



# Chevening Parish Council

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council  
held on Monday at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 at 7.30pm  
at the Pavilion, Chipstead Recreation Ground Chevening Road Chipstead TN13 2SA.**

Present:	Mr N Williams	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 N Chard	KCC
	Members of the Public	0
Apologies	Mr J Firmager	Vice Chairman
	Cllr M Alger	SDC
	Cllr S Robinson	SDC

## **98 Apologies and Absences**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Firmager and duly accepted by the Chairman. Cllr's Alger and Robinson from SDC also sent apologies

## **99 Declarations of interest or lobbying**

There were no declarations of interests or lobbying regarding items on this agenda

## **100 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 previously agreed by email were formally resolved and signed by the Chairman as a true record

## **101 Updates from KCC.**

Cllr Chard provided updates on 3 issues and the took questions from the Councillors present

### ***Covers Farm***

Covers Farm will be heard on 15<sup>th</sup> July (unless anything unforeseen occurs) with the Officers report published on 5<sup>th</sup> July. This gives a working week and 2 weekends to consider the report and make any comments on it. Westerham Town Council are co-ordinating the opposition to the proposal and are meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July . Cllr Chard suggests the best course of action is wait until the publication of the report and prepare any comments based on that report. Unfortunately the impact of traffic – although significant and long lasting for the surrounding towns and villages is not regarded as significant in planning consideration terms. He believe the decision will hinge on water and water quality which has always been the main problem to overcome for the developers

### ***Bessels Green Crossing***

The proposal is going through the assessment process with KCC. They are looking at different locations, at the Green itself which does not appear to be workable because of the sight lines, and further towards Westerham on the A25 near the current bus stops at Chipstead Corner. Cllr Nielsen requested that if it goes ahead a traffic light controlled crossing would be much safer than

a standard zebra crossing. Cllr Chard confirmed his commitment to the crossing and has offered some of his members grant towards it

#### ***Chipstead Lane Riverhead***

This is still being considered as the two District Councillors for Riverhead and Riverhead Parish Council are keen to find a solution. Cllr Chard was pressed on the fact that the decisions being made are Riverhead Parish and Councillors only and not all the affected parishioners in the adjacent roads whose views do not appear to matter. Cllr Chard stated this is the only item of Riverhead PC's Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) and therefore a solution must be found. The Councillors agreed it was very fortunate the "trial" didn't go ahead given that Bullfinch Lane will be closed for 45 days over the summer

#### ***Other issues raised***

Cllr Chard confirmed he would chase Nigel Rowe from Highways as he had not responded to the Clerk's emails concerning Chevening's HIP

Cllr Eastwood asked what the route for the No 1 bus would be taking during the duration of the road closure in Bullfinch Lane. Cllr Chard confirmed this was up to the company who ran the bus service to determine. The Chairman will contact Go-Coach to find out the proposed route

Cllr Eastwood also commented on the traffic lights on the London Road (by the Bullfinch). The last time they were in place they were only 2 way not 3 way lights which made it impossible to get out of Bullfinch Lane. Cllr Chard suggested Cllr Eastwood should ask the Clerk to investigate with Highways.

#### **102 Updates from SDC**

The SDC Councillors sent apologies and confirmed in writing there were no updates to provide.

#### **103 Questions from the Public**

There were no members of the public in attendance

#### **104 Open Spaces**

##### ***Planters***

Unfortunately the company who water the planters for 3 local councils are unable to take on any more commitments. The Clerk has purchased water butts to go on the plastic downpipes at the Pavilion and can water the planters when replenishing the dog bags. Cllrs Nielsen and Woodruff will visit Coblands to select the appropriate planting and purchase what is necessary

##### ***Camping in Chesterfield Drive***

There was an incident last week where there were campers overnight on the Green overlooking the lake in Chesterfield Drive. The Council resolved to keep the matter under review if it happened again and possibly amend the by-laws to prevent camping

##### ***Local Plan***

Cllr de Turberville asked the Chair (in his SDC capacity) the timescales for the production of the Local Plan. It will be presented to Development and Conservation Committee 11<sup>th</sup> July which means the draft plan will be made public the week before. Cllr Williams stated that it was better to have a plan in place to protect the rest of the green belt from the impact of any housing proposals by an incoming Government than not to have a plan in place at all. Cllr Williams acknowledged that it could be at least 2 years before the plan is finally agreed

##### ***Playground Inspection***

Cllr Jarrett mentioned the post next to the gate was loose. The Clerk mentioned the gate opens outwards to the car park, which seems unsafe as it is much easier for small children to push a gate open and get out into the car park than pull it. The Council resolved to repair the post and ask the handyman to reverse the opening of the gate if possible

#### **105 To resolve amended Financial Regulations following new guidance from ALC**

The Financial Regulations were reviewed, amendments agreed and formally resolved – proposed by Cllr London, seconded by Cllr Eastwood and unanimously adopted by the Council

#### **106 Q1 Financial Review**

Cllr Eastwood presented the Q1 Financial Review. He confirmed there were no issues. Cllr London commented that the "Open Spaces" numbers seemed over budget for the time of year. The Clerk

confirmed that under the “pay to play” model the income received was now in September for Cricket and December (for the calendar year) for football and therefore the numbers appeared low at this time.

