

The Minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council
held in Linton Village Hall on 8th July 2019 at 7:30PM.

Councillors present: *Patricia Burden
Darren Carpenter
Bernard Cresswell
Julie Urquhart
Jerry Whitmarsh*

Also, present: *Parish Clerk Mrs Sherrie Babington and MBC Councillor Webb.*

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Cresswell.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Cllrs Firmin, Smith, MBC Councillor Parfitt-Reid.

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 Carpenter as a true record, subject to an agreed alteration, 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.

Highway Matters – The Clerk stated that she had tried to contact KCC Councillor Paulina Stockell regarding the interactive sign at Linton Hill, however, to date no response had been received. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would submit a grant application to Cllr Stockell for the replacement of the Interactive Sign.

Action: Clerk to progress.

Parish Defibrillator – Cllr Carpenter confirmed that he would label the Defibrillator with a more permanent label.

Action: Cllr Carpenter to action.

Damage to Litter Bins – The Chairman reported that one of the new litter bins had been damaged and was currently in the middle of the lay-by. He asked the Clerk to liaise with MBC Officer John Edwards regarding the repair of this.

Action: Clerk to action.

The Clerk reported that the PC had now received the invoice for the bins from MBC and it was agreed that she would liaise with Berry Gardens and Linton Park regarding the sponsorship payment for these.

Action: Clerk to action.

5. Clerks Report and Correspondence.

The Clerks Report and correspondence was noted by members.

Briefing: Review of Local Plan - Monday, 22nd July - Mercure Great Danes Hotel

Public consultation on a first stage of the process - a Scoping Themes & Issues document - starts on Friday 19th July.

Venue: Mercure Great Danes Hotel, Ashford Road, Hollingbourne, ME17 1RE

Room: Hollingbourne Suite

Date: Monday, 22nd July 2019

Cllr Cresswell stated that he would attend this event.

Action: Clerk to book place for Cllr Cresswell .

6. Conservation Area Management Plan.

The Conservation Area Review was discussed by members and the Clerk was asked to liaise with the MBC Conservation Officer to establish whether the process was now complete.

Action: Clerk to action.

Cllr Whitmarsh stated that the Management Plan was available to view on the Parish Councils Website.

7. Highways Matters.

Cllr Cresswell spoke regarding the item in KCC correspondence suggesting that there were other enhancements that could be done at cost to the Parish Council. He stated that the Clerk had now been in contact with Jennie Watson regarding this and an email had been circulated regarding the items on this list.

Cllr Whitmarsh spoke regarding the improvements put forward by DHA Planning and stated that there was an overlap in the options put forward by KCC. He suggested that the Parish Council should look to consolidate the two lists and put this forward to DHA Planning for their views.

He spoke regarding the design put forward to KCC by DHA Planning for technical approval and suggested that this information was put forward to Jennie Watson who may not be aware of this.

This was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Whitmarsh would liaise with DHA Planning and Jennie Watson and seek a position for the Parish Council.

Action: Cllr Whitmarsh to progress.

The Chairman referred to a report circulated by Cllr Parfitt-Reid which stated that the work on the Linton Crossroads would commence when the school break up for the summer holidays.

8. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised

9. Ward Councillors Report.

Apologies were received for MBC Cllr Parfitt-Reid.

Cllr Webb reported in the recent Berry Gardens meeting, he stated that he would follow up the improvements at Redwall Lane and report back to a future meeting.

He stated that the next meeting was due to take place in October 19.

10. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Stockell gave her apologies to the meeting.

11. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The financial statement was circulated and approved by members (Whitmarsh/Cresswell).

