



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ABOVE THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2022, STARTING AT 7.30PM**

001/23 To record those present and accept any apologies.

Those present, Councillors; S Wilson – Chairman, N Fish, R Dougill and R Simpson
Also present were Cllrs M Bates, O Richardson, and S Manion – District and County
Councillors, 2 members of the public the PC Clerk.

Apologies were received from D Poppe, C Morris, M Dechamps and M Eddy and were
accepted

**002/23 to Note any Declarations Pecuniary Interest (DPI), Other significant Interests
(OSI) or any voluntary Interests.**

None were declared

003/23 To note/agree and sign the minutes of the December meeting

Having been previously circulated, the minutes were agreed, but due to the printer running
out of ink could not be printed for signing; this will take place later.

**004/24 Open session for members of the public to ask questions on items on the
agenda.**

Members of the public raised the following issues;

- 1 The number of rats appear to have increased considerably, it was noted that if people feed
the birds it does encourage rats if they put too much out and it is not all eaten. It was also
noted that there is som-one putting what appears to be bird feed in one of the layby in ? road.
The Environment department have visited and have advised that the feeding of birds stopped.
2. A suggestion that the PC looks at developing a Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) was made, it
was noted that while this was a good idea, it can take a long time and needs a lot of input.
There are also various stages that to be passed, and an a referendum has to take place of
the parish.

005/25 Reports by District and County Councillors

Cllr Manion stated:

- He feels that 2023 will get even tougher
- Even with KCC putting the budget up by 5% but with the inflations at 10% there is still
a gap.

- Work with the NHS is taking place
- Restructure of the KCC is required to ensure savings and becoming more green may save money in the long term

Cllr O Richardson

Stated that

- Dover District Council (DDC) is launching a district wide housing survey
- This will give the district the chance to know where affordable housing is required.
- And it also give some weight to the planning authority when developers try to reduce the number of affordable properties in their developments.
- 15 north Road – chased up head of planning
- DDC in negotiations with agents

Cllr M Bates Stated

There is a Community service, household support funding scheme, this for people that are vulnerable and live in Kent, it runs to from 31st march. There are vouchers that can be given to people, for things like electric, etc.

He will send the detail out to the Clerk by email.

006/26 Finance

a) To note the items for payment & agree, and to ratify those already paid.

Having been previously circulated the list as shown was **agreed**

To	Reason	Gross amount	How paid
Croner	Invoice C000622140	£184.94	SO
Plusnet	Invoice 00005342616-20 Phone & internet	£40.01	DD
HSBC	Bank charges	£10.00	DD 21/12/2022
Castle Water	Bill Number 8152705	£5.00	DD 05/01/2023
Centrewire	Invoice O/P 1026112	£2,061.60	Bacs
L Hedley	Reimbursement Office set up and post	£176.75	Bacs 22/12/2022
Cascade	Ink for Councillor's printer	£97.92	Bacs 22/12/2022
	White copier paper	£29.99	Bacs 22/12/2022
Various	Staff & costs.	£1,655.00	Bacs 05/01/2023
Vision ICT	Invoice 15680 Biennial fee for website name	£78.00	Bacs 22/12/2022
L Hedley	Reimbursement office stuff	£480.24	Bacs

b) To discuss /agree the budget for the year 2023/24.

A detailed debate took place, where it was finally agreed that the budget for the coming year will be **£77,090**

The Clerk reported that she had completed her investigations with regards to the Shepherd Neame lease and the outstanding payments have been agreed, however there has been no decision on what should happen during the pandemic shut down. After a discussion it was

agreed that this would not be waived given that the Zetland Arms had been providing takeaway meals which had been very successful.

c) To discuss/agree the Precept for 2023/24

there then took place a lengthy debate on the Precept request; it was finally agreed that this should be £50,000

d) It was reported that the gates now delivered will be erected as soon as possible. For the two days' work to do this the costs will be just over £1,000. Which was agreed. In addition, as the machine too clear the area has to be hired for the day, it was further agreed to move the concrete posts as requested by the PROW office and clear the blocked path to the required three metre wide.

Proposed Cllr Fish and seconded by Cllr Dougill, all **agreed**

007/23 Planning

a) To note decisions made by the District Council

22/01587	Scout Camp The Avenue Kingsdown	Regulation 5 (The Electronic Communications Code (Conditions and restrictions) (Amendment) Regulations 2017) notification for the removal and replacement of 3no. antennas, installation of 2no. new equipment racks and associated ancillary works thereto 19-Dec-2022 PAN
22/01471	Walmer And Kingsdown Golf Club The Leas Kingsdown	Erection of extension to golf shop 21-Dec-2022 GTD

Noted

b) To note the applications as listed, consider, and agree any comments to be sent to the District Council.

22/01623	8 North Road	Erection of single storey rear extensions and rear dormer window. <i>The Parish Council objects to the application of the Dormer window – this being in an ANOB and has an article 4 for historical reasons. However they are happy to support the single storey extension</i>
22/01621	Popples Farm	Erection of a replacement stable block to include 4 stables, store, weaning box and WC (existing block demolished) <i>there are many concerns on this application, there is no change of use for class B8 or for equine use. No details of any impact investigations on neighbouring properties or users of the bridleway.</i>

		<i>No details of measurements of the proposed rebuild No details of any traffic management if approved on a bridleway and how people and horses will be kept safe. Given the lack of these and other areas that are not explained members wonder how the application could have been made 'valid' strongly object until a resubmission detailing all issues raised.</i>
22/01903	Twin Pines, Kingsdown Hill, Kingsdown,	Erection of a two-storey side extension incorporating balcony with railings to front, dormer roof extension with balcony to side, insertion of 4no. rooflights, garage conversion to residential accommodation and render to exterior walls
22/01723	31A Queens Rise, Ringwould	To fell a Sycamore tree. This was a late application. After the Clerk had explained Given the potential danger it was agreed to support the removal of the tree.

008/23 Correspondence

a) The list of items received were noted.

A query as to the KCC grant that Cllr Manion mentioned last month was raised, as there was a chance of getting an extension. The Clerk will contact Cllr Manion.

An email had arrived late afternoon from the Ramblers Association offering to help with the PROW, the Clerk was asked to find out what they were actually offering.

009/23 Clerks Report/update

The report having been previously circulated was **noted**

010/23 Matters of General Interest

(For councillors to highlight issues that do not require a decision or for items on the agenda

- The Quotes for the landscape work & grass cutting etc,) will be placed on the agenda for next month.
- Cllr B Simpson stated that this may be her last meeting as she is moving from the village, if she has not moved, she will attend in February.

011/23 Date of next meeting and close

- The Clerk highlighted that due to the elections and the Coronation of the King the Annual Council Meeting will need to be adjusted and it was agreed that this would be held on 15th May, subject to confirmation.
- The next meeting will be on 13th of February, there being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm