

# MINUTES

Full Meeting of the  
**COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL**  
 on Monday 14 September 2015  
 St Margaret's School, Collier Street  
 Commencing at 7.30pm

**Attendees: Cllr Grandi (Chair); Cllr Goff (Vice Chair); Cllr Sandys, Clerk Alan Crocker, Hilary Reeve, joint editor Village News; 3 members of the public.**

09.15.1. Apologies	Cllr Barham	
09.15.2. Declarations of Interest	None	
09.15.3. Proposals for Formal Adoption of New Councillors	Following the interviews for newly co-opted Parish Councillors as we now have had a further applicant and in fairness to all, the meeting decided to see all applicants prior to making a final decision. It is hoped that all applicants that have shown a willingness to contribute to the community can either become Councillors when the final decisions are made or alternatively members of sub-committees of the many areas of Parish Council responsibility.	
09.15.4 Police Report	<p>Crime:</p> <p>13<sup>th</sup> Aug – Haviker St – Burglary other than dwelling – garden equipment stolen from shed</p> <p>12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Aug – Haviker St – Burglary other than dwelling – damage caused to padlocks on shed – Stihl leaf blower stolen</p> <p>12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Aug – Haviker St – Burglary other than dwelling – shed and garage entered – Stihl chainsaw and other items stolen</p> <p>12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Aug – Haviker St – Attempt Burglary other than dwelling – window removed from shed to gain access</p> <p>12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Aug – Collier St – Burglary other than dwelling – locks cut on shed fishing equipment stolen</p> <p>10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Aug – Collier St – Burglary other than dwelling – shed entered – chainsaw, hedge trimmer and petrol strimmer stolen</p> <p>12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Aug – Collier St – Criminal Damage – lock smashed off garden gate to gain access to gardens</p> <p>21<sup>st</sup> Aug – Haviker St – Theft – gates to driveway stolen</p> <p>Email was sent out straight away through local neighbourhood watch regarding the breaks. I managed to get hold of most victims and visited, crime prevention advice given.</p> <p>CSI attended at the time and I believe they took some prints from drawers within sheds.</p> <p>We received some details about suspicious vehicles seen within the area, I fed these vehicles into our Intel unit.</p> <p>Advice given regarding serial numbers, important to record these as quite often we recover items and cannot return them to owners as we don't know who they belong. I will bring some forms along to future coffee afternoons and advise. I have also put these dates onto Kent Police website.</p> <p>The Kent Police website has an 'is it yours link' where items found by Police are placed onto  <a href="http://www.kent.police.uk/appeals/is_it_yours/is_it_yours.html">http://www.kent.police.uk/appeals/is_it_yours/is_it_yours.html</a></p> <p>(PCSO Nicola Morris is on holiday until 23 September 2015).</p>	PCSO Nicola Morris
09.15.5. Subject to one amendment the minutes of this meeting were approved as representing an accurate recording of the said meeting.	06.15.4.1 - Minutes of Full Meeting – 13 July 2015	
09.15.6. Questions from Members of the Public	None	

