



Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Ruckinge Parish Council held on Thursday 9th February 2023 at 7.30pm in Ruckinge Village Hall.

Present: S Hewison (Chairman), D Archer, A Beaney, T Bennett, T Cliffe-Harrison, M Pepper and P Sillibourne.

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Also present: Cllr L Harman (ABC), P New (Neighbourhood Watch) and 2 residents.

235. **Apologies for absence:**

Cllr D Robey (KCC).

236. **Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

237. **Minutes:**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th December 2022 were submitted, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

238. **Chairman's Report:**

All matters covered within agenda items.

239. **Neighbourhood Watch:**

Report attached.

240. **Public Participation:**

Concern was raised about the number of potholes on the B2067, this will be reported to Kent Highways.

241. **Kent County Councillor's Report:**

The KCC budget has been a very difficult process, but we have achieved a Balanced Budget, which is obviously very important. However, things are likely to be very tight next year.

We continue to make good progress on our plans to put Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) into Dungeness, and the announcement of a new Department of Energy today will be a big help in this regard.

242. **Ashford Borough Councillor's Report:**

Cllr Harman reported on the ongoing issues with planning as well as potential issues with dustbins, the current contractor BIFFA are in negotiation with the workforce to prevent strike action.

I recently attended a meeting with the Chairman and KCC regarding the drains in Bromley Green Road and the issues being faced by residents. KCC and Southern Water believe that residents can help resolve the issues. Cllr Harman proposed that a leaflet be delivered to every household pointing out the Riparian responsibility to ensure ditches and culverts within the residents boundary are kept clear.

Southern Water are due to carry out another round of the Turbogel in the spring.

243. **Planning:**

15/00856/AS Land at Pound Lane, Magpie Hall Road, Bond Lane and, Ashford Road, Kingsnorth - Outline application for a development comprising of up to 550 dwellings in a mix of size, type and tenure. Provision of local recycling facilities. Provision of areas of formal and informal open space. Installation of utilities, infrastructure to serve the development including flood attenuation, surface water attenuation, water supply, waste water facilities, gas supply, electricity supply (including sub-station, telecommunications infrastructure and renewable energy). Transport infrastructure including highway improvements in the vicinity of Ashford Road/Magpie Hall Road/Steeds Lane, Pound Lane and Bond Lane, plus an internal network of roads and junctions, footpaths and cycle routes. New planting and landscaping both within the proposed development and on its boundaries as well as ecological enhancement works. Associated groundworks. ****SUBJECT TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT****

Resolved: the Parish Council object to the application on the grounds that there is insufficient infrastructure being considered for a development of this scale and the impact it will have on adjoining areas.

244. **Finance:**

Schedule of payments:

S & H Fire	£366.47
Clerk's salary	£510.60
HMRC	£99.20
Clerk's expenses	£34.65
Oil purchase	£414.75
Clerk's salary	£474.65
HMRC	£120.20
Clerk's expenses	£11.25
Home Tech Electrical	£40.00
Home Tech Electrical	£100.00
SLCC Enterprises	£36.00

245. **Ruckinge Village Hall:**

The new committee met in January to discuss plans for the hall moving forward and a follow meeting held prior to this meeting. The Parish Clerk was obliged to visit the hall this week as Kent Fire and Rescue had been advised that the Parish Council were not aware of their responsibilities.

The only issues that Kent Fire and Rescue highlighted was the proximity of the caravans in the car park which the council are aware of and that the boiler service was overdue. The outstanding annual electrical PAT testing had been carried out prior to the visit and the boiler

service booked. A full fire risk assessment was passed to Kent Fire and Rescue who apologised for wasting the Clerk's time.

246. **Bromley Green Hall:**

Nothing to report.

247. **Carters Field:**

The replacement dog waste bin is being scheduled by Ashford Borough Council and the signage will be followed up. The residents have been consulted about the introduction of new piece of equipment and as the Parish Councils has now received a further £1,000. Grant, courtesy of Borough Councillor L Harman the project can proceed. The Clerk to contact the Grounds maintenance contractor to obtain a quote and providing it is within the budget to order the equipment for installation.

248. **Items for future meetings / exchange of information:**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:57pm.