

Minutes of **Ryarsh Parish Council** Meeting held in the Davison Room, Ryarsh Village Hall on
Monday 10th January 2022 at 8.00pm

Councillors Present:

Cllr M McKinlay (Chairman)
Cllr A Betts
Cllr S Payne
Cllr J Sutton

Also in attendance:

County Councillor Hohler (left at 8.10pm)
1 member of public
L Mackie (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors M Barton, I Emson and C Martin and Borough Councillors Kemp and Montague. There were no declarations of Interest.

2. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of 13th December 2021 be approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr McKinlay.

3. EXTERNAL REPORTS

(a) County Councillor Hohler

- KCC are dealing with the budget and have published a draft. It has been quite challenging, one of the problems being Adult Social Care and a changing demographic.
- One You Kent is supporting people to lose weight, get active, quit smoking, or just feel better. Support is available online and you can speak to advisors.
- A petition is being launched about virtual Parish Council meetings. To allow levelling up and enable people to be on Parish Councils who cannot get out during the Winter, virtual meetings should be permitted.
- The number of unaccompanied asylum seekers arriving in small boats in the last year was 28,431 which is 3 times higher than the year before, despite huge investment in France to prevent this happening.
- KCC are investing in improving and enhancing existing Country Park play areas. Cllr Hohler is chairing a Working Group on the strategy of Country Parks in Kent.
- KCC are launching a Civil Society Strategy. The leader of KCC felt that during Covid everyone was so good at volunteering and helping others, they would like to support this.
- There is a Kent and Medway grant hub for businesses which are struggling
- Brexit border checks have been in place from 1st January. More people are employed to monitor that and prevent delays, increasing financial pressures on KCC.
- KCC continues to try and make the way they do business more modern and effective to deliver, and also to follow the green agenda.

(b) Borough Councillors Kemp and Montague

There was no report.

(c) Police

There was no report.

4. PLANNING

(a) Plans Received for Comment

There were no plans received.

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(b) Approvals

- i. **TM/21/02950/FL - Nevill Villas, 85 The Street** - Two storey side extension with front elevation dormers, balcony to rear and replacement sash windows to existing dwelling

(c) Refusals

There was nothing to report.

(d) Any other Planning Matters

There was nothing to report.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

(a) To consider KALC Community Award 2022

There have been a number of nominations. Councillors found it difficult to choose between nominees, and felt everyone nominated deserved to be recognised. Following a discussion, it was decided the fairest way was to award the person who had received the most nominations. The Parish Council will take part in the KALC Awards every year. Councillors also agreed to set up Ryarsh Village Awards.

(b) Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30 (the Plan) Refresh - Regulation 18 Public Consultation (closes 09.02.22) - www.kent.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste

Councillors noted the consultation and that Ryarsh is not part of the Plan.

(c) Parish Council Projects – Ryarsh in Bloom and Queens Jubilee Celebrations

The Recreation Ground has been booked by The Church for Sunday 5th June. Cllr McKinlay has spoken to the Church and it was agreed that the event would be run jointly with the Parish Council. A committee will be set up to make plans.

Plans for a beacon have now been abandoned.

It was agreed that saplings could be purchased and handed to families who attend the event to take home and plant.

There was a discussion about purchasing mugs for children in the village to celebrate the event. Cllrs will consider how to estimate how many children there are and discuss this at the next meeting.

There has been enthusiasm in the village for the Ryarsh In Bloom event.

6. **OPEN FORUM – Public Participation Session**

A resident attending generously offered a £500 donation towards the Jubilee commemorative mugs for the children in the village.

Cllr Sutton visited the school, following their message about their “one step greener” event. There will be an exhibition of the children’s artwork in The Duke of Wellington.

7. **PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

There were no reports.

8. **MONTHLY CHECK LIST**

(a) To receive reports about

i. Highways

It was good news that Kent Highways are installing signage at the entrance to Old School Lane to stop vehicles trying to access Ryarsh Park.

ii. Footpaths and Footways

It was noted that building work is complete on the property in Roughetts Road. The Parish Council will consider the effect of contractor parking in future planning applications received.

iii. Street lights

There was nothing to report.

iv. Trees

There was nothing to report.

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- v. Parish property: Defibrillator, Ryarsh Resource Room
The volunteer looking after the Ryarsh Resource Room is happy to continue looking after it.
- (b) Play Area and Recreation Ground
There were no issues to report.
- (c) Ryarsh Village Hall
There were no issues to report.

9. 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 and will be signed by Cllr McKinlay. There were no issues relating to budget monitoring for the year.
- (b) To consider and approve invoice payments
The following invoices have been APPROVED since the last meeting.

Payee	Description	Total £
Linda Barton	Remembrance Wreath	£25.00

The following accounts for payment for December 2021 and January 2022 were approved. The payments will be authorised by Cllrs Martin and Betts.

Payee	Description	Total £
PSR Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance December 2021	£116.40
Commercial Services Trading Ltd	Grounds Maintenance (Oct-Dec 21)	£186.02
Unity Trust	Quarterly Service Charge	£18.00
Clerk	Salary January 2022	£835.39
HMRC	PAYE and NI January 2022	£96.56

A payment to Eon for Electricity for December 2021 of £169.24 will be paid by Direct Debit.

- (c) To approve budget for 2022-2023
There was a discussion and Councillors approved a budget of £46,890 for 2022-23.

Employment Costs	£12,950
Councillors Expenses	£300
Consumables – stationary, ink etc	£500
Insurance	£1,200
Burial Grounds – Grass Cutting	£1,200
Open Spaces – Recreation Ground Grass Cutting	£2,500
Open Spaces – Play Area	£10,630
Audit	£350
Professional Fees and Admin	£2,000
Highways Improvement Plan	£7,000
Streetlights	£3,400
Parish Property	£1,000
Contingency	£1,500
Donations	£330
Village Hall	£1,000
Training	£300
Subscriptions	£730
Total	£46,890

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(d) To approve precept request for 2022-2023

It was AGREED that a precept request of £25,755 be made and the balance of £21,135 be funded from Parish Reserves. It was noted that this would mean there is no increase in the precept request. This would result in a payment of £68.95 per Band D property.

10. MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING

It was AGREED that the next meeting be changed to Monday 7th February 2022.

The Meeting concluded at 8.40pm

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting is ~~Monday 7th February 2022~~ at 8pm

Signed 

Dated 7.2.22