

NETTLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 3rd of MARCH 2022
7.45pm AT NETTLESTEAD VILLAGE HALL

Members Present

Cllr David Meredith - Chair
Cllr Anita Van-Hensbergen – Vice-chairman
Cllr Jackie Bennett
Cllr Emily Salter
Cllr David Thomas

Also, in attendance – The Clerk - Mrs Michelle Rumble
Two members of the public

1. APOLOGIES AND ABSENCE

Cllr Pullen (personal)

2. COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS

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.

None

3. MINUTES PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting 3rd February were signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman and **RESOLVED** by all members present. It was noted that the minutes which had been circulated to the Councillors and posted on the website were incorrect and the Clerk was asked to update to the correct minutes.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

None

The meeting was adjourned to hear from a member of the public regarding the proposed installation of the goals on the KGV Field.

Before the resident spoke the Chairman just wished to say that the minutes in the Parish magazine were incorrect and the goals were not going back where the existing ones were but would be moved in from this making a smaller playing area and therefore further away from the back netting.

The resident still stated that they opposed the decision of the Parish Council, and the size of the goals would make no difference and that the outcome would be the same. The resident stated that it has caused an enormous amount of stress and of course damage to their property. They have made a complaint to Maidstone Borough Council and that they will be contacting the Parish Council.

The other resident stated that he wished for the Parish Council to be more transparent and notify residents of agenda items and what their projects and ideas are so that they can become involved and are made aware, The Chairman responded that the Parish Council are looking at Social Media but this has not been approved and will be discussed at a forthcoming meeting.

The meeting resumed and both members of the public left the meeting.

5. EXTERNAL REPORTS

County Councillor

Cllr Webb was not present, but his report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

County Councillor report

My work on the County Council is more strategic, linking to the whole county development. I have been extremely fortunate to have been appointed as Vice-Chair of the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee, whose remit is extensive and far reaching. For most of this year has been focussing on a Public Consultation on Adult Care across the County. A new Carer strategy is expected in the next few months.

The allocation of Covid funding to vulnerable adults and those in care has been a significant focus for the committee.

Each Cabinet Committee reports bi-monthly, which allows for development in between meetings. I have been fortunate to receive briefings from the Cabinet Member, which is extremely helpful given the Adult Social Care remit.

Contracts for support and care are one of the key drivers on a regular basis at meetings. We receive officer reports, which although very lengthy, are informative and are challenged by Members to ensure conformity and development in the longer term.

I am also a member of Growth and Economic Development, Health and Audit and Governance Cabinet Committees. There is a significant learning curve on each and all committees and I am doing my best to contribute and challenge appropriately to the agendas and content.

This year has been marked by the death of the then Chairman of the County Council, Mrs Ann Allen.

On February 17th saw the election of a new Chairman, Mrs Lesley Game (Broadstairs Member) with Mr Gary Cooke (Maidstone) in place for the next 18 months. The next year's budget 2022/23 was debated for the whole day, with amendments passed from two opposition suggestions.

It would be amiss not to mention the pandemic and the work which has been on-going for the last 2 years on supporting the infrastructure of Kent, via Government grants alongside the excellent leadership and drive shown by Mr Roger Gough as Leader.

Each Member received £6K for Covid funding, which I have allocated to a whole range of activities mainly focused on 'active' life. A summary of the spending will be circulated within the Annual Report. As will the expenditure of Members Grant (£10K).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist any resident within the Maidstone Rural West Division.

Borough Councillor

Cllr Russell was not in attendance and no report had been received.

PCSO Report

The PCSO was not in attendance and no report had been received.

Village Hall

No report

6. **COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Neighbourhood watch

Monday 14th February around 18.32 in Bryant Close, Nettlestead somebody tried to damage a vehicle which was parked in the road.

Parish Magazine

Cllr Van Hensbergen gave her report

Chatterbox

Cllr Bennett reported that it should be starting up again in March and will be alternately at the Hop Pole Public House and the Railway. It is on the 3rd Tuesday of the month and 1.30pm for the next few months.

