

Linton Parish Council
The Minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council
held in Linton Village Hall on 11th September 2023 at 7:30PM.

*Councillor's present: Bernard Cresswell
Patrick Gerrish
Peter Paterson
Caroline Richer*

Also: Parish Clerk, Sherrie Babington, and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Cresswell.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Burden (personal reasons), Dimarco (work), Urquhart (work), KCC Cllr Webb and MBC Cllr Lottie 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 Richer as a true record, seconded by Cllr Gerrish 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.

Land at Mullion – Currently with the Conservation Officer at MBC.

Annual Meeting rules and regulations – Copy with Chairman.

Highways Improvement Plan signage – The Clerk reported that this was currently being installed by Kent Highways. New guidance regarding Highways Improvement Plans had been circulated to all parish councils.

Rankins Farm landscaping update – The Chairman reported that the plans had now been revised by Clockhouse, and he felt that the Parish Council should approve these. These were discussed and agreed.

Cllr Cresswell stated that he would circulate the revised plans and contact Clockhouse to inform them that the PC approved the scheme in principle.

Action: Cllr Cresswell to progress.

5. Public Participation.

No matters were raised.

6. Parish Councillor Vacancy – Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Declaration of Acceptance was signed and submitted by new councillor Tony DiMarco.

7. Clerks Report and Correspondence.

The Clerks Report and correspondence were noted by members.

8. MBC and KCC Councillors Reports.

Councillors Parfitt-Reid and Webb gave their apologies to the meeting.

9. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The financial statement was circulated and approved by members. Proposed by Cllr Cresswell, seconded by Cllr Richer and agreed by all present.

An additional cheque for the sum of £48.60 was approved cheque number ending 2404.

b. PC Website - charges.

Announcement from Hugo Fox - We have made some improvements, including the introduction of a member's area, providing you with additional functionality to engage with your audience.

As part of this update, we have restructured our pricing plans to align with the features and services we offer. Our website service has been available free of charge until now, but due to increasing costs we have transitioned to a paid subscription model.

Existing HugoFox users who are on our free service, will continue to benefit from this until the 4th of October 2023. Users will need to select a paid package before this date to continue using our service.

The basic subscription is £9.99 per month but this will exclude the Planning tracker or £19.99 with the tracker, please see attached information.

Members approved the bronze package at a cost of £9.99 a month. (Gerrish/Cresswell)

10. Highways Matters.

Cllr Cresswell spoke regarding the need for a Structural Survey of Redwall Lane. He stated that this was outside of the Highways Improvement Plan and asked the Clerk to report this on the KCC Portal.

Action: Clerk to progress.

He spoke regarding the Linton Crossroads and the plan to do something about the Linton Crossroads from S106 contributions for the Berry Gardens planning application, and S106 funds had been handed over for this.

He stated that there was now an issue that the funds from enabling development did not meet the cost of the proposed works.

He suggested that Linton PC liaise with neighbouring parish councils to inform them of the situation and to work jointly to try to take this matter forward. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Boughton Monchelsea, Coxheath and Loose Parish Council's to invite them to a joint meeting to discuss this matter further.

Action: Clerk to liaise with neighbouring parish councils.

The Chairman spoke regarding the issue of speeding along Linton Hill. He stated that this was a residential area, with numerous junctions and therefore the speed limit needed to be reviewed to prevent further accidents. He asked the Clerk to liaise with KCC regarding this matter.

Action: Clerk to raise issue via KCC portal.

11. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications.

23/502739/TPOA – St Cross Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AR

TPO application to reduce crown of one Ash tree as illustrated on photo showing the extent of the proposed reduction.

23/503752/full – Linton Growing.

The Chairman spoke regarding this planning application, and the reasons he felt an objection should be submitted. This was discussed by members, and it was agreed that there were concerns regarding the height of the poly tunnels and the impact this would have on the landscape and River Beult. It was therefore agreed by members that an objection should be drafted and submitted by the Parish Council.

Action: Chairman to draft letter for circulation and approval.

b. Decisions and appeals.

23/501416/TCA

The Bull Inn Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AW

Conservation area notification to cut three Cherry trees back to the boundary and reduce to the following final dimensions: Cherry (T1 and T2) height 4.5m and 4m spread and Cherry (T3) 6m height and 4m spread.

No Objections

c. Other Planning Matters.

Response from Planning Enforcement:

Land At Mullions Place Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AP

Unauthorised installation of a gate adjacent to the main road. Plus, removal of more trees than the permission allowed ref 23/500201/TCA

No update received from the Conservation Officer to date.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LOCAL PLANNING) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012

Kent Mineral Sites Plan: Second Call for Sites - Hard Rock - August 2023

A review of the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan is being undertaken which would extend the Plan period to 2039. Following a review of data on mineral reserves and sales across the county, there is a need to identify an additional site or sites for the working of hard rock, in order that the Plan can make adequate mineral provision over this period.

A Call for Sites for the potential allocation of a site/s for the extraction of hard rock took place between October and December 2022. One site was nominated in response to the call for sites - Land to the South and West of Hermitage Lane, Aylesford. This nominated hard rock site was subject to public consultation from June to July 2023.

In response to the views received the County Council is giving relevant stakeholders and interested parties a further opportunity to propose sites for the potential allocation of a hard rock quarry to meet identified need within the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2024-2039. The hard (crushed) rock requirement shortfall is estimated at 17.38 million tonnes over the Plan period.

Details on how to submit a site for consideration and how sites are to be assessed are available on the County Council's website: www.kent.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste.

The second Call for Sites runs from Thursday 31st August 2023 until Thursday 12th October 2023.

12. Member Reports.

a. Parish Allotments.

Members noted that the allotment plots had been remeasured and therefore the allotment invoices could now be sent out.

It was agreed that the increase in the allotment rent would stand as it was approved at the previous meeting.

Cllr Gerrish spoke regarding the gate post and stated that he had inspected this, and all seemed to be okay.

b. KALC.

No matters were reported.

c. Playground.

The Clerk was asked to email the quotation and recent inspection report to all members for information ahead of considering this at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to progress.

d. Parish Website.

No matters were reported.

e. Speed Watch.

No matters were reported.

f. Neighbourhood Watch.

Cllr Burden to pass details over to Cllr Paterson.

g. Linton Village Hall.

No matters were reported.

h. Litter Pick

Cllr Richer reported that the next litter pick would take place on 12th December 2023.

13. Other matters and future agenda items.

No matters were raised.

14. Date of the next Meeting.

9th October 2023

The Chairman thanked all members for attending the meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.00pm.

Signed _____

(Chairman)

Date _____