



# Chevening Parish Council

Judith Hayton - Clerk

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 at 7.30pm  
at the Pavilion, Chipstead Recreation Ground Chevening Road Chipstead TN13 2SA.

Present:	Mr N Williams	Chairman
	Mr J Branton	Vice - Chair
	Mr N Clerk	Councillor
	Mr A de Turberville	Councillor
	Mrs L Weavers	Councillor
	Mrs V Woodruff	Councillor
	Mrs J Hayton	Clerk
	Mr J London	SDC
	Mr N Chard	KCC (via Zoom)
	Members of the Public	2
Apologies	Mr J Eastwood	Councillor
	Mr J Firmager	Councillor
	Mr J Jarrett	Councillor

### **134 Apologies and Absences**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Eastwood, Firmager and Jarrett and accepted by the Chairman

### **135 Declarations of interest or lobbying**

Cllr Weavers declared her interest in item 147c (when it was raised by the Chairman as a future agenda item) and took no part in the discussions.

### **136 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 26-9-22 previously agreed by email were formally resolved by the Council and duly signed by the Chairman as a true record

### **137 Updates from KCC.**

Cllr Chard updated on three areas

#### *Covers Farm*

Decision on this has been delayed once again and there is information required from the applicant and therefore it is in the applicant's gift as to when it is heard. The earliest date will be 7th December. The delay is on a number of technical issues but Cllr Chard stated that he would much rather the process is done properly than quickly and less well. He promised to advise the Council via the Clerk as soon as a date is known

#### *Buses*

Cllr Chard spoke about the school bus situation and thanked the Chairman for his contribution to getting key buses reinstated. Unfortunately the school bus is going through the village is not in KCC's gift, it is a commercial decision from the bus company as to which route they run their buses. However the bus services have thankfully been successfully reinstated and it has been a good team effort to get them to this position. He stated that he did not want to repeat the process next year

and there was clearly lots to improve in terms of buses and a lot of forward planning should have been done which wasn't. KCC should be able to do this better and he sincerely hoped they would do so next year. He confirmed that there has been some confusion between commercial bus routes and subsidised bus routes arising after the school bus situation. Subsidised bus routes those where KCC provide a subsidy for those routes (normally through isolated villages into main towns) which are currently not viable. The hope is that by maintaining the routes they are used more and more and then become commercially viable. However the budget constraints within KCC mean that these are being withdrawn but this is a completely separate issue to the school bus service

#### *Flooding In The Village*

After the recent rains Cllr Chard asked for an update on flooding issues in the village as he had not heard anything recently. Cllr de Turberville confirmed that in the recent heavy rainfall the water down Westerham Road was as bad as ever and he confirmed his kitchen had indeed once again flooded because of the volume of water. It was very heavy rain but any rainfall down Westerham Road seems to flood the drains and cause dangerous running streams of water on the main A25. Cllr Chard asked the Chairman if the Clerk could report the flooding issues to him and e-mail issues with any hotspots concerning the drains

#### *20mph in Sevenoaks*

Cllr London asked about the proposed 20 mile per hour limit in Sevenoaks town and how it was being funded. Although not in Cllr Chard's constituency he confirmed that the proposal did not indicate an easing of the purse strings from KCC. It was a local member proposed scheme which has no funding and the members fund is not sufficient to fund the proposal. To put the proposal together is relatively inexpensive but the implementation would be substantially more expensive. A 20 mile per hour limit in a small area of Westerham was successful but interestingly Tonbridge where the whole of Tonbridge was made a 20 mile per hour limit with public support has now been taken out as it has not improved safety and caused significant delays and traffic hold ups. Simply implementing the 20 mile zone does not necessarily add any safety benefits  
The Chairman thanked Cllr Chard and he left the meeting

### **138 Questions from the Public**

There were no specific questions from the public present

### **139 Open Spaces**

#### *a Open Space Inspection*

The Clerk confirmed that open spaces contractor had completed their requisite number of cuts for the year. Cllr de Turberville asked if they could confirm that they had continued cutting when the grass was very dry over the summer and Clerk would get their confirmation of that. The Council resolved that they wished for the grass cutting to continue at the current time because of the amount growth going on and the resultant problems with leaving the grass to grow from now until the Spring. The Football Club asked whether the Parish Council would pay for the leaves to be blown off the recreation ground. The Parish Council felt that this was something the Football Club could manage themselves rather than using Parish Council funds to do it

