



Chevening Parish Council

CHEVENING PARISH COUNCIL

Judith Hayton - Clerk

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 6th February 2023 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 Clark	Councillor
	Mr A de Turberville	Councillor
	Mr J Eastwood	Councillor
	Mr J Firmager	Councillor
	Mr J Jarrett	Councillor
	Mrs V Woodruff	Councillor
	Mrs J Hayton	Clerk
	Mr J London	SDC

Apologies Mrs L Weavers Councillor

There were no members of the public in attendance

15 Apologies and Absences

Apologies were received from Cllr Weavers and duly accepted by the Chairman

16 Declarations of interest or lobbying

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

17 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 3rd January 2023 has previously been agreed by email and were duly signed by the Chairman as a true record

18 Updates from KCC.

Cllr Chard did not attend the meeting

19 Questions from the Public

There were no members of the public in attendance – however Cllr Woodruff had received a letter concerning agenda item 22 which she shared with the Council

20 Open Spaces

Open Space Inspection

The Clerk confirmed she had collected pansies and violas to put in the planters, but the Chairman had been advised to wait until after the next cold spell before planting

Cllr Woodruff asked whether it would be possible to install a poo bag dispenser on the footpath behind Hedgehogs. The Council unanimously agreed to purchase one. Cllr de Turberville offers a post to stand it on.

Playground Inspection

There were no issues with the playground

21 Chevening Parkland.

The adjourned Appeal Hearing was held on 31st January. The Estate had 14 various experts on hand to answer any questions and they were led by a KC. The Planning officer was defending the reason for dismissal of the application – inappropriate development of the Green Belt, which meant that other

considerations could not be raised by him. The Chairman noted with gratitude the attendance of many members of the public, both in person and on zoom to display the strength of public opinion against the proposal.

Cllr London asked to record his thanks to the Parish Council and especially the Chairman for all the hard work in trying to defend this planning decision by SDC and the amount of time and effort the Chairman had put in over the past 18 months on the application

22 Crossing at Bessels Green

The 3 District Councillors, following the school bus debacle, are keen to see a crossing installed along the A25. School buses will not return to travelling through Chipstead and therefore (especially in the afternoon) children have to cross the A25 either at Bessels Green or at Chipstead Corner to get home.

Cllr Woodruff read a letter from a resident objecting to having the flashing belisha beacon giving light pollution to nearby residents. A similar email from another resident had been received by the clerk.

The Council debated whether to support the District Councillors in their desire to have a crossing. It is recognised that the proposed siting of the crossing will be KCC's responsibility and the whole proposal will be subject to public consultation before any final decision is made.

The Council voted unanimously to support the proposal subject to the satisfactory conclusion of the public consultation as to the location of the proposed crossing

23 Plans for the King's Coronation

The Council debated whether to have a street party on Sunday 7th May to celebrate the Coronation. Cllr Jarrett proposed using the Recreation Ground as this would mean the Pavilion could be used for toilet facilities and the event could go on longer as the road would not be closed which naturally restricts the length of the event.

The Council unanimously agreed the event should be on the Recreation Ground and a marquee and tables arranged as before, with tables being sold at £15 but the option to simply picnic also available to anyone who wants it

The Clerk will invite the local pubs and Eat 'n' Mess to see if they would like "street food" stalls at the event

Cllr Woodruff will organise the sale of tables and the organisation of table cloths on the day. The clerk will arrange for the gazebo and tables to be booked and contact Ian Fox for his availability to play live music on the day. She will also register the event with SDC and prepare the necessary event management plans and risk assessment.

24 Election 2023

Parish Council elections will take place on 4th May. The Clerk will advise the forms requiring completion by Councillors wishing to stand as soon as they become available and the timescales. She confirmed that once a person has declared that they wish to stand for election, they cannot then withdraw (if it transpired that more people wished to stand than the permitted number of Councillors (9). Cllr Clark will sadly have to leave the Council in May as he has left the Parish. The Clerk also confirmed that these elections are the first where anyone voting in person will need photo id. This information will also be in the Chairman's report (agenda item 25)

25 Items to be included in Chairman's report and letter and update from the Police

The Clerk advised the Police update she had received, outlining the changes in structure planned in June. They are currently recruiting but are currently very stretched. They have offered to come to Annual Assembly meetings if they can. The Council confirmed they would like the police to attend if possible, but would completely understand if they were unavailable due to staff issues

The Chairman's report can now be updated with the plans for the Coronation and the Chairman requested that any further items that the Council feel should be included they should let the Chairman and Clerk know as soon as possible as the content will need to be signed off at the next meeting.

It was resolved to distribute the report and letter as it was last year as a paper distribution to each house in the Parish

26 Correspondence Received and General Issues

Light up a Life

The Clerk advised that the Light up a Life collection for Hospice in the Weald raised £159.58

Chevening News

Cllr de Turberville informed the Council there were 3 parishioners who were interested in resurrecting the Chevening News. Cllr Woodruff advised they may require a small amount of funding to get the initial print run done before funds were received. The Council agreed in principle obviously subject to clarification as to the sums involved.

