

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Frittenden Memorial Hall, Frittenden on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Mr A Staples (Chairman)  
Mrs J Croucher  
Mrs H Cullingworth  
Mr R Vernon  
Mr L Gosbee  
Mr J Tuke

In attendance: Mrs M Rumble (Clerk), Borough Cllr James Hannam and six members of the public.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

The meeting was then adjourned to hear from members of the public.

Three members of the public wished to speak on the Pullen Farm item on the agenda. The first resident stated that even though the development is not in the Frittenden Parish the access road is in Frittenden Parish, the original application was refused by Maidstone Borough Council but the applicant has now gone to Appeal. This site would ultimately affect quite a few parishioners. There are also quite a few Listed Buildings near to the proposed site and planning guidelines are that the site should not be within half a mile of any Listed Buildings or places of historic interest.

The second resident, whose property would be overlooking the site and is located in the Parish of Staplehurst, said that the potential developers have taken photos of the site from his property. He would like to add the land is a haven for wildlife and is unspoilt. There has as yet been no survey carried out on the site or any wildlife survey.

It was also noted that the access road is under TWBC and the development site is in MBC. Surrounding parishes Headcorn, Staplehurst and MBC all oppose the development.

The view is of Special Significant Interest

The third resident would like to add that there is a War Memorial overlooking the site which is in commemoration of its use as an Advance Landing Ground in WW11 and is regularly visited by Americans, Canadians and UK visitors.

The Chairman thanked all members for their comments and when this item is discussed on the agenda they will take all their views into consideration.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Ballantyne.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct, Part 2)**

There were no declarations.

The Chairman stated he had been informed that Russell Jenner a previous Chairman of the Parish Council had sadly passed away.

**3. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE**

Cllr Hannam reported that TWBC had recently had the Full Council meeting and the Budget had passed without too much discussion. There was an increase to the precept of £5.00 for a Band D property. This is the maximum increase that TWBC are allowed and was set because the Local Government Funding which they previously received was now nil. There will be no cuts to frontline services except of course the Weekend Refuse Truck, looking ahead Cllr Hannam stated that next year the waste disposal contract will be up for renewal. TWBC would like to increase their recycling division which could possibly include the introduction of a kerbside bottle collection, if this was the case then the bottle banks could be removed. TWBC are also considering a charge for the collection of garden waste could be set at £30 a year/ Cllr Hannam stated that in neighbouring boroughs they already charge for this service.

Cllr Hannam then left the meeting at 7.50pm

**4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Vernon and agreed to approve the minutes of the February meeting. **RESOLVED** by all members present

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

Affordable Housing

The Chairman stated the meeting will take place on the 29<sup>th</sup> March and as the hall is not available they will meet at the Bell and Jorrocks.

Speed Watch:

This is an agenda item

Parking:

This is an agenda item

Village Sign:

Cllr Croucher had had spoken with Adrian Bone on this and it was in hand,

Parish Field Parking Area:

Cllr Staples spoke on this by saying that some of the garages in the village were being removed and he understood from the owners that this area would then be available for parking for the whole village.

Grounds Maintenance Contract:

The Clerk clarified that the previous Clerk had dealt with this before leaving.

School Crossing Safety

Cllr Gosbee informed members that the signs have now been installed.

Fire Hydrant Review

Cllr Croucher is dealing with this.

Village Clean Up

Cllr Croucher stated that this took place and it was a very successful event, more than 40 volunteers turned up and collected rubbish. The bags are due to be collected within the next day.

Highway Code, Speeding and Parking – School project

Cllr Cullingworth had spoken with the headmistress of the school regarding this. Cllr Cullingworth stated that she would like to approach the garden club regarding the posters, she also wondered if the Parish Council would be prepared to donate some prizes for this project. It was proposed by Cllr Croucher, seconded by Cllr Vernon and **RESOLVED** by all members present that the Council would offer £10 and £5 for First prize and Runner up in each of the four classes making a total of £60 and would also pick up any ancillary costs for printing.

Play equipment

The Clerk updated all members that Proludic had been instructed to carry out the work as per their quote and once the parts have been delivered they will instruct their engineer to fit. Cllr Cullingworth asked if the Clerk to find out an installation date.

### Fly tipping

The Chairman had received figures for fly tipping over a 3-year period in the Borough, it was noted that fly tipping had not increased. This could be down to better policing of this and perhaps people's behaviour may have changed.

Number of fly tips

1<sup>st</sup> August 2014 – 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015 = 437

1<sup>st</sup> August 2015 – 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 = 621

1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 – 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 = 516

## **6. PARKING**

Cllr Vernon stated that after the less than favourable response from KCC on this matter he has now approached KCC and spoken with Paul Catt Highways Steward to ask that as a minimum could they please reinstate the white lines on this junction. Paul Catt had confirmed that a works order for this has been raised and the impression given was that the work will be completed. The idea of the Parish Council also self-policing this was discussed and possibly putting a note on the vehicles which are parked in a dangerous position to close to the junction. In principal, this idea seemed good but the Parish Council would need to check the legality of them carrying this out.