#### *b Playground Inspection*

There are no issues reported with the playground

### **140 Defibrillators in Chesterfield Drive.**

A request had been received from the residents of Chesterfield Drive to have two defibrillators positioned one of the beginning of the road and one down by the lake. The Parish Council debated whether to fund the defibrillators and the boxes as in total with installation this would be in excess of £4000 (plus the ongoing maintenance and energy costs). The concern is that by the time somebody reached the defibrillator and got back to whoever was having the problem unless there is someone doing CPR at the same time then having the defibrillator brings no benefit. The existing Parish Council defibrillators are on the open spaces owned by the Parish Council and therefore

where people are likely to be playing sports which is the most likely time for an incident to take place. The problem is also that allowing 2 defibrillators in Chesterfield Drive might mean that every road in the Parish would look to have at least one installed which would be hugely expensive both in terms of initial installation and maintenance (and taking it to its logical conclusion could potentially lead to a request of one per house which is not the Parish Council's role). The pads and batteries for the defibrillators also only last a number of years and then will need replacing. The Parish Council confirmed that they would happily help to facilitate the installation of the defibrillators including allowing the boxes to be powered from our street lights if the residents were minded to pay for the defibrillators and the boxes themselves

#### **141** *Standing Documents.*

The Parish Councils Asset Register and Insurance Cover were thoroughly reviewed by the Council and resolved as being appropriate for 2022/23. The Clerk confirmed that the solar panels had been added to the Asset Register and Insurance

#### **142** *Extending Footpaths.*

There is a meeting being held 2<sup>nd</sup> November to walk the footpaths which have been identified as appropriate for being made more safe

#### **143** *Warm Spaces.*

The Parish Council felt that the warm spaces initiative was more appropriate for buildings which are already open such as libraries rather than for the Pavilion which would require to be opened and heated specifically for that purpose. However, the Council felt the situation needed to be kept under review over the winter and if there was a requirement to provide a warm space the Council would move quickly to get it established

#### **144** *Planning Applications*

The Council resolved that email recommendations for planning applications received outside the timeframe for discussing them at Council meetings are only responded to if Councillors disagree with the recommendation. No response is taken as agreement to the recommendation

#### **145** *Christmas Tree*

Concerns have been raised by a parishioner about the state of the Christmas tree on Chipstead Green. The Parish Council resolved to have the grass taken away from around the tree, have it aerated and fertilised as soon as possible and again in the Spring. To dig the tree up and fertilise underneath it (as suggested) would potentially cause greater damage to the rootstock. Another suggestion was to remove that tree and plant a larger one. The advice the Clerk had been given from the nursery was that the only way to ensure a tree will grow is to plant a tree grown in a pot rather than one that has been grown and then dug up and the roots disturbed and therefore a 4ft tree is the largest which can be confidently planted.

#### **146** *Correspondence Received and General Issues*

##### *Highways*

The Clerk **confirmed** she continues to chase Highways on yellow lines for Old Carriageway, A21/A25/Westerham Rd junction & Chevening Crossroads. Cllr Weavers commented that once again there had been a very nasty accident at Chevening Crossroads. This was at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> this year where both ambulance and police had been called. Cllr London said he believed that the crash map data did not reflect that, and as it is usually taken from police attendance at the scene it should be accurate

**147 General Information and proposals for Future Agenda Items**

**a Draft budget will be prepared for November meeting.**

The Clerk confirmed that the potential election expenses for 2023 had already been noted together with the fact that the Councils five year energy contract for street lights comes to an end in May next year. The only other expenditure the Council could think of was a potential Street party to coincide with the Coronation

**b Transfer of Parish Archives**

The transfer has been delayed following the sad death of Katherine Draper. The Clerk confirmed that she had been in contact with Katherine Drapers daughter to organise the handover of the archives. An initial meeting to plan the handover was due to take place 1<sup>st</sup> November however following Katherine's sad death this has now been deferred at the family's request

The Chairman then paid tribute to Katherine Draper and all the work she had done for the village throughout her life, including the work creating the book "The History of the Parish of Chevening" was absolutely invaluable and her contribution to the Parish together with her time in the Parish Council was testament to her continuing desire to make the Parish a better place for everyone

**c Chevening Parkland**

The Chairman had just heard from the District Council that the appeal hearing for the Parkland planned development is likely to take place early next year but comments for the Planning Inspectorate need to be received by the District Council by the 2<sup>nd</sup> December. He confirmed he will be involving the consultants once again to help support the District Council in fighting the appeal and the Council agreed to mobilise as many parishioners and interested parties as possible. The Clerk was requested to contact the District Council affected ward members and Parish Council chairs on behalf of the Chairman to alert them, to put the details on Facebook and Twitter and the website and Cllr de Turberville will contact producers of the Mailer to get a one off distribution of that to make sure everyone is aware of what is going on and to respond to the call for action

