

**MINUTES OF RYARSH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020 AT 8.00PM  
RYARSH VILLAGE HALL**

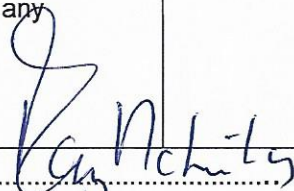
**Present:** Cllrs McKinlay (Chairman), Emson (Vice-Chairman), Barton, Butler, Martin, Storey and Sutton, County Councillor Hohler (8-8.10pm), 8 members of public (3 members of public left at 9.15pm), Clerk

ITEM	MINUTES	ACTION
1.	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES RECORDED, DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST MADE AND REGISTER OF INTERESTS:</u></b> Apologies were received from Borough Councillors Kemp and Montague. There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
2.	<p><b><u>APPROVAL &amp; SIGNING OF MINUTES OF PARISH MEETING 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020:</u></b> The Minutes arising from the Parish Council Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> January were agreed by all Councillors and signed by Cllr McKinlay.</p>	<b>MM</b>
3.	<p><b><u>REPORTS:</u></b></p> <p><b>Police –</b> A rural newsletter from Kent Police is available on the Parish Council website.</p> <p><b>County Councillor –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is budget week and there are challenges to make savings. Adult social care is a big cost at around £367m per year. KCC are putting more money into Public Rights of Way because they get lots of requests for improvements and clearing. It is hoped there will be more Community Wardens, who have been very popular and useful.</li> <li>• KCC is working on their five-year plan covering what they do for the next 5 years. The consultation on this runs until 17<sup>th</sup> February. The plan recognises that vines grow well in Kent and we should support horticulture - soft fruit as well as stoned fruit and vines instead of hops. We should become more self- sufficient for food.</li> <li>• The operation of the smart motorway is on hold until a full report goes to Grant Shapps MP (Secretary of State for Transport). Work to the M20 will carry on until a decision is made by Government.</li> <li>• There have been a lot of concerns at The Paddocks due to exposure since the trees have been cut. There are issues with noise and they can now also see the motorway. Cllr Hohler and Tom Tugendhat MP are working with the residents and the Director of Highways England.</li> <li>• The water along Woodgate Road this evening is very deep She has asked KCC's Drainage Team to clear the drains which were last done in 2018.</li> <li>• Fly tipping is still in the Workhouse Road layby but the Parish Council has reported it to TMBC.</li> <li>• The Parish Council has expressed a concern about Sandy Lane. Cllr Hohler said if this is a safety concern she can get a sign to show there are pedestrians in the road which are £216 per sign, which she can assist with.</li> <li>• There is no information about when the footbridge over the motorway will be reinstated.</li> </ul> <p><b>Borough Councillor –</b> Councillor Kemp has reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The TMBC planning officer has responded about the application for Brooks Drive</li> <li>• The provisional dates for the Local Plan Hearing will be 19-21 May</li> <li>• She has provisionally called in the application about dog walking on the land South of Quarry Road to committee. The officer has agreed that a lot more information is required.</li> <li>• It is hoped that the refuse collection service is markedly improved, but any ongoing problems should be reported.</li> </ul>	

Signed .....

