



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 16 September 2021 at 7pm at Cuxton Library

Present: Cllr Hutchfield (Chair), Cllr Reynolds, Cllr White, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Wilson, Cllr Porter, Cllr Savage, Ward Cllr Fearn,

Clerk – Mrs J Nicholson

One member of the public viewed the meeting via a zoom link.

70) Apologies for absence

Cllrs Burley, Thorley and Maisey all sent apologies
It was resolved to accept these apologies

71) Declarations of Interest (DPI, conflict of interest and personal interests) and alterations to the Register.

None

72) Minutes of the meeting held 19 August 2021

It was resolved to accept these minutes as a true record of the meeting.

73) To consider co-option to fill the vacancy on the council

After consideration of the application received, it was resolved to co-op Mr Stuart Moore as councillor to the council. Mr Moore signed his declaration of office, witnessed by the Clerk.

74) Clerk's Report

Medway Councillor's Report and Public Session

It was resolved to suspend the meeting for Medway Councillor's Report and for the Public Session. Matters raised may be placed on the agenda for the next or a future meeting.

Ward Cllr Fearn advised that at a meeting with Medway Highways on 14/9/2021 plans for the A228/Bush Road Junction were discussed. It was clear that permanent traffic lights are not seen by Medway as a viable option because of the severe traffic queues that developed on the A228 during the various trials. The limited use of the pedestrian lights to help traffic exiting Bush Road is likely to be the only option recommended for the junction.

Cllr Fearn said that there is a concern about what will happen to the S106 money given for the junction if traffic lights are not an option.

75) Finance

a) Bank balances

*Cllr Burley confirmed via email that the bank balances and reconciliation are correct.
It was resolved to accept these as correct.*

b) Approval of payments since last meeting

It was resolved to approve these payments.

c) Accounts for payment

It was resolved to approve these payments.

76) To consider the External Auditor's report for 2020-2021

PKF Littlejohn, external auditors have completed their review of the AGAR for 2020/2021. The notice of conclusion of audit is displayed on our website and noticeboards.

It was resolved to accept the auditor's report.

77) Response to Kentish Wine Vault planning application – For Decision.

It was resolved to suspend the meeting to allow Ward Cllr Fearn to speak about this issue. Ward Cllr Fearn confirmed that an extension has been granted until the end of October. However, the dates on the planning portal will not change. Therefore, objections after 17 Sep 2021 can be emailed or posted to Medway Council planning department.

After a lengthy discussion it was resolved to object to this planning application and the wording was agreed by all present.

Action: Clerk will add this objection to the Medway Council Planning Portal and will also email this direct to the planning officer. It will also be uploaded to the parish council's website and residents will be informed via social media and the newsletter.

78) Defibrillator Training

The Clerk provided information about training courses available either as a group or for individuals.

It was resolved to defer this until January 2022.

79) Resilience & Emergency Planning – For Decision

It was resolved to defer this decision to the November meeting.

80) 2022 Village Events -

Is a working party/steering group needed?

It was resolved to defer this decision to the next Land Management Committee.

81) Renovation of courts

a) Outcome of survey

The outcome of the recent survey was that 84 people were for and 2 people were against this project.

b) Appointment of Project Manager

As the survey showed that the majority of people who completed the survey were in

favour of the court's development it was resolved that the recommended Project Manager will be appointed.

- c) Grant application
The deadline for the next Veolia grant application is 6 January 2022.

82) Progress Updates

- a) Repairs to teenage village
Estimates received were discussed and it was resolved to accept the estimate from "Contractor B".
- b) Re-installation of swing and basket swing
Estimates received were discussed and it was resolved to accept the estimate from "Contractor B".
- c) Contractor for maintenance of bike track
As only one estimate was received this item will be deferred to the next Land Management meeting.
- d) Contractor for repainting of playground fencing
As only one estimate was received this item will be deferred to the next Land Management meeting.

83) Correspondence

- a) Residents – Email received concerning the church
After discussion it was agreed that although there are rumours circulating about the future of the village church, there is no factual evidence to show that the church may close and therefore no action by the parish council is needed at this time.
- b) Email from new allotment holder asking for permission to have a polytunnel.
After discussion councillors agreed that the current allotment agreement will be checked. If the agreement does not clearly state that polytunnels are not allowed the plot holder will be advised that they may keep their polytunnel. If the agreement does clearly state that polytunnels are not allowed, then the plot holder will be advised that they cannot use a polytunnel.
- c) KCC re meeting
Councillors will attend a meeting 21/9/2021 with Kent County Council to discuss implications of the proposed Lower Thames Crossing on local traffic.
- d) Medway Highways Department response to trial of traffic lights
See Ward Cllr Fearn's report above.

84) Community Speedwatch

- a) Feedback from Land Management Committee
*It was reported that a Traffic Management Working Group has been set up which will consider ways of managing traffic issues in the village, which could include setting up a Community Speedwatch group. Volunteers to join this working group will be sought from local groups and advertised in the newsletter.
The Clerk has prepared a Terms of Reference document to be agreed by council.*

85) Beacon estimates

As only one quote has been received so far, it was resolved to defer this to the next Land Management Committee meeting.

86) Information exchange

No motions may be proposed, nor decisions taken under this item but may be placed on the agenda for the next or future meetings.

87) Members' future agenda items

Traffic Management Working Group, LIDL planning application.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Signed Cllr Tracy Thorley, Vice Chairman

On the 21st day of October 2021