

Linton Parish Council
The Minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council
held by Zoom on 12th October 2020 at 7:30PM.

***Councillors present: Patricia Burden
Darren Carpenter
Peter Lewis
James Smith
Julie Urquhart***

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

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Urquhart.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cresswell and Gerrish. Their apologies and reasons for not attending were accepted and approved by members.

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, subject to an agreed amendment to be put forward by Cllr Urquhart, this were seconded by Cllr Lewis 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.

List of businesses in Linton – Cllr Urquhart reported that the Chairman had followed this matter up, and letters had been received by businesses. She stated that there was just little response to this.

Planning Matters – It was reported that Ward Councillor Webb was due to establish how MBC dealt with Parish Councils, when an application was adjourned at a Planning Committee Meeting.

Cllr Webb stated that he was due to attend a meeting concerning this matter on the 27th October 2020, and that he would report back to the next meeting.

Playground, Vicarage Field – Cllr Urquhart reported that DHA Planning was taking this matter forward and was currently seeking quotations for the refurbishment of the play area.

Historical Minutes – Cllr Smith reported that the historical minutes could be collected at any time, and he asked the Parish Council what they wished to do with them.

This was discussed, and it was agreed that they should be stored at Kent Archives to ensure that they were preserved and accessible for future reference. The Clerk was asked to find out further details regarding this.

Action: Clerk to progress.

Certificates of Recognition – Cllr Urquhart reported that the Certificates of Recognition for nominated residents would be presented to them in the near future.

Action: Cllrs Urquhart and Cresswell to progress.

Planning Matters re The Cherry Patch – Cllr Urquhart reported that an appeal had now been lodged for this application. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council's objections would be forwarded to the planning Inspectorate.

5. Clerks Report and Correspondence.

The Clerks Report and correspondence were noted by members.

6. Public Participation.

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

7. MBC and KCC Councillors Reports.

MBC Cllr Webb gave his report to the meeting.

He reported on the Medical Centre at Heath Road, and stated the access road had been constructed, along with a new path and the crossing point, at present no other work has been undertaken. He stated that he would seek an update on the current situation and up to date members accordingly.

He reported on the arrangements for the Remembrance Service, stating that this would be an outdoor service at Coxheath.

8. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

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

b. CCTV Maintenance Contract.

The Clerk circulated details regarding the maintenance contract for the CCTV and costs. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Parish Council would take out the annual maintenance contract with QTech Ssolutions.

Action: Clerk to action.

9. Planning Matters.

a. Applications Received.

No applications were considered.

b. Wares Farm Conditions.

Cllr Urquhart reported that representations have been made to planning and enforcement regarding Berry Gardens. She stated that the HGV movement's and noise were being looked into, but more specific details were needed regarding the light pollution.

This was discussed and it was agreed that Cllrs Cresswell and Urquhart would take this forward and formulate a response for Maidstone Borough Council.

Action: Cllrs Urquhart and Cresswell to progress.

c. Fernham Homes – Vicarage Field.

Cllr Urquhart referred to the Fernham Homes site, and a complaint regarding the lighting used to illuminate the sign at the front of the site. She stated that a meeting had been held with representatives from Fernham Homes, and they had confirmed that the lighting was on a timer that switched off at 10pm. She stated that the brightness of the lights was also being looked into to see if the level of lighting could be addressed.

She spoke regarding the arrangements for the boundary on the southern side of the site and stated that no decision had been made by the developer at this stage. She said that the Parish Council had reiterated the need for a substantial boundary to protect the allotments and the properties backing on to the site.

Cllr Urquhart confirmed that the naming of Firmin Close had been accepted by Maidstone Borough Council.

d. Other Planning Matters.

MBC Applications Decisions

20/503150/FULL

Stilebridge Kennels Stilebridge Lane Linton Maidstone Kent ME17 4DE

Demolition of all existing kennels and cattery buildings and erection of 4no. dwellings with associated landscaping.

Application Refused

10. Member Reports.

a. Parish Allotments.

Cllr Urquhart gave a report on the allotments.

She reported that the invoices have been sent out for the annual rents.

All allotment plots were being tended to a good standard; the autumn tidy up was due to take place on the 31st of October 2020 with a bonfire.

She stated that the rabbit fencing at the site was in a poor state of repair, this was due to be inspected by Cllr Gerrish, and progressed in due course.

b. KALC.

No matters were raised.

c. Playground.

No matters were raised.

d. Parish Website.

The Clerk reported that the website has now been updated to be compliant with the Accessibility Regulations. An Accessibility Statement had also been uploaded.

e. Speed Watch.

No matters were raised.

f. Neighbourhood Watch.

Cllr Burden reported on NHW, she stated that she had no contact with the police regarding crime reports and had emailed the Police NHW Coordinator to follow this up.

g. Linton Village Hall.

Cllr Burden reported on the Village Hall and the actions that had been taken to make the hall Covid safe, and this was now being used by Cherubs Playschool.

She Stated that the Village Hall Management Committee was currently in the process of seeking advice regarding the roof of the Village Hall as this was in need of replacing.

h. Litter Pick

Cllr Urquhart reported that the next litter pick would take place on the 31st October 2020, to date 8 volunteers had come forward and would be meeting and undertaking the litter pick in groups of 6. She stated the Berry Gardens was due to clear Redwall, Lacey and Bonfleur Lanes the week before the litter pick. Linton Park was due to litter pick Heath Road and Linton Hill.

Cllr Smith confirmed that regular litter picks were being undertaken of Loddington Lane.

Cllr Urquhart stated that Cllr Gerrish's company, High Leaf, was due to sponsor litter pick equipment (10 x pickers and 10 x hi viz vests) and this would be progressed in the near future, prior to 31 October. This will allow some flexibility regarding when litter picks can take place, and the Parish Council would like to thank High Leaf for supporting the litter picks in this way.

She stated that the litter picks would be undertaken in line with the Covid restrictions and therefore there would be no transport or refreshments offered on this occasion.

11. Date of the next Meeting.

11th November 2020.

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 8.25pm.

Signed _____

(Chairman)

Date _____