

PENSHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6 November 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, R Rees, B Townsend.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr J O'Shea

In attendance: SDCllr S Coleman, KCCllr P Lake, Mr P Johnson (Neighbourhood Watch & Almshouses)

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.

Cllr R Rees: Polytunnels: Registering but asking for clarification of position.

3. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2 October 2017**, having been circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

a. **Defibrillator:** ED contacted the Kent Fire Service regarding possible training sessions being offered at Sevenoaks Fire Station. (*Next training sessions being held at Sevenoaks Fire Station, London Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 2HY at half hourly intervals on 17 November 2017. Further details regarding timing being sought*)

b. **Hedgecutting:** Poundsbridge area hedges and Rogues Hill. No work done to date.

c. **Litter Bins:** Key obtained by ED from SDC Dunbrik Depot to release bins for refurbishment provided for to pass on to contractor.

Weed treatment undertaken between Rogues Hill and Glebelands, members recorded this had helped.

d. **Leicester Square Tree:** Estate have no plans to remove tree but could carry out some limb trimming during the winter.

e. **Poundsbridge Lane:** Revised dates provided/cancelled/re-booked over two week period to carry out work previously planned, then ED advised that the work had been cancelled as machinery for the work was not working, then re-booked. Area from Pitcher House up to Corner now been patched, further work awaited.

OPEN SESSION

New Banner type Signs on Rectory Hedge, Penshurst: Cllr Rees including information in magazine regarding advertising. Cllr Campbell raised issue of advertising signs generally and the current high number visible, possibility of village sign mentioned..

5. PLANNING

Applications:

SE/17/02111: Land at Salmans Farm, Salmans Lane, Penshurst: Permanent erection of polytunnels at the land at Salmans Farm, with associated landscaping and ecological enhancements. Additional information received being Drainage and SUDS Management and Maintenance Plan.

SE/17/03015: Poundsbridge House, Poundsbridge, Penshurst: Single Storey Oak Framed Garden Room to rear. The PC had nothing to add to the previous response.

SE/17/03122: Poundsbridge Oast, Poundsbridge, Penshurst: Erect new chimney flue to Oast, alterations to fenestrations on rear elevation to barn/annexe building. Nothing to add

SE/17/03268: Thimble Hall Cottage, Fordcombe Road, Penshurst: Minor amendment of position of access plus variation of conditions on landscaping, tree protection and drainage. Nothing to add

Appeals:

SE/17/01548: Redcot, Fordcombe Road, Penshurst: Demolish existing porch, erect part one/part two storey rear extension and associated works. **ALLOWED.**

Licensing Application:

17/03667/LAPRE: Leicester Arms Premises Licence - Change of Owners.

Decisions:

SE/17/02695: The Apple Store, Fordcombe Road, Penshurst: Demolish existing dwelling, erect replacement with new landscaping and associated works. **GRANTED**

SE/17/02276: Loft House, Penshurst Road, Penshurst: Timber garden summerhouse to northwest area of garden. **GRANTED**

SE/17/02111: Land at Salmans Farm, Salmans Lane, Penshurst: Permanent erection of polytunnels at the land at Salmans Farm, with associated landscaping and ecological enhancements. **GRANTED**

SE/17/02113: Land at Salmans Farm, Salmans Lane, Penshurst: Change of use of land for stationing and storage of rural worker caravans over winter and provision of associated hardstanding, drainage and landscaping. **GRANTED**

SE/17/02576: The Gardeners Cottage, Poundsbridge Lane, Poundsbridge, Penshurst: Construction of 20m x 60m equestrian arena to include small amount of cut and fill, new land drains, membrane, stone base, silica sand and fibre surface. Amendments also received. **GRANTED**

6. REPORTS:

a. Kent County Councillor: Cllr Lake provided the following information:

- 1. Polytunnels:** Cllr Lake had attended the SDC Development Control meeting for the polytunnel application hearing. He felt Penshurst was represented extraordinarily well by the contributors attending on behalf of the parish. Cllr Lake was dismayed by some comments of some committee members who ignored the need to protect an area of outstanding natural beauty. The application was approved.
- 2. Highways:** Cllr Lake met with Julian Cook, Head of Highways in West Kent to inspect the state of some of the local roads, drains and signage. The need to resurface the Leigh Road, Nunnery Lane and Poundsbridge would receive special attention as will the request to reduce speed on the approaches to both villages.
- 3. School Transport:** Transporting children to school remains high on the agenda. Overcrowding on school buses and case of bullying have been reported to KCC and the police.

b. Sevenoaks District Councillor: SDCllr Sue Coleman provided the following information:

SDC had been pressured to act on Chafford Park activities with some success, Mark Mirrans (SDC Colleague) visited site resulting in an application relating to pre-commencement planning conditions being submitted; no events were permitted until these had been approved. However, last Saturday a further event was held indicating that Chafford Park have no regard for obeying rules, a request for Mr Mirrans to act on this had been made.

An approach had been made to Tom Tugendhat to have TENS (Temporary Event Notices) legislation changed; although originally intended for village hall events it is currently abused by event organisers.

Polytunnels: Although Richard Streatfield, Cllr Campbell and Cllr Coleman worked hard to prepare the case against the application they were unsuccessful. Cllr Coleman cannot take part in any further involvement as she is not permitted to act against SDC colleagues.

