

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council
held in Linton Village Hall on 14th October 2019 at 7:30PM.**

***Councillors present: Patricia Burden
Bernard Cresswell
James Smith
Julie Urquhart
Jerry Whitmarsh***

Also, present: Parish Clerk Mrs Sherrie Babington.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Cresswell.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Cllrs Firmin, MBC Councillors Webb and 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 Burden as a true record, this were seconded by Cllr Smith 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 confirmed that she had submitted a grant application to KCC Councillor Paulina Stockell for the replacement interactive sign for Linton Hill.

Parish Defibrillator – Cllr Cresswell stated that the label for the Defibrillator still needed to be progressed by Cllr Carpenter.

Action: Cllr Carpenter to action.

Damage to Litter Bins – The Chairman reported that two of the new litter bins had been damaged and were in need of being replaced. The orange marker bollards in the lay-by at top of Linton Hill had been removed and one bin damaged and the one in lay-by opposite Toke Place. He asked the Clerk to liaise with MBC Officer John Edwards regarding the replacement of these.

Action: Clerk to action.

5. Clerks Report and Correspondence.

The Clerks Report and correspondence was noted by members.

KCC Highways, Transportation - Parish Seminar for Maidstone

KCC Highways, Transportation & Waste invites you to attend this year's Parish Seminar for Maidstone, Swale, Gravesham & Dartford.

The Seminar will take place between 09:50 and 13:00 on Thursday 28th November at Ditton Community Centre, Kiln Barn Road, Ditton, Kent, ME20 6AH.

There is plenty of parking on site, and refreshments will be provided on arrival and during the mid-morning break.

A range of topics will be discussed, including:

- Highways input into the development planning process
- Joint working with Parishes on highway plans
- HGV management issues
- Major projects
- Road Safety Education
- Updates from Cabinet Member and Director and KALC

Following the success last year of our Highways Market Place, we will again have a range of highways and waste stands where parishes can find out more about various parts of these services from highways colleagues.

Please reply to this email (east.kenthighways@kent.gov.uk) confirming the names of a maximum of two delegates for your Parish or Town Council by no later than Friday 11th October. We would also be grateful to know if any of your delegates have any access requirements.

There are limited places available, so please be sure to book yours as soon as possible to meet with various Highway representatives and have an opportunity to ask them your questions.

Action: Confirm Cllr Smith attendance to Highways Seminar.

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 when the recommendations in the Plan would be progressed.

Action: Clerk to action.

7. Highways Matters.

Cllr Cresswell informed members that he had attended two meetings with DHA Planning, KCC Councillor Paulina Stockell and KCC Officer Jennie Watson to discuss safety issues along the A229 and the plan to landscape the bank to make it safer to cross.

He stated that at the meeting with KCC in February 2018, actions were identified to improve safety on the A229, and it was clear that to date no action had been undertaken since the meeting. Since then a wish list had been prepared by KCC listing items that could be undertaken to improve the A229 that the Parish Council could pay for if they wished, a number of these items had already been identified by KCC at the February 2018 meeting.

At the recent meeting the following work was agreed:

A gateway entrance would be revamped with rumble strip and signage on the 30mph stretch of the A229;

Further down near to Redwall Lane there would be a new gateway feature with dragons' teeth and rumble strips;

He stated that the Firmings had agreed to finance these and the full details would be circulated to members when the plans had been drawn up. The improvement would then take place between April to July 20.

He confirmed that a new Highway Improvement Plan would be put to members for approval at the November PC meeting.

Cllr Cresswell spoke regarding the proposals to carry out landscaping opposite the village hall and asked members for their thoughts on having the signage rather than the landscaping.

Cllr Whitmarsh stated that he favoured the moving of the bus stop and the landscaping of that bank as this scheme had already been approved by the Parish Council.

This was discussed by members and Cllr Whitmarsh stated that he would circulate the plans for this Scheme to all members.

Cllr Urquhart stated that she felt that the bus stop project should still be undertaken in addition to the other highway improvements. This was agreed by Cllr Burden and Smith.

It was agreed that this would be discussed in more detail at the next PC meeting when details of the proposals had been circulated.

Cllr Cresswell stated that he had also raised the issue of the Linton Crossroads Section 106 Scheme with KCC and at present there was a funding gap and KCC were look at other funding options. He stated that DHA were looking into this with MBC and KCC.

Cllr Whitmarsh raised concerned regarding the light pollution coming from Berry Gardens, he stated that this appeared to be excessive and should be reviewed.

The Chairman stated that this should be raised at the next meeting of the Wares Farm Monitoring Group.

It was noted that the bank between the Church Car Park and the Almshouses was untidy and in need of a cut. He stated that he would liaise with Cllr Firmin regarding this matter.

Cllr Whitmarsh stated that in January 2018 DHA said that they were going to establish the ownership of the land in the area opposite the church.

8. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised

9. Ward Councillors Report.

Apologies were received for MBC Cllrs Webb and Parfitt-Reid.

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

£26379.66

Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Accounts for payment	£744.74
	£0.00
Closing Balance on Current Account	£25634.92

Members agreed that they would continue to support the Yuletiders event and finance the Christmas Crackers if required.

b. 2020/2021 Budget.