7. **KGV FIELD**

Goal post

It was **RESOLVED** by all members present to put the purchase of the new Goal posts and nets on hold for the time being, the Clerk was asked to cancel the order with the Supplier. The Clerk was also asked to contact Cllr Webb as a Grant of his had been used to put towards the Goals, to find out if we could delay using the Grant, if it had to be returned or if it could be used for something else.

Plant a tree

The Tree had been ordered, but not yet delivered. The Clerk will chase English Woodlands.

It was also **RESOLVED** to accept the quote from Capel Groundcare for the following: -

Plant the tree which includes compost for £410.05

Stake the tree and protect from rabbits for £128.08 at the KGV Field.

The Clerk will inform them, the members also asked if it was possible for the tree to be delivered to Capel Groundcare.

BMX Signage

It was **RESOLVED** by all members present to not go ahead with this now.

Tree work

It was **RESOLVED** by all members present to accept the quote from Capel Groundcare at a cost of £500 to remove some at risk trees & branches & then to chip all the green waste from that. That will then conclude all the emergency work after the storm damage.

The Clerk was also asked to circulate the Grounds Maintenance Schedule for the coming season.

8. **CHURCHYARD**

Nothing to report

9. **HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

No reports

10. **SPEEDWATCH**

It was noted that the Speedwatch group had been testing various sites around the Village.

11. PLANNING

22/500477/FULL	The Hop Pole, Maidstone Road, Nettlestead Retrospective application for the change of use outbuilding to multi-function games room RESOLVED by all members present that they would like to see the application approved.
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DECISIONS MADE BY MBC

Re: 3 Rose Cottages, Maidstone Road – Appeal outcome

Appeal Decision Site visit made on 15 February 2022 by D Szymanski BSc (Hons) MA MRTPI an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State Decision date: 28th February 2022 Appeal Ref: APP/U2235/D/21/3280658 3 Rose Cottages, Maidstone Road, Nettlestead ME18 5HB • The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant planning permission. • The appeal is made by Mr Alex Marshall against the decision of Maidstone Borough Council. • The application Ref 21/501935/FULL, dated 8 April 2021, was refused by notice dated 4 June 2021. • The development proposed is Demolition of existing temporary timber structure and erection of part single storey, part two storey side and rear extension. Decision one. The appeal is dismissed.

Neighbourhood Plan

This has been put on hold for the moment.

Yalding Enterprise Park

The minutes and correspondence were noted, and Cllr Green was thanked for attending the meetings.

12. FINANCE

To note Budget monitoring report to March 2021

Resolution to authorise payments for March 2021

All members present **RESOLVED** to make the payments below, the cheques would be signed at the end of the meeting.

NPC CHEQUE LIST - MARCH					
Supplier					
Cheque No	Gross	VAT	Nett	Details	
622230	£142.51	£0.58	£141.93	Ms Michelle Rumble	Expenses - February/March
622231	£428.56	£71.43	£357.13	Capel Groundcare	GM Contract
622231	£216.00	£36.00	£180.00	Capel Groundcare	Tree work KGV Field
622231	£155.10	£25.85	£129.25	Capel Groundcare	Seated Leg Press & Bin emptying
622232	£198.00	£0.00	£198.00	Hadlum Design	Parish magazine printing
622233	£35.99	£6.00	£29.99	Hugo Fox	Replacement cheque
622234	£137.00	£0.00	£137.00	Nettlestead Village Hall	NVH Hall Hire

DD0301	£8.40	£1.40	£7.00	Sage Payroll	Payroll fee - March
S00301	██████	██████	██████	Ms Michelle Rumble	Salary - March
	£1,876.23	£141.26	£1,734.97		

Bank Reconciliation

All members present **RESOLVED** to accept the Bank Reconciliation and Statement, and these were signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

Household Support Grant

The members discussed how best to manage this and how it should be distributed, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will speak with the Family Liaison Officer at both the Wateringbury Primary School and East Peckham School and Cllr Bennett will speak to Chatterbox members.

13. SOCIAL MEDIA

This was postponed until the next meeting.

14. PLATINUM JUBILEE FAIR

This was postponed until the next meeting

15. CORRESPONDENCE

None

16. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Platinum Jubilee Fair
Social Media

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be on the 7th of APRIL 2022 at 7.45pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.35pm