Rural Crime: A meeting with Tom Tugendhat and Matthew Scott was scheduled for November 17 in Penshurst Village Hall at 6.30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend to ensure that this issue is supported in the future.

Homelessness: The new Homelessness Act comes into force next April enabling those due to be made homeless to get help 56 days before they will be evicted rather than 28 as now. There will also be more help for single people. Cllr Coleman was still trying to help the local family in need of housing.

Affordable Homes: SDC were formulating a stand alone company and considering building some properties for affordable housing outside Housing Associations so that staff have greater control over where they are built and who goes in them.

Call for Sites: SDC were happy with the 30% response rate to the questionnaires, these are currently being analysed.

Planning Application Fees: These are likely to rise, they have not been raised for several years and the Government are consulting SDC with a view to increasing them.

c. KALC: No report

d. Speedwatch: No report

e. Alms Houses: Mr Johnson advised an inspection of the almshouses was carried out on 20 October by two Trustees: Mr O'Shea and himself. All were inspected excepted one which was being cleared. Although there were a

number of items requiring attention, none were surprising or expensive to make good.

f. Neighbourhood Watch: Mr Johnson advised that the last report received on 15 September had been with regard to the stolen rowing boat and oars which had been recovered, no reports received since had mentioned Fordcombe or Peshurst. Parishioners were reminded to take the usual safety measures to ensure security in their houses ie always lock doors and windows plus outbuilding, keep cars and car windows locked.

g. High Weald Councils Aviation Action Group: Department of Transport forwarded information on draft Airports National Policy Statement. On 24 October 2017 the Government published the revised draft Airports NPS and announced a period of further consultation which will end on 19 December 2017. The revised draft Airports NPS and accompanying documents including an updated Appraisal of Sustainability can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/heathrow-airport-expansion>. Notes of key points on DfT's third Airspace and Noise Engagement Group meeting and the CAA's third Community Discussion Forum on 13 October were circulated to members together with a copy of a letter sent to the Secretary of State by the community groups adjacent to Gatwick requesting intervention to ensure government policy on noise reduction was complied with. Another enquiry was anticipated, Cllr Rees to contact Clerk for Chiddingstone to check on which responses Peshurst PC should be making.

h. Coach Road Bridge: The bridge was inspected during the morning of 6 November. The eastern section of the upstream parapet wall has twisted upstream by 50mm and at the same time has rotated on its base with the bridge arch construction and separated from the western section of the parapet which remains in the constructed position. The separation movements are between 24mm at the upstream face and 26mm at the roadway face. The downstream parapet remains as constructed.

i. Allotments: Condition of site: Inspection undertaken previous week, letters going out as required. Condition of Warren allotments better than Bottlehouse units. Two spare units at Bottlehouse (1 now and 1 in March), little or nothing is done with the majority of the units currently. If sites available units could be advertised for availability.

7. HIGHWAYS:

267923: Fire hydrant - re-siting enquiry. Cllr Carson provided the grid reference for ED, further information awaited.

304617: Road Surface: Between Tubs Hole and Birling Cottage reported to Kent Highways, works noted as completed on 27 September but had not in fact been completed. *(ED Checking whether complies with criteria)*

306399: Signage: 'Drive Carefully' signage adjacent to Stubbs Wood Farm metal upright rotted. Works being programmed.

309768: Signage: '30 MPH' sign opposite Hedge Barton Mobile Home site requires refitting. Works completed 26 October.

Grove Road sign: Missing sign 'Grove Road' at the junction of the B2188 and Grove Road.

Colliersland Bridge: The right hand side hedge when approaching the bridge from Peshurst had been cut giving good sightlines for cars approaching from Fordcombe.

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

Complete Weed Control	Peshurst Weed Treatment	£264.00
Sevenoaks District Council	Refuse Freighter	£187.20
Fordcombe Village Hall	Hall Hire	£56.00
RIP Cleaning Services	Dog Waste Removal	£76.80
Lee Jenner Garden Services	Lengthsman	£225.00
Oast and Oak Services	Churchyard Maintenance Peshurst	£1040.00
	Fordcombe	£735.00
664 M&C Electrical Contractors	Defibrillator Electrical Installation	£172.50

a. Precept: This had been circulated to members for consideration and discussed at the previous meeting. No further items were reported for expenditure therefore Cllr Campbell proposed that the Precept be approved, Cllr Rees seconded and it was unanimously agreed to approve. ED to action.

b. 2018 Meeting Dates: The following dates have been confirmed: **Fordcombe:** 5 March, 8 May, 2 July, 3 September, 5 November - start time 7.30 pm. **Peshurst:** 5 February, 3 and 16 April (16 April Annual Parish Assembly), 4 June, 6 August, 1 October, 3 December - start time 7.45 pm.

c. Bus Shelters: ED had obtained an estimate from the PC contractor for repairs and preventive work to the bus shelters ie broken slat on one of the seats, squirrel roof damage and roof treatment, this was given as £375.00. This was agreed

9. CORRESPONDENCE: General information provided by SDC and other organisations via email circulated to members

a. Kent Police: Confirmation received that PCSO Laura Morris is being transferred to Swanley, PCSO Simon Humphreys would be taking over the area when she leaves.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Community Infrastructure Levy: Options on eligible items of expenditure were discussed.

b. Chafford Weir: No further information available.

Meeting concluded 8.25pm

Next Meeting 4 December 2017