The Clerk stated that the draft budget would be circulated to all members at the next meeting. The Precept needed to be approved by the end of January 2020.

12. Planning Matters.

New Applications Received

19/504742/FULL Willow Court Wheelers Lane Linton Maidstone Kent
Erection of a single storey rear extension and front porch, including installation of a new front access gate.

19/504700/ADV Land at Linton Hill A229 Linton Hill Linton Kent TN12 9BH
Advertisement Consent for 1no. non illuminated sign.

Members raised objections to this application as they felt that this was inappropriate for a rural setting, and the size and location of the proposed sign was inappropriate. The stated that the approval of this would set a poor precedent in the area.

Action: Clerk to submit PC objections.

Cllr Smith stated that he did not object to the application.

MBC Applications Decisions

19/504000/NMAMD

Land South of Redwall Lane Linton Kent

Non Material Amendment including elevational changes, additional plant room, enclosure of fire escapes, reconfiguration of footpaths, access and parking areas, cycle rack, additional roof PV panels and roof lights, new plant area of AC condensers for planning permission 18/501181/FULL (being a s73 amendment of 16/508659/FULL -B8 warehouse building with ancillary offices, dock levelers, access, parking and landscaping including the creation of new woodland and attenuation pond).

9/503392/FULL

The Orchard Stilebridge Lane Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4DE

Erection of a four-bay garage.

Application Permitted

19/503098/LBC

Ragstones Linton Hill Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4AW

Proposal

Listed Building Consent for installation of gas supply to property with associated meter box and flue.

Application Permitted

19/502560/FULL

Linton Park School Heath Road Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4HT

Proposed entrance reception and link foyer extension

Application Permitted

19/502441/FULL

23 Cornwallis Avenue Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4BW

Erection of a single storey front and two storey side extension with associated detached garage and new gate.

Application Permitted

19/502380/FULL

The Coach House Linton Hill Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4AP

Proposed loft conversion and gable roof extension with 4 No roof lights to South elevation and link pitched dormer to North elevation. Erection of a single storey extension to North elevation with part first floor roof terrace above.

Application Permitted

19/504733/SUB

Land South of Redwall Lane Linton Kent

Submission of Details to Discharge Condition 12 (Surface Water Drainage Scheme) Subject to 18/501181/FULL (s73 application: Variation of conditions 10, 16 and 17 of application 16/508659/FULL (Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of B8 warehouse building with ancillary offices, dock levelers, access, parking and landscaping including the creation of new woodland and attenuation pond.) to amend condition 10 to refer to 'a maximum of 32 one-way HGV movements (equivalent to 16 HGVs entering and leaving the site) are permitted between hours of 2300hrs and 0700hr', condition 16 to refer to the Noise Mitigation Plan Ref: 403.06466.00004.001 version 5; condition 17 to refer to the Noise Mitigation Plan Ref: 403.06466.00004.001 version 5 and a rating level maintained no greater than 3dB above the existing measured ambient noise level LA90, T during the day time and night time periods)

Application Permitted

19/504077/TCA

21 Linton Hill Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4AS

Conservation Area Notification 1x Ash (T7) - Fell and Treat Stump

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:

ALLOTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT FOR PC MEETING 14.10.19

Tenancy Agreements

The updated Tenancy Agreement was sent to plot holders in September and now includes the restrictions on poly tunnels. The new Allotment year started on 1 October. There has been one resignation. 16 Agreements have been returned and rents paid to date.

One new plot holder, who had the opportunity to start work on a vacant plot before September, not only has done no work but has not paid any rent. This lack of commitment is disappointing, and I would suggest that the Agreement is withdrawn, and the plot re-let. Permission is sought from the PC to advertise the two vacant plots and it would be appreciated if they could also be mentioned on the website. The tenant of Plot 16/16a will not be applying to put up a polytunnel. The frame will be used as a netted fruit/veg cage and is in line with other protective cages on site.

Drainage Works

A copy of Fernham Homes Construction Method Statement was sent to all plot holders with the Tenancy Agreement. Confirmation has now been received of the work starting in December, but no exact date has been given. In the CMS there is no mention of compensation for damage to plots, property and crops nor who is responsible for costs. This should be enforceable by the Parish Council in its own interest and for the benefit of plot holders. The issue of compensation is reportedly addressed in the Easement document, but the Allotment Manager has not been allowed to see this and its obligations so cannot guarantee the accuracy of any information on the subject given to plot holders.

b. KALC.

No matters were reported.

c. Playground.

No matters were reported.

d. Parish Website.

No matters were reported.

e. Speed Watch.

Cllr Cresswell reported on Speed Watch.

f. Neighbourhood watch.

Cllr Burden reported that a new Liaison Officer had been appointed by Kent Police to oversee the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators.

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%.

She stated that the hall would have Christmas lights outside this year.

h. Litter Pick

The date of the next litter pick was arranged for the 9th November 2019, starting at Berry Gardens.

Cllr Urquhart stated that MBC had changed its policy regarding their support for litter picks and they were no longer supporting these with their insurance cover. She confirmed that the Parish Councils Insurance covered the volunteer litter picker.

14. Urgent Items.

No matters were raised.

15. Date of next Meeting.

11th November 2019.

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

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Date _____