

MINUTES OF A MEETING
of
THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL
held

Ashford Road Community Association Clubhouse, Thanington Without,
on Monday July 9th 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 and the Clerk.

APOLOGIES: Cllr Stokes had been involved in a car accident. His apology was accepted.
Cllr.. Potts was absent and presumably still unwell.

(1.) **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** The Minutes were
unanimously accepted as a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

(2.) **MATTERS ARISING:**

[1.] The Clerk confirmed that he had replied to the letter from Mr. Tickner, accompanying his
invoice, and had enclosed the payment cheque.

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

[3.] The Clerk confirmed that he had obtained details of charges for advertisements for the
appointment of a new Clerk and had forwarded them to the Chairman..
NOTA BENE Dead-line for submission of advert and PAYMENT (Clerk's personal credit
card for subsequent reimbursement) is Tuesday July 10th for insertion on Thursday July
12th.

The Chairman read out the quotes obtained from Kentish Gazette and Adscene. The Clerk
interjected that he understood from Kentish Gazette that the smaller 6cm by 2 column size
would be adequate.

It was agreed to limit insertions to just one newspaper and that it should be the Kentish
Gazette, for three successive issues.

The Clerk undertook to contact Kentish Gazette the following morning and add the missing
detail of the closing date, for receipt of applications, to the e-mail text which he had already
supplied. It was agreed that this would be for August 10th.

The Clerk enquired if it would be possible to arrange for his reimbursement to be processed
before the September meeting. This was unanimously agreed to be a reasonable request.

The Chairman also dealt with the matter of arranging the interviews to be held at ARCA, if
possible. August 30th was found to be the most suitable date and the Chairman undertook to
endeavour to book the ARCA Committee Room for that evening, from 7 p. m. He would
confirm this with Cllrs. Blackman and Bain, his co-interviewers.

It was also agreed to invite the successful candidate to attend the October meeting.

[4.] The Clerk confirmed that he has received a letter from the Highway Manager (attention of
John Larkins) stating that the reported pot-holes in Strangers Close will be repaired soon
Cllr. Goddard said that this work had now been carried out.

[5.] Regarding concern expressed about the safety, especially of children, obscured by the new
posts, and the query about apparently crude attempts having been made to chop down the
tops of some posts, the Clerk was informed that this was Council work. An inspector would
visit the site.

The Chairman read out a reply. This included reference to a request for bollards outside 73 Thanington Road. The Clerk interjected to state that his letter had not made such a request, but had simply referred to the continued parking of vehicles on the footway there.

- [6.] The Clerk has reported the overhanging shrubbery near the Flint Cottages in Ashford Road to CCC. This has not yet been attended to.
- [7.] The Clerk confirmed that he has reported to the Highway Unit that the Ashford Road name sign, near the round about, is missing. It has not yet been replaced.
- [8.] The Clerk reported to CCC that the shrubbery between TNRC and the Community Centre needed trimming. He was told that this had already been reported by a local resident and that although it was a matter for the TNRC, it would be attended to.
- [9.] The Clerk confirmed that he had reported details, to the Police, about known young boys riding motor-cycles noisily around Tonford Lane, The motor-cycle Police were very co-operative and took details of contact numbers and promised response if called out. Cllrs. Blackman and Bain reported that there has been no subsequent problem
- [10.] The Clerk confirmed that he attempted to contact the Police about mobile speed-check trailers for the New House Lane area and also on the A28 through Thanington He was advised to contact Mr. Usher on 01634 365451, He was referred back to Canterbury Police who noted the details and undertook to follow up on the matter.
- [11.] The Clerk confirmed that he has telephoned to PROW Officer, Mike Ellis, to explain that he would be retiring at the end of the year, but would act as the contact person in the interim period
- [12.] Cllr. Page referred to his undertaking, made at a previous Parish Council Meeting, to write to KCC, CCC and the local press, concerning long-standing problems in Hollow Lane. The Chairman up-dated the position. He has written to the Councils and offered for the Kentish Gazette to contact him if they wished to follow up on this problem
- [13.] The Clerk confirmed that, after speaking to Mike Ellis PROW, he had arranged with Mr. Osborne (our usual contractor) to cut the Tonford area, across the part west of the path to the fence and in the car park area. and also that the overhanging shrubbery of the whole length of the Hollow Lane elevated footpath be cut back. Mike Ellis had stated that there might be extra funding available if the latest grant proved to be insufficient. This work has been carried out very satisfactorily.

(3.) APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

NOTE: First item requires general approval (See FINANCES; Recommended Salary Scale)

D. E. GOULD. Clerk's Salary April/May/June	£1275.54
Two-thirds telephone rental	<u>29.19</u>
	£1304.73

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL Delivery of CCC Minutes	£10.00
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It was proposed by Cllr. Page, seconded by Cllr. Bain and unanimously agreed that these payments be made. The cheques were then signed by the named councillors.

