

Minutes of **RYARSH PARISH COUNCIL** meeting
Held virtually on **Monday 2nd November 2020** at **8.00pm**

Councillors Present:

Cllr M McKinlay (Chairman)
Cllr I Emson (Vice Chairman)
Cllr M Barton
Cllr T Butler
Cllr C Martin
Cllr D Storey
Cllr J Sutton

Also in attendance:

L Mackie (Clerk)
County Councillor Hohler (left at 8.10pm)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Borough Councillor A Kemp.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes arising from the Parish Council Meeting on 12th October were agreed by all Councillors and will be signed by Cllr McKinlay at the next available opportunity.

4. REPORTS

(a) County Councillor Hohler

- KCC have held their consultation on the budget and received good responses
- The figures for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are still high
- Groups such as Kent Together are helping children with school meals over half term
- If you have a nomination for someone who has given exceptional community service during this Covid-19 crisis you can nominate them for an honour in the Government website
- During Winter, cyclists are reminded to wear yellow jackets or bright colours if cycling in the dark
- The opening of the M20 bridge has been delayed a week to 28 November. This may mean that the closures on 16 and 9 November will be changed as well.
- Flooding outside the Paddocks is on the list to be dealt with
- In answer to a Cllrs question, the brown waste bins go to the In Vessel Composting (IVC) site at Offham. This is separately run from the Anaerobic Digestion (AD) plant which has recently had odour problems. The odour problems should not occur when the plant is up and running properly
- We are going into another national lockdown. The figures in Kent are good but rates are still increasing
- The Tips will remain open during this lockdown but you still have to book a slot
- Bins will still be collected, and TMBC deal with refuse collections
- The Saturday Freighter collection still has a Health and Safety process to go through before it can be resumed. Again, that is a TMBC matter.
- There was a discussion about why TMBC will not install new litter bins during this time due to Covid 19

(b) Borough Councillors Kemp and Montague

There was no report.

Signed

Date

- (c) Police
There was no report.

5. PLANNING

- (a) Plans Received for Comment
 - i. **TM/20/01959/RD - Moonfield, The Street** - Details of conditions 2 (materials), 6 (landscaping and boundary treatment), 7 (drainage) and 9 (curtilage) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/17/01104/FL (Demolition of the existing workshop building, removal of tennis court and erection of a single storey dwelling and associated parking and driveway, sharing existing access)
There were **NO OBJECTIONS**.
 - ii. **TM/20/02275/FL – Titch Cottage, Old School Lane** – Proposed first floor side extension and small single storey rear extension.
There were **NO OBJECTIONS**.
 - iii. **TM/20/02369/TNCA - The Laurels, Chapel Street** -Goat Willow (T1) to pollard at a height of 4.5m and radial spread of 1.5m
There were **NO OBJECTIONS**.
- (b) Approvals
There were no approvals to report.
- (c) Refusal
There were no refusals to report.
- (d) Any other Planning Matters
The next formal hearing about the Local Plan has been postponed. The Inspector is concerned about some aspects of the plan.

6. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Web Accessibility Regulations and Website
The layout of the Agenda and Minutes have been changed to comply with the Web Accessibility Regulations. Netwise have been appointed to provide the new website and are working on this.
- (b) Kent Highways – Licence to Cultivate verge at Workhouse Road/The Street junction
The Licence has been submitted and we are waiting for approval from Kent Highways.
- (c) To consider litter bins in the Village
TMBC have stated they are not installing any more litter bins at the current time due to the Coronavirus pandemic.
- (d) To consider Highways Improvement Plan
The other options considered by the Parish Councillors have been re-circulated to Cllrs. Cllr McKinlay and the Clerk will be meeting with the Head Teacher of the school to discuss measures they would like. The Clerk will ask Cllr Hohler if she will contribute towards a Speed Indicator Device on Birling Road facing Birling and heading towards the School.

7. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr McKinlay reported on her meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

8. MONTHLY CHECK LIST

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(a) General Data Protection Regulations

i. Data Protection Officer

Satswana have been appointed. A positive and reassuring meeting has been held with them virtually and details circulated to Cllrs. Satswana were satisfied with the documents and policies the Parish Council have in place already and the actions we have taken.

ii. To receive report – using your own email address or device for Council business

Cllrs McKinlay and Storey met with the Offham Parish Council Chairman to discuss the issues in the Information Commissioners Office Toolkit and notes of the meeting have been circulated. It was suggested that given the type of information the Parish Council holds and the closed group of the village, that use of own devices was acceptable. The Parish Council considered this and approved the Own Device Factsheet from the ICO and an Own Device Policy.

iii. ICO registration renews 19.11.20

Noted.

(b) To note any problems and receive reports about

i. Highways

- The problem of who clears the grille on Woodgate Road has been passed to Kent Highways. In a previous meeting Highways noted that although they had installed the grille it was on private land and should be cleared by the landowner. A Parish Councillor and his wife have been clearing the grille for 28 years to stop the houses opposite being flooded but are unable to continue to do so. This will be pursued with Kent Highways to take action, and the Clerk will also write to the landowner.
- Opposite Godfreys on Birling Road the streams were dredged on the North Side of the road by the landowner. The owner of the Oast House on the other side of Birling Road has not cleared the drains under the footpath which have blocked up and recently flooded. The school and other properties are at risk if this floods. This will be reported to Kent Highways.
- The ditch beside the drive to the Oast House is overgrown with weeds and needs clearing to prevent flooding. This will be reported to Kent Highways.

ii. Footpaths and Footways

The landowner of the land on which footpath MR150 runs beside the motorway has had contractors on site to remove overgrown brambles and vegetation. He has noted that over the years, walkers have created a new footpath route. The clearing he has carried out has enabled the original footpath to be recreated. The debris from the clearing has been left in the route in which people had been walking, which is not the actual footpath.

The Clerk will contact the Leybourne Parish Clerk for more information about the field next to the Wheatsheaf pub and its current use.

iii. Street lights

There was nothing to report.

iv. Trees

Cllr Storey discussed the pollarding carried out to the Willow Tree in the Village Hall Car Park which has cost £1,900. Cllrs considered a request for a donation towards this work and AGREED to pay £1,000 to Ryarsh Village Hall.

(c) To receive reports on and report any issues about Parish Property (including Ryarsh Resource Room, Defibrillator, Notice Boards etc)

Cllr Storey carries out his regular checks and there were no issues to report.

(d) Play Area and Recreation Ground

Cllrs discussed the impact of the forthcoming lockdown on the Play Area. During the previous lockdown the play area was closed for use. Cllrs agreed that the situation is different this time.

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The play area has been risk assessed, there are signs reminding users of social separation, and the area will be used less frequently during the Autumn and Winter. It was AGREED that the play area will remain open but the situation will be closely monitored and reviewed.

(e) Ryarsh Village Hall

Measures have been put in place to keep the Village Hall open and they have received many enquiries, but bookings are not made due to the limitation of numbers. The Village Hall will be affected by the new lockdown.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) To receive bank statements, consider and approve financial statements (to be physically signed at the next available opportunity)

These have been circulated and considered by Cllrs. The statement was approved and will be signed by Cllr McKinlay at the next available opportunity.

(b) To consider and approve invoice payments

The following invoices have been approved and the payments authorised by Cllrs Storey and Barton since the last meeting:

Payee	Description	Total £
Netwise	Website	£749.00

The following invoices were APPROVED and the payments will be authorised by Cllrs Storey and Barton:

Payee	Description	Total £
Play Inspection Company	Annual Play Area Inspection	£123.00
PSR Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance October 2020	£116.40
Eon	Electricity – October 2020 (Direct Debit)	To be confirmed
Clerk	November 2020 Salary, expenses, allowance	£864.89
HMRC	November 2020 PAYE and NI	£66.45

The following payment was APPROVED and will be authorised by Cllrs Barton and Martin:

Payee	Description	Total £
Ryarsh Village Hall	Annual Donation	£1,000.00

(c) To consider any other financial matters

There were no other matters.

10. MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING

It was AGREED that the date of the next meeting be moved to Monday 7th December 2020.

The Meeting concluded at 8.50pm

Date of the next Parish Council meeting is **Monday 7th December 2020**