



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD IN RINGWOULD VILLAGE HALL
MONDAY 15th JAN 2024 7.00 PM**

001/24 To record those present and accept any apologies. – Present were Cllr Wilson, Cllr Deschamps, Cllr Meyerowitz, Cllr Stickles; two members of the public. Cllr Hogben absent due to health issues.

002/24 To Note any Declarations Pecuniary Interest (DPI), Other Significant Interests (OSI) or any Voluntary Interests. – Cllr Stickles declared interest in the discussion about new clerk **013/24**.

003/24 To agree to Cllr Hogben acting at Proper Officer, until such times as the replacement Clerk/Proper Officer is agreed. - deferred due to Cllr Hogben's absence. Appointment of new clerk is underway. Cllr Deschamps acted as clerk for the meeting. Cllr Deschamps undertook recording of the meeting solely to support minute taking, all in attendance gave consent. Typing of minutes was delegated to Cllr Deschamps.

004/24 To agree the following Minutes of the

- a) 12th December 2023
- b) 18th December 2023

Both minutes were agreed without

objections.

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

(This item will last for a maximum of 15 minutes, unless the chairman extends the time allowed.)

A member of the public wanted clarification re name of road connected with discussion on 18 December 2023. Cllr Wilson confirmed the issue is related to No Name Road not North Road.

005/24 Verbal Reports by District and County Councillors

Cllr Manion reported that the KCC is working on the budget for next year. Cllr Manion advised that he attended a meeting with Langdon Parish Council, and they were discussing A258. He recommended our council cooperate with other councils on this issue of shared concern.

Cllr Richardson reported that Bench Street carpark in Dover is closed permanently. Proposed parking charges for 2024/2025 from the Cabinet are going up, but the rural car parks have decided not to put charges up, but a review is expected during the next financial year.

Cllr Richardson reported that the Council received a report from an enforcement officer regards 15 North Road in Kingsdown. Further information is expected in the following weeks.

Boat ramp opposite Zetland's Arms in Kingsdown – The Sea Officer has reported this ramp cannot be used as it doesn't span far enough down the beach as opposed the other ramp by the beach huts. The car park by the Zetland's Arms obstructs the access to the boat ramp. Members of the public are encouraged to join Kingsdown Angling Club, as the access to the boat ramp opposite the pub cannot be improved.

006/24 Finance

- a) To note the items for payment & agree. To ratify those already paid The following were noted and agreed.

To	Reason	Gross amount	How paid	Vat
Ringwould VH	Hire of room for office	£220.00	DD 01/01/2024	0.0
HMRC	NI & IT Month 09	£306.00	Bacs 15/01/2024	0.0
Castle Water	Water Bill Allotments	£86.83	DD	0.0
HSBC	Bank charges	£14.00	DD	0.0
Staff	December pay	£1,223.68	Bacs 05/01/2024	0.00



St Johns Hall 25/01/204	Meeting	£37.50	Bacs 28/12/2023	0.0
31/01/2024	Meeting	£31.50	Bacs 28/12/20240.0	
Defib Reimbursement	Defib pads for 5 bells defib	£67.14	Bacs 28/12/2023	0.0
Staff	Reimbursement Electric Oct to Dec	£50.00	Bacs 28/12/2023	0.0
London Hearts	2 defibs	£1500.00	Bacs 28/12/2023	0.0
BT	Phone bill December	54.62	DD 27/12/23	9.40
ICO	Annual fee	35.00	DD 5/1/24	0.00
Harmer & Sons	Invoice Nov 23 Grass cutting 22508	£501.00		83.50
Harmer & Sons	Invoice Dec 23 Grass cutting 22626	£501.00		£83.50
Harrisons	Repairs to park equipmt, fence modifications for Defib at school	£274.14		0.0
Visionict	Website hosting and email	£210		35.00

- b) To note reconciliations for November and December – those were noted.
- c) To consider whether or not to continue supporting the District Council via a grant for the public toilets, or to consider Rwk PC taking them over – the item was deferred as we are still waiting for reply from DDC.
- d) To agree the Budget and the precept which will amount to £53,586.04 – The Councillors are not satisfied that the current budget and precept are yet complete to correct standards. Deferred to an extraordinary meeting on 23 January 2024, 20:00 at Ringwold Parish Hall
- e) To agree purchase of recording equipment and microphone system – Cllr Deschamps asked the item to be deferred as purpose and use of the equipment need to be discussed further. Cllr Deschamps asked for time to look for some advice from someone with technical knowledge on sound system for halls. Cllr Stickles suggested we might need PA system.
- f) To agree felling and removal of dead ash tree and fallen tree in recreation ground at Ringwold, also removal of overhanging vegetation at the bottom of the allotment – Cllr Wilson explained a tree came down in early November, children play on the tree putting themselves in danger and the matter was brought to the council. Cllr Deschamps proposed the council proceed with the removal of both, Cllr Wilson second, Cllrs Stickles and Meyerowitz voted in favour. Cllr Wilson -action

To agree to continue with Croner HR at reduced rate or look at Worknest quote as HR support will be needed when new Clerk recruited. – The councillors looked at both quotes, Cllr Meyerowitz advised that Cllr Hogben agreed a better deal with Croner-i. Cllr Wilson proposed we stay with Croner-i, Cllr Deschamps second this. Cllrs Stickles and Meyerowitz voted in favour.

