

## ALKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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### Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm

This meeting was held via Zoom under The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020 in force to allow local authorities to conduct meetings remotely.

Present: Cllr's: N Burrows– Chairman; M Hibbert; D Beaney; A Barrier; R Marczin-Bundy

Also present: I Bowie (Clerk); DDC Cllr J Rose

#### PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING:

To discuss, for a maximum of fifteen minutes, questions received by email from members of the public.  
The minute book was closed.

The drainage report prepared by Cllr Hibbert was received.

#### 1. Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

1.1 Apologies for absence received and confirmed by the Council.

*Members who cannot attend a meeting shall tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings, under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted.*

Apologies were received and the reason given accepted from Cllr T Prince and Cllr W Roberts; Apologies were also received from KCC Lymer and DDC Cllr Rose

1.2 Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests. There were none.

1.3 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda.

*In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers. There were none.*

1.4 Requests for Dispensations. There were none

1.5 Declarations of Lobbying. There were none

1.6 Recording of the Meeting

Legislation allows for meetings to be recorded by anyone attending. Persons who have concerns about being recorded should please speak to the Clerk.

#### 2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting:

**To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020 to be taken as read, and confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

It was RESOLVED that the minutes were taken as read and confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 3. Consideration of items to be taken in private ( Exclusion of Public and Press)

In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting by the reason of its confidential nature. It was RESOLVED that the public and press would be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of agenda item 6

#### 4. Finance:

4.1 To note Receipts of Income. It was noted that the interest of £1.73 was received.

4.2 To authorise Payments listed on the schedule (to be provided at the meeting). The Council RESOLVED for the accounts listed to be paid.

New Website Deposit	Web and Base	210.00
Invoice 17381	Harmer and Sons Ground Maintenance	195.60
Invoice 16649	Harmer and Sons Ground Maintenance	90.00
Invoice 16206	Harmer and Sons Ground Maintenance	270.00
Invoice 17439	Harmer and Sons Ground Maintenance	195.60
Larry Lambourne Strimmer Expense	Laurence Lambourne	64.38

It was RESOLVED to adopt the BT Telephone Box at Ewell Minnis. Clerk to progress

- 4.3 To confirm bank reconciliation. The bank reconciliation was presented and AGREED. The reconciled balance of all accounts was £53,972.68 as at 01/12/2020
- 4.4 Bus Shelter Grant Application. It was RESOLVED to apply to KCC for a grant for the building of a new bus shelter in Ewell Minnis.
- 4.4 To confirm the budget requirement and the setting of the precept for 2021/22  
It was RESOLVED to accept the budget requirement for 2021/22 of £13,138. It was RESOLVED to set the precept for 2021/22 at £13,138, representing a 2.13 % increase in the precept.

## 5. Planning:

- 5.1 To table planning applications received for consideration:
  - 5.2.1 20/01409 Hogbrook Farm Hogbrook Hill Lane Alkham CT15 7BU  
Change of use and conversion of existing outbuilding to dwelling, erection of a wall, single storey side extension and rear hydrotherapy pool, landscaping and associated parking (part demolition of outbuilding and wall). APC No Objection
- 5.2 To receive late planning applications and other late planning matters:
- 5.3 To table planning applications dealt with since last meeting
  - 5.3.1 20/01284 Malmain Farm House Slip Lane Alkham CT15 7DD  
Erection of detached three bay carport APC No Objection
  - 5.3.2 20/01104 Corton Alkham Valley Road Drellingore CT18 7EP  
Erection of a detached summer house APC No Objection
- 5.4 To table decisions by the Planning Authority since the last meeting:
  - 5.4.1 20/00571 Woodland East Of Wolverton Cottages Alkham Valley Road T15 7DS  
DDC Refused
  - 5.4.2 Upper Westhill Farm , Belsey Lane, Ewell Minnis , CT15 7DY  
DDC Approved

Part 2 Consideration of items to be taken in private (Exclusion of Public and Press) .In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting by the reason of its confidential nature.

- 6.0 Enforcement Matters  
An enforcement matter was raised. It was AGREED that the Parish Clerk would report this.

There being no further business to be conducted the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:55 pm

Signed : *Neil Burrows* Chairman

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021

### **Alkham Drainage Work Progress Updates – December 2020**

Latest work updates for submitted Alkham drainage fault reports to Kent Highways drainage department are as follows:

- 459519- Hogbrook Hill, drain and culvert adjacent Martin Vale blocked with silt, work completed. *This drain consistently gets blocked by leaves and debris and I have personally cleaned the top grid on a regular basis.*
  
- 459824- Meggett Lane – water off Alkham Valley Road missing drain located adjacent to St Cedric due to road camber. Water flooding bottom of lane with no drainage grip in place to ditch. *Job attended 27/10, but more work required to resolve problem.*
  
- Appeal to residents with drains adjacent to their properties to ‘adopt a drain’. During the periods with rain, have a quick check and if covered with loose debris sweep off. This will help tremendously and help stop flash flooding during heavy rain and thunderstorms.
  
- Good news following networking with Emma Burdett, KCC Land Drainage Engineer, and Ian Day, KCC Highways Drainage Engineer over the last few weeks. Clearance of the sump and the ditch running alongside the Village Hall is scheduled to take place in December, weather and ground conditions permitting plant work. Re-discovered KCC records show that this work was an agreement made following the floods of 2013/2014 that wherein highways would undertake a clearance on the section of the ditch next to the village hall and the sump area. However, the ditch will only be cleared under a courtesy agreement to help reduce highway flooding and subject to funding no more than once every calendar year, with any necessary further maintenance being the responsibility of the riparian owners – the exception to this would be the culvert running under the highway and the Sump at the outfall, which remains under perennial KCC maintenance for highway safety within the public maintainable area. Any requests for additional clearance in this area to be made via the Flood Warden.
  
- Recent reports received regarding flooding just past Everden Cottages and the AVR flood relief pipe by Newlyn’s (complete with photos) have been forwarded to Ian Day, KCC Land Drainage Engineer, who has confirmed that he passed the enquiry on to his support engineer for investigation. Thanks to Glyn and other residents who help me with my job, it is much appreciated, and helps to keep the community safe.
  
- Finally, in Oct, I attended flood warden training, hosted by the Environment Agency via Zoom, in conjunction with the Kent Resilience Team. I am now registered as the KCC flood warded for Alkham area. This will not substantially change what duties I currently personally undertake, but I will now be directly informed on any bad weather and flood alerts for the Alkham area. At the same time now officially being the registered first point of contact for flood emergency responders under the overarching Kent prepared emergency scheme.

Martin Hibbert  
Flood Warden  
10/12/2020