It was also proposed by Cllr. Page, seconded by Cllr. Blackman and unanimously agreed that, due to the holiday delay until the next meeting, the Clerk should process a cheque for his reimbursement for payment for the advertisement, referred to under Matters Arising [3], and

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obtain the signatures of two councillors. This would then be further approved at the September meeting.

(4.) **FINANCES: INLAND REVENUE: .**

It was proposed by Cllr. Page, seconded by Cllr. Bain and unanimously agreed that the Clerk's salary be increased by three and a half per cent, to £5,102.18, as from April 1st 2001, in line with the new scale recommended by the National Joint Council.

HSBC: Bank statement for Treasurer a/c showed a balance of £4,282.39 at 12/6/01 including Gross Interest of £0.93 to 11/06/01.
Bank Statement Business No-notice a/c showed a balance of £6,905.13 at 27/6/01 including £33.26 Gross Interest to 31/5/01.

KAPC: Recommended Salary Scale (Recommended by the National Joint Council) from April 1st. 2001.

The Chairman reported that he had carried out an Internal Audit on July 6th.

(5.) **CORRESPONDENCE: MILITARY ODYSSEY LTD.** Request to post a notice for this event at the Kent County Show Ground on September 22nd & 23rd.

This was agreed to.

KCC SOCIAL SERVICES: Consultation on Proposed Management Protocol for Unauthorised Encampments on Local Authority Land in Kent & Medway. This was circulated.

RICOH UK LTD. Request for meter reading End of June. Completed and returned.

SMP PLAYGROUNDS: Unsolicited advertisement.

KCC CANTERBURY AREA: Notice of next meeting on July 11th 2001 and a letter re: Mailings. [Copied and forwarded with notice]

COUNTRYSIDE AGENCY: Market Towns Seminar. July 17th Midhurst.

KENT HIGHWAYS Poster re: A28 40mph speed limit. Copy to South Ward. The Clerk was instructed to reply in support.

CCC Community Services: Housing. Draft Housing Strategy 2002-2007 Some print off from Website and printed version requested.

It seems impossible to meet the deadline request, with such short notice.

CCC Agenda for Extraordinary Meeting 11/7 [Passed to Chairman] (Circulated)

NHS Canterbury & Coastal Primary Care Group. Re: Proposed Primary Care Trust. (Circulated)

(6.) **PLANNING:** The Clerk referred to the fact that Cllr. Maple had supplied the Clerk with copies of letters from local South Ward residents concerning CA/01/0443/THA, to be kept on file.

CA/01/0477/THA 12 Tonford Lane. GRANTED

CA/01/0625 152 Ashford Road.

Formation of vehicular crossover.

A requested, duplicate copy was received on July 3rd and passed to the Chairman for information. There was not time for circulation before the next meeting and . A recommendation was requested, by July 13th.

The Chairman up-dated on the position. He had telephoned to CCC Planning (Nan Barton) who agreed that the application did not contain sufficient information and that she would follow up on the matter. The Clerk was instructed to reply, stating that the Parish Council was not in a position to respond by the deadline, due to this lack of more information.

No comment to be made.

- (7.) **REPORTS:** The Clerk reported that he had attended the Annual General Meeting of the Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre on July 3rd 2001. A copy of the Annual Report is to be circulated, for information and interest.
- (8.) **STREET LIGHTING :** There were no items for discussion
- (9.) **PARISH AFFAIRS;** The Clerk reported that Mrs. Ann Martin had called to see him, on behalf of the Vicar of St. Nicholas Church, and request that he endeavour to persuade CCC to expedite their promise to bring forward the trimming back of the hedge around the graveyard, which is overhanging the footway. The Clerk telephoned immediately and spoke to Mr. Karslake, who promised that it would be trimmed within a week. The Clerk was able to inform Mrs. Martin, who expressed her gratitude. The hedges have now already been trimmed.

The Clerk reported that the Chairman had supplied him with a copy of a letter which he had written to Mr. Kim Bennett, CCC Head of Development Service, regarding rumours of development on the south side of Ashford Road. The Chairman read a reply received, which stated that CCC was aware of no such plans.

Cllr. Page reported that he had received the annual form from the Charity Commission regarding the Harris Charity. He had dealt with this matter.

Cllr. Page said that the reparation to the work, carried out on the footway on the north side of Ashford Road in November 2000, admitted by Highways to be unsatisfactory and promised to be attended to, by letter in March 2001, has still not been dealt with. The Clerk was instructed to write to Highways, yet again.

