



Chevening Parish Council

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 6th January 2025 at 7.30pm
at the Pavilion, Chipstead Recreation Ground
Chevening Road Chipstead TN13 2SA.**

Present:	Mr N Williams	Chairman
	Mr J Firmager	Vice Chairman
	Mr A de Turberville	Councillor
	Mr J Eastwood	Councillor
	Mr J Jarrett	Councillor
	Mr J London	Councillor
	Ms J Nielsen	Councillor
	Mrs L Weavers	Councillor
	Mrs V Woodruff	Councillor
	Mrs J Hayton	Clerk
	Cllr M Alger	SDC
	Members of the Public	2

Apologies

Cllr S Robinson SDC

1. Apologies and Absences

All Parish Councillors were in attendance. The Clerk had received apologies from Cllr Robinson from SDC

2. Declarations of interest or lobbying

There were no declarations of interests or lobbying regarding items on this agenda that have not been notified previously

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 4th November 2024 previously agreed by email were formally resolved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record

4. Updates from KCC.

Cllr Chard was not present at the meeting to provide any updates or take questions from the Public

5. Updates from SDC

Cllr Alger raised the recycling bags for life. There will be smaller bags available for smaller homes and clear sacks are also currently available to buy from SDC. The Chairman confirmed that when he had canvassed his neighbours their responses had been largely positive.

Cllr Alger confirmed the Recycling consultation SDC are currently undertaking and encouraged everyone to share their views.

6. Questions from the Public

a) Lorries

The two members of the public were concerned about the number of HGV's which come into Chipstead village (especially when there are problems with M25/A25). Houses and cars have been damaged and the drivers often realise they cannot get through the High St and attempt to turn their HGV's in the Square to return down Homedean Road.

The Clerk had previously requested extra signage and was told the following by KCC:-

We have re-checked this area and confirm that there is ample signage in advance on the junctions as well as at the junctions advising users of the height (sic) restriction. Google maps confirms this also.

The Parish Council has put up two blue signs on the A25 to advise the road is unsuitable for HGVs and larger signs were requested

Bollards at the pinch point by Rivermere were suggested to reaffirm the width restrictions.

The Chairman will raise this with KCC to try and get them in place

b) Phone Box in Stairfoot Lane

The Chairman confirmed the Parish Council had registered to purchase the red phone box in Stairfoot Lane (& the one in Chevening) as BT are proposing to decommission the pay phones and the Parish Council would not want the boxes to be removed (see 13a)

c) Bessels Green Crossing

The traffic count at Bessels Green has taken place. The pedestrian crossing count was disappointing as only 13 people attempted to cross on the day the survey took place however it was felt that it was likely people crossed elsewhere as it is so dangerous. The survey took place on a Monday and a second survey on a Tuesday or Thursday may generate greater results as more people go into offices on those days. The Chairman had seen a video sent by a member of the public of schoolchildren trying to cross the road in heavy traffic. He requested another copy to forward to KCC Highways

d) Handrail on Footpath

A member of the public expressed thanks for the installation of the handrail on the section of footpath between A25 and the M25 slip road

7. Open Spaces

a) Open Space Inspection

Cllr Firmager mentioned a stile on the footpath from Chevening Church up to Knockholt was broken. Clerk will report it to KCC

Planters. The Chairman mentioned the planters and the fact they are not in a good state at the moment. He requested volunteers to completely clear each planter. The Clerk will get quotes from MDH and CJS Plants (who do Riverhead) to plant the planters with what they recommend for winter and summer

b) Playground Inspection

There are no issues with the playground – it remains well used despite the winter weather

8. Agreement of budget for 2025-6 and precept

Cllr Eastwood presented the budget for 2025-6 and recommended a precept of £75,000. The recommendation was unanimously resolved by the Council

9. Q3 Financial Review

Cllr Eastwood presented the Q3 review. He confirmed the Council was in good financial state and there were no issues or areas of concern.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Eastwood on behalf of the Council for all his hard work

10. VE Day Update

The Clerk confirmed there will be 3 further meetings until the planned celebration (the May meeting will be the Monday following the picnic)

The following are confirmed:-

Beacon Lighting 8th May 9.30 p.m. on Chipstead Green; Sunday 11th May Ian Fox will play music; Marquee booked; tables booked; Pirouni Greek food booked; Cllr Woodruff will sell tables

Cllr Nielson requested '40's style piped music, Cllr Weavers asked about a burger van – Cllr Firmager will send details to the Clerk to contact. It was felt the Bricklayers Arms would not have enough staff to provide a beer tent

11. Chipstead FC – request to treat worms on Recreation Ground

The Council were disappointed that this has been raised again by the Football Club. The Council believe that the ground maintenance previously undertaken by the Football Club no longer takes place (the ground was previously brushed and spiked weekly by the previous groundsman using the quadraplay) and this is causing the prevalence of worm casts which they are complaining about. Cllr Nielson asked about Chipstead Common and what treatment that had – the Clerk confirmed it had no treatment yet Amherst play on it regularly.

The Council unanimously resolved they would allow natural treatments on the ground only. The most common form of natural treatment is top sanding which the Parish Council has undertaken. The Football Club must resume the weekly spiking of the ground and brushing to remove the worm casts as this has always been their responsibility in maintaining the ground and they must continue to do it.

12. Correspondence Received and General Issues

Flooding

The Chairman gave the Council's formal thanks and appreciation to Peter Woodruff and the team of volunteers who have been out clearing the sluices in the exceptionally heavy rainfall we have been having.

