

POSTLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Postling Parish Council meeting held on Friday 25 May 2016 starting at 6.30 pm at Postling Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Cllr Frank Hobbs (Chair), Cllr Susan Carey, Cllr John Elphick, Cllr Helen Calderbank, Cllr Christine Hobbs, Cllr Jane Reynolds and 1 member of the Public.

Parish Clerk: Jo Maher

1. Apologies: Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee, Cllr Charlie Wilkins, Cllr John Patrick
2. Declaration of Interest: Cllr Christine Hobbs declared an interest in item 5D
3. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 April 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chair.
4. Matters arising from Minutes:-
 - A. Kent Mineral & Waste: No news to report
 - B. Lorry Park, Operation Stack: No news to report. Decisions will be made after EU Referendum (23 June 2016)
 - C. Broadband: Email Simon Webster (23.05.16) regarding V Fast has been discussed. The Queen's Speech on 18 May, named the Digital Economy Bill, it promises a right to fast broadband to EVERY household. Where the budget will come from remains to be seen.
 - D. The Parish website is up and running. The Council has expressed it's thanks to Mr Wayne O'Gilvie for his help to set this up.
 - E: Stone Street report: Has been read and no comments are submitted.
5. Election of Officers:
 - A. Election of Chairman: There are no other nominations and Cllr Frank Hobbs is willing to stand. Cllr Frank Hobbs has served the Parish Council for 50 years. Cllr Calderbank proposed Cllr Frank Hobbs to be the Chairman of the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Elphick and unanimously agreed.
 - B. Election of the Vice-Chairman: There are no other nominations and Cllr Reynolds is willing to stand. However, Cllr Reynolds stated that she would not be willing to be Chairman if the current Chairman resigned or retired. Cllr Elphick proposed Cllr Reynolds to be the Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Christine Hobbs and unanimously agreed.
 - C. Election of 2 Representatives of KALC area Committee: Cllr Reynolds proposed Cllr Christine Hobbs and Cllr Frank Hobbs to be the Representatives. This was seconded by Cllr Calderbank and unanimously agreed.
 - D. Election of 2 Representatives of the Village Hall Committee: Cllr Reynolds proposed Cllr Calderbank and Cllr Frank Hobbs to be the Representatives. This was seconded by Cllr Elphick and unanimously agreed.
6. Planning Applications:

"To confirm the planning applications received since the last meeting, circulated to Councillors for comments, the outcomes of those deliberations, and to consider any further applications received since this agenda was published."

Y16/0265/SH Land adjoining Orchard Cottage, The Street, Postling: Fell 1 elder, 3 leyland cypress, 1 Western red cedar, 1 ash and prune 1 yew hedge, all subject of tree preservation order no. 12 of 1988. This application has been approved.

Y16/0371/SH Stop 24 Services and port early arrivals, Stanford intersection, Stanford, Hythe, Advertisement consent for the display of 1 no. internally illuminated v-shaped tenant directory sign, 1 no, internally illuminated freestanding double sided tenant directory sign and 1 no. internally illuminated freestanding sign. No news to report

Y16/0296/SH Postling Lodge, Farthing Common, Lyminge, Section 73 Application to vary condition 3 of planning permission Y15/0948/SH to enable alterations to the design. A comment was submitted to Shepway Planning on the 4th May "Postling Parish Council is unable to comment on planning application Y16/0296/SH - Postling Lodge Farthing Common, due to lack of evidence submitted. Plans submitted do not show the actual reduction of floor space."

The council is unable to make decisions based on online information only. The Shepway Planning department has agreed that the planning portal is far from ideal.

7. Finance:

A. Came & Co Insurance renewal, Long Term (3 years) agreement expires on 31 May 2016. Three quotations received. Our Agent Came & Co. recommends using Ecclesiastical. The annual premium is £273.75. Cllr Reynolds propose to accept the Ecclesiastical quote. This was seconded by Cllr Christine Hobbs and unanimously agreed.

B. Annual Return for the Year ended 31 March 2016: The annual governance statement has been approved and signed. This was proposed by Cllr Christine Hobbs and seconded by Cllr Reynolds and unanimously agreed. The internal auditor expressed his concern that the assets recorded are not depreciated and therefor questions the accurate values. The Chairman would seek advice from KALC. However the guidance notes states that "fixed assets should not be revalued or depreciated during the year ... (original purchase cost or a proxy if this is not known)". The Council wish to thank Derek Wood for his help as an internal auditor.

C. Clerk's fee for the period of April 2015 to May 2016 for £400. This was proposed by Cllr Christine Hobbs and seconded by Cllr Calderbank and unanimously agreed.

D. Clerk's fee to comply with Transparency Code for Small Councils, £159.76. This is the remnants of the transparency grant. This was proposed by Cllr Christine Hobbs and seconded by Cllr Calderbank and unanimously agreed.

E. A fruit and veg basket was presented to Wayne O'Gilvie who helped the council set up its website. The cost was £30.84. This was proposed by Cllr Christine Hobbs and seconded by Cllr Calderbank and unanimously agreed.

8. Any other business for information only. The Centenary Fields Programme has been discussed. No action required.

9. Date of next meeting Wednesday 27 July 2016

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.20 PM