

# POSTLING PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of Postling Parish Council meeting held at Postling Village Hall on Tuesday 28 September 2021 at 6.30pm

1. To record attendance and apologies for absence  
Attending: Cllr Helen Calderbank in the chair, Cllrs Yvonne Mumford, John Pattrick, Charlie Wilkins, Dan Shaddick, Parish Clerk Clare Hamilton. Apologies: Chairman Cllr Frank Hobbs, Cllr Christine Hobbs, County Councillor Susan Carey, District Councillor Jenny Hollingsbee.
2. There were no members' declarations of interest on Agenda items.
3. **It was resolved** unanimously to accept the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2021.  
Proposed Cllr Dan Shaddick, Seconded Cllr Charlie Wilkins.
4. 15-minute Public Participation session not required.
5. Matters arising from previous meeting  
Lighting of Beacons on 2 June 2022 in celebration of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee:  
As an alternative to a Beacon, County Cllr Susan Carey reported she may have KCC member grant funds available for a flag pole. Clerk looked into flag pole costs which ranged from £777 to £1417. Councillors felt the cost was disproportionate to the potential use of a flag pole and the traditional Postling bonfire was the preferred option.
6. **To consider** Planning Applications received since last meeting, circulated to Councillors for comments, the outcomes of those deliberations, and to consider any applications received since this agenda was published:

*Received 23.09.21:*

**21/1944/FH Westbury House, Sandling Road, Postling CT21 4HB**

Demolition of existing single storey garage and erection of a two storey garage with annex above  
Comments to F&HDC by 16.10.21

- a. **21/1599/FH Stour Rise, Staple Lane, Postling CT21 4EZ**  
Single storey front and side extensions  
F&HDC Approved
  - b. **21/1660/FH Vicarage Farm, Cuckoo Lane, Postling CT21 4ET**  
Creation of a 150m<sup>2</sup> pond for Great Crested Newts as part of Natural England's District Level Licensing scheme  
F&HDC Approved
  - c. **19/1258/FH Postling Lodge, Farthing Common**  
Retrospective planning permission for a grounds maintenance building and entrance gate accessed from Loughborough Lane at Postling Lodge  
PPC Objection. Awaiting decision from F&HDC
  - d. **21/0813/FH Farthing Common Reservoir, Lyminge CT18 8DH**  
Construction of a new concrete reservoir, booster pumping station and stand-by generator within the existing operational AWL site and associated works  
PPC Objection. Awaiting decision from F&HDC
7. Highways
    - a. Farthing Common, junc. Stone St and Loughborough Lane: 24.8.21 up to 3 days for duct blockage repairs to be carried out by Openreach
    - b. Farthing Common: 13.09.21 up to 2 days for Openreach cabling
    - c. Sandling Road/Cuckoo Lane: 13 September 2021, est. completion by 24 September 2021 for Openreach cabling and tree works. *At the time of this meeting this work is ongoing. 'Road Closed' signs are leading to confusion as roads remain open.*
    - d. A20 Stanford Intersection: overnight closures 4, 11, 18 & 25 September 2021 for carriageway resurfacing
    - e. B2068 Stone Street, Monks Horton (Farthing Common area): Overnight Closures from 30.09.21 to

*Chairman Frank Hobbs*

*Parish Clerk/RFO Clare Hamilton | 14a Elmstead Place, Folkestone CT20 1QU | 01303 257321 / 07890 248601*

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11.10.21 for resurfacing

- f. Fault reporting: Parishioners are encouraged to join Councillors in reporting Highways faults at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

## 8. Finance

- a. Balance of account at 28 September 2021: £6,173.45

- b. Payments since last meeting:

C Hamilton	Salary June & July	£ 354.98
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C Hamilton	Travel exp. July meeting	£ 7.20
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Receipts since last meeting:

Cheque received for PNVH lease	£ 50.00
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- c. Expenditure due before next meeting:

C Hamilton	Salary August & Sept	£ 354.98
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C Hamilton	Travel exp. Sept meeting	£ 7.20
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**It was resolved** unanimously to approve expenditure.

- d. Change of signatory forms: Forms completed and submitted to HSBC. Chairman to remain as signatory, Clerk to replace John Elphick as second signatory.

- e. HSBC Safeguarding Customer Review by phone 09.09.21: Telephone appointment held between HSBC Safeguard Review Manager and Parish Clerk on 09.09.21 (HSBC is instructed by the regulator to carry out these appointments with business customers as part of their commitment to fight fraud and financial crime).

Action to be taken: Parish Council account was set up historically as a community account and will now be changed to a local council account. The Safeguard Review Manager informed this is a formality, there are long delays to these changes, and to carry on managing the account as normal. Further forms for completion will be received in due course.

## 9. Reports from District Councillor and County Councillor - see Appendix

## 10. Telephone kiosk adoption

Still waiting to hear feedback from BT: on 31 May BT informed "This kiosk is available for adoption but we would need to carry out a full consultation, this will take 90 days".