## **7. BT Telephone Box**

Cllr Staples confirmed that the contract had now been signed and the Clerk will now send this off to BT. The Parish Council also wished to discuss what they could use the telephone box The chairman then closed the meeting and invited a resident to offer some ideas

Library – This would-be weather permitting

Defibrillator – The Village already has one

Flower Box – The Village already has planters

The other proposal was a micro museum where people could dial different numbers and learn about different subjects.

The meeting was reopened.

The Council decided that before any decision is made on this, they need to look at the electricity to the box and if the phone line would still be active, maintenance of the telephone box and also the Insurance side. The Clerk will look into this further by speaking to other Parish Council's/Societies who have taken over their phone boxes.

## **8. Speedwatch**

Cllr Croucher spoke on this item and to date they have 8 volunteers, they are slightly short on numbers and could do with a few more. There is a Speedwatch meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Cllr Croucher gave the following figures from Speedwatch

March 37 drivers over 35mph – produced 4 letters

February 13 drivers over 35mph – produced 5 letters.

Cllr Croucher did state that when inputting the registration numbers, they had taken down into the DVLA site some vehicles could not be found, so more care needs to be taken when writing the Registration numbers and vehicle makes. Cllr Staples would like Speedwatch as an agenda item every month.

## **9. Pullen Farm**

Cllr Staples stated that has been re-visited on several occasions and having now heard also from local residents on this site. The Parish Council last considered this in July 2015 and at that point the Parish Council stayed neutral. Cllr Staples would like the Parish Council to consider writing a letter to withdraw their previous comment of Neutral on this application. The character of the landscape was not previously taken into account and Cllr Staples would like to change his view and oppose the application. Cllr Vernon would also recommend refusal and it was proposed by Cllr Staples, seconded by Cllr Gosbee and RESOLVED by all members present to now rescind the earlier decision and refuse the application. Cllr Vernon will draw up a letter and the Clerk would then forward this onto the planning inspectorate.

## **10. Headcorn Airfield**

Cllr Gosbee gave a report on this, the airfield is proposing to carry out works on the airfield which include a new hangar on the east side of the airfield. This could require lottery funding for which they will apply if required. There will also be another new hangar on the veterinary side of the airfield which will house helicopters.

The Battle of Britain air display will take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> July. All other events can be found on their website.

## 11. ROAD REPORT

Cllr Gosbee read out his report. There are various pot holes all around the village which have all been reported and work to repair these should be taking place. The work which was due to take place in Sand Lane has now been cancelled. Cllr Gosbee is going to ask that some work is carried out on Grandshore Lane.

## 13. PLANNING

### Applications:

*17/00571/AGRIC – Land to the rear of Cherry Tree Cottage, Headcorn Road, Frittenden*

*Prior Notification of Agricultural or Forestry development – a new Farm access track and area of hardstanding.*

This was a prior notification this is not for the Parish Council to comment on but for noting only. However, the Parish Council had received a letter from the owners of Castle Cottages regarding this application and it was felt that the Parish Council should respond to this. Cllr Vernon will prepare a response and also explain Prior Notification and what it means.

*17/00740/SUB -Broadlake Farm, Mill Lane, Frittenden*

*Submission of details in relation to condition 6 (External Materials) of 14/502164*

Noted by the Council

### *Decisions*

### **Outcome of previous applications**

**16/07705/FULL – Knoxbridge Farm, Knoxbridge, Frittenden**

**PERMISSION GRANTED**

### Correspondence:

There was none.

## 14. CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr Staples stated that the Cranbrook and Sissinghurst Neighbourhood planning meeting was to take place on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and that the Parish Council had been invited to send a representative. Cllr Staples will try and attend.

## 15. FINANCE

It was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth and agreed unanimously to pay the accounts as follows:

	<u>Incl. VAT</u>	<u>Excl. VAT</u>
Kent Grassland Services (grounds maintenance)	£147.00	£122.50
Frittenden Memorial Hall (hall hire)	£15.00	N/A
M M Rumble (Clerk's Salary & Expenses)	£308.15	N/A
E-on DD (street light energy)	£23.80	£22.67

BT Phone box	£1.00	N/A
Idea Signs	£72.00	£60.00

**Bank Mandate**

The Clerk presented a further Mandate to the Parish Council for signature, this new Mandate was to replace the existing Mandate and remove the Parish Clerk as signatory and therefore any cheques in future would only require two councillors to sign. The Clerk will be the Secretary on the Mandate and on the Bank Accounts. This was proposed by Cllr Vernon, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth. **RESOLVED** by all members present. Cllr Staples signed as Chairman and the Clerk signed as Secretary.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

DRAFT