Bank Balances

Lloyds TSB Account 02332818

Opening Balance on Current Account	£30647.93
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Accounts for payment	£4121.51
	£0.00
Closing Balance on Current Account	£26526.42

12. Planning Matters.

New Applications Received

19/502806/FULL Westerhill Barn Westerhill Road Coxheath Kent ME17 4BS
Change of use and conversion of the barn including a two storey extension to create a pair of semi-detached dwellings with re-instatement of historic fabric and associated landscaping (as an amendment to the prior approval for the change of use and building operations to convert the barn into a dwelling under reference 18/502881/PNQCLA). Erection of a detached store/garage in place of former piggery.
No objections.

19/503098/LBC Ragstones Linton Hill Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4AW
Listed Building Consent for installation of gas supply to property with associated meter box and flue.
No objections.

Other Planning Matters.

No matters were raised.

13. Member Reports.

a. Parish Allotments.

A written report from the allotments manager was noted as follows:

An advertisement for the vacant plot was placed in Staplehurst and the plot has been taken. The new plot holder would like permission to put up a shed. The site has been agreed. The shed is 6' x 4', made of wood.

The polythene was removed from the polytunnel on plot 16 on 18 June as agreed and has been replaced by netting to protect the crops until the frame is dismantled in September.

No final version of the Allotment Manager's job description has been seen. The draft was received on 3 June.

A young rabbit was sighted on the Allotments a few weeks ago. Damage to the rabbit fencing was found in one place which has been mended. No further sightings. A more serious intruder was recorded as having removed netting from a strawberry bed on Plot 4; all the strawberries were taken. Protective netting was also removed from a vegetable plot resulting in broccoli plants being stripped by pigeons. This was reported to and circulated by Neighbourhood Watch immediately.

The proposed drainage works are to be deferred till after 4 November. No plans etc have yet been seen.

The rent review is due to take place at this meeting. Water supply is included in the rent. Last year the water consumption increased during the long dry summer. However, an invoice was sent covering the water supply dating back to 2016. A new supplier has been taken on and the final analysis of water consumption is awaited.

Allotment Easement

Cllr Cresswell reported that the Easement had been received from the solicitors and he had circulated this for comments. This was discussed and the following resolution was put forward by the Chairman:

Members of the Parish Council, having already received the Deed of Easement and the Construction Method Statement and having approved both documents, it is hereby Resolved that the Chairman, Bernard Creswell and one other Parish Councillor, be authorised to sign the said documents on behalf of the Parish Council and to authorise the Parish Council's Solicitors Gullands to proceed to complete the Deed of Easement at the earliest opportunity, the legal costs for which are to be borne by Alan Firmin Limited

This was proposed by Cllr Carpenter, seconded by Cllr Whitmarsh agreed by all present.

He referred to correspondence that had been received from the Allotments Manager regarding Southern Water and their fine regarding wastewater.

This was discussed and it was agreed that this was unrelated to the matter of the Easement.

Rent Review

Members discussed the rent for the Allotments and agreed that this should be increased in light of the increase in the water bills.

It was agreed that the PC would increase the rent per rod to £6.00 subject to the approval of the Allotments Manager.

Action: Clerk to liaise with the Allotments Manager regarding the rent increase.

b. KALC.

No matters were reported.

c. Playground.

The Playground report from MBC and Linda Potter was noted by members.

d. Parish Website.

No matters were reported.

e. Speed Watch.

Cllr Cresswell reported on Speed Watch.

He informed members that a team was operating in the Parish at weekends.

f. Neighbourhood watch.

Cllr Burden on two incidents in the Parish.

g. Linton Village Hall.

Cllr Burden reported on the progress of the Village Hall.

She stated that the roof in the ladies toilets needed to be repaired and the hire fees were due to increase by 50p per hour as the electric costs had increased by 25%.

h. Litter Pick

The date of the next litter pick was arranged for the 5th October 2019, starting at Berry Gardens.

Cllr Urquhart stated that she would progress the arrangements for this.

14. Urgent Items.

The Chairman reported on the Cream Teas event, he stated that this was well attended and thanked all concerned for their work.

15. Date of next Meeting.

9th September 2019.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.15pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Date _____