## 11. GDPR

No new additions to email list. Two names removed from list as emails consistently bounced back.

## 12. 'Queen's Green Canopy'

A briefing note from Lord Lieutenant of Kent discussed: free saplings are no longer available but are available for purchase. Lack of parish council land for the planting of saplings was discussed. A Councillor's suggestion of a local alternative to encourage more bees and pollinators in Postling was welcomed. Bulbs could be distributed in spring, leading to a display of colour in June to mark the Queen's Jubilee. To discuss suitable bulbs, costs, and funding opportunities at November meeting.

## 13. For information

- Verge cutting: Sandling Road verges need cutting, Clerk to report to Highways Steward
- BT Openreach: enquiry received from a parishioner about Openreach road closures as they had not received any information about the fibre broadband rollout. All are waiting to hear from KCC/Openreach with progress updates. A Farthing Common Resident is investigating the BT Openreach Voucher Scheme.
- Emergency Plan: response form submitted to KALC 02.09.21. As a small parish, it is felt the community infrastructure already in place works well in case of an emergency
- KALC AGM: Chairman attending online on 13 November
- KALC Learning and Development Survey 2021: completed by Clerk
- KALC Clerk's Conference: Tuesday 28 September online, Clerk unable to attend this year
- Next meeting: Tuesday 23 November 2021 at 6.30pm
- Meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Signed.....Cllr Helen Calderbank, Vice Chair, 23 November 2021

*Chairman Frank Hobbs*

*Parish Clerk/RFO Clare Hamilton | 14a Elmstead Place, Folkestone CT20 1QU | 01303 257321 / 07890 248601*

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## Appendix

### Report from District Councillor Jenny Hollingsbee

The garden waste subscription service was due to start at the end of September. The District Council has been assured by Veolia that they have enough staff to deliver a reliable service but should there be problems please report them both to the District Council and us.

The District Council is finding homes in the private rented sector for five families from Afghanistan. The council and its partners will also provide support for the families to begin their new lives in the UK. This will not affect our social housing waiting list and work to help local people to find housing also continues.

The Government has announced that Napier Barracks will continue to house adults seeking asylum in the UK until September 2025. The council has not had any role in this decision as the government used special planning regulations to extend the use on a temporary basis for another four years. We have not changed our initial view that Napier Barracks is not the right place either for the men placed here or the nearby community.

Residents and businesses are being asked for their views on a new licensing policy for the district. The Government requires that we update the policy every 5 years so the new policy will be in place till 2026. Whilst every application is determined on its own merits, the overall policy provides the framework for evaluating the applications and guidelines for opening hours. The consultation is on the council website and runs until 27 October.

We're pleased to report that the breach of Consumer Standards notice, issued by the government's Regulator of Social Housing in September 2019 has been lifted. This reflects the considerable progress made in our service to our social housing tenants since the service was brought back in-house in October 2020 from the joint arrangement we had with East Kent housing (an arms-length management organisation with the social housing of Folkestone & Hythe, Canterbury, Dover and Thanet councils).

The very final stage of the consultation process for the policy that lays out where homes, businesses and leisure facilities may be built is about to be reached. Once the District Council cabinet agree the changes made by the Independent Planning Inspector, the document will go out for a final round of public consultation. (At this stage it is only the changes that are open for consultation, not the whole document.) The Core Strategy will guide development in our district until 2036/37 (unless the Government makes major changes to the planning system). As well as being a legal obligation, the Core Strategy provides clarity for everyone on where development may take place and where not. Districts without such protection have found developers able to win appeals to the Planning Inspectorate for building wherever they choose.

### Report from County Councillor Susan Carey: An update on Kent County Council matters

There's still just time to respond to KCC's consultation on whether or not to keep the booking system at KCC's Household Waste Recycling Centres which runs until 30 September. There's also a consultation on KCC's Adult Social Care Strategy which is open till 24 October. (As over half your council tax payment to KCC funds social care it is an area that affects us all). You can access these and more at [www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/have-your-say](http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/have-your-say).

You should have received an Environment Briefing from me in my role as KCC's Cabinet Member for Environment. It's produced for KCC councillors but KALC asked to receive it to forward to their members. With the UK hosting COP26 in November there's an increasing interest in Climate Response by individuals, businesses. KCC has been shortlisted for a new national award for its work on 'Climate Response' and you'll be hearing more from us about our work in this area for KCC's own estate and services and for Kent as a whole.

I'm always cautious about mentioning broadband but it does look as though Postling (at least the central part of the village) will get better broadband provision by this Christmas from the programme that KCC has helped fund with BT OpenReach.

*Susan Carey Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council  
District Councillor, North Downs West, Folkestone & Hythe District Council*

### Correspondence received including:

- KCC Members Briefing on the Environment for September
- Gatwick Airport launches Northern Runway public consultation
- KCC Environment Briefing
- Kent PCC's Newsletter - violence against women and girls.

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