

POSTLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Postling Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4th April 2018 starting at 6.30 pm at Postling Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Cllr Frank Hobbs (Chair), Cllr Christine Hobbs, Cllr Charlie Wilkins, Cllr Jane Reynolds, Cllr Susan Carey, Mr Wayne O'Gilvie, Cllr John Elphick, Cllr John Pattrick

Parish Clerk: Jo Maher

1. Apologies: Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee, Cllr Helen Calderbank
2. Declaration of Interest: None
3. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 31st Jan 2018 were agreed and signed by the Chair.
4. Matters arising from Minutes:
 - Parish Website: Our new website www.postlingparishcouncil.co.uk is up and running. Mr O'Gilvie gave a demonstration and discussed the possibilities. The final cost of the setting up the website is £70 rather than £25 as originally anticipated. This includes the web hosting, which expires on 07.10.18. Cllr Pattrick proposed this was a reasonable and acceptable sum and it was unanimously agreed to pay Mr O'Gilvie. The domain name purchase remains £8.20 which expires on 07.10.18. Total invoice is £78.20.
 - Defibrillator: Cllr Elphick shared an article of The Times and pointed out that if the Council is going to spend money on a defibrillator, we must show due diligence that the item is insured under the current insurance policy. Clerk to check with insurance company.
 - GDPR -General Data Protection Regulation update report: new council email addresses are required to separate the incoming emails from personal emails. Cllr Frank Hobbs proposed to use a Company called Satswana who is recommended by KALC to act as an independent GDPR officer for Postling Parish Council. This will cost £150 per annum. It was seconded by Cllr Christine Hobbs and unanimously agree. Clerk is to make contact with Satswana in preparation for the next meeting.
 - Broadband and TV. No response received from a letter to Damian Collins dated the 15th Feb. Cllr Reynolds talked about Pent Farm as a Hub. Cllr Carey advised that there are grants available for setting up broadband hubs as a community project. First a Community Project must be set up and secondly the overall cost must be checked out first.

5. 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."

Y18/0109/SH, Vicarage Farm, Cuckoo Lane, Postling, Erection of a part single story, part two storey rear extension and single storey side extension (orangery) following demolition of existing conservatory and rear extension. This has been approved.

Y18/0184/SH, Postling House, Cuckoo Lane, Postling, Extension to existing detached garage to form storage area. Awaiting approval.

Y18/0328/S, Rivendell, Lyminge, Enlargement of existing garage roof to create bedroom with the erection of a first floor link to main dwelling along with the erection of a car port. The Council has no objection to this planning.

Places and Policies Consultation was discussed with local plan of 30 dwellings near the Golf course in Etchinghill and 30 dwellings near the old nursery in Etchinghill to be built over 20 years. No action to be taken as consultation was finished.

6. Finance: HSBC has decided that Postling Parish Council will be a Commercial customer from 1st July 2018. Letter of HSBC dated February 2018 was discussed.
7. Resignation of Clerk. Last day will be 23rd May 2018. Clerk will complete the Annual Audit before handover. Advertising is required in search for new Clerk and Responsible Officer.
8. Otterpool Park Garden Town: Email of 3rd April of Cllr David Monk has been discussed regarding Otterpool Parish meetings. Cllr Frank Hobbs and Cllr Christine Hobbs have put their names forward for the meeting on 16 April.
9. Any Other Business:
 - Name change Shepway District Council on 1st April 2018 to Folkestone & Hythe District Council
 - Letters from Parishioner: Charity search for shipmodels has been discussed
 - Lyminge Post office closure has been discussed.
 - Susan's reports: see attached
10. Date of next meeting Wed 23rd May 2018

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55 pm

Kent County Councillor's report

The snow in March has left our roads with many potholes. KCC is making use of reserves to add to our normal pothole repair budget and we have received an additional £3m from the Government making a total of £11m. Please report all the potholes you see either on the website www.kent.gov.uk or on 03000 41 81 81 and remember to take a note of the reference number which makes it easier should any report need follow up.

Last autumn KCC put forward two bids to the Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund one for a project in Swale and one for Otterpool Park Garden Town. We learned last month that the Swale project was through to the second stage but not Otterpool. This is disappointing but the work done for the bid will be useful as the infrastructure is still needed by whichever route it is funded.

I have contacted our MP, Damian Collins and written to the Chief Executive of the Post Office about the sudden closure of Lyminge Post Office. I have received a holding reply dated 27 March and will let you know further news. There is a will to keep Post Office services in Lyminge with both a local business interested and community based options.

Later this year KCC will be announcing details of a voucher scheme to help those who are still without access to adequate broadband fund a connection. Around 4% of households in Kent are in this position and solutions will depend on geography, economics and demand. The scheme will be widely publicised.

District Councillor's report

Our new name of Folkestone & Hythe takes effect from this month. Direct debits will be automatically transferred and e-mails forwarded to the old addresses for six months.

The Framework Masterplan for Otterpool Park Garden Town has just been issued taking on board many of the comments during the first round of consultations. A planning application is expected by the Autumn.

Housing England (the Government's housing agency) has bought land within the Otterpool Park Garden Town area from a private developer and will become a partner with the District Council and Cozumel (the racecourse owner). The district council has written to the owners of land that they still wish to acquire but most of what will be needed has already been secured.

Susan Carey
04/04/2018