

## KINGSNORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 28th February, 2008, at Kingsnorth Sports Pavilion

PRESENT: Mr. T. Horsman (Chairman); Mr. R. Gardner; Mrs. A. Hicks; Mr. J. Sheehan; Mr. N. Shorter; Mr. J. Holland; Mr. J. Wedgbury. Also attending: Cllr. M. Angell (for part of meeting); Mr. R. Pavis and Mr. P. Beasley (up to and including item 4). Mrs. P. Terry (for item 3).

1. **Apologies** Mr. S. Bates (working); Mr. M. Ciccone (working); Mrs. L. Ross (on holiday). Cllr. P. Bartlett and Cllr. P. Davison (attending another meeting); Cllr. Mrs. T. Heyes. Mr. J. Wedgbury and Mr. J. Holland apologised for arriving late (at item 13) due to attending another meeting. Cllr. M. Angell apologised for arriving late due to chairing another meeting.
2. **To note any declarations of interest on agenda items** There were none.
3. **Open Forum** Mrs. P. Terry reported that the new path in the buffer zone adjacent to Finn Farm Rd was being well used and much appreciated. There were some problems with flooding in some places which she hoped could be rectified. There was also some earth moving taking place which might affect this. The Clerk will contact Barton Willmore to find out who could deal with this. Residents would like if possible to have links from the path to Bond Lane and Stumble Lane. The condition of the path would have to be monitored and vandalism may also be a problem. There is a pillbox which may get misused. AH would look at this to see if anything needed to be done.
4. **Charlton Athletic Community Scheme Solutions**  
The Chairman welcomed Mr. Andrew Wood who is the Charlton Athletic Scheme Social Inclusion Officer for the Ashford, Shepway and Dover areas. He explained the objects of the Scheme and how the football sessions were run in areas where anti-social behaviour was a problem. They were extremely flexible in their response to the needs of the young people concerned. Sessions usually lasted an hour and a half or two hours and consisted of football coaching, tournaments, etc. over a period of several weeks. They were already operating the Scheme in four areas of Ashford and this had resulted in significant reductions in anti-social behaviour in those areas. They had noted that Kingsnorth was also having increasing problems and wished to start sessions at either the playing field or The Moat.

The organisers would bring all their own equipment, including portable, low-level flood-lighting. They were entirely self-sufficient and would not need to use the pavilion. They could set up 5-side pitches on any part of the field and would not need to use the football pitch. Funding would be necessary and the cost was £100 a session with two coaches who were trained to at least Level 2. At sessions elsewhere, Community Wardens and Police Officers also attended and they were often trained to Level 1 coaching and participated in the sessions. The sessions were for children from 9 – 19 and were free to those attending. All advertising would be carried out by the Scheme and was usually done through the local Schools. Mr. Wood was planning a potential starting date of 6<sup>th</sup> April for the Kingsnorth taster sessions which were already financed. The Scheme was non-profit making and the PC would not have any contractual obligations. Insurance was in place and coaches were CRB checked. The sessions would also offer an opportunity for giving alcohol/drug abuse advice, etc.

Councillors, Mr. Pavis, and the Community Warden were all in favour of starting the Scheme in Kingsnorth and it was agreed that the finance of future sessions by the PC

would be discussed at the next meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March. PACT would also be seeking finance from local commercial sponsors.

5. **Minutes of the last meeting** NS asked for clarification on para. 2 of page 1492 where it was stated that the Trustees should make a presentation to the PC *or a sub-committee*. RG had mentioned this, however, NS felt that a presentation should be made to the PC as a whole. It was proposed by NS, seconded by RG and agreed that the minutes of the last meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup> should be approved as a true record.
6. **Matters arising**
  - (a) Bell Chapel pond Mr. Fry had forwarded details from the Depot Manager at BIFFA about risk assessment for clearing the pond of litter. When the banks have dried out he will re-assess the area but at present could see no safe method of recovering the majority of floating debris. TH had reported to Mr. Fry that there was a Tesco trolley in the pond. RG reported that the trees in the Entrance Park had now been staked properly and some new ones had been planted. The Clerk had passed the PC's thanks to Mrs. Tobbitt.
  - (b) Goalpost grant The Football Foundation had not yet given the PC a decision on its grant application. There had been further vandalism of the goalposts, but Mr. Blackmer had repaired these again.
  - (c) Kent Police Key Link Swift Security had said that the PC need take no action on this.
  - (d) Internal Audit assessment RG, AH and JS had volunteered to be on the working group. The Clerk had given them some preliminary information and a meeting date would be arranged in March.
  - (e) Recreation Centre subsidy The Clerk had written to Mr. Carty and Mr. Kirkland as requested, but there had been no replies yet. She had also written a letter Mr. Stone, the Chairman of the Trustees to let him know of the PC's decisions.
  - (f) Amendments to standing orders – prejudicial interests The Clerk had circulated further information about this item as JH had queried one or two aspects of the amendments. However, he had reported to the Clerk that he was now content to leave the amended text as agreed at the last meeting.
  - (g) New football pitch/playing field JH had spoken to Mrs. Jones of Legal Services. She will contact Brachers again about their fees.
  - (h) Merino Way verge The Clerk had queried progress on the maintenance of this verge. Mrs. Wickenden will remind the Engineer and Highways Inspector to look at this.
  - (i) Pothole – Imagine, Millbank Rd. This had now been repaired.
  - (j) Road from Finn Farm to Bliby The Clerk had reported the poor condition of this but had not received a response yet from Highways.
7. **Correspondence**
  - (a) Community Warden Mr. Beasley, the new Community Warden introduced himself. He mentioned the pilot scheme for saving water which was being trialed on Washford Farm. KCC had given him some leaflets to distribute about this, which NS felt was not the best use of the Warden's time. Mr. Beasley was aware of the increase in anti-social behaviour and was liaising with the PSCO and Community Policeman. Mr. Bacon, the previous Warden, had given him all the necessary information to contact the Gurkhas