Dragon Boat Festival

Cllr Firmager confirmed the Dragon Boat Festival is going ahead on 28th August. The Council unanimously agreed to support the event by paying the St John's Ambulance charges

27 General Information and proposals for Future Agenda Items

Cricket on Chipstead Common

The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by a parent who asked if Amherst could use Chipstead Common for Saturday morning cricket. Apparently there is matting which is used to make a suitable batting surface so no further maintenance of the Common would be required. The Council resolved the use of the Common for cricket would be welcome, on the same terms as the current Saturday morning football (£318 per season)

Energy Contracts

The Pavilion Gas and Electricity contracts finish in March. The standing charges have all risen exponentially due to the cost of bailing out the failed energy companies. The Council resolved to switch supply to Octopus Energy on a 12 month fixed deal which will give budget certainty for the 2023-4 Financial year

Defibrillator in Chesterfield Drive

Cllr Eastwood advised the residents of Chesterfield Drive have been offered a free defibrillator and training. They wish to attach the defibrillator to a lamppost (for the power supply). Cllr Clark requested confirmation that this would not incur a UKPN charge for disconnecting/reconnecting supply. The Clerk will confirm what is required from the Council's street light contractor. The Chairman asked what the proposal was for maintaining the defibrillator (pads require replacing every 2 years). Cllr Eastwood will ask the residents concerned to present their proposal to the next meeting in March

28 Finance

The payments for February were resolved and the Payments and Receipts for January reviewed

29 Planning Applications

Applications for consideration by the Council 176 Chesterfield Drive The Councils response was to object on the grounds of potential concerns about potential loss of light and overshadowing. The Council recommends the case officer visits the site to assess for themselves

The Application granted during January was reviewed

The meeting closed at 21.00

Payments and Receipts for January

	Opening Balance	£71,221.94
03/01/2023	WELHAM JONE ADAMSON E16 Headstone	£110.00
06/01/2023	HMRC Refund of VAT	£2,054.57
12/01/2023	EDF ENERGY, Refund of overpayment	£22.10
29/01/2023	CHIPSTEADFC Fees & Utilities - Chip Common	£312.66
04/01/2023	GOCARDLESS REF KENTCABLES-77MEMBH, MANDATE NO 0008	£30.00
06/01/2023	J HAYTON REFERENCE TRANSFER	£96.31
06/01/2023	J HAYTON REFERENCE TRANSFER	£1,225.73
06/01/2023	MDH HORTICULTURAL SERVICES REFERENCE 2695	£355.20
06/01/2023	HMRC REFERENCE 577PV00161414	£446.40
06/01/2023	MDH HORTICULTURE SERVICES REFERENCE 2694	£1,683.60
09/01/2023	EDF ENERGY REF 673109647889, MANDATE NO 0009	£11.00
10/01/2023	CHARGES FROM 2022-11-22 TO 2022-12-21	£7.50
17/01/2023	SEVENOAKS VOLUNTEER TRANSPORT REFERENCE CHEVENING PC	£100.00
17/01/2023	OASIS LANDSCAPES REFERENCE CHEVENING PC	£50.00
17/01/2023	SEVENOAKS DISTRICT COUNCIL REFERENCE 67436	£862.68
17/01/2023	ADN PLANNING REFERENCE 1259006	£1,800.00
26/01/2023	SOUTHERN ELECTRIC REF 910036741, MANDATE NO 0005	£167.33
30/01/2023	VEOLIA ES UK LTD REF 04937801, MANDATE NO 0010	£25.58
	Closing balance	£66,859.94

Payments to be resolved for February

			Santander Payments		
1069	MDH Horticultural Services	Monthly Open Spaces Maintenance	£1,403.00	£260.60	£1,663.60
1070	HMRC	Tax & NI	£446.60		£446.60
1071	J Hayton	Salary	£1,225.73		£1,225.73
1072	MDH Horticultural Services	Monthly Gang Mowing	£296.00	£59.20	£355.20
1073	J Hayton		£33.09		£33.09
1074	Sevenoaks Community First Responders	Donation	£100.00		£100.00
1075	Samaritans	Donation	£100.00		£100.00
1076	Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance	Donation	£100.00		£100.00
1077	Newlands Nursery	Christmas Tree	£190.00	£38.00	£228.00

Planning Applications

Planning Applications for Consideration at the Meeting

23/00100/HOUSE	176 Chesterfield Drive Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2EH	Single storey front extension, single storey rear extension, first floor side extension. Two storey rear extension, garage conversion, alterations to external materials and alterations to fenestration	Objection on the grounds of potential concerns about potential loss of light and overshadowing. The Council recommends the case officer visits the site to assess for themselves	John E	
Planning Decisions					
22/03225/HOUSE	1 Bullfinch Lane Riverhead Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2DY	Demolition of existing rear single storey extension to facilitate a new part single, part two storey rear and infill extensions. Remodelling of front entrance, raising of roof to include new rear dormer window, rooflights and solar panels. Alterations to fenestration.	No objection	Val	Granted