*Kay McKinlay*  
2020

<p>4.</p>	<p><b>PLANNING:</b></p> <p>(a) <b>Plans Received for Comment:</b>  <b>TM/19/02873/FL - Land South of Quarry Road, East of Roughetts Road</b> - change of use of agricultural land to area for exercising dog off-lead (Sui-generis)                  We have heard that the application is to be withdrawn, but it has not been withdrawn officially. The Borough Councillors have already asked for it to be called to the Planning Committee for decision.                  If it is not withdrawn the Parish Council will act, having heard information about mess on the site in Snodland and other problems. This is an application that will be objected to as residents in Ryarsh do not want it.</p> <p>(b) <b>Decision Notices:</b>                  There were no decision notices.</p> <p>(c) <b>Any other planning matters:</b>  <b>TM/19/02961/FL - Units 1,2 and 3 15 Brooks Drive and Units 1,2 and 3 17 Brooks Drive</b> – Change of use and conversion of existing commercial/office building into 5 no. residential apartments, associated alterations and provision of cycle store</p> <p>We have heard from the TMBC planning officer that the fencing was agreed as acceptable when planning permission was granted, the spaces for the commercial units were not for public use and more parking will not be required.                  A resident addressed the meeting. He said that the parking spaces for the commercial units are in use because most people who live in the apartments have two cars. He did not accept Redrow's statement about the sound barriers. It is not fit for purpose and is just a wooden fence and does not go where they explained it would when residents bought off plan.                  Cllr McKinlay said the Parish Council completely agree with these points and took them on board when they were raised at the last meeting. The Parish Council put these points forward to TMBC in our response but they were not accepted by the planning officer. Everything raised by residents was put forward to TMBC.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING</b></p> <p>(a) <b>Actions from last meeting:</b>                  The Clerk reported that the following actions have been taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The January update has been completed and sent out</li> <li>• The grass cutting contract for the Recreation Ground has been accepted</li> <li>• Kent Highways have been asked to provide a cost for putting up signs on Sandy Lane</li> <li>• The revised quote to repair the notice boards has been accepted and work is likely to be completed in March</li> <li>• The Precept request has been submitted</li> </ul> <p>(b) <b>To consider off street parking charges consultations from TMBC</b>                  The consultation was discussed.</p> <p>(c) <b>To receive an update on speeding and driving issues in Ryarsh Park</b>                  The Parish Council took the comments made by residents in January to Kent Highways and Redrow. Redrow will not install traffic calming measures and say the roads have been constructed to KCC standards. Kent Highways have said they would support speed restrictions and consider other measures should Redrow wish to take them forward.                  A Councillor who lives in Ryarsh Park noted that he is not aware of any incidents since the one reported last month. Cllr McKinlay asked for Ryarsh Park Residents to bring any incidents to our attention.</p> <p>(d) <b>To note KCC's new 5 year strategy and consultation (17.02.20)</b>                  This was noted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

Signed .....  .....  
 Date ..... 9-3-20 .....

**Minutes of Ryarsh Parish Council Meeting Contd**

	<p>(e) Parish Council website – update from KCC Kent County Council have agreed to pay for the first year for the website that the Parish Council agreed to move to.</p> <p>(f) To receive updates and reports:</p> <p>i. Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) and T&amp;M KALC There was a discussion about the AGM and conferences.</p> <p>ii. TMBC Parish Partnership Panel Cllr McKinlay attended and reported back about the bins and refuse collections. There are ongoing discussions about how the area will be impacted by the new Thames crossing. No provision has been made for the local roads which will be affected.</p> <p>iii. Meeting with Ryarsh Primary School and request for Speakers from the Village The Parish Council wants to make stronger links with the school and the Headteacher is keen children get the opportunity to learn about where they are, if any councillors or residents would like to get involved. Cllr Sutton takes one class every year to discuss the history of the pub and the village.</p> <p>iv. Buses - West Malling feeder Pilot It was agreed that it is much better to have an hourly bus service, which is being well used.</p> <p>(g) To consider Parish Council projects The suggestion of a water fountain was found to be quite expensive and has not progressed further. Cllr Storey suggested more benches and a BBQ to be located outside the play area and Cllrs agreed this was a good idea. The Clerk will obtain quotes, and Cllr Sutton will provide prices for an outdoor BBQ.</p>	<p align="center"><b>All</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Clerk JS</b></p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>OPEN FORUM:</b> Public Participation Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A resident asked the Parish Council for support about the fencing and parking on Ryarsh Park and asked the Parish Council to support their objections. Cllr McKinlay explained that the Parish Council does support them.</li> <li>• There was a discussion about the application for use of the land south of Quarry Road for exercising dogs. Cllr McKinlay explained that the Parish Council has made these objections known following the January meeting and asked our Borough Councillor to look at it, who called the application to go before the Planning Committee. Two Birling residents addressed the meeting about the site on Snodland Road. Ryarsh Parish Council are happy to support them with their concerns to Birling Parish Council. Cllr McKinlay confirmed that Ryarsh Parish Council is totally opposed to this application in Ryarsh and we hope it has been withdrawn.</li> <li>• It was suggested that with the disruption in the area with the M20 and quarry that no applications such as this should be made. Cllr McKinlay explained that the Parish Council and TMBC cannot stop planning applications being made. All applications will go through the same process which is governed by planning law and which TMBC will follow.</li> <li>• The view was expressed that speed limits for reckless drivers and signs on Ryarsh Park will not work without traffic calming measures. Councillors agreed with this view. The resident asked that KCC demand that before the estate is handed over to them, Redrow build and design traffic calming measures.</li> <li>• It was reported that Apex drilling have been to a site in Ryarsh drilling bore holes today. The Parish Council were made aware of this earlier today and Cllr McKinlay and other Councillors have been to the site. Further enquiries will be made.</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Clerk</b></p>

Signed  .....

