

Minutes of **Ryarsh Parish Council** Meeting held at the Committee Room, Ryarsh Village Hall on
Monday 8th November 2021 at 8.00pm

Councillors Present:

Cllr M McKinlay (Chairman)
Cllr I Emson (Vice Chairman)
Cllr M Barton
Cllr A Betts
Cllr J Sutton

Also in attendance:

2 members of public
L Mackie (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Martin, County Councillor Hohler and Borough Councillors Kemp and Montague

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of 11th October 2021 be approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr McKinlay.

4. EXTERNAL REPORTS

(a) County Councillor Hohler

- The Chairman of Kent County Council, Ann Allen MBE, has passed away. There was a special event held at County Hall in her memory to appreciate the work that she had done
- KCC are doing a lot of work to help the environment, which is not advertised

(b) Borough Councillor Kemp

There was no report.

(c) Police

Any parking which causes an obstruction can be reported to the police. The Clerk will notify the PCSO that there is still a problem with parking from the building work on Roughetts Road.

My Community Voice has been launched with details of how to sign up to it.

5. PLANNING

(a) Plans Received for Comment

- i. **TM/21/02509/FL - Ryefields, Chapel Street** - Replace existing single storey flat roofed side extension with a two storey extension
There were **NO OBJECTIONS**.

(b) Approvals

- i. **TM/21/02005/FL - Rosehaven, Roughetts Road** - Removal of existing conservatory and construction of single storey rear extension

(c) Refusals

There were no refusals to report.

(d) Any other Planning Matters

- i. **TM/21/02485/TNCA - The Old Post Office, Chapel Street** - Dismantle dead Cherry tree (T1) to ground level and remove Ivy and deadwood from Black Walnut (T2).

APPLICATION NOT PROCEEDED WITH

6. MATTERS ARISING

(a) To receive report on Clerk's actions following the last meeting

- The Monthly newsletter was prepared and circulated
- The contractor has fixed the play area light. Cllrs reported that the light was still not working
- The police were contacted and have visited the property on Roughetts Road following complaints about contractor parking.
- Highways Faults reported – clear silt from behind channels on Birling Road Build Outs, blocked speed sign on Woodgate Road, The Street drainage (Highways will use CCTV and clear by hand and look at raised grids), blocked ditch on Birling Road
- Reported leaves on Birling Road footpath to TMBC
- Reported repeat offender to Inspector Lizzie Jones. Police are aware but cannot reveal anything that is operationally sensitive. Police will contact victims of crime
- Liaised with the Village Hall Trust about pictogram No Dog Signs. They didn't think pictures drawn by school children would help. They have contacted TMBC about a Bag and Flag event, but TMBC have visited and don't think dog mess is a big problem
- Contacted Birling PC to find out how they will celebrate the Queens Jubilee
- Liaised with Village Hall Trust to ask them to cut back vegetation around village sign – but the Parish Council's contractor has cut back the vegetation and the Trust have said thank you
- VAT reclaim submitted
- Liaised with Kent Highways about road closure by South East Water of The Street. Any more instances of SE water closing roads when it is not an emergency should be reported to Highways.
- Asked TMBC why the litter bin was removed next to bus stop. No reply has been received.

(b) To consider Parish Councillor Vacancy and agree co-option of a new Councillor

Samantha Payne introduced herself to the meeting. Councillors agreed her co-option and welcomed her to the Parish Council.

(c) To consider Highways Improvement Plan

Cllr McKinlay and the Clerk met a representative from Kent Highways to discuss the draft Highways Improvement Plan and an amended version has been circulated to Cllrs.

It was reported that there are two drains which are proud of the road and need to be lowered – as you turn into Chapel Close and by The Old Forge.

Another issue was raised to be added – not everyone gives way to coaches leaving Brookline on The Street and vehicles are often travelling too fast causing an accident risk. Can a request be made for a Give Way Sign or Priority sign here? The Clerk will pass this on to Kent Highways and Cllr McKinlay will speak to Brookline Coaches.

