

CAPEL PARISH COUNCIL

Emma Ivory – Clerk
Falmouth Place, Five Oak Green
TN12 6RD clerk@capelpc.co.uk

The Parish Council meeting of CAPEL PARISH COUNCIL held in Five Oak Green Church, Badsell Road, Five Oak Green at 7.30pm on 22nd May 2019.

In attendance: Cllrs Hugh Patterson, Maggie Fenton, Charles Mackonochie, Trevor Sawyer, Robin Hollamby, Chris Parker, Jim Young & Ashley Saunders.

MINUTES

Minute
No
412

- 1) **ADMINISTRATION** Fire Exits, Sign In Sheets, Assembly Point, Mobile Phones, intention to film or record the meeting.

413 2) **APOLOGIES** – to receive and accept apologies for absence. **None.**

414 3) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST & CHANGES TO REGISTER OF INTEREST** - Declarations of Pecuniary interests on any item on the agenda. Where any councillor has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (as defined in the Members' Code of Conduct) in any matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council, a committee, sub-committee or joint committee, they must withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter unless a dispensation has been obtained from the Monitoring Officer. Audit and Governance committee TWBC – CM. Lives on Colts Hill.

415 4) **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** – The Chair thanked everyone for coming and reminds members of the public of meeting protocol and this is a meeting held in public, not a public meeting although standing orders will be lowered to allow parishioners to speak at the end of the meeting.

416 5) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) To consider the minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 29th April 2019 and if in order to authorise the Chair to sign as a true and accurate record. **Minutes signed as a true and accurate record with no amendments.**
- b) To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee 29th April 2019. **Noted.**

417 6) **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES NOT COVERED IN CURRENT AGENDA**

- a) **None**

418 7) **EXTERNAL REPORTS**

- a. **Borough Councillors Report** – Today election of new leader of Borough Council and new Mayor. Steve Baughen TWBC Planning Officer misquoted regarding Brampton Bank – there are no specific Compulsory Purchase Orders on Brampton Bank nor anywhere else in the parish.
- b. **County Councillors Report** - None

419 8) **COMMITTEE AND PORTFOLIO REPORTS**

- a) **Finance & Resources Committee** –
- i) Completion of the Annual Return for 2018/19 – **As to not delay the meeting it was agreed Chair would sign paperwork at the end of the meeting.**

- ii) Receive and note Internal Auditors Report. **Not received from RFO.**
 - iii) Section 1 Annual Governance Statement - **RFO and Chairman to sign.**
 - iv) Section 2 – Accounting Statement – **RFO and Chairman to sign.**
 - v) To make payments from 29.04.19 –21.05.19. **Noted**
 - vi) To receive Income and Expenditure Report for April – **Not received from RFO.**
 - vii) To note Account Balances. **Not received from RFO.**
- b) **Staff & Administration**
- i) To authorise the payment of unused annual leave 2017/18 for RFO. **Authorised but payment deferred until outstanding query to RFO from Cllr Fenton resolved.**
 - ii) To authorise RFO extra hours as per email to the Chair. **Authorised.**
 - iii) To Resolve to adopt the following new/amended policies
 - (1) To adopt amended full terms of reference document. **Resolved.**
 - (2) To adopt new Councillor Co-Option Policy – **Resolved.**
 - (3) To convert Staff & Administration portfolio to a committee – **Resolved.**
 - (4) To establish a Local Plan Working Party – **Resolved.**
 - (5) To dissolve Highways Portfolio – **Resolved.**
 - (6) To dissolve Parish Development Portfolio – **Resolved.**
- c) **Planning Committee – Nothing to report.**
- d) **Flooding Committee – Nothing to report.**
- e) **Highways & Traffic Committee – Nothing to report.**
- f) **Housing & Memorial Cottages Committee – Nothing to report.**
- g) **Recreation Ground Improvements and Regeneration Committee**
- i) To discuss who will be responsible for overall health and safety for the proposed installation of new play area equipment and zip wire. **Clerk to arrange for Wicksteed to visit the recreation ground and mark out the positioning of the zip wire. Councillors will then have an opportunity to raise any issues with the previously agreed siting of the equipment.**
 - ii) Update on recent official opening of MUGA on 18th May. **A successful opening event, photographs displayed on the parish website.**
- h) **Parish Development - Recreation, Amenities, Allotments & Open Spaces**
- i) To RESOLVE to instruct a specialist company to complete a full survey of all trees in the parish, this is following the recommendation from the insurance company that all trees should be surveyed every two years. Minimum requirement for insurance is for Council to survey trees as they see fit. The Clerk has previously circulated to councillors the advice from the insurance company. Insurance company inspect. **It was Resolved to instruct a specialist company – Proposed by Cllr Young, seconded by Cllr Sawyer, remaining Councillors all in agreement.**
 - ii) Consultation on A228 improvements. Councillors' views sought. Standing Orders dropped to allow members of public to comment.
 - (1) Borough Councillor Carol Mackonochie – new funding scheme available for roads costing up to road £50million road. The A228 runs from Isle of Grain to Pembury.
 - (2) A228 is not fit for purpose, not wide enough, maintenance is an issue, some improvement is needed, especially with new housing and quarry.
 - (3) Lots of emergency vehicles use the road, Maidstone to Pembury and the roads do not cope very well.
 - (4) Lorries struggle to pass on the road as it is not wide enough. The road is not strong enough to take the traffic. Broken drains are a frequent issue and are dangerous to motorists and cyclists.

