

PENSHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4 September 2017 at 7.30 pm in Fordcombe Village Hall

1. **PRESENT:** Cllrs A Campbell (Chairman), J Broadhead, I Carson, J Cass, S Frederick, J Horsford, J O'Shea, R Rees, B Townsend.

2. **APOLOGIES:** SDClr S Coleman

In attendance: Mr P Johnson (Neighbourhood Watch and Alms Houses) KCClir P Lake

Declarations of interests in agenda items

If a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item of business this must be declared at the start of the meeting, unless dispensation has been granted. The member may not participate in any discussion, vote or discharge any function related to that business.

Non-pecuniary interests may be declared at this point if not already registered. Members with a non-pecuniary interest may speak on the subject if members of the public can do so but may not vote. **NONE**

3. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 7 August 2017** having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. **MATTERS ARISING:**

- a. **Defibrillator:** Training, available from St. John Ambulance, to be organised. Cllrs Rees and Carson to provide date options for ED to arrange, parishioners involved in village activities/businesses to be approached to volunteer. Cllr O'Shea to check if Village Hall had an electrician to carry out the installation, alternatively ED could provide contact.
- b. **Dog Problem:** Further problem experienced with loose dogs on Penshurst Estate land, police and dog warden advised.
- c. **Hedgecutting:** Poundsbridge area hedges and Rogues Hill. ED had written to householders identified as not complying with highway requirements for hedge maintenance, no work had been carried out at date of meeting.
- d. **Long Bridge Hedge:** Cllr Horsford was dealing with the treatment of vegetation. ED ordered signs to warn drivers of pedestrians using bridge area, delivered to Chairman, these to be erected.

OPEN SESSION

Complaints were made about the noise impact of a firework display at the Penshurst Estate during August at an event, ED to contact estate regarding issue. *(Response received from General Manager advising complaint noted)*

Cllr O'Shea to check with surgery regarding marked parking spaces for doctors' cars.

Mr Johnson raised the hedge cutting work carried out to Colliersland Bridge and thanked the person responsible for this being undertaken, the visibility splay for drivers was much improved, Cllr Horsford had arranged for this work to be done.

Mr Johnson reported a white van that had been parked for some weeks opposite The Leicester Arms, ED to check. *(Vehicle Taxed and MOT'd – no action can be taken)*

5. **PLANNING**

Applications:

SE/17/02026: Chafford Park Farm: Change of Use of 2 agricultural barns to D2 (wedding functions) with associated car parking and external lighting. Revised floor plans, revised external lighting plan and additional licensing plan.

SE/17/02472: 1 Latymers, Penshurst: Alterations to windows in front elevation, side elevation and enlarging existing window and door openings in rear elevation. **PC Response:** PC Support

SE/17/02695: The Apple Store, Fordcombe Road, Penshurst: Demolish existing building, erect replacement dwelling with new landscaping and associate works. **PC Response:** PC Support

Decisions:

SE/17/02084: Rocky Dene, Chafford Lane, Fordcombe: Demolition of existing garage and outbuilding. Construction of replacement garage. **GRANTED**

SE17/00830: 12 Paddock Close, Fordcombe: Demolition of existing shed to facilitate the erection of a two storey side extension. **GRANTED**

SE/17/01172: Littleshaw, The Lane, Fordcombe: Create 2 new dormer windows in roof on front (S) elevation. **GRANTED**

SE/17/01644: Holts Farm, Coopers Lane, Penshurst: Replacement ancillary accommodation. **GRANTED**

SE/17/01191LBC: Home Farm Cottage, Smarts Hill: Addition of soil and vent pipe to north elevation. **GRANTED**

SE/17/02160: Wells View Penshurst Road Penshurst: Erection of a garden room to the front of the family

annexe/outbuilding known as Sleepy Hollow. **GRANTED**

6. REPORTS:

a. Kent County Councillor. KCCllr Lake advised he was experiencing problems with the KCC email system, his current address was pwalake27@gmail.com. North Farm Refuse facility would be closed on Sunday 17 September for repairs. Cllr Horsford confirmed the telegraph pole requested for removal at Chafford Bridge was still in situ. PC encouraged to apply for 20MPH speed limit through villages, he would support case. The polytunnel application was awaited at committee.