Cllr. Page also reported that the hedge surrounding the Vicarage grounds was overgrown and a source of inconvenience and possible injury to the disabled and partially-sighted; as well as harbouring unsightly litter. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Vicar about this matter.

Cllr. Furness referred to overhanging shrubbery at 1 Bramley Avenue and suggested that the Clerk contact the estate agent dealing with that property. The Clerk undertook so to do.

Cllr. Furness also reported that at the car park at Larkey Valley Woods, what looked like builders' spoil had been dumped.. The Clerk undertook to contact CCC.

Cllr. Maple brought up the matter of the Montessori School and a recent barbecue held there. This had again resulted in the old problem of inconsiderate and potentially dangerous parking. Cllr. Maple said that he had spoken to the Headmistress about this, saying that several residents had complained to him about it. The Headmistress recognised the problem and said that she would post a notice, requesting the parents to refrain from causing further complaints.

However, meanwhile, the residents had drawn up a petition signed by 23 residents of New House Close, addressed to the Parish Council. The Clerk was instructed to bring this to the notice of the Montessori School Headmistress.

Cllr. Maple also reported that residents requested the provision of a poop-scoop bin for the elevated footpath.

A further request was made for a trim back of trees lining the lower end of the Hollow Lane hill.

Recent cut-backs had resulted in protruding branches being at a lower level and so causing damage to vehicles

The Clerk undertook to follow up on these three matters.

Cllr. Pringle referred to the short stretch of road between New House Lane and Merton Lane and the very poor condition of the road surface. This was reported by the Clerk in April 2001

and some dozen pot-holes were marked. So far, only one appears to have been repaired. The Clerk was asked to follow up on this matter.

Cllr. Blackman referred to the kerb drop at the entrance to Thanington Court Farm, which he considered to be too high and dangerous for the less physically able and the partially sighted. The Clerk was asked to write to the Highways Unit to request attention to this.

Cllr. Bain referred to loose panels on the south side of the Tonford railway crossing, which he considered to be potentially dangerous. The Clerk undertook to report this to Railtrack. He brought up the repeating problem of overhanging shrubbery in the vicinity of Milton Bridge. The Clerk undertook to report this to CCC.

Cllr. Bain also referred to an increasing problem with litter around Tonford Bridge. He recognised that it was a difficult problem to deal with, but suggested a request for a larger litter container. The Clerk undertook to follow up on this matter and also to mention the other side of the level crossing.

Cllr. Goddard reported that the telephone kiosk, opposite the playing field, had been vandalised. The Clerk said that he would contact BT, to enquire if they are aware of this.

Cllr. Goddard also talked about the continued problem with parking in the recently introduced Keep Clear marking at the turning circle at the end of Strangers Close, which was repeatedly and blatantly ignored by local residents, after just two days. He requested that action be taken to enforce the regulations. The Clerk undertook to follow up on this matter.

(10.) FOOTPATHS:

BTCV: Notice regarding future insurance increases; but our membership withdrawn.

Local Action Up-date

BTCV. Kent Connections July-September (to be circulated)

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

NEXT MEETING: The next Meeting will be held at the ARCA Clubhouse on Monday, September 10th. at 7.30p. m..

Before closing the meeting, the Chairman requested the notification of any known absences during the holiday period. Some were supplied.

CLOSURE: There being no further business to be discussed, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.50 p. m.

G.S.C.P.
10-9-01

Thanington's safe crossing

VISITORS using the new Thanington Resource Centre will be able to cross Ashford Road in safety because a new pelican crossing is to be built outside and a new 30mph zone set up.

At the same time a new pedestrian refuge is to be built on the A28 near Tonford Lane so people can cross to the Post Office in safety.

The new crossings were agreed by Canterbury City Council's Highways Subcommittee at its meeting on Tuesday.

Local councillor Nick Eden-Green said: "The community centre had to forgo some of the money allocated to it so they will be able to ensure that the people using the facility can reach it safely, but we are pleased the crossing is being put into the budget for next year."

THANINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL
Applications are invited for the part time post of
PARISH CLERK

Duties include attendance at evening meetings, minute taking, dealing with local authorities and members of the public, as well as preparing financial statements and yearly budgeting for the Parish Council.

Salary:- According to entry point on the salary scale recommended by the National Joint Council, plus expenses.

Applicants should be computer literate and possess good communication and numeracy skills.

Further information available from the Chairman, Councillor Graham Page: 01227 462508 (evenings)

Applications in writing to the Chairman, Cllr. Graham Page, 140 Ashford Road, Thanington, Canterbury, Kent CT1 3XT

Closing date for applications 10th August 2001

KENT GAZETTE 12.07.01