Cllr Alger asked if Chipstead had sandbags. The Clerk confirmed there are sandbags available both from the Pavilion (sandbag store by the car park) and the Church Hall

Light up a Life

The Clerk advised she had received notification that the collection for Light up a Life raised £115 for Hospice in the Weald. Consideration will be given this year to potentially enable card payments

13. General Information and proposals for Future Agenda Items

a) Telephone Boxes

The Council briefly discussed the telephone boxes once they have been adopted by the Council. Cllr Nielsen requested the one in Chipstead be used as a library and defibrillators in both were seen as a positive move. The Clerk confirmed the phone box could easily accommodate both a defib and shelves for a book exchange

b) Parking

Cllr London is leading the working group on parking. The Clerk will co-ordinate a date for the working party (Cllrs London, Firmager, Nielson and Woodruff) in February

c) Otford Football Club – request to use the Recreation Ground

Otford Football Club have contacted the Parish Council to potentially use the Recreation Ground on Saturday afternoons and Sundays when it is not in use by Chipstead. The requirement is to find space for some of their girls teams (U15's) and will not impact the village in terms of volume of cars nearly as badly as the 6 pitches in use simultaneously during Saturday morning football

The Clerk was requested to invite Otford to the next PC meeting so they can explain their proposals

14. Finance

The payments for January were resolved and the Payments and Receipts for November and December were reviewed without comment

15. Planning Applications

- a) There were no current applications for consideration by the Council*
- b) The Applications granted or refused were reviewed.*

The meeting closed at 20.50

Payments and Receipts – November & December

22/11/2024	Lamb 416	£220.00
03/12/2024	CFC Pitch Hire 24	£3,070.00
03/12/2024	Football Club Pavilion Clean	£160.00
01/11/2024	Kent Cables	£30.00
05/11/2024	JGC Sportsturf	£3,600.00
05/11/2024	Judith Hayton	£1,080.45
05/11/2024	JGC Sportsturf	£1,040.00
05/11/2024	MDH Horticultural	£1,888.63
05/11/2024	MDH Horticultural	£398.46
05/11/2024	Judith Hayton	£418.59
05/11/2024	HMRC	£819.40
10/11/2024	Bank Charges	£7.50
14/11/2024	Octopus Energy	£80.41
18/11/2024	Castle Water	£70.54
25/11/2024	Valda Energy	£8.52
28/11/2024	Veolia Es Uk Ltd	£17.27
30/11/2024	Service Charge	£7.95
02/12/2024	Kent Cables	£30.00
03/12/2024	MDH Horticultural	£700.00
03/12/2024	Oliver Hoad	£101.05
03/12/2024	MDH Horticultural	£8.00
03/12/2024	Vicky - Cleaning	£120.00
03/12/2024	JGC Sportsturf	£1,040.00
03/12/2024	Oliver Hoad	£280.00
03/12/2024	TCPA	£114.00
03/12/2024	DRiPS	£20.00
03/12/2024	Fire Protection	£131.83
03/12/2024	SDC	£834.60
03/12/2024	Eureka	£300.00
03/12/2024	My Furniture	£237.60
03/12/2024	Victim Support	£100.00
03/12/2024	Samaritans	£100.00
03/12/2024	Judith Hayton	£891.91
03/12/2024	MDH Horticultural	£398.46
03/12/2024	Judith Hayton	£1,080.45
03/12/2024	HMRC	£819.40
03/12/2024	MDH Horticultural	£1,888.63
11/12/2024	Charges From 2024-10-22 To 2024-11-21	£7.50
18/12/2024	Octopus Energy	£133.07
18/12/2024	Castle Water Ltd	£8.44
24/12/2024	Valda Energy	£11.72
30/12/2024	Veolia Es Uk Ltd	£35.69
31/12/2024	SSE Energy Supply	£729.37

Unity Payments

1328	MDH Horticultural Services	Open Spaces	£1,573.86	£314.77	£1,888.63
1329	HMRC	Tax & NI	£819.40		£819.40
1330	J Hayton	Salary	£1,080.45		£1,080.45
1331	MDH Horticultural Services	Gang mowing	£332.05	£66.41	£398.46
1332	J Hayton	Expenses	£430.74		£430.74
1333	JGC Sportsturf	Cricket Square	£866.67	£173.33	£1,040.00
1334	SDC	Emptying bins	£695.50	£139.10	£834.60

Signed as a true record

3rd February 2025

Planning Decisions					
24/02497/HOUSE	109 Chevening Road Chipstead Kent TN13 2SA	Part single, part two storey rear extension	No objection	Jason	Granted
24/02609/HOUSE	Crofters Mead 16 Witches Lane Riverhead Kent TN13 2AX	Single Storey Side Extension	Objection due to Loss of Light and Overshadowing	Allan	Granted
24/01414/FUL	14 Springshaw Close Bessels Green Kent TN13 2QE	Subdivision of existing plot and erection of a detached dwelling with associated access and landscaping.	Over development and the impact on the street scene, particularly the terracing effect. It is far too big for the size of the plot. It will also impact on the sun reaching the neighbours gardens. The Parish Council is not convinced there is sufficient provision of off-street parking.	James	Granted
24/02522/HOUSE	Ragstones Chipstead Lane Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2RF	Removal of cement rooftiles and replaced with slate tiles	No objection	Jamie	Granted
24/02813/HOUSE	1 Woodfields Chipstead Kent TN13 2RA	Demolition of existing front porch, rear extension and side extension to be replaced with new front porch, new single-storey side extension and new rear single storey extension. Internal alterations. Installation of rooflights.	No objection	Nigel	Granted