<p><b>09.15.7. Issues/ Correspondence Requiring Action</b></p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Village Party Event linking with FOCSS Pet Show June 2016</b></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Lead Cllr David Goff</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>The Chairman will speak with FOCSS to ascertain if they are prepared to enter into a joint venture with the Parish Council proposal for a Village lunch or evening function contained within a marquee on the eve of the FOCSS event this upcoming year.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Investigate higher speed Broadband to Collier Street.</b></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Lead Cllr Barbara Grandi following a request for investigation by a parishioner.</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>The Chairman is to investigate several approaches to the above issue.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Direct 365.com Waste Disposal Contract Renewal</b></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Lead Cllr David Goff</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Cllr Goff, as Lead Councillor, has not been entirely satisfied with the service level from this provider and The Clerk is to investigate a potential change.</p>	<b>Village Party Event linking with FOCSS Pet Show June 2016</b>	<b>Lead Cllr David Goff</b>	<b>Investigate higher speed Broadband to Collier Street.</b>	<b>Lead Cllr Barbara Grandi following a request for investigation by a parishioner.</b>	<b>Direct 365.com Waste Disposal Contract Renewal</b>	<b>Lead Cllr David Goff</b>	
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<p><b>09.15.8. Flood Committee Report</b></p>	<p>Cllr Goff reported on the following issues:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is an envisaged delay in the modelling process for the New Scheme</li> <li>• Cllr Goff will be speaking at an event in November organised by the EA.</li> <li>• There are ongoing issues in Burton Lane and the lakes – Network Rail are to be involved.</li> <li>• UK Power Networks have cleared the ditch they blocked in Haviker Street.</li> <li>• Some of the ditched have been cleared down to the river from Green Lane.</li> <li>• There are still problems at the back of Pippens, there is a blocked ditch. Both landowners aware and they have referred to UMIDB</li> <li>• Power cable poles repositioned in Green Lane due to slippage into the ditch of UMIDB</li> <li>• Cllr Goff has had three meetings with Pat Burke and with Bill Axell. Good support and help</li> <li>• Jetting under Burton Lane and in Haviker Street by MBC in October/November</li> </ul>	<p>Lead Councillor David Goff</p>						
<p><b>09.15.9. Recreation Field Report</b></p>	<p>Mowing still ongoing, need action around new trees mown now. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that we change contractors in view of the poor service received from 365.com. The Clerk is to seek a refund for the missed collections and progress a new contract with a new contractor. Unfortunately we are still experiencing the loss of the supporting canes for the newly planted trees. The Clerk will progress the action issues.</p> <p>The bund on the Benover Road requires urgent attention.</p>	<p>Lead Councillor David Goff</p>						
<p><b>09.15.10. Community Safety Issues</b></p>	<p><b><u>Community Safety and Highways Report for September 2015</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Highways Roadworks</u></b></p> <p>The main B2162 roadworks were an absolute nightmare in the week beginning July 27<sup>th</sup>, particularly for the residents in Haviker Street as this badly planned diversion went ahead despite promises to the contrary from Highways. All traffic including lorries became snarled up along Haviker Street's narrow lane. Richard Emmett from KCC Highways rang me on Wednesday afternoon to say they had made mistakes because the revised diversion was not put in place from the start. He told me 'lessons had been learned'. The roadworks were completed by Thursday lunchtime.</p> <p><u>Haviker Street</u>- was closed for one day only on Monday July 27<sup>th</sup> for pot hole repairs.</p> <p><b><u>Faults Reported to KCC/MBC this month</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Flytipping</u></b> Cllr. Barham reported flytipping in Longend Lane on July 24<sup>th</sup>, building waste including an old bathroom had been dumped. It was promptly collected by MBC.</li> <li>• <b><u>Flytipping</u></b> On August 24<sup>th</sup> builder's waste was again dumped in Forge Lane, this time in two separate locations about 150 metres apart. MBC cleared it quickly but a lot of small pieces of plasterboard etc. were left on the grass verges.</li> <li>• <b><u>Flytipping</u></b> On August 26<sup>th</sup> two loads of horse manure were dumped in Forge Lane, they were promptly cleared by MBC.</li> <li>• <b><u>Flytipping</u></b> fence panels, builder's waste and a printer were dumped in King's Lane, MBC cleared it quickly.</li> <li>• <b><u>Flytipping</u></b> a large number of tyres were dumped in a field entrance along Spenny Lane, some were also in the drainage ditch. Farmer Stuart</li> </ul>	<p>Report from Lead Councillor Barbara Grandi</p>						

Highwood made sure the tyres were pulled out of the ditch and he reported the flytipping, they were quickly cleared by MBC.

- **Damaged Signs** The 30 mph sign by the car park and the flashing 20mph sign by the school were both knocked out of position and this was reported via the Highways portal.