Date 9.3.20 .....

## Minutes of Ryarsh Parish Council Meeting Contd

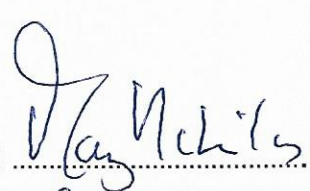
7.	<p><b><u>PARISH NEWS AND CORRESPONDENCE:</u></b> There were no further matters to discuss.</p>																						
8.	<p><b><u>HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY MATTERS:</u></b></p> <p>(a) To report any highways problems – <a href="http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem">www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem</a> There was nothing to report.</p> <p>(b) To consider adopting Highways Improvement Plan Cllrs did not consider that a Highways Improvement Plan was necessary.</p> <p>(c) To receive an update on progress of S106 Monies and Traffic Calming and consider proposals Meetings have taken place with Kent Highways and Birling Parish Council and matters are progressing.</p> <p>(d) To report any street lights or footpath issues It was reported that the light outside Moonfield on The Street has not been converted to LED. The Clerk will make enquiries with the contractor.</p>	Clerk																					
9.	<p><b><u>VILLAGE HALL</u></b></p> <p>(a) To receive updates and information about Ryarsh Village Hall Cllr Storey reported that all was going well with lots of lettings.</p>	DS																					
10.	<p><b><u>PARISH MAINTENANCE AND REPORTS:</u></b> To receive reports on and report any issues about:</p> <p>(a) Parish Property (including Ryarsh Resource Room, Defibrillator etc) There was nothing to report.</p> <p>(b) Play Area, Recreation Ground, Trees Cllr Emson said there are no issues with the trees to report after the recent storms.</p>																						
11.	<p><b><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></b></p> <p>(a) To receive bank statements, consider and approve financial statements The Financial Statement for January 2020 was signed by Cllrs McKinlay and Emson.</p> <p>(b) To consider invoices, approve and sign cheques The following invoices were APPROVED and cheques were signed by Cllrs Emson and Sutton.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 35%;">PSR Lighting</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Streetlight Maintenance Jan 20</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: right;">£116.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Viking Payments</td> <td>Office Supplies</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£109.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Viking Payments</td> <td>Office Supplies</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£11.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk</td> <td>Reimbursement- Dropbox payment</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£79.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk</td> <td>Feb 2020 Salary, allowance, expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£784.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>PAYE &amp; NI February 2020</td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">£124.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,221.50</td> </tr> </table> <p>Payments to Eon for electricity for January 2020 of £113.31 was approved.</p> <p>(c) To review electricity supply contract Cllrs did not want to sign up to the 3 year contract from Eon and wanted to compare with other quotes at the next meeting.</p> <p>(d) To discuss Unity Trust Bank account There was nothing to report.</p> <p>(e) To consider financial donations 2019/20</p>	PSR Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance Jan 20	£116.40	Viking Payments	Office Supplies	£109.92	Viking Payments	Office Supplies	£11.76	Clerk	Reimbursement- Dropbox payment	£79.00	Clerk	Feb 2020 Salary, allowance, expenses	£784.62	HMRC	PAYE & NI February 2020	£124.24			£1,221.50	Clerk  Clerk
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	<p>No donations were made last year, other than the annual donation to the Village Hall and towards the Christmas lights. It was agreed to do the same this year.</p> <p>(f) To consider Internal Auditor 2019/20 It was agreed to appoint same internal auditor as last year.</p> <p>(g) To consider any other financial matters It was agreed that CPRE membership should not be renewed.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
11.	<p><b>MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING</b> Installing a battery powered camera onto the layby on Workhouse Road to prevent flytipping</p> <p>A resident thanked the Parish Council for arranging for the drugs capsules/cannisters that were found on Roughetts Road near the bridge to be cleared. Road sweepers also came out.</p> <p>It was reported that fly tipping has got worse since KCC started charging at Household Waste Sites.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>

The Meeting concluded at 9.20

Date of the next Parish meeting is **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Signed  .....

Date 9.3.20 .....