



Parish Council

To Members of the Council.

In accordance with Schedule 12 paragraph 10 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972 you are hereby summonsed to attend a meeting of Ruckinge Parish Council at Ruckinge Village Hall on Thursday 10th February 2022 commencing at 7.30pm to consider the following items of business.

Signed:

Peter Setterfield

Peter Setterfield PSLCC
Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

1. **Apologies and approval of absences:**
2. **To receive declarations of interest:**
3. **Neighbourhood Watch:**
4. **Kent County Councillor's Report:**
5. **Ashford Borough Councillor's Report:**
6. **To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th December 2021 are a correct record:**
7. **Public Participation:**
8. **Ruckinge Village Hall:**
9. **Parish Councillor Vacancy:**
An update will be given at the meeting.
10. **Planning:**
22/00076/AS & 22/00077/AS Horton Green, Ash Hill, Ruckinge – Proposed installation of a 10kw ground mounted photovoltaic solar array.

To consider any planning applications received prior to the meeting

11. Finance:

To confirm the following payments made between meetings:

Clerk's salary £398.92

Clerk's expenses £22.50

HMRC £127.60

CD Tearle £75.00

PKF Littlejohn £48.00

To authorise the following payments:

Clerk's salary £322.17

HMRC £93.60

12. Parish Council website:

An update will be given at the meeting.

13. Business Plan:

Circulated prior to the meeting.

14. Southern Water – Drainage issues:

An update will be given at the meeting.

15. Bromley Green Hall:

General issues relating to the Hall, Car Park & Play Area

16. Queen's Green Canopy:

To thank Her Majesty for her service and celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, Ashford Borough Council is aiming to plant one tree representing each resident who will be living in the borough in 2022. This will almost be 135,500 trees planted over the next three years. This is also a fantastic opportunity to increase opportunities to sequester carbon in the longer term and beyond. This is the Parish Council's chance to support the Borough Council as a green pioneer, increase biodiversity and enhance the local environment, improve the health and wellbeing of residents and enjoyment of local areas.

In order to support this exciting project, the Borough Council are inviting Parish Councils to apply for trees and hedging plants to plant within their own parish areas. Each Parish Council can apply for as many trees or hedging plants that the proposed site can accommodate, the Borough Council do require that the Parish Council either own the land that they will be planting or have the legal landowners permission in writing. Applications can be made for more than one site, however each site must have a separate application.

As part of the application process the Borough Council need an overview of the proposal, where the trees are to be planted, what the applicant is hoping to achieve and how the area will be prepared for planting and the future maintenance of the trees to ensure that the project is sustainable and aligned to the Borough Council's green pioneer objectives. So whether the plan is to make a small woodland for local interest, provide shading for a popular seating area or want to plant a hedgerow to

improve a site's biodiversity, this is the opportunity to enhance the local environment and improve local people's health and wellbeing. Trees have many benefits, they benefit people's health and wellbeing, they benefit the environment, they enhance biodiversity, they strengthen communities and have been shown to benefit local economies, by planting the right trees in the right places for the right reasons, it is possible to achieve so much more than just sequestering carbon.

All trees and hedging will be native species sourced through the UK and Ireland Sourced and Grown (UKISG) Assurance Scheme which is consistent with maintaining very high standards of biosecurity and biodiversity. All plants will vary in size depending on species but will be approximately 60 – 80cm. Trees will be delivered to successful Parish Councils by Aspire Landscape Management for planting in December 2022.

17. Items for future meetings/ exchange of information

Date of next meeting: 10th March 2022 at Ruckinge Village Hall