

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at John Spanton Sports Pavilion

St Mildreds Road, Minster

on 5th March 2024 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Quittenden, Fordyce, Bates, Jones, Crow-Brown, Local, Smith, Owen, Fleming, Webzell, Ingleton

Also present: Kyla Lamb (Parish Clerk), Clare Wilsdon (Assistant Parish Clerk), Cllr Smith, (TDC), Cllr Pugh (TDC), Cllr Bambridge (TDC)

334. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC Andy Howe, Community Warden Karl Aylett.

335. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 6th February 2024 be approved and signed.

336. MEMBERS INTERESTS

Cllr Fleming recoded an interest in Minute number 342 as she is on the Minster Show committee.

337. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

PC Andy Howe was not present and but provided a report, read out by the Clerk as follows;

- 36 victim-based crimes during February including motor vehicle theft and criminal damage.
- Vehicle thefts appear to indicate that they are being stolen to order so recommend owners of 4x4 and 'special edition' models take extra security precautions.
- ASB in Minster seems to have subsided.
- Village has been attended by Neighbourhood Task Force officers and Child Centred Policing Team officers, with two arrests made and details of one particular group taken.
- British Transport Police have conducted Op Young, and intercepted the protagonist group before and after they visited Minster.
- Carrying out foot patrols and mobile patrols in the village and spoke to a number of drivers of inconsiderately parked vehicles, and warned fines will be issued to repeat offenders.

Community Warden Aylett was not present but provided a report, read out as follows;

- Visits carried out on behalf of social services and trading standards.
- Visited and gave advice to a resident who had been called on by rogue traders.
- Attended 'Safety in Action' event week at Dreamland and gave a presentation on the dangers of drugs and alcohol.
- Community Warden service is undergoing a diminuation process and those wardens remaining are to re-apply for their positions.

338. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Bambridge reported as follows:

- Manston Airport – Court of Appeal hearing will take place on 24th April 2024.
- Foxborough Lane planning application has been called in.
- Application for 25m telecoms mast at Spratling Street has been withdrawn so will not be called in.
- Also shares Cllr Crow-Browns concern over cancelled train service between Minster and Sandwich.

Cllr Smith reported as follows;

- IT issues were actually a cyber-attack on TDC despite previously being told otherwise.
- TDC have received 84K funding from PropTech Innovation Fund.
- Strategic review of parking is being extended to March 2024.
- Motion for ceasefire in Gaza was passed by councillors.
- Home Energy Advice Line – 01843 577400 - provides free of charge advice to residents whether home-owners or renting. energysaving@thanet.gov.uk

Cllr Pugh reported as follows:

- TDC and a number of other Kent councils were targeted in a cyber-attack but no evidence that there was any data breach.
- Due to the planning portal being out of action for an extended period, a request has been made to extend deadlines on some planning decisions.
- A Conservative party Councillor has defected to another party.

Cllr Pugh reiterated that he is happy to help in any way possible.

Cllr Crow-Brown reported as follows:

- Main issue dealt with is the frequent cancellation of the train service between Minster and Sandwich, affecting many school children. Thanked Sir Roger Gale for writing to Huw Merriman and South Eastern requesting explanation.
- Further to last week's planning meeting, will be urging Kent Highways to be more robust in responding to planning applications.
- Potential road closure in Tothill Street would have a significant impact on the Holiday Inn.

Thanked Cllr Jones for helping with recent water outage by using water from his well.

339. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Members of West Kingsdown Parish Council visited and met the Chairman and Clerk. They are converting two tennis courts to a MUGA and came to see our facilities and ask about our funding links.

The Channel Dash memorial service held in Ramsgate was well attended.

A meeting was held with Barratt David Wilson Homes to discuss the Tothill development site. A separate meeting was held with Iain Livingstone, Planning Applications Manager - TDC.

Minster was recently affected by a water supply issues and it was good to see the community spirit in the village and neighbours looking out for one another. This also served as a reminder to finalise our updated emergency plan at the next Operations committee meeting.

A CPRE meeting was held where the National Grid convertor station was discussed and the setting up of a GoFund me page to fight a decision to approve it.

340. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The new mower and quadraplay for pitch maintenance are being delivered next week.

341. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

Booklets on Community Resilience Planning.

342. MINSTER SHOW SATURDAY 20TH JULY 2024

Members considered the usual request for consent to use the recreation ground on Saturday 20th July for the Minster Show. The marquee will be erected on Friday 19th July and removed on Sunday 21st July. Portaloos will be provided but use of the pavilion toilets for the disabled toilet is requested.

RESOLVED: To approve the request as detailed.

343. PARISH COUNCIL WINTER SUPPORT SCHEME

Members considered supporting an application for the above scheme for a grant of up to £1500 to be used for food parcels and energy top ups for residents of Minster struggling with the cost of living crisis. The support will be given through the Salvation Army and is a government initiative via KALC.

RESOLVED: To support the application for a grant as detailed.

344. D-DAY 80 – 6TH JUNE 2024

The Chairman updated members on taking part in this event. Currently the beacon will be lit on the church at an agreed time which will be provided by the King's pageant master. Cllr Jordan Smith may be able to arrange a history tutor to attend and provide some information.

345. PLANNING, HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Highways & Transportation meeting held on 26th February, be received and the recommendations within them be approved.

Cllr Fleming gave a summary of minute 322. The Planning Highways and Transport Committee had a meeting with Iain Livingstone at which Cllr Ingleton raised the point that issues raised in MPC's consultee responses are being overlooked. The Hoo Farm

pathway problem may have been avoided. Iain Livingstone replied that it did not mean they hadn't been taken into account.

He further explained why condition applications are now being uploaded on to the planning portal due to having to show everything for listed buildings. However, there is no requirement to consult parish councils on these applications.

TDC are pushing for more transparency with Parish Councils. Cllr Ingleton thought it was a very productive meeting and hoped we can engage more with TDC planning going forward.

Cllr Fleming also reported on a meeting with Barratt David Wilson Homes, issues discussed were Southern Water network enhancement requirements, bridlepath improvement plans need updating, proposed swales have been reduced in depth, these plans will be updated.

Cemetery transfer land, BDW have now said they can only transfer 2/3 of the land now and retain 1/3 for due to biodiversity net gain for 30 years and then transfer the balance at the end of this period. Iain Livingstone said this didn't apply when application was submitted and will look into this.

Cllr Pugh reported Local Plan advisory group met 14/2/24 due to the NPPF changes advised to do a new Local plan rather than update by 2025.

346. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC	<p>Cllr Quittenden reported that a meeting was held on 22nd February 2024.</p> <p>Presentation given by community resilience planners.</p> <p>Agreed to press TDC on a return of the parish forum and setting up a working party to pursue the levelling up agenda.</p> <p>A report was given on Acol Speedwatch.</p> <p>A meeting will be attended to discuss reduction of TDC Councillor numbers and possible boundary changes.</p> <p>Next meeting is 24th March 2024</p>
Minster School	<p>Cllr Fleming reported that she has attempted to contact the school but has received no response.</p>

347. REPORT OF THE RFO

RESOLVED:

- (a) the Bank balance statement be received and noted,**
- (b) the statement of Receipts and Payments for the month of February 2024 be approved.**
- (c) the budget/expense report to 31st December 2023 be received and noted.**

348. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC / ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Stace said the noise from the Tothill Street development site has not been quite as bad recently, apart from the road-sweeper. Deliveries continue to be made outside of the agreed times and this is in breach of the Construction Management plan. The Clerk responded that CCTV can be checked and the issue raised with BDW.

Mrs Stace asked if any further hedgerows are to be removed. Cllr Fleming responded that no more should be removed.

Mrs Quittenden asked if it can be ensured that grant money for food parcels is only distributed to Minster residents.

Time concluded: 8.12pm

2nd April 2024