**Neighbourhood Watch (information circulated):**

- A dead horse was dumped at the entrance to a field by the side of Forge Lane, this was reported by several distressed residents. Thankfully MBC removed the poor animal quickly.
- Boys were reported riding motor bikes on private land behind Church Farm, they were challenged by a resident and it was reported to PCSO Nicola Morris on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- A Mini key was found by a resident at the corner of Jarmons Lane and it was successfully reunited with the car owner after the details were circulated in a NHW email.
- Overnight on July 14/15<sup>th</sup> outbuildings to properties in Yalding and Laddingford were broken into, tools, materials and garden equipment were stolen.
- A resident of Benover Road advised that their garden furniture was stolen on 20th/21st July.
- Traveller caravan convoys have been moving around the area since mid-July and landowners were advised to make sure their land was secure.
- On August 12<sup>th</sup> two suspicious vehicles were reported by Yalding NHW: they drove into a farmyard off Lughorse Lane in the afternoon. One was a small white van with an orange light on top. reg. BT 12 JVH. Two males were inside. The driver got out and spoke to a resident, saying he was looking for his dog. He was 5 feet 9 or 10, late 20s and had short fair hair. The passenger was gaunt in the face and stayed in the vehicle. The second vehicle was a double cab pick-up in a pale blue grey colour with 62 in the number plate. Nobody got out and it was driven away when the resident looked in their direction. The police were informed.
- Overnight on August 13<sup>th</sup> there were several sheds and outbuildings broken into at the back of properties in Haviker Street and some properties on the main B2162 Collier Street that back on to the fields at Haviker Street. The police think the thieves came across the fields over night, they have taken chain saws, leaf blowers etc.
- **STOLEN GATES:** Between 11.15 and 17.15 on Friday August 21, a 6 foot long brown gate and a 2 foot pedestrian gate were stolen from a private driveway in Haviker Street, Collier Street. Residents were advised to make their gates as theft proof as possible by grinding down the bolt heads.

**A Police Incident**

On July 30<sup>th</sup> residents contacted me to report a police incident at the junction of Den Lane Jarmons Lane Benover Road, they were woken by the police at 4.00 am after a man's body was found. The road was closed in both directions until about 9.30am. There was severe congestion around the area during the morning rush hour, with Forge Lane particularly affected.

It later transpired this was a suicide and the man was not a Collier Street resident.

**Speedwatch**

There were Speedwatch sessions on 4 consecutive Wednesday evenings in Yalding, Laddingford and surrounding parishes during the summer in an effort to deter the many motorbike and kit car racers that are tearing around in the evenings. Cllr Grandi and Mr Grandi ran sessions for four consecutive weeks near The Woolpack on the Benover Road. Numerous vehicles were reported for travelling at speeds of more than 46mph in this 40mph zone, many were travelling in excess of 50 and several were over 65mph. Cllr Goff helped on two occasions and Mr Tippen helped on one occasion.

**Car Park /Recreation Ground**

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> a resident reported irresponsible driving in the Recreation Ground car park just before school home time at 3pm.

A white pickup truck containing two men drove at speed into the car park spinning round to stop by a white transit van where the passenger transferred to the van. The

	<p>pick-up sprayed the gravel around. This was reported to PCSO Nicola Morris and she completed a Police Intelligence Form.</p> <p>At the end of the School term there were traveller encampments moving around the local parishes and we decided to keep the car park locked, however we started opening the gates again on August 14<sup>th</sup> to give access to residents during the holidays. Unfortunately we had to start closing them again after warnings of a traveller group moving on from Cranbrook and Southborough on August 26<sup>th</sup>. This group then moved to two locations around Paddock Wood, there were reports that they were waiting for the Horsmonden Horse Fair on Sept 13<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>The new signs for the car park have arrived and should soon be in place. They warn car drivers that the gates will be locked in the evenings and inform the public that motor bikes are not permitted.</p> <p>Councillor David Goff is currently coordinating the Car Park Gate closure rota as Councillor Maureen Arthur has left the Parish Council.</p> <p>Staff from Collier Street's St Margaret's Primary School needed access to the car park at the beginning of September as construction works at the school were ongoing and the school car park was not accessible.</p>	
<b>09.15.11. PLANNING</b>		Lead by Councillor Barbara Grandi
<b>09.15.11.1</b> <b>15/505992/Full</b> <b>Scrapyard, Claygate Road, Yalding</b> Demolition of existing buildings and hardstanding. Erection of 2 detached dwellings with associated garaging, parking and turning areas. Submission of planting and landscaping scheme.	<p>The Chair of our planning committee has looked at this on line and there are a couple of issues we have with it, the main one being that the proposed properties are absolutely enormous and this leaves a minimal amount of land between them and the adjacent land and lanes. They plan to remove diseased oaks that are huge and replace them with very small saplings which will not give the necessary replacement screening. The architect has also ticked the wrong box as the site will not have a mains sewer. He therefore needs to give details of the proposed plans for removal of foul sewage There are also mistakes on the documents which include the wrong address referred to on the Soft Landscapes Works document which gives the address as Hayes Service Station, Hayes. We would welcome a site visit to meet with the developer/his agent in order to reassure us that the points raised will be considered/implemented and certainly prior to the decision being made by the planning authority at Maidstone. We will need more clarification prior to our decision/comments being formally submitted.</p> <p>The Agent has replied and is pleased to arrange a site visit.</p>	
<b>09.15.11.2</b> <b>15/506599</b> <b>1 Crow Plain Cottages, Benover Road, Yalding.</b> Listed Building Consent for the erection of two storey side extension, front porch, enlargement of existing ground floor window to front elevation, and external and internal alterations.	<p>The Parish Council takes a neutral stance on this application</p>	
<b>09.15.11.3</b> <b>15/505869/Full</b> <b>2 Moat Farm Cottages, Collier Street, Kent</b> Erection of first floor side extension, new entrance porch and alterations to remove existing porch	<p>We have looked at this on line. It is an extension that virtually doubles the size of the property. It is a semi-detached property and the size of the proposed extension does dwarf the property it is attached to. Also there are only 4 documents and there are no surveys at all! We are therefore unable to submit our meaningful comments with important information missing.</p>	
<b>09.15.11.4</b> <b>Seven Acres, Jarmons Farm, Jarmons Lane, Collier Street, Kent</b> Demolition of existing house and erection of new detached house and garage.	<p>As a Parish Council we had no issues with the previous application 15/503588 which MBC refused because: of 1. The increased ridge height compared to the current property and the height of the barn style open bay garage proposed on the site currently occupied by a plastic domed pool house. 2. Arguments about whether the current car port could be included in the calculation of current house size the EA must have made comments about the flooding issues. Our comments are: No24 in the letter of application- the Agent has ticked that the house is not visible from the adjacent road and this is incorrect, indeed the Design and Access Statement states the property is visible from the road in the Location section.</p> <p>The proposal for the new dwelling is much the same as the first proposal 503588 and is much more in keeping with properties in this part of Collier Street. It is brick built with red tile hanging and timber windows.</p>	