- (5) Are there accident statistics available for the road?
- (6) Because the road is 50mph there is no bus stopping service, Arriva previously allowed discretionary bus stops but the bus drivers now refuse to stop as too dangerous for motorists and pedestrians.

Councillors Views –

Cllr Fenton, Vice Chair - view is it should be looked at holistically along with the proposed Local Plan, not just as a single road. Improvements are needed but not sure bypass will solve the problem. It will take time to look at the whole road network.

Cllr Young – I agree with Cllr Fenton, we should be looking at highways holistically. Need to understand further the possible new road. Details of the proposed road network in the area as a whole need to be considered before deciding on the A228 element.

Cllr Saunders – New road bypass may alleviate traffic on Colts hill.

Cllr Hollamby – need to be mindful of the whole parish, further details are required.

Cllr Parker – This doesn't stop the council supporting the improvement of Colts Hill.

Cllr Patterson, Chair – Agrees council need to work with Greg Clarke on improvements but need to understand the bigger road network proposals of local plan. MP's we want to road improved but not specifically for the widening of the road.

Cllr Sawyer – Further info needed on where new local plan road planned.

Cllr Mackonochie – The Chair reminded Cllr Mackonochie he has declared an interest in this agenda item. Cllr Mackonochie stated he had received advise from the Monitoring Officer and he was able to be part of the discussion. No details had been previously given to the Chair or Clerk by Cllr Mackonochie. Cllr Mackonochie stated he had moved in 1986 to Colts Hill, at this point there was no Pembury bypass and road was much quieter. Budget for 3 year was £350m road improvements in South East. A228 was originally a B road.

The overall consensus of the Council is the A228 does require improvement but without knowing further the local plan details for the parish the Council are unable to support any specific improvements. In favour of improvements but more information is needed before it can make comments on the bypass given the impact of the local plan proposals. Greg Clarke to be invite to discuss in an open public meeting.

- 420 9) **PARISH MATTERS (not covered under Parish Development above)**
- a) WW1 Commemoration report from Cllr Hollamby – **The next commemoration will be held on 19th November in church yard at Capel church, plans for exhibition of WW1 Memorabilia and artefacts on fete day.**
 - b) Speedwatch update - **None**
 - c) Stone Castle Liaison Committee meeting update – **Next meeting is on 12th June.**
 - d) To discuss outstanding rental amount of £210 for Rag Solutions (textile clothing bank). **Council agree to send a final letter to Rag Solutions to seek outstanding rent.**
- 421 10) **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – None.**
- 422 11) **REPRESENTATION AT MEETINGS – None.**
- 423 12) **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS – None.**
- 424 13) **CLERK'S REPORT**
- 425 a) **All Councillors have been given the details and setup instructions for new council email addresses.**
- 14) **ADJOURNMENT TO HEAR FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**
- a) CPC should write to Hadlow Estate and invite to a meeting. The soil test will show it is good farm land.
 - b) Metropolitan green belt which covers all this land does the specification no longer exist? The Boroughs argument is at the time when you bring forward a new local plan green belt boundary can be moved.
 - c) Pressure is going to be put on every part of the borough.

- d) What can the residents start doing now? Th Chair - CPC are setting up working party to put a case to the Borough Council, parishioners can lobby Borough Councillors as they will be making the decisions, along with Greg Clarke.
- e) Easy options as it is just one land owner. Thousands of acres are going. Proposal in minerals and waste – site 49 (moat farm) originally put in for aggregate but removed recently.
- f) Lack of information available about the local plan. New local plan started with an issues and options. SHEPRA – set out all submitted on call for sites, this should have been updated once the second option of call for sites. There has been no public scrutiny.
- g) There has been consultation between TWBC and KCC but the level is unknown. Cllr Fenton commented that KCC Highways would have an impact on Tonbridge, there has been no mention of the effects on Capel.
- h) We cannot wait for the full details are released; we must act now.
- i) Borough Councillor Mackonochie commented that the lead flood authority has to go via KCC. TWBC have to be in contact with other authorities, they cannot work in isolation.
- j) We don't have time to wait, feels deceitful. Is there going to be an action committee. The Chair asked parishioners to leave their email addresses with the Clerk if they are interested in joining working party.
- k) No infrastructure in Tudeley for number of houses planned. Farm land for significant amount of years which will be sold.
- l) It has been reported the Press had signed a Non-Disclosure agreement.

426 15) **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 24th June 2019**

With no further business the meeting closed at 21.16

Signed: Dated: