

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

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

St Mildreds Road, Minster

on 5th November 2024 at 7.00pm

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

Also present: Kyla Lamb (Parish Clerk), Clare Wilsdon (Assistant Clerk), Cllr Smith (TDC).
Cllr Wright (KCC)

229. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Owen and Fordyce. PC Andy Howe. Cllr Bambridge (TDC) Community Warden Karl Aylett

230. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 1st October 2024 be approved and signed.

231. MEMBERS INTERESTS

No members interests recorded.

232. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Community Warden Karl Aylett provided an email advising that his time in Minster and Monkton has been reduced to two days per week, in transition to the cease of the service in the village by January 2025. He is currently contactable via email and telephone, but is no longer based at Minster Library.

Community Warden Aylett thanked Minster Parish Council for their support during his time serving the village.

PC Andy Howe was not present but provided a report as follows:

- September showed a lower than average crime count for villages.
- Pop-up speed checks have taken place in the area with additional monitoring requested in Monkton Road.
- Drink Drive campaign to increase during the festive period.
- 38 calls to Minster during October, many traffic related.

233. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Smith reported as follows;

- Chasing Iain Livingstone regarding the inadequate lighting installed at Lime Trees. Officers at TDC are aware that the scheme is not adequate and have requested additional.
- Foxborough Lane application was discussed and TDC will incur significant fees and costs to prepare for the planning appeal hearing, taking place in January.

- Attended training relating to planning, carried out by Iain Livingstone.
- Southeastern to fund local projects as part of its Customer and Community Fund.
- The recent works carried out by grounds-staff in the churchyard have been complimented.

Cllr Crow-Brown reported as follows:

- KCC are experiencing high numbers of applications for Blue Badges, resulting in delays with them being issued.
- Suggestions for items to include in the Joint Transportation Board meeting in December have been requested.
- Recently interviewed by Southeastern regarding their performance. Praised their helpfulness and improved reliability with the school service recently but pointed out that fares continue to be expensive in comparison to other European countries.

234. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman reported as follows:

- Attended Minster School with PC Andy Howe, Kent Police where a presentation was given to school children and they were allowed access to the patrol vehicle.
- Toured the old control tower at Manston Airfield.
- KCC Highways meeting online covered many topics. Lack of funding continues to be a problem; trying to get developers to fund highway improvements; consultations for new contractors to carry out road repairs has started; previous government funding may now be uncertain.
- Invited to Birchington, as RBL president to launch their poppy appeal.
- Remembrance Day parade will leave the RBL at 10.15am with the service at 10.45am, followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at the cemetery.
- Visited Chapel House Estate to view the plans for the new development.
- Thanks to all who volunteered to help at the fireworks display and to the clerks who organised the event. It was well attended by members of the public.
- Requested that members review NALCs email about remote meetings, as this will be included on the December agenda for discussion.
- Latest budget impact on the council finances to be considered.

235. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported that the fireworks raised £1486.50, plus a further donation is expected from the glo-stick man.

The LED floodlight upgrade at the 3G pitch is complete.

236. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

None available.

237. VE DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY 8TH MAY 2025

The Chairman reported that no suggestions had been made for the councils involvement, but that the RBL would be commemorating the event on the Saturday evening and a ceremony will be held at the flag pole on 8th May 2025.

238. PLANNING, HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2024 be received and the recommendations within them therein.

Tothill Street – a response from the MD of BDW Homes will be chased and a virtual meeting is to be arranged before Christmas to discuss a request for a crash barrier, drainage works update and a complaint received from Mr and Mrs Stace about a broken shower screen. A request was made to Cllr Crow-Brown to raise issues at this site with Sir Roger Gale.

Foxborough Lane Appeal– A meeting was held with Iain Livingstone and planning consultant Flo Churchhill. TDC will incur costs up to £60K. It was recommended that MPC engage a highways consultant, to submit a strong report alongside a report by the planning consultant. IT was further agreed that MPC should not be rule 6 party. The public enquiry is in January 2025.

Lime Trees – Planning application for a change of conditions to the proposed street lighting is not adequate.

239. MINSTER SCHOOL GOVERNOR VACANCY

Members considered a request by Minster School for a volunteer to stand as a school governor.

AGREED: No members volunteered at present.

240. MINSTER SCHOOL REQUEST TO USE THE RECREATION GROUND FOR A COLOUR RUN FUNDRAISING EVENT

Members considered a request by the school to hold a colour run event at the recreation ground.

RESOLVED: The event can be held providing that the colour throwing takes place in school grounds.

241. APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING CONSULTANT AND HIGHWAYS CONSULTANT

Following the notification of the appeal by Gladmans Developments Ltd, on Land on the North side of Foxborough Lane and in respect to outline planning application for the erection of 115 dwellings, following demolition of 97 Tothill Street, with all matters reserved except for access.

Members were asked to ratify the decision to appoint Kevin Sykes of Stomor Civil Engineering Consultants, and Florence Churchill, Planning Consultant to prepare further objections to the above application for consideration at the public enquiry which opens on 14th January 2025. The costs for both consultants are not expected to exceed £6000.

RESOLVED: Members ratified the decision to engage consultants as detailed above with costs not to exceed £6000.

Cllr Quittenden voted against this decision.

242. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC	Cllr Quittenden reported as follows: Next meeting is 25 th November. Attended a presentation by the Community Emergency and Resilience Planning Group who provided a template that we can use/review alongside our own new plan. Standards Board meeting was cancelled.
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Minster School	Cllr Fleming had nothing to report
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Village Hall.	Cllr Smith had nothing to report.
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243. 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 October 2024 be approved.**

244. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Paul Brown asked that a request be made to contractors working at the Tothill development to respect the village gateway signs.

Mrs Stace complained that lights of vehicles leaving the Tothill site are shining directly into their bedroom window and requested the removal of a hump in the road that is causing this to happen. Cllr Fleming responded that this would be raised with BDW.

Time concluded: 7.47pm

3rd December 2024