

# POSTLING PARISH COUNCIL

postlingpc@aol.co.uk | www.postlingpc.co.uk

## Minutes of Postling Parish Council meeting held at Postling Village Hall on Tuesday 27 September 2022 at 6.30pm

### Queen Elizabeth II, 1926-2022

The Chairman and members of Postling Parish Council were saddened by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, after the longest reign in our nation's history and a lifetime of selfless and devoted service to our country and to the Commonwealth.

A letter has been sent to Sir Clive Alderton KCVO, the private Secretary to King Charles, asking that our condolences be passed to the new Sovereign.

A Book of Condolence is available in St. Mary & St. Radigund's Church.

1. Attendance and apologies for absence  
Attendance: Chairman Frank Hobbs, Councillors Helen Calderbank, Christine Hobbs, John Pattrick, Daniel Shaddick, Charlie Wilkins, Parish Clerk Clare Hamilton. County Councillor Susan Carey, District Councillor Jenny Hollingsbee.  
Apologies: Cllr Yvonne Mumford.
2. **It was resolved** unanimously to accept the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2022.
3. There were no members' declarations of interest on Agenda items.
4. Public Participation session not required.
5. There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.
6. Planning Applications received since last meeting, circulated to Councillors for comments, outcomes of those deliberations, and to consider any applications received since this agenda was published:
  - a. **Y19/0257/FH Otterpool Park OPA (Further Information)**  
Further amendments in relation to the Outline Planning Application for Otterpool Park (following consultation period which ran from Friday 29 April until Friday 24 June).  
No further comments.
  - b. **22/1208/FH Orchard Cottage, The Street, Postling CT21 4EU**  
Erection of a single storey side extension to existing garage and relocation of driveway entrance.  
PPC No objection. Awaiting decision from FHDC.
  - c. **22/1258/FH/SCR Land At Pent Farm, Postling CT21 4EY**  
EIA Screening Opinion under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 in respect to a proposal for a solar array, battery storage and associated infrastructure.  
FHDC Advice given (PPC requested FHDC inform us of opinion but no information received).
  - d. **22/0908/FH Middlemarch, 6 Orchard Field, The Street, Postling CT21 4EE**  
Erection of a single storey side extension  
FHDC Approved.

*Chairman Frank Hobbs*

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

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e. **22/0303/FH Southfields, Farthing Common CT18 8DH**

Erection of a replacement dwelling

FHDC Approved with conditions.

f. **19/1258/FH Postling Lodge, Farthing Common CT18 8DQ**

Retrospective planning permission for a grounds maintenance building and entrance gate accessed from Loughborough Lane at Postling Lodge

PPC Objection. Awaiting decision from FHDC.

Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee is still trying to arrange a meeting with Head of Planning to highlight various planning matters including this long outstanding application and the lack of response from FHDC to our enquiries.

## 7. Highways

a. Pot holes marked on Cuckoo Lane: marked in April and again in July, awaiting a date for works.

b. Pot holes marked on Sandling Road (Cuckoo Lane to Sandling Rd): awaiting a date for works.

c. Road repairs in Postling: to be added to the Highways list for this financial year and a Programme of Works List will be emailed to the clerk once it is prepared.

d. POSTPONED Broad Street, Lyminge: Temporary Road Closure - 25 July 2022 for 42 days.

e. POSTPONED Loughborough Lane: Temporary Road Closure - 25 July for up to 3 days.

f. Reduction of speed limit to 20mph: A speed survey would need to be carried out at a cost to the parish council. If speed limit reduction was then found to be viable, licences, signs and notices would need to be funded by the parish council. Costs would be prohibitive.

Alternative traffic calming matters were discussed but deemed not suitable for the village..

Susan Carey encourages the Police & Crime Commissioner to prosecute speeding drivers.

g. Cllr Charlie Wilkins raised speeding issues at Farthing Common. A speed survey would be needed.

Alternatively, Susan Carey advised residents to request the police do speed checks. Residents are encouraged to contact the Police & Crime Commissioner about persistent speeding issues.

Jenny Hollingsbee recommends signing up to '[My Community Voice](#)'. My Community Voice is a messaging service that helps Kent and Medway residents, businesses and community groups to keep in touch with their local policing teams. The service sends updates about your local area directly from the police officers themselves.