**148 Finance Income Received and Cheques Payable See Appendix A**

The payments for October were resolved and the Payments and Receipts for September reviewed

**149 Planning Applications See Appendix B**

Two Applications were considered by the Council and the applications granted or refused reviewed

The meeting closed at 8.50

## Appendix A

### Payments and Receipts for September

	Opening Balance	£58,076.18
05/09/2022	WEL JONES FUNERAL JOHNSON 245	£415.00
15/09/2022	AVISON YOUNG CLNT, 67MB3259 Mobile phone mast	£100.00
28/09/2022	CIL payt plus Cowley 478A	£3,512.86
30/09/2022	SDC GENERAL ACCOUN, HALF YEAR PRECEPT	£34,000.00
01/09/2022	LITTLE GREEN ENERGY COMPANY REFERENCE 5848	£14,000.40
05/09/2022	GOCARDLESS REF KENTCABLES-77MEMBH, MANDATE NO 0008	£30.00
08/09/2022	EDF ENERGY REF 673109647889, MANDATE NO 0009	£11.00
10/09/2022	CHARGES FROM 2022-07-22 TO 2022-08-21	£7.50
26/09/2022	SOUTHERN ELECTRIC REF 910036741, MANDATE NO 0005	£157.83
26/09/2022	PUBLIC WORKS LOANS REF CHEVENING, MANDATE NO 0006	£2,549.93
27/09/2022	DRM TREES REFERENCE CPC041	£120.00
27/09/2022	SEVENOAKS DISTRICT COUNCIL REFERENCE 2076623	£33.60
27/09/2022	TURTLE ENGINEERING REFERENCE 15209	£97.16
27/09/2022	SPECTULISE REFERENCE 8936	£360.00
27/09/2022	J HAYTON REFERENCE TRANSFER	£137.81
27/09/2022	MDH HORTICULTURAL SERVICES REFERENCE 2619	£355.20
27/09/2022	J HAYTON REFERENCE TRANSFER	£1,219.58
27/09/2022	HMRC REFERENCE 577PV00161414	£462.33
27/09/2022	MDH HORTICULTURAL SERVICES REFERENCE 2618	£1,683.60
27/09/2022	LITTLE GREEN ENERGY COMPANY REFERENCE 5916	£4,666.80
28/09/2022	VEOLIA ES UK LTD REF 04937801, MANDATE NO 0010	£38.95
29/09/2022	RH AND RW CLUTTON REFERENCE SI17121	£60.00
	Closing Balance	£70,112.35

## Payments to be made in October

			Santander Payments		
1033	MDH Horticultural Services	Monthly Open Spaces Maintenance	£1,403.00	£280.60	£1,683.60
1034	HMRC	Tax & NI	£462.33		£462.33
1035	J Hayton	Salary	£1,219.58		£1,219.58
1036	MDH Horticultural Services	Monthly Gang Mowing	£296.00	£59.20	£355.20
1037	J Hayton	Expenses - dog bags mural wreath phone sim cards	£543.96	£50.23	£594.19
1038	Kent County Playing Fields Association	Subscription	£20.00		£20.00
1039	Sevenoaks District Council	Bins and litter picking	£718.90	£143.78	£862.68
1040	Chipstead Pavilion Management	Cricket Club Rental	£625.00		£625.00

**Appendix B**

**Planning Applications for Consideration at the Meeting**

22/02654/FUL	Timbers Wheatsheaf Hill Goathurst Common Ide Hill Sevenoaks Kent	Proposed replacement of existing bungalow with a four bedroom dwelling house with solar panels on roof.	No objection	Nigel
22/02651/FUL	Willow Farm Chevening Road Chipstead Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2SB	Implementation of BioRock Drainage System	The Parish Council have no expertise in drainage systems and therefore will leave it to the Planning Officers to verify the safety of the surrounding ground and cleanliness of the resultant water output from the proposal	John B

**Planning Decisions**

22/02211/HO USE	13 Woodfields Chipstead Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2RA	Demolition of existing garage, chimney and stores, construction of two storey side and single storey front and rear extensions, sun pipes to main roof and replacement windows. Landscaping works. Replacement concrete driveway with paving	No objection	Nigel	<b>Granted</b>
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