Highway issues Cllr Lake would raise with KCC: Walters Green and Nunnery Lane were both heavily potholed; Cllr Horsford asked that the posts which were adjacent to the ditch in Poundsbridge and demolished during a car accident be replaced; extent of works scheduled for Poundsbridge (*work complying with criteria will be undertaken*); why roadworks along Brook Street delayed until schools returned; stop sign at junction in Peshurst at Village Hall 'T' junction (*have applied via website for provision of solid white line at exit of Peshurst Road to stop traffic at that point*); request for KCC to download data from the flashing speed sign at Glebelands and provide for PC in order to support the 20MPH speed limit case (*have applied via Geoff Bineham / Toby Butler for provision of data*).

b. Sevenoaks District Councillor: Cllr Sue Coleman had forwarded a report for members and the meeting. She apologized for not being able to attend but was on holiday which had been booked before the by-election, she would make every effort to attend future meetings, dates of which were in her diary. Items which she had dealt with included problems experienced as a result of two festivals in Chiddingstone Hoath (Leefest) a music event and Into the Wild, an alternative living, back to nature, family event. Approximately 5000 people (including staff) attended each event, accommodated in tents. Numerous complaints were made about excessive noise plus problems with sewage and drinking water at the alternative living festival. The Councillor personally carried out noise monitoring at 9.15 and 11.30 pm. Into the Wild had used a Temporary Event Notice to obtain permission for entertainment from only one marquee with a 499 maximum capacity which they were able to do as they did not serve alcohol. Obviously this was far fewer than actually attended the event and they acknowledged breaching the noise limit conditions of their license, which will now be reviewed prior to next year. PCs needed to be vigilant about this situation because consequently SDC have virtually no control, it is possible to comment with regard to TEN applications made online. The Councillor had passed on residents' complaints to SDC who arranged Environmental Health inspections.

In Peshurst, Cllr Coleman had monitored comments made about the Polytunnel planning application on the SDC website and met with both Clock House Farms and the Protect Peshurst action group to listen to their perspectives. The AONB consultation response was less concerned with the visual impact than Protect Peshurst had expected and she suggested they should seek a meeting with HWAONB personnel if they wanted to take this up. Cllr Coleman understood a Development Control Committee was scheduled for 28 September with agendas being finalized nearer this time.

Cllr Coleman had been trying to find a venue to hold periodic surgeries in the village and would update everyone in due course.

c. KALC: ED to advise that day of meeting less crucial than content and provision of service.

d. Speedwatch: Mr Johnson suggested that the parish should try to encourage another group to operate the checks. Cllr Rees advised that he was collating data obtained from the Speedwatch Team work from 2013 – 2016 which had proved very helpful..

e. Alms Houses: Mr Johnson reported that most of the maintenance work was completed, only internal damp problems required attention. There were no vacancies at present, a Trustees' meeting would be held on 13 September. Mr Johnson or the other Trustees were happy to answer any questions.

f. Neighbourhood Watch: Recent Police Reports including various crimes in surrounding towns and villages by no mention of Peshurst or Fordcombe had been made, it was important that parishioners remain vigilant though.

g. High Weald Councils Aviation Action Group: It was thought the CAA had been monitoring plane noise on Rogues Hill and also the school playground. GACC Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday 17 November at Copthorne Hotel.

h. Coach Road Bridge: No report

i. Allotments: Letters sent to some allotment holders requesting work considered necessary to be completed by the end of October. Chairman advised the wooden gate had been repaired, minor adjustment was still required.

7. HIGHWAYS:

267923: Fire hydrant - re-siting enquiry. Map obtained showing all parish Fire Hydrants in order to identify which one needed re-location. Cllrs Carson and O'Shea to provide grid reference for ED.