(d) To consider The Queens Green Canopy Project and how to Celebrate the Queens Jubilee

There was a discussion and Councillors agreed an event at the Recreation Ground and Village Hall, perhaps with people bringing their own food, and some entertainment.

Cllr Sutton will attend the Village Hall Trust Meeting and ask for permission to use the Hall and Recreation Ground for the event on Sunday 5th June 2022.

The Woodland Trust are giving away trees for each Village and the Clerk will look into this. Cllrs were in favour of purchasing and planting a tree for the Christmas Lights, instead of a cut tree being used each year. The Clerk will contact Mr and Mrs Nankivell to discuss this and Cllr Sutton will speak to the Village Hall Trust about planting this on their land.

(e) Parish Council Projects:

- i. New bench for Play Area
There have been further delays in delivery.

7. OPEN FORUM – Public Participation Session

- There were complaints about the vans from Wiltshire Farm Foods – speeding, tailgating and overtaking on the chicanes or junctions. The Clerk was asked to write to the company.
- Brown Bins – this was discussed at the Parish Partnership Panel. Cllr McKinlay will report back that bulky refuse can be collected in Medway for £23 but the charge in TMBC is £65. Cllrs did not agree to a skip being provided in the village.

8. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

To receive updates and reports:

- i. To consider fire hydrant checks (MB + JS)
Cllrs Barton and Sutton will carry out these checks.
- ii. KCC Flood Warden Training – 06.10.21 and 09.11.21
Cllrs McKinlay and Martin attended online training.
- iii. KALC Finance Conference 20.10.21 (Clerk)
The Clerk attended and has circulated notes.
- iv. Rail Summit (MM)
Cllr McKinlay attended a virtual rail summit.
- v. KALC T&M 21.10.21 (MM)
Cllr McKinlay was elected Chairman.
- vi. Play Area Annual Inspection 09.11.21 (MM, MB)
This takes place tomorrow.
- vii. KALC AGM 13.11.21
Cllrs McKinlay and Martin will be attending.
- viii. Annual Remembrance Service St Martin's Church 14.11.21
Cllr Barton is arranging preparation of the wreath which Cllr McKinlay will lay at the service.

9. MONTHLY CHECK LIST

(a) To receive reports about

- i. Highways
There were no reports.
- ii. Temporary Road Closure – The Street
Kent Highways have explained that South East Water closed the road without proper permissions. If Councillors or residents notice a road has been closed they should find out from the contractor why the work is being done.
- iii. Footpaths and Footways
There were no issues to report.
- iv. Street lights
There were no issues to report.
- v. Trees
There were no issues to report.
- vi. Defibrillator
David Storey has completed the monthly check and there are no issues to report.

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(b) Play Area and Recreation Ground
There was nothing to report.

(c) Ryarsh Village Hall
The Village Hall Trust have tried to organise a bag and flag day. TMBC did an inspection but only found 5 incidents of dog fouling which is not enough for an event. The Trust have also tried to organise work through the Community Payback programme but this does not look like it is going to be possible.
The Resource Room is in a mess and needs clearing out. Cllr Betts will advertise for volunteers to take over looking after the former phone box.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) To receive bank statements, consider and approve financial statements for signature and note budget monitoring
These have been circulated and considered by Cllrs. The statement was approved by **RESOLUTION** and signed by Cllr McKinlay. There were no issues relating to budget monitoring.

(b) To consider and approve invoice payments
The following invoices have been APPROVED since the last meeting.

Payee	Description	Total £
Netwise	Website	£300.00

The following accounts for payment for October 2021 were approved by RESOLUTION. The payments will be authorised by Cllrs Betts and Barton.

Payee	Description	Total £
PSR Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance October 2021	£116.40
Commercial Services Trading Ltd	Grounds Maintenance	£897.29
Woodgate Garden Maintenance	Play Area Vegetation	£380.00

A payment to Eon for Electricity for October 2021 of £131.81 will be paid by Direct Debit.

(c) To consider any other financial matters
There were no other matters.

11. MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Can the police offer assistance to help fund security lighting for residents

The Meeting concluded at 8.55pm

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting is **Monday 13th December 2021** at 8pm

Signed

Dated