

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LINTON PARISH COUNCIL
Held in Linton Village Hall on Monday 12th November 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs: Baxter
Firmin
Nicol
Sawyer
Smith

In attendance: Mrs Sherrie Babington – Clerk, Borough Councillor John Wilson and Members of the Public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Baxter.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Whitmarsh, Butters, Ward Councillor Collins and Councillor Stockell. These apologies were accepted by members.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The minutes from the previous meeting were circulated to all present. These were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising.

Parish Records – The Chairman reported that Councillor Butters was still progressing this matter. He informed members that he had the original hand written minute books, the first covering sixty years from 1894 and this was available if any member wished to have a look. He stated that he would store this safely for the PC.

5. Neighbourhood Watch Report.

No matters were raised.

6. Police Report.

PCSO Jo Watts gave her apologies to the meeting.

It was reported that there had been a spate of theft of gas bottles in the area, Councillor Smith reported that some gas bottles had been stolen from Loddington Farm.

7. Clerks Report & Correspondence.

The correspondence received during the course of the month was noted by members.

1. KALC – AGM – 17th November 2012
2. Kent Lane Rental Scheme – Consultation.
3. DCLG Consultation: Improving Local Government Transparency
4. DCLG Consultation - Making it Easier to set up new Town and Parish Councils
5. DCLG Consultation: Technical Review of Planning Appeal Procedures

8. **Conservation Management Plan.**

The Chairman referred to comments received from Paul Fisher of MBC that he had circulated to all members prior to the meeting regarding the Conservation Area Report.

He reported that he had also been in contact with the Chairmen from the other three Parish Councils who were also involved in Conservation Area Reviews and they were not minded to take this issue forward with the exception of Boughton Monchelsea, who felt that if the PC offered the resources to assist with the process, then MBC may agree to the implementation of the plan.

The Chairman stated that he felt that this could be a way forward and stated that it was the view of the Chairman of Boughton Monchelsea that the Borough would not finance the process, however if the PC wished to finance the work then it could be undertaken and completed.

He stated that Parish Councillors were going to undertake the work at Boughton Monchelsea.

Councillor Sawyer stated that the procedure had been started and therefore this was currently work in progress and she would be happy to become involved with this.

The Chairman stated that Boughton Monchelsea was due to hold a meeting with MBC to consider this matter further and they had asked if Linton PC would like to be involved with this.

It was agreed that the PC would like to be included in this meeting when the opportunity arose.

9. **Highways Matters.**

Councillor Firmin reported on highways matters.

The Chairman spoke regarding the Remembrance Service held in the church and stated that it was very sad that the two minute silence had been disturbed by the traffic travelling along the A229.

He stated that this was a problem confined to Linton and it was possible to seek a temporary road closure. He stated that he had looked into this and in some cases there was no cost involved.

This was discussed further and it was agreed that the Clerk would look into this to establish whether a road closure could be put in place for next year's service.

Action: Clerk to Acton.

The Chairman reported on a letter received from resident Mr Sendles concerning the overgrown vegetation at the bus stop in Wheelers Lane. He raised concerns that the overgrown vegetation was obscuring the sightlines along the road.

Councillor Firmin stated that he would liaise with Kent Highways concerning this matter.

Action: Councillor Firmin to progress.

Councillor Firmin reported on the Highways seminar that he had attended.

Councillor Sawyer reported on Speedwatch, she informed members that they now had a new member for the team and she asked for consideration to have an allocation in the budget for Speedwatch recruitment next year.

10. **Public.**

Mr Sendles raised concerns that the sightlines from the church car park were obscured by overgrown vegetation.

Concerns were also raised concerning the glass breaking at the bus shelter; Mr Sendles suggested that this may be caused by the movement of the post.

He reported that he had witnessed Kent Highways filling the puddles potholes along Wheelers Lane with tarmac.

These matters were noted by members and Councillor Firmin stated that he would liaise with Kent Highways.

11. Ward Councillor Report.

Borough Councillor Wilson gave his report to the meeting.

He reported on the launch of Lorry Watch at Leeds.

12. KCC Councillor Report.

The KCC Councillor was not present at the meeting.

