PEP: Opportunities for Residents brochure.

SEEBOARD: Business Assist Newsletter Issue 2, November 2000

KRCC: Kent Village of the Year 2001.

MOATE HOME OWNERSHIP: Shared Ownership; advertisement

KRCC: RE: Annual; Meeting 8/12 Ashford Business Point.

Oast to Coast. Autumn 2000(To be circulated).

SERPA: Newsletter Issue 37 and a letter appealing for financial support, in the format of an

invoice for £20.00.

KRCC: Rural News; Number 28. Urban White Paper Special.(Circulated)

London Voluntary Service Council :Advertisement

Village Shops and Post Offices: Meeting at County Hall, Maidstone at 9.45 a. m. on Saturday February 17th. The Clerk informed Mrs. Richardson. at the Post Office.

DETR: A letter from John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister with an enclosed copy the White Paper; Our Countryside: the future, a fair deal for rural England.

A summary also enclosed. ( To be circulated.)

PAULA SPENCER, TNRC MANAGER: RE: Centre Garden Project, including landscape gardener's estimate and appeal for financial assistance

The Clerk reported Cllr. Page's reactions that he felt that support should be given, but the amount should be discussed.. Whereupon, the Chairman invited comments.

Considerable discussion ensued, mainly in support of making a donation. Finally the sum of £250 was proposed by Cllr. Pringle, seconded by Cllr. Bain and agreed. A proviso was made that payment be made upon receipt of details of what had been supplied for that amount.

CCC: Minutes of the Council Meeting 14 December 2000 [Received 9/12/00(?)], to be circulated.

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

CA/00/1219/THA Land at New House Lane.

Use of land for the keeping of horses on a non-commercial basis and the erection of a field-shelter, haystore and block of four stables.

CA/00/1261/THA 79 New House Lane

Change of use of land from agriculture to residential; erection of detached double garage and stable blocks

Apart from Cllr. Page, only the two South Ward councillors had examined the above two New House Lane applications, before the meeting. They had been approached by Mr. Davis at Iffin Farm Bungalow who strongly opposed the developments, had contacted Messrs Powell and Davis at CCC Planning and had written to CCC Planning, providing a copy for the Parish Council and a map. The South Ward councillors are very concerned about the two applications per se, but even more so about the acceptance of change of use from agricultural to residential as creating a precedent for similar change on a larger scale on nearby land.

It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk be instructed to write to CCC Planning to strongly recommend refusal of the two New House Lane applications, and to include copies of the materials prepared by Cllr. Pringle. Additionally, the Clerk undertook to speak to the Planning Officers concerned, to glean further information and attitudes, whilst recommending an inspectional visit of the site.

The Chairman concluded by thanking the South Ward councillors for their input in this matter.

**( 7.) REPORTS: :** The Clerk related that he had attended the funeral of Miss Esther Eyles, the previous Parish Clerk, at the Barham Crematorium on Tuesday, December 5th. Cllr. Blackman, Mr. Bryan Reynolds [ARCA Chairman], representatives of various organisations, as well as friends and relations paid their final respects at a short service conducted by a lady preacher, who had been a friend and neighbour to Esther. She spoke about the very active interest which Esther had taken in so many and varied local and county organisations Amongst the floral tributes was a bouquet from the Parish Council which she had served for fourteen years.

**( 8.) STREET LIGHTING:** No additional items were discussed.

**( 9.) PARISH AFFAIRS.** The Clerk referred to having received a copy of Thanington Residents' Association Newsletter.

The Clerk reported that, the Chairman, having received complaints about overhanging shrubbery at 131 Ashford Road, asked the Clerk to write requesting that it be clipped back. This he has done. A similar letter has been delivered, by hand, to the more westerly of the two Flint Cottages

in Ashford Road.

Cllr Blackman has informed the Chairman of the sad news that Miss Esther Eyles, the previous Parish Clerk, died. on November 26th Cllr. Blackman kindly undertook to arrange, on behalf of the Parish Council, for flowers to be delivered to the funeral..

