

MINUTES

COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL

on Monday 12 October 2015

The Library,

St Margaret's School, Collier Street.

Attendees: Cllr Grandi (Chair) Cllr Goff (Deputy Chair); Cllr Barham; Cllr Sandys; Newly Co-opted Cllrs Fisher; Hill and Walker (joined fellow Councillors (following their adoption under agenda item 09.15.03) Clerk Alan Crocker; Hilary Reeve joint editor, Village News; and 2 members of the public.

10.15.1. Apologies	None							
10.15.2. Declarations of Interest	None							
10.15.3. Proposals for Formal Adoption of New Councillors	Following extensive interviews a proposal to adopt Cllr Fisher; Cllr Hill; and Cllr Walker was proposed by Cllr Barham and seconded by Cllr Goff and unanimously agreed.							
10.15.4 Police Report	<p>Mention of dog cage theft – spoke to local resident, picture received, 101 advice given to report</p> <p>Looking to arrange an equine crime prevention event</p> <p>Reports received of speeding motorbikes – Sundays – email sent to Specials Co-ordinator – looking to arrange checks for area on Sunday mornings</p> <p>Recent email to Councillors re vehicles speeding outside the school, email sent to CPT officers for possibility of checks with speed gun.</p> <p>Cllr Grandi briefed the meeting on the incidents at St Margaret's School whilst the children were being conveyed on foot to Church for the Harvest Festival. PCSO Nicola Morris agreed to visit the school in an attempt to obtain further information in an attempt to identify the speeding drivers. These could have so easily have turned into serious road accidents. Nicola was going to obtain dates for future events and would arrange for support for the school in an endeavour to prevent a reoccurrence.</p>	PCSO Nicola Morris						
10.15.5. The Minutes were unanimously approved as representing an accurate recording of the said meeting.	06.15.4.1 - Minutes of Full Meeting – 14 September 2015							
10.15.6. Questions from Members of the Public	Hilary Reeve raised issue with our contractor cutting the verge on the Benover Road. This matter had been raised with them but they had not been able to take action owing to heavy commitments. They have promised to address the issue as soon as possible.							
10.15.7. Issues/ Correspondence Requiring Action	<table border="1" data-bbox="553 1335 1230 1383"> <tr> <td>Maidstone Borough Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation 2015</td> <td>Document received with comment paper</td> </tr> </table> <p>Cllr Grandi agreed to study the document and report back to Council. She would also arrange for the report to be circulated to other Councillors for comment in order that we would be able to report back by the end date of the consultation.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="553 1499 1230 1572"> <tr> <td>Transparency Fund for Smaller Authorities – Funding Application</td> <td>The Clerk has received the form electronically. The form requires the approval of the Council.</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Clerk sought the approval of Council to complete the funding application, seeking reimbursement of the costing of this legislation imposed by Government. The Clerk received unanimous agreement.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="553 1688 1230 1736"> <tr> <td>KALC AGM meeting documents etc.</td> <td>To KALC representatives Cllrs Grandi and Goff.</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Clerk distributed the KALC documentation.</p>	Maidstone Borough Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation 2015	Document received with comment paper	Transparency Fund for Smaller Authorities – Funding Application	The Clerk has received the form electronically. The form requires the approval of the Council.	KALC AGM meeting documents etc.	To KALC representatives Cllrs Grandi and Goff.	
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10.15.8. Flood Committee Report	To follow	Lead Councillor David Goff						
10.15.9. Recreation Field Report	To follow	Lead Councillor David Goff						

<p>10.15.10. Community Safety Issues</p>	<p><u>Community Safety and Highways Report for October 2015</u></p> <p><u>Highways</u> Following the last Parish Council Meeting I emailed our Highways Steward to ask if attention could be given to the possibility of painting white lines along the edges of the lanes to clearly mark that vehicles should not go beyond them, thus protecting the verges from further erosion. I also passed on concerns from residents that the highway repairs along the B2162 in Collier Street are of poor quality and some pot holes appear to have been left unrepaired. Unfortunately I have not received a reply. Subsequently I passed on a request from a resident that verges along Longend Lane be cut and that all pot holes down that Lane should be marked up for repair as many pot holes have been highlighted but some appear to remain unmarked.</p> <p>Yalding High Street was due to be closed for repairs from October 5th but bad weather hampered the works.</p> <p><u>Faults Reported to KCC/MBC this month</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Nothing to Report</u> <p><u>Neighbourhood Watch (information circulated):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is to be an Equine Crime Prevention Event at Thurnham on the evening of October 19th. Horse owners will be able to meet Kent Horse Watch members, rural crime officers and suppliers of security equipment. They may also have saddles security marked for a small fee. There is a possibility that a similar event could be held in Collier Street. • A man was caught on camera stealing from Oakapple Farm Shop on Sunday 13th September. He returned later in the day but was seen and chased to Horsmonden Horse Fair where he was apprehended and made to pay for the produce he had stolen earlier. • Residents along the Benover Road have complained of recurring noise from speeding motorbikes along the B2162, they are particularly annoying on Sundays. I have asked PCSO Nicola Morris for assistance and hope that some Special Police Officers will respond to her request for action. • Two big black Alsatian type dogs have been seen roaming among gardens of properties along the Northern end of the B2162 in Collier Street at night. It has been reported to the police via PCSO Morris. <p><u>Loose Horses</u> Loose horses were led to safety by a resident on her way to work on October 1st when they were found on the road by Mockbeggar.</p> <p><u>Speeding</u> There were two very dangerous incidents when speeding cars almost collided with pedestrians outside the Primary School when the children went over to the Church for their annual Harvest Service on Friday October 9th. We will be asking Speedwatch Coordinator Guy Rollinson to see if there are any nearby locations suitable for Speedwatch teams to set up on days when the school need to cross the road for events.</p> <p>We will also chase up the planned Kent Highways Scheme which was compiled by Elaine Hendren earlier in the summer term. This scheme will increase road safety outside the school and is to be part funded by Highways, Cllr Paulina Stockell, the Parish Council and the schoolchildren themselves through a sponsored sporting event.</p>	<p>Report from Lead Councillor Barbara Grandi</p>
<p>10.15.11. PLANNING</p>		<p>Lead by Councillor Barbara Grandi</p>
<p>10.15.11.1 15/504905/Full St Margaret's House, Green Lane, TN12 9RS Retrospective application for the insertion of hard standing and replacement shed.</p>	<p>The Council discussed this application at length and would wish to make the following points:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is the incorrect address as St Margaret's House is occupied by Mr Pound and this is part of the old garden that was sold by the previous owners of St Margaret's House. The location drawing makes it look like it is just a relatively small scale shed in the large garden of St Margaret's House, this is misleading. 2. This is not a shed as the drawing clearly shows it is part brick because they have added it to the old Church perimeter wall and the wall that comes off at right angles. 	

	<p>3. The building is not acceptable because there is no gap between it and the boundary wall.</p> <p>4. The boundary wall is thought to be listed and should therefore not be touched.</p> <p>5. The guttering overhangs into the neighbouring property and this is not acceptable.</p> <p>6. The building is far too large for a shed on a plot of land that does not have planning permission.</p> <p>7. Neighbours have seen washing on a rotary line outside this building and this indicates the owners of the land are attempting to live there and use the building for that purpose.</p> <p>8. Was there a shed here previously? The application claims there was. If so how big was it? A drawing should be submitted with evidence there was a shed there before.</p> <p>9 The application is also retrospective permission for the hardstanding, the boundary plan shows the extensive amount of hard standing the new owners have put into this previously green plot. Was there actually a previous wide strip of existing hard standing as claimed by the current owner? This seems unlikely for a section of rear garden.</p> <p>10. The letter of Application is incomplete, in particular it does not specify the materials used for the walls or the door of the building.</p> <p>11. This is yet another misuse of the planning system, the owner has purchased a piece of rear garden and is attempting to build on it by gradually covering it with hardstanding and buildings without permission. Retrospective planning permission should therefore not be given and the building and hardstanding needs to be removed to permit the original grass and garden beds to be reinstated particularly as this is a sensitive location next to a cemetery and attached to the historic boundary wall of the adjacent village church.</p>																					
<p>10.15.12 Council approved the following spends</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>DATE</th> <th>CHEQUE NO</th> <th>PAYEE</th> <th>AMOUNT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>12.10.2015</td> <td>ET000053</td> <td>The Clerk</td> <td>457.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12.10.2015</td> <td>ET000054</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>06.10.2015</td> <td>ET000052</td> <td>CDA (Car Park Signage)</td> <td>£319.81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12.10.2015</td> <td>ET000055</td> <td>PKF Littlejohn (Auditors)</td> <td>£120.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	DATE	CHEQUE NO	PAYEE	AMOUNT	12.10.2015	ET000053	The Clerk	457.04	12.10.2015	ET000054	HMRC	100.00	06.10.2015	ET000052	CDA (Car Park Signage)	£319.81	12.10.2015	ET000055	PKF Littlejohn (Auditors)	£120.00	
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<p>10.15.12.01. Monthly Reconciliation Report of Accounts 2015-16 and for budget monitoring/control.</p>	<p><i>The monthly account reconciliation was forwarded to all Councillors electronically. No issues were raised.</i></p>	<p>The Clerk and Lead Councillor Steve Barham</p>																				
<p>10.15.12.02 External auditor report. Year ending 31 March 2015. (PKF Littlejohn on behalf of the Audit Commission)</p>	<p><i>'On the basis of their review of the annual return, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with the proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant regulations and regulatory requirements have not been met. Two minor issues not affecting their opinion will be reported to the Full Council' and following approval by the Full Council the year end accounts will be published on line.</i></p> <p><i>Council complimented the Clerk on this report.</i></p>																					
<p>10.15.12.03 APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL SPENDS</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Association</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>None</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Association	Amount	None																		
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<p>10.15.13 Items carried forward</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Village Party Event linked with FOCSS Pet Show June 2016</td> <td>Lead Cllr David Goff</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Chairman is to write to FOCSS in an endeavour to seek their views of this proposal and Council agreed to carry forward the discussions to the next meeting.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Investigate higher speed Broadband to Collier Street.</td> <td>Way forward</td> </tr> </table>	Village Party Event linked with FOCSS Pet Show June 2016	Lead Cllr David Goff	Investigate higher speed Broadband to Collier Street.	Way forward																	
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	The Chairman is to seek clarification from contacts at KCC and local parishes who are progressing HSBB as to who holds the portfolio for bringing High Speed Broadband to rural locations. Once established Cllrs Sandys and Barham will then progress the matter.	
10.15.14 Borough Councillors Report	No attendance by Borough or County Councillors	
10.9.15.15 Village Hall	Report to follow	Lead Councillors David Goff Steve Barham
10.15.16 Matters for Discussion next Meeting	Council agreed that they will hold a business meeting on Monday 14 December followed by a light buffet to celebrate the festive season.	
10.15.17 Date of Next Meeting	9 November 2015	

Agenda prepared by:-

ALAN CROCKER

Clerk to Collier Street Parish Council