295904: Colliersland Bridge: Hedgecutting requested for Kent Highways land. Cllr Horsford arranged for clearance work to be carried out, ED to contact Highways again regarding clearance of their land.

295904: Poundsbridge: White marking had been carried out by Highways along Poundsbridge Lane & Hill. Highway inspector indicated work was identified under Find & Fix system, road requires closing for work to be completed therefore issue takes longer to resolve. Notification received of work being undertaken.

294590: Poundsbridge Hill: Tree stump in road, dealt with.

Old Post Office Peshurst: Highways approached regarding route used by pedestrians leaving the old footpath to go round corner to see if safer pathway could be provided. Highways Inspector advised it would be necessary to compulsorily purchase the land between the entrance arch and the bridge to provide enough width to install a paved area. ED approached estate for assistance with issue.

BT Exchange: ED reported overgrown hedge adjacent to building opposite Peshurst Primary School, BT advise issue should be addressed by 14 September.

Sub Station by Forge Garage: ED had reported the overgrown hedge at the site to UK Power Networks for cutting back.

Road Surface: ED to check regarding accidents which had occurred in Speldhurst on road at junction with Old House Lane.

300741: Solid white 'STOP' line requested for left hand side of road at junction between Peshurst Road and High Street by Peshurst Village Hall.

8. FINANCE: The following accounts were presented and approved for payment.

650	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Annual PC Audit Fee	£240.00
651	RIP Cleaning Services	Dog Waste Removal	£96.00
652	Lee Jenner Garden Services	Lengthsman	£162.00

a. Fordcombe Churchyard Oak Tree: Cllr Horsford confirmed work completed.

b. Annual Accounts: Confirmation received from Auditors that the PC annual accounts for the year 2016/17 had been Certified and returned with no comment or requirement for explanations on any issues, the necessary form had been placed in the PC noticeboards.

c. Litter Bins: Cllr O'Shea to discuss costs of painting three bins with parishioner and report to councillors.

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Speeding/Peshurst Place: ED reported problems with speeding cars using archway into Peshurst Place to access the nursery, staff extremely helpful and would have a word to remind those visiting of speed limits and need for care.

b. Bulk Freighter: Next visit scheduled for 14 October, notices placed in boards and village magazines advised.

c. SDC: Cllr Campbell booked on Local Plan Issues and Option at Rickard's Hall, Edenbridge on 6 September at 7.30 pm

d. Sevenoaks District Council Local Plan: Information forwarded on availability for inspection, posted on noticeboards.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Accident: Members were advised the fencing at the Chafford Arms had been demolished by a car, it was understood the driver had been apprehended by the police.

b. Pothole: Cllr Frederick reported problems with road surface in Coldharbour at Tubbs Hole/Birling Cottages.

c. Play Day: Cllr Townsend reported this was again well received in the parish and enjoyed by those attending.

d. Fete: Scheduled for 16 September.

Meeting concluded 8.45 pm

Next Meeting: Monday 2 October 2017

Fireworks: the law

You cannot buy 'adult' fireworks if you're under 18, and it is against the law for anyone to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except on certain occasions.

Adult fireworks are category 2 and 3 fireworks - they do not include items such as party poppers.

Category 4 fireworks can only be used by professionals.

The law says you must not set off or throw fireworks (including sparklers) in the street or other public places.

You must not set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except for:

- Bonfire Night, when the cut off is midnight
- New Year's Eve, Diwali and Chinese New Year, when the cut off is 1am

People should check with their local councils to find out about any rules for setting off fireworks.

Get information about firework safety from [The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents](#) and the [Health and Safety Executive](#).

Buying fireworks

You can only buy fireworks (including sparklers) from registered sellers for private use on these dates:

- 15 October to 10 November
- 26 to 31 December
- 3 days before Diwali and Chinese New Year

At other times you can only buy fireworks from licensed shops.

You can be fined up to £5,000 and imprisoned for up to 6 months for selling or using fireworks illegally. You could also get an on-the-spot fine of £90.