	<p>The old property is typical 1960s style and lacks any appealing characteristics, indeed there are lots of flat roof extensions and the layout inside is impractical. Following EA comments the architect has raised the new dwelling to meet their requirements and this has increased the height of the proposed new property but this is not an issue for me as it would still be lower than properties further down Jarmons Lane one of which is an oast house.</p> <p>The proposed new dwelling floor area is 84 sq m smaller (if you count the existing large car port) and although the EA requirements have led to it being 38 cubic metres bigger it covers less of the site than the existing property.</p>													
<b>09.15.12 Payments for Approval by the meeting</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>DATE</i></th> <th><i>CHEQUE NO</i></th> <th><i>PAYEE</i></th> <th><i>AMOUNT</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>14.09.2015</td> <td>ET</td> <td>The Clerk</td> <td>£482.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14.09.2015</td> <td>ET</td> <td>HMRC (Aug/Sept)</td> <td>£154.14</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>CHEQUE NO</i>	<i>PAYEE</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>	14.09.2015	ET	The Clerk	£482.77	14.09.2015	ET	HMRC (Aug/Sept)	£154.14	
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<b>09.15.12.01. Monthly Reconciliation Report of Accounts 2015-16 and for budget monitoring/control.</b>	<p>The reconciliation for 31 August 2015 together with updated electronic cash book was emailed to all Cllrs 14 September 2015.</p> <p>The meeting approved the reconciliation and update.</p>	The Clerk and Lead Councillor Steve Barham												
<b>07.15.12.02 APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL SPENDS</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>Association</i></th> <th><i>Amount</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Nil</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Association</i>	<i>Amount</i>	Nil										
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<b>09.15.13 Items carried forward</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Update on Broadband investigations</li> <li>❖ Update on discussion with FOCCS on the Village Event to be potentially held on the day/evening prior to the Dog Show/Fete - 2016.</li> </ul>													
<b>09.15.14 Borough Councillors Report</b>	No attendance. It was agreed that minutes of the Parish Council meetings will be circulated to the relevant Borough and County Councillors.													
<b>09.15.15 Village Hall</b>	Cllr Goff is currently working on a lengthy justification document for the new Village Hall build. The meeting thanked his for his efforts	Lead Councillors David Goff Steve Barham												
<b>09.15.16 Matters for Discussion next Meeting</b>	See 09.15.13													
<b>09.15.17 Date of Next Meeting</b>	12 October 2015													

Minutes prepared by:-

**ALAN CROCKER**

Clerk to Collier Street Parish Council