when they were available to re-seal the Britannia Lane pill box. He reported that that action was being taken by Bryant Homes to remedy the problems caused by vandalism at the Westhawk play area.

- (b) Pond at The Granary, Pound Court, Church Hill Mr. & Mrs. Day had thanked the PC for its help and support in the matter which had now been resolved.
- (c) Litter-picking, etc. at Westhawk The Clerk reported an exchange of e-mails between Cllr. Angell and Mr. Robinson about the lack of environmental maintenance and play area repairs in this unadopted area.
- (d) KCC subsidised bus services Mr. Pay had written. Re-tendering had taken place in Dec. and the currently subsidised services would continue although there may be minor changes to the timetable or a change of operator.
- (e) Also received: Enjoy England: official guide to taking part in St.George's Day celebrations; Swift Security report for Jan; letter from KCC about the withdrawal of the Kent Minerals Development Framework Development Plan Documents; Environment Agency press release about recruitment of Regional Committee members; Local Council Review; Open Spaces Magazine.

8. <b>Finance</b> (a) <u>Payments since the last meeting</u>	
1493 KALC, fee for Planning Information Day (VAT £9.62)	64.62
1494 Mr. G. Blackmer, paint & rollers	24.95
1495 Park Leisure Ltd, repair to safety surfacing (VAT £43.75)	293.75
1496 ACRK, Fire Safety Folder	15.00
1497 Miss J. Mills, reimburse cost of memory stick for new Clerk (VAT £2.68)	<u>17.97</u>
	416.29

Receipts Nil so far

Transfers

21.2. From 30D to Treasurer's account 1,500.00

Reconciliation of bank balances with receipts and payments accounts – 1.4.07 to 22.2.08

Lloyds TSB Treasurer's account at 31.1.08 (plus transfers)	4,099.55
Lloyds TSB 30 day account at 31.12.07 (less transfers)	42,809.74
Bank of Ireland account at 1.2.08	<u>72,185.31</u>
	119,094.60
Less uncleared cheques nos.1485-1497	<u>-2,561.89</u>
<b>Balance at 22.2.08</b>	<b><u>116,532.71</u></b>
Add expenditure 1.4.07 – 22.2.08	<u>68,252.43</u>
	<u>184,785.14</u>

Balance brought forward from 2006-2007	106,938.21
Add income 1.4.07 – 22.2.08	<u>77,846.93</u>
	<u>184,785.14</u>

It was proposed by AH, seconded by JS and agreed that the above accounts should be accepted.

Forthcoming commitments

Mr. G. Blackmer, Feb. salary	318.27
Mr. P. Cleave, salary from 9.2. – 7.3.	359.11

HSBC (Swift Security), security patrols for Feb.	259.68
ABC, lockable dog waste bin for Britannia Lane	c250.00
British Gas, supply to pavilion	?
BT, telephone line rental to pavilion alarm	c53.00
EDF Energy, supply to pavilion	106.49

#### Income expected

Bank of Ireland interest for Jan.	c320.00
Kent Cycling Association, hire of pavilion for road race HQ	85.00

- (b) To consider finance for and siting of a possible new seat at Park Farm end of playing field This was raised by RG after a request from a parishioner. Cllrs. had looked at the area but agreed with RG that because of the football pitch and the danger of players running into a seat or someone being hit by a ball, there was no safe site for a new seat at that end of the playing field. There should be a suitable site on the new playing field and it was agreed to consider the matter again when this project had progressed further.
- (c) To approve purchase of Fire Safety Folder from ACRK The Clerk had ordered the folder without realising that there was a cost of £15. However, RG had looked at the publication and considered that it will be useful for the pavilion fire safety assessment, which is a form of self-certification which was now mandatory. NS had this matter in hand and would refer to the information in the folder. He would be meeting Mr. Blackmer to discuss this the following week. Some amendments may also be needed to the information given to organisations hiring the pavilion. It was proposed by JS, seconded by RG that this purchase be approved. The £15 would be taken from the pavilion minor equipment budget of £50.

