

BROOKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES 59

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at The Village Hall, Brookland on Monday 18 February 7.15 pm

PRESENT: Mr, C Highwood (Outgoing Chair), Mr Hill (Incoming Chair),
Mrs M Akers, Mrs C Coleman,

PARISH CLERK: Mrs J Batt

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There were 2 Members of the Public present.

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Mrs Coleman proposed Mr Hill for the position of Chairman, seconded by Mrs Akers. Unanimous. Mr Hill accepted the position.

Chairman to sign Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Mr Hill signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office

2. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Deferred until the next meeting.

Mr Highwood's resignation from the Parish Council took effect and he left the meeting.

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An Apology for Absence has been received from Mr Rhys-Jones due to work commitments.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

i) **Updating of Declarations of Interest for the Code of Conduct**

The Clerk reminded Councillors that they should update their Declarations of Interest with the Monitoring Officer if necessary.

5. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Minutes 59 of the last meeting were accepted and it was unanimously agreed that Mr Hill should sign them.

Proposed Mrs Coleman

Seconded Mrs Akers

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

Councillors were uncertain as to whether Mr Rhys-Jones had contacted KCC regarding the chevrons outside the Filberts.

7 PUBLIC INTERVAL

The Meeting was opened to the Members of the Public for questions and comments from 7.34 to 7.44 pm.

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

9. CORRESPONDENCE, FINANCE AND OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS**Correspondence**

Audit Commission

KCC Draft Permit Scheme

AwCRK re Kent Village of the Year and Rural Community Retailer

Wicksteed

Dover District Council

SDC re Chairman's resignation

The Romney Marsh Visitor Centre

Kent Air Ambulance Trust

AwCRK Youth Forum Workshop

SDC re Arts Strategy

KAPC Parish News etc

The Rt Hon Michael Howard MP

AwCRK Rural News

Kent Highways re East View

KCC re Kent Minerals Development Framework

Mr Shoebridge re Green Waste Collection

Account Balance

The Current Account Balance stands at £1047.75 and the Reserve Account Balance at £12918.45 War Bonds show in the accounts at £218.37.

NOTE: £7000 – Grant for Cemetery Wall

£86 – Net Cost of Specification

£5690 – Net cost of repairing Cemetery Wall

£1224 – Left from KCC Grant earmarked for Youth Shelter (included in Balance)

£1750 – Left from Budget. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to earmark this for the Youth Shelter as well

£2000 – Earmarked from funds 2007-2008 – Youth Shelter

£1000 – Grant from AwCRK – Youth Shelter

Accounts to be paid

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	GROSS
Shepway District Council	Planning Application Fee	£67.50	£	£67.50

Proposed Mrs Coleman Seconded Mrs Akers

Resolution

Councillors unanimously agreed to pay the above accounts.

Insurance

The Clerk reported that Councillors should ascertain whether they have legal protection in the event of an action being taken against them in their capacity as a Parish Councillor.

She said she had contacted Allianz Cornhill regarding legal cover and was informed that whether or not a councillor was covered would very much depend on their individual case.

Councillors should not participate in any unauthorised activity on behalf of the Parish Council. In the event of a legal action being taken against a Councillor for an unauthorised action, it may be the case that the Parish Council's Insurance will not cover them if they lose.

Councillors were referred them to Standing Order No 63.

UNAUTHORISED ACTIVITIES

No member of the Council or of any committee or sub-committee shall in the name of or on behalf of the Council

- (i) Inspect any lands or premises which the council has a right or duty to inspect; or
- (ii) Issue orders, instructions or directions unless authorised to do so by the Council or the relevant committee or sub-committee.

It was suggested that Councillors should check their personal Insurance Policies to see if they have legal cover.

If a councillor is approached by a member of the public, outside of a Parish Council meeting, they are advised to make it clear that they are speaking to them as a private individual, but that they are prepared to bring their question or comment to the attention of the Parish Council at their next meeting. They should also invite them to attend the meeting and speak during the Public Interval.

Risk Assessment/Risk Inspection

Nothing to report.

10. VILLAGE HALL FIELD

Deferred until the next meeting.

11. CEMETERY

Deferred until the next meeting.

12. PLANNING

No applications have been received this month. Please see attached list for decisions.

13. VILLAGE RESPONSIBILITIES**Matters Arising from the Round Robin**

The lay-bys have not been cleaned. The Clerk will talk to SDC again.

East View

KCC have agreed to cut the grass until the ownership of East View is ascertained.

Youth Shelter

Mr Knight updated Councillors on the progress of the Youth Shelter during the Public Interval. He took a cheque for the Planning Application and handed the Clerk a cheque for £1000 from AwCRK.

Village Hall

Mrs Akers reported that Mr Jessup is concerned that the income is suffering due to the lack of any social events being organised. The Social Committee desperately needs new members.

Mr Jessup has raised £15000 so far towards the cost of resurfacing the car park and he has recently submitted an application to n power.

The electrical system has been checked and hopefully the problem which has been causing the light bulbs to keep blowing has been put right.

Speed Limit on the A259

The Clerk reported that she wrote to InterRoute again but has not yet had a reply. She copied the letter to the Rt Hon Michael Howard MP, Councillor Fred Wood-Brignall, KCC and Council Ashworth, SDC. We have received a reply from Michael Howard's Secretary, informing him that he is in Parliamentary recess and asking us to keep him informed.

Use of Hall by Cyclists

Nothing to report.

Green Recycling Bins

Concern was expressed that the charges, being imposed by SDC, on people wishing to have a green recycling bin will lead to an increase in fly tipping in the area.

Village Clean Up Day

It was agreed to hold this on 30 March. The Clerk was asked to contact SCC and ask for the loan of 15 sets of equipment and rubbish bags.

14. FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN COUNCILLORS

The Clerk was asked to write to the Environment Agency again and ask them to contact Mrs Coleman regarding the ditch that runs behind the properties in the High Street and the sewerage works.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Probation Service and ask them whether they have a team that would be able to visit Brookland occasionally and clear up litter.

Mrs Akers reported that she had asked the Clerk to inform the Planning Department at SDC that barn owls are nesting in the barns at Nobbs Hall. We have not had a response to date.

Mrs Coleman took a notice regarding the Casual Vacancy to publish on the notice board.

Electors for the Parish of Brookland have 14 days in which to request an election.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Signed Dated
Chairman

BROOKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION RECORD

22 JANUARY 2008 – 18 FEBRUARY 2008

The following applications have been Approved with Conditions:-

Y07/1535/SH Mr and Mrs Tollett, 10 West Place, Brookland, Romney Marsh Kent
Erection of a 2 storey side and rear extension