13. Core Strategy.

No matters were reported.

14. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

Accounts for Payment - November 2012

Mrs. S Babington - salary/Office/Exp.	£368.44	Chq1818
Inland Revenue - PAYE	£47.80	Chq1819
BT	£42.50	Chq1820
Mr Bettle re Poppy Wreath	£30.00	Chq1821
South East Water	£86.10	Chq1822
Audit Commission	£192.00	Chq1823
Total	£766.84	

Accounts for Payment - December 2012

Mrs. S Babington - salary/Office/Exp.	£398.56	Chq1824
Inland Revenue - PAYE	£54.40	Chq1825
Total	£452.96	

Bank Balances

Lloyds TSB Account 02332818

Opening Balance on Current Account	13779.37	
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	1730.00	15509.37
Less Accounts for payment		766.84
		452.96
Closing Balance on Current Account		£14,289.57

b. Donations.

Members considered a request for a financial donation from Victim Support.

It was proposed by Councillor Baxter to make a donation of £30, this was seconded by Councillor Firmin and agreed by all present.

Action: Raise cheque for January meeting.

c. Parish Services Scheme.

The Clerk updated members on the situation concerning the Parish Services Scheme.

15. **Planning Matters.**

New Applications Received

MA/12/1897 Reason Hill Oast, Westerhill Road, Hunton.

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

MBC Decisions

12/1358 THE ELMS, REDWALL LANE, HUNTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0RL

Application to discharge conditions relating to MA/12/0586 (Partly retrospective application for the erection of a tractor/implement storage building and construction of an access track)

Approved/Granted

12/1461 THE BULL INN, LINTON HILL, LINTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4AW

Retrospective planning application for creation of timber decking as shown on plan numbers 392-02 RevA, 392-03 RevC, 392-04 RevB, Design and Access Statement and Application Form received 9th August 2012.

Approved/Granted with Conditions

12/0461 THE BULL INN, LINTON HILL, LINTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4AW

Retrospective application for the erection of an oak framed shelter to the rear and erection of a lean-to store.

Approved/Granted with Conditions

12/1380 WARES FARM PACKHOUSE, REDWALL LANE, LINTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT.

Erection of extension to existing building to provide ancillary storage and staff facilities for the existing packhouse (amendment to rear extension approved under application MA/11/1367 by means of a first floor link and insertion of mezzanine with window.

Approved/Granted with Conditions

The Chairman spoke regarding the Traveller and Gypsy Policy and his views on this. A general discussion then took place.

Councillor Sawyer asked about advertising in a Conservation Area as she was concerned about a property in Wheelers Lane advertising on their fence.

16. **Members Reports:**

a. **Allotments.**

Councillor Sawyer reported on the Allotments.

The Chairman read out a letter from Mr Sendles concerning rule 15 regarding the burning of rubbish at the allotments, requesting that allotment holders were allowed to burn rubbish from 30th September to 1st March.

Councillor Sawyer gave her views on this matter and the problems that had occurred in the past with allowing bonfires at the allotments.

This was considered by the Parish Council and it was agreed that individual allotment holders would not be allowed to have bonfires; however communal bonfires would be allowed at the agreement of the Allotments Manager and these would be controlled.

Councillor Sawyer informed members that there was a problem with two allotment plots that were not evenly split, she explained the situation and asked for advice on the course of action to take.

Members considered this matter and agreed that no action should be taken to readjust the allotment plots; however the rent would be adjusted to reflect the correct measurements of the allotment plots.

Action: Councillor Sawyer to respond the allotment holders.

b. KALC.

Councillor Smith reported on the recent KALC meeting he had attended.

c. Playground.

The Clerk informed members that the new picnic bench would be in place by the spring.

d. Web Master.

No matters were raised.

17. Linton Village Hall.

Councillor Sawyer reported on the village hall.

She reported on the kitchen refurbishment and the grant funding that had contributed to the financing of this.

18. Future Agenda Items.

Councillor Sawyer spoke regarding the forthcoming Yuletiders event.

19. Date of next Parish Council Meeting.

Monday 7th January 2013.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00pm.

Signed _____

Dated _____