

**Linton Parish Council**  
**The Minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council**  
**held by Zoom on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7:30PM.**

***Councillor's present: Patricia Burden  
Bernard Cresswell  
Patrick Gerrish  
Julie Urquhart***

***Also, present: Parish Clerk Mrs Sherrie Babington and MBC Councillor Parfitt-Reid and two memes of the public.***

***The meeting was chaired by Cllr Cresswell.***

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Smith, Lewis, and Carpenter due to work commitments.

**2. Declaration of Interests.**

No interests were declared.

**3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all Members. These were proposed by Cllr Burden as a true record, this were seconded by Cllr Cresswell and agreed to by all present.

The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

**5. Clerks Report and Correspondence.**

The Clerks Report and correspondence were noted by members.

**6. Public Participation.**

No matters were raised by members of the public.

**7. MBC and KCC Councillors Reports.**

MBC Cllr Parfitt-Reid gave her report to the meeting.

- She reported on a meeting she had attended with KCC regarding the traffic lights at Linton Crossroads following a complaint regarding the sequence of the traffic lights. She stated that KCC needs to model the lights and she was currently in contact with Kent Highways regarding the funding of this.
- She reported that the Local Plan Review was in its final stages of the Public Consultation, there were no issues for Linton.

- She informed members that electric vehicles could now park for free in Maidstone.
- Maidstone Borough Council were holding a Maidstone in Bloom Competition this year.

The Chairman spoke regarding the Linton Crossroads and asked about the upgrade and the Section 106 Funds earmarked for this. Cllr Parfitt-Reid stated that there was a shortfall in funding for this at present, a letter had been sent to the MP regarding this and KCC has responded stating the the junction was under consideration.

A general discussion took place regarding this matter.

## **8. Financial Matters.**

### *a. Financial Statement.*

The financial statement was circulated and approved by members (Urquhart/Burden).

## **9. Highways and Flooding.**

Cllr Gerrish stated that he felt that there was still an issue with speeding as he did not feel that the traffic calming had made a difference. He asked if the PC could go back to KCC and say this had not worked.

Cllr Cresswell spoke regarding the history of the traffic scheme that had been installed to assist with the speeding issues, he stated that the SID at Linton Crossroads was removed following accident damage and KCC did not pursue this as an insurance claim, and therefore it was not replaced. He stated that the scheme had been financed by a private company and was not part of the KCC budget.

Berry Gardens Signage – Members discussed the response received from Berry Gardens regarding the PC request for signage to advise HGVs leaving the site of the correct route to take.

It was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with Firmins to ask if the existing signage could be improved to be more specific and visible.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

## **10. Planning Matters.**

### *a. Applications Received.*

No applications were considered.

Cllr Cresswell spoke regarding the Reed Court Farm planning application and the objections submitted by the Parish Council.

Councillor Parfitt-Reid stated that this was unlikely to be considered until after the elections due to Purdah.

### MBC Applications Decisions

20/506151/FULL

Linton Park School Heath Road Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4HT

Erection of single storey front extension to provide kitchen and servery area.

Application Permitted.

20/506115/PNQCLA

Burford Farm Redwall Lane Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4BD

Prior notification for the change of use of part of an agricultural building to 3(no) dwelling houses and associated operation development. For its prior approval to: Transport and Highways impacts of the development; Noise impacts of the development; Contamination risks on the site; Flooding risks on the site; Whether the location or siting of the building makes it otherwise impractical or undesirable for the use of the building to change from agricultural use to C3 (dwelling houses); Design and external appearance impacts on the building, and Provision of adequate natural light in all habitable rooms of the dwelling houses.

Prior Approval Granted.

*b. Berry Gardens.*

The Chairman reported on a meeting that had taken place with Berry Gardens to discuss lorries, noise, and light pollution. He stated that they conceded that something needed to happen, and he was expecting an update from them.

He stated that there were sufficient grounds for MBC to take enforcement action on both the noise and light pollution issues, which dominated the landscape at night.

He stated that the draft letter had been received from KALC, however he suggested that no action was taken until he had received an update from Berry Gardens. If this was not satisfactory, then the PC could write to MBC Planning Enforcement to register its concerns. This was agreed.

Councillor Parfitt-Reid stated that she would also be willing to put a letter of concern to MBC as a Ward Councillor.

The Chairman stated that he would update members as soon as feedback had been received.

*c. Other Planning Matters.*

No matters were raised.

**11. Member Reports.**

*a. Parish Allotments.*

Cllr Cresswell spoke regarding the boundary of the allotments and raised an issue regarding the ownership of the fencing.

He stated that he had looked at an old map that showed the boundary of Vicarage Field and suggested that a land search was undertaken. Cllr Urquhart stated that she did not feel that a land search would ascertain and further details than the PC already had access to.

The Clerk stated that she would look at her files to see whether there was any information to assist with the boundary query.

Cllr Urquhart gave a report on the progress of the allotments.

She spoke regarding the paving slabs at the front gate and reported that they were loose, and she would ask Fernham Homes to look at them.

She stated that there was a pooling of flowing water on the site, and she felt that this was due to the southern boundary ditches. It was therefore agreed that a meeting with Fernham Homes may be beneficial. Cllr Urquhart stated that she would arrange a meeting.

**Action: Cllr Urquhart to action.**

She reported that some allotment holders had asked about the rabbit fencing and whether this could be repaired.

This was discussed and it was agreed that there was unlikely to be a rabbit problem now that all boundaries were to be developed and therefore no action would be taken to repair the rabbit fencing.

*b. KALC.*

No matters were raised.

*c. Playground.*

No matters were raised.

*d. Parish Website.*

No matters were reported.

*e. Speed Watch.*

No matters were raised.

*f. Neighbourhood Watch.*

Cllr Burden reported on NHW.

*g. Linton Village Hall.*

Cllr Burden reported that the Village Hall.

*h. Litter Pick*

Cllr Urquhart reported that she was going to organise an individual litter pick over the course of a week. MBC had agreed that they would collect the rubbish from a designated pick-up point.

Cllr Gerrish stated that he would be happy to assist with the transportation of the litter to the designated pick-up point.

Cllr Cresswell spoke regarding the Parish Facebook page and stated that Cllr Lewis was looking into this on behalf of the PC.

**12. Parish Council Elections.**

The Clerk reminded members that the PC elections were due to take place in May 2021 and she would be circulating the information to members by email.

**13. 2021 AGM.**

It was agreed that the PC would await further guidance from NALC before this meeting was arranged.

**14. Urgent Matters.**

Cllr Cresswell stated that the contractor still needed to service the CCTV system at the Church Car Park. A discussion took place regarding this matter.

**15. Date of the next Meeting.**

12<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

The Chairman thanked all members for attending the Zoom meeting.

*There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.35pm.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

(Chairman)

Date \_\_\_\_\_