#### **107 Bins.**

The Council resolved to buy a new double bin for Chipstead Green (with seagull flaps). The bin from Chipstead Green is to be moved to beside the bin at the bus stop on Chipstead Common and the bin under the trees by the football hut to be moved to the Barnfield Road corner, thus giving maximum opportunity for waste from the food vans to be disposed of.

#### **108 Recreation Ground Maintenance**

The Council resolved to vertidrain and apply sand to the football pitch to maintain the drainage. The football club to be advised so they can consider seeding the pitch after the work has taken place. The football club and cricket club will be asked at the next Pavilion meeting (15<sup>th</sup> July) to agree the best time for the work to be done – as the Contractor cannot mow whilst the sand is on the grass.

#### **109 Chipstead Common**

It was resolved to not charged Amherst School for Saturday football

#### **110 Highways**

Having received a “wish list” of enhancements to local roads from a parish neighbourhood watch group the Council resolved that all requests for new improvements need to be incorporated into the HIP and prioritised with all other items, given that KCC will look at a maximum of one per year. Cllr Nielsen mentioned the flashing speed sign the Council had requested for the A25 where traffic speeds off the slip road. It was resolved to ask our beat PC to go there with a radar gun to assess the number of speeding cars and the average speed to strengthen the request to KCC

#### **111 VE Day Celebrations**

The Council resolved picnic in the Recreation Ground on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May as the main focus for the celebrations. A beacon lighting is once again planned for the actual day (Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May). The Chairman will ask the Sea Cadets to attend and play the Last Post. He will also invite them to the Remembrance Day Service in November.

Cllr Woodruff will invite Batch 18 to the picnic.

Cllr Nielsen will invite a local band to play.

#### **112 Correspondence Received and General Issues**

Following a Request from a Parishioner for help with items to go to the tip, regrettably the Council is unable to help, but suggested they contact their road WhatsApp Group and hopefully a neighbour will be able to help

As there is no meeting in August the Council formally resolved to support the Dragon Boat Festival on August Bank Holiday by paying for the St John’s Ambulance to be in attendance

#### **113 General Information and proposals for Future Agenda Items**

**The following will go on the agenda for updates:-**

*Planters*

*VE Day Celebrations*

#### **114 Finance**

The payments for July were resolved and the Payments and Receipts for June reviewed See Appendix 1

#### **115 Planning Applications**

There were no applications for consideration by the Council

Application refused – See appendix 2

The meeting closed at 21.15

Payments and Receipts for June

	Unity - Opening Balance	£4,637.03
04-Jun-24	Musketeers	£189.60
04-Jun-24	Judith Hayton	£1,080.45
04-Jun-24	MDH Horticultural	£423.17
04-Jun-24	DRM Trees	£600.00
04-Jun-24	MDH Horticultural	£2,005.76
04-Jun-24	Judith Hayton	£136.15
04-Jun-24	SDC	£195.00
04-Jun-24	HMRC	£819.40
	Closing Balance	£6.90
	Santander - Opening Balance	£22,750.72
10/06/2024	Temple Jones 726	£635.00
21/06/2024	Goodman Nef 25	£580.00
04/06/2024	Kent Cables	£30.00
11/06/2024	Charges From 2024-04-22 To 2024-05-21	£7.50
14/06/2024	Octopus Energy	£56.47
19/06/2024	Castle Water Ltd	£6.26
24/06/2024	Valda Energy	£9.36
28/06/2024	Veolia	£34.54
	Closing balance	£23,821.59

## Payments to be made in July

Unity  
Payments

1250	MDH Horticultural Services	Open Spaces	£1,573.86	£314.77	£1,888.63
1251	HMRC	Tax & NI	£819.40		£819.40
1252	J Hayton	Salary	£1,080.45		£1,080.45
1253	MDH Horticultural Services	Gang mowing	£332.05	£66.41	£398.46
1254	J Hayton	Expenses	£279.64		£279.64
1255	Oliver Hoad	Handyman services	£139.00		£139.00
1256	V J Berry	Pavilion Cleaning	£60.00		£60.00
1257	JRB Enterprises	Poo Bags	£50.30	£10.06	£60.36
1258	Killick Cleaning & Maintenance	Window cleaning at Pavilion	£30.00		£30.00

Signed as a true record

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

<b>Planning Decisions</b>					
24/00481/HOUSE	28 Larkfield Road Bessels Green Kent TN13 2QJ	Installation of an air source heat pump	no objection, provided that the polices EN2 & EN7 of the Sevenoaks Allocations & Development Management Plan are met	Jason	<b>Refused</b>