## 9. **Planning matters**

- (a) To consider any new applications  
*22 Broadmead (WF)* Two-storey side extension. (O, as the extension will reach right to the boundary and if the neighbouring property did the same it would result in a terracing effect which would be detrimental to the appearance and character of the area.)  
*55a Tally Ho Rd (SX)* Two-storey front extension to include 1 new dormer window. (O, as considered to be over-development of the site and would over-dominate neighbouring property).  
*14 Harrow Way (BF)* To convert internal garage into a kitchen. (S, provided additional off-road parking space is available to replace that lost in the garage.)
- (b) To report decisions on applications by ABC received since the meeting on 14.2: Granted  
Granted:  
*Land east of LP27 Park Farm* Layout, access, scale, landscaping & appearance of Phase 2 of development at Park Farm East for the first 202 dwellings. (Comments on maintenance of landscaping)  
*Little Steading, Magpie Hall Rd.* Erection of a single-storey rear extension. (S)  
Refused:  
*Houghton Farmhouse, Magpie Hall Rd.* Two-storey rear extension and internal alterations (S).

AH and RG reported that 'Your Ashford' newspaper dated 27.2. had reported that Ashford Town FC want to redevelop the Homelands site as a sports village. No planning application had yet been received by ABC.

10. **Highway and footpath matters**

- (a) To discuss whether to investigate if residents want street lights on Church Hill JH had asked for this item to be put on the agenda but was still at another meeting. It was therefore deferred to the next meeting on 13.3.

11. **County Councillor's report**

MA reported on the lack of maintenance by the developer of the Knight's Park/Westhawk estate which was not yet adopted. Apart from littering and fly-tipping, the play area had been vandalised resulting in safety concerns. MA had proposed to Cllr. Ferrin that developers should be required to set up an environmental team, which would be responsible for maintenance of new areas until they are adopted, and which could be contacted by residents and local authorities. He asked whether the PC could write to Cllr. Ferrin supporting this proposal. This was proposed by NS, seconded by JS and agreed. MA had been Chairing a Local Board Meeting about the new library proposed for Ashford. Funding was in place for what would be a 3-storey building which would also include other services. Temporary premises for the Library were being acquired nearby while the new building was under construction. MA also reported on the Ashford Bus Strategy and the new Ashford's Future Partnership.

12. **Borough Councillors' reports**

Park Farm South JW reported that the Conservation Forum is to undergo some changes to make it a better committee.

Weald South

AH mentioned that a Highways bid for traffic lights for Kingsnorth crossroads was unsuccessful for 2008-9 and would be re-assessed for 2009-2010.

13. **Parish Ward Cllrs' reports**

Westhawk JS provided the Clerk with the numbers of the Ashford Rd. street lights that were not working. She would forward these to Kent Highways.

14. **Reports**

- (a) Kingsnorth Recreation Centre Management Committee Nothing to report.
- (b) Kingsnorth Village Hall Committee There had been no recent meeting.
- (c) Kingsnorth School Governors' meeting There will be a full Governors' meeting on 13.3.
- (d) Furley Park School Governors' meeting Nothing to report.
- (e) Information Booklet AH said that changes suggested by Cllrs. had been sent to Mrs. Allen who would incorporate these into the draft booklet. Quotes for printing would then be requested. She had received a quote from Royal Mail for delivery. However, there was a minimum price threshold and it might be necessary for Councillors to deliver the booklets in their wards. It was agreed that the information should go to all residents not just to those moving into new houses. ALT would produce a leaflet about the Rec. Centre to be put into the Booklet. It was suggested that this should be printed in the Booklet rather than be on a separate flier. This possibility would be investigated.
- (f) Willesborough Dykes update AH reported the Landowner would like to build on his part of the Canal Zone, and Kier properties would like to build on their holding near Asda. Meetings had been held with key stakeholders including the EA, Natural England, the Kent Wildlife Trust and ABC planners to agree on a joint agenda for identifying an

integrated solution to water management on both sides of the Romney Marsh Road. It had the potential for being a nationally-relevant “demonstration project” for development in floodplains. A hydrological desk study has been carried out. Ms Milner is due to complete the initial design proposals for the Nature/Wetland Park by the end of March. Discussions had taken place between ABC and KCC on a proposed cycle/pedestrian route. Ecological and structural surveys are being carried out on the two bridges and reports will be in by end of March. A community/education project with schools in the area had taken place. Funds of £35k have been allocated from GAF2 which must be used by the end of March, and a bid incorporated into Ashford’s Future Bid for GAF3 monies. There will be another meeting on 28.4.

15. **Items for next agenda**

- (a) Speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting The APM will be in May. Cllrs. were asked to make suggestions for a guest speaker.
- (b) Update on traffic calming scheme RG reminded Cllrs. that Mr. Jones was supposed to contact the PC before mid-March with a date for the start date for the installation of this scheme. He requested that this item be put on the agenda so that the PC could decide on further action should Mr. Jones not provide the information by that date.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Chairman