- g) To agree additional costs for electrician of up to £200 to fit defibrillator at Kingsdown School – Cllr Meyerowitz advised that the parish maintenance man, school premises manager and maintenance man attended a site meeting. They assessed that the initial plan to fit the defibrillator on the gate post was not feasible in terms of electrical supply; not going to work as the wiring is not efficiently placed. They suggested they run a new wire from the mobile classroom, which will occur charge of £200. The proposed electrician is AED subcontractor, which works better as the AED technician, and the electrician will work together. The provisional date of the fitting of the defibrillator is 2 March 2024 as the school need to be closed during the process. Cllr Meyerowitz expressed special thanks to the premises manager of the school as he has been very helpful during the process. – Cllr Wilson proposed we proceed with the payment, Cllr Meyerowitz second it Cllrs Stickles and Deschamps voted in favour.



007/24 Planning (List to be circulated prior to the meeting)

b) To **note** decisions made by the District Council – those were noted.

a) To **note** the applications as listed, **consider, and agree** any comments to be sent to the District Council.
– planning application 23/01428, Land corner of Northcote Road and Bayview Rd, Kingsdown CT14 8EH was discussed. Cllr Stickles reported that the application for the same property was filed in 2022, Cllr Wilson advised the council objected to the previous application. Cllr Deschamps commented the barn is situated outside the village development area is in an area of outstanding natural beauty and is in a site of special scientific interest. Cllr Meyerowitz referred to one objection which captured this same point and advised that there were a number of objections from people who visit to walk in AONB. Cllr Deschamps proposed to object, Cllr Stickles second it, Cllrs Wilson and Meyerowitz voted in favour. Cllr Deschamps to write an objection. Action Cllr Deschamps.

008/24 Neighbourhood Development Plan

To note the formal decision from Dover District council, grant funding awarded and future meetings and progress. - Formal position from Dover District Council was noted. A written report from Cllr Hogben was read. *The formal boundary designation was announced on the 21st December by DDC, we have been awarded a grant by the funding body Locality which we have accepted, we now have a meeting arranged to launch our plan on the 25th January in Kingsdown school hall at 7pm which all are welcome to attend.*

009/24 PROW update

Update on PROW – Cllr Deschamps advised the interest from the residents in establishing the concrete path to Kingsdown Woods continues. She proposed we file the application on 1 March 2024 giving residents time to do their statements of use of the path. Cllr Wilson seconded, Cllrs Stickels and Meyerowitz voted in favour.

010/24 No Name Road Update – Cllr Meyerowitz advised she had a meeting with residents who familiarised her with the issues, followed by a meeting with a solicitor, who gave detailed legal advice and outlined the options the council has. Cllr Meyerowitz proposed the Council discuss this further with the support of clerk and KALC.

011/24 Correspondence

a) To note received and forwarded since the last meeting. – The chair reported that emails from KALC and other parties have been forwarded to councillors for consideration. It was pointed out that Kingsdown Village Hall needs a representative from the Parish Council. It was noted that now the Council have not the capacity to appoint a representative. Apologies were sent to Ringwould Village Hall as the chair cannot attend their meeting.

Cllr Meyerowitz informed the council that she investigated the eligibility for a grant from KCC winter support scheme and she proposed the council proceed with a prompt application to support low-income houses with warmth and energy. Cllr Meyerowitz stressed that people in Ringwould in social housing struggle with the cold weather. Cllr Meyerowitz proposed to pursue a grant application. Resident stressed that Deal food bank have good resources and asked the council help encourage residents to reach out to Deal Food Bank if they are in need. Notes will be put on the Parish website and social media pages. Also, flyers will be put at the Neighbourhood Plan meeting.

Cllr Meyerowitz reported she has been in touch with engineer regards flooding at Back Street, Ringwould and this assessment of the issue is in progress.

b) To consider supporting the climate change and eco bill and agree any actions required. -deferred.

c) To note receipt of the June 2023 speed survey and update on Speedwatch. Cllr Meyerowitz reported that she has been in touch with KCC, and meeting will be held on 31 January 2024. Cllr Meyerowitz mentioned that Cllr Bates would be happy to support Speedwatch.

d) To note the Kent Resilience Forum information sessions and agree any actions required - Cllr Wilson reported the consultation on the draft Local Strategy opened on the 22nd of November 2023 and runs until the 30th January 2024. The consultation can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/localfoodrisk, where residents can add their views by completing the online questionnaire.



- e) Defibrillator update from Cllr Meyerowitz – Cllr Meyerowitz reported that one defibrillator was due to be installed at Queen’s Rise, Ringwould on January 18th and the other will be installed on 2 March 2024 in Kingsdown School.

012/24 Matters of General Interest

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

Cllr Deschamps proposed the council encourage people to join the council as at the moment there are only five councillors.

013/24 To exclude the public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, and Section 12a of the Local Government Act 1972, due to the sensitivity of the items to be discussed. Item was deferred.

014/24 To note the date of the next meeting – 19 February 2024, 19:30 at Ringwould Village Hall.

Signed

Chair

DRAFT