The Clerk referred to two leaflets, passed to him by the Chairman, picked up at TNRC..

The Chairman read out a reply he had received from Julian Brazier M. P., regarding Post Office closures. A copy has been passed to Mr. Richardson, the local Postmaster.

The Clerk reported that he has informed CCC Street Lighting and Highways that bollards at two A28 road crossings are lying down; one outside St. Nicholas Church and the other near Grays Way. The Clerk reported that he had noted, on his way to this meeting, that the bollards were already back in position.

The Clerk reported that he has informed CCC Street Scene Department that a refrigerator and two armchairs have been dumped outside the flats behind the telephone kiosk in Thanington Road, opposite the Playing Field. He requested clearance.

Cllr. Stokes reported that two wooden fencing panels and a supporting concrete post had fallen, in the recent storms. The Clerk undertook to inform CCC Housing.

Cllr. Pringle commented that pot-holes were already appearing in the newly resurfaced Hollow Lane, probably due to the excessive flow of rainwater down the hill, lifting the surface. The Clerk was asked to report this and to recommend that the contractor be contacted, presumably within the terms of warranty.

He also raised the matter of recent gatherings of parents and friends at the Montessori School. Residents had complained that, in spite of some improvement in the general parking condition, since the last request for consideration was made, a recent gathering had resulted in terrible chaos and some potential danger, Being sympathetic to your problems, two suggestions were made for your possible consideration. (i) a note to local residents stating the time of an expected large increase in the volume of visiting cars and/or (ii) approaching the Police for their assistance/presence.

Photographs had been taken and the Clerk was asked to delay writing about this matter.

Cllr. Maple raised again the matter of the falls of chalk from the Hollow Lane banks. The Clerk confirmed that he had very recently brought this to the notice of CCC. It was agreed that a further letter be delayed.

He also reported that at the junction of Iffin Lane & Merton Lane, a considerable quantity of mud has been washed onto the road by the wet, stormy weather, in combination with hedge clearance.

The Clerk undertook to inform CCC Highways Department.

Cllr. Maple also referred to cyclists using the elevated footpath are now, incredibly, riding down the bank opposite the telephone kiosk, which is obviously extremely dangerous. The Clerk was asked to inform CCC Highways and the Clerk undertook to link this with our previous requests for repairs to the protective fence.

Cllr Bain referred to the more northerly of the Tonford level crossing gates. He said that the tension which causes it to close has become slack and needs attention. The Clerk undertook to report this fact to Railtrack.

Cllr. Goddard reported several potholes in Strangers Close, mainly outside number 11. The Clerk undertook to inform CCC Highways.

He also stated that shrubbery was overhanging from both 60 & 62 Strangers Lane. The Clerk undertook to write about this.

(10.) **FOOTPATHS:** BTCV: RE: Services to local & community groups

KCC PROW: Mike Ellis: Re; P3 Grant Applications. The Clerk explained that he has not received the requested estimates from our strimming contractor who will not be back until the New Year. In view of this, the grant application will be based on an estimate and the Clerk will explain the circumstances to PROW Officer, Mike Ellis.

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

(12.) **PARISH MEETING:** The Clerk reported that he and the Chairman had discussed the Parish Meeting for April 24th 2001 and the question of a speaker. It was suggested to propose Miss Paula Spencer, the new Manager at TNRS, for a variety of reasons. The Chairman thought that it might be helpful if the Clerk could enquire if she would be willing to be the guest speaker, before proposing her. She replied most co-operatively.....adding , D.V. She awaited further details of the arrangement, if required.

It was unanimously agreed that Paula Spencer be invited and the Clerk undertook to do so.

*Before closing the Meeting the Chairman the offered local elector, Mr. Jenner, the opportunity to speak, but he declined.*

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Meeting will be held at the ARCA Clubhouse on Monday January 8th 2001 at 7.30 p. m..

**CLOSURE:** There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.42 p. m.