## 8. Finance

a. Balance of account at 27 September 2022: £6,376.32.

b. Payments and Receipts since last meeting:

Payments:

|            |                          |        |
|------------|--------------------------|--------|
| C Hamilton | Salary June July         | 361.22 |
| C Hamilton | Travel expenses July     | 7.20   |
| HSBC       | Bank charges July August | 16.00  |

Receipts: *none*

c. Expenditure due before next meeting:

|            |                         |        |
|------------|-------------------------|--------|
| C Hamilton | Salary August Sept      | 361.22 |
| C Hamilton | Travel exp Sept meeting | 7.20   |
| HSBC       | Bank charges Sept Oct   | 16.00  |
| PNVH       | Hall hire 2022/23       | 48.00  |

**It was resolved** to approve expenditure. Proposed Cllr Christine Hobbs, seconded Cllr Charlie Wilkins, all in favour, approved by the Chairman.

d. **It was resolved** to remain opted-in to the SAAA (Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments) central external auditor appointment arrangements for the period 2022/23-2026/27.

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

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## 10. Fire Hydrants

Following our request, KF&RS inspected parish hydrants, marked those for attention, and carried out maintenance. Cllr Charlie Wilkins to contact KF&RS regarding the Farthing Common hydrant.

## 11. Bus shelter at Newbarn corner

The parish council is considering if a joint-parish approach with Lyminge PC to our Ward councillors for funding for a bus shelter is viable. This matter was on the agenda for the Lyminge PC finance committee meeting due to be held in September but the meeting was postponed.

A quote has been received from Littlethorpe Shelters: £9,802 +vat. Awaiting a quote from a local company. Permission from KCC may be required and extra costs may be involved.

**It was resolved** to wait to hear if Lyminge PC agree to this suggestion before further investigation is made.

## 12. For Information

- 2023 meeting dates: Tuesdays at 6.30 pm - 24 January; 28 March; 30 May; 25 July; 26 September; 28 November 2023

- **Next meeting: Tuesday 29 November 2022** at 6.30pm

Meeting closed at 7.35pm

Signed.....Frank Hobbs, Chairman, 29 November 2022

## Appendix

### Letter of condolence:

to: Sir Clive Alderton KCVO, Clarence House, London SW1A 1BA. 15 September 2022

Dear Sir Clive,

On behalf of Postling Parish Council and the people of Postling, Kent, I would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to The King and The Queen Consort, and to the rest of the Royal Family. Our thoughts are with them all at this sad time.

Her Majesty was a great public servant and we, along with people across the country and across the world, will feel her loss greatly.

As the longest-serving monarch in British history and head of the Commonwealth, Queen Elizabeth II carried herself in a manner that befitted a monarch for 70 years.

Her ability to keep up with changing times earned her the praise and admiration of all generations.

Her loss will be felt greatly, and her service remembered always.

### Reports from District and County Councillors:

The rise in energy prices and rise in demand for social care are putting great strain on KCC's budget and we are trying to find additional savings to balance our books.

Next year's budget looks even more challenging and, by law, local government must set a balanced budget that is signed off as deliverable by our senior Finance Officer.

*Chairman Frank Hobbs*

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We continue to have some success in winning external grants and my Environment Team has recently secured £98,500 from the Local Authority Treescape Fund which will see 15,824 trees established at 22 school sites and two NHS sites over the next two years. If you know of good sites for more tree planting (with permission of the owner) please let me know. We also need volunteers to water the trees in their early years until they are established.

We continue to receive more Ukrainians into Kent as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme. There are currently 3,896 matched applications to 1,666 sponsors in Kent with around two thirds of these female. There is still a need for hosts and not everyone who initially took part in the scheme wishes to continue beyond six months. 26 September was the 6 month anniversary of the arrival of the first Ukrainian in Kent under the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

Susan Carey, Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council  
District Councillor, North Downs West, Folkestone & Hythe District Council  
Email [susan.carey@kent.gov.uk](mailto:susan.carey@kent.gov.uk) [jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

District Councillors report for Postling October 2022:

We were saddened by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and in common with other public bodies your District Council postponed meetings in public and all but our emergency services were paused for the day of her funeral. In the midst of the mourning, your District Council also took part in the proclamation of Charles III with the council's chairman being given a copy of the proclamation in Maidstone by the High Sheriff of Kent on 11 September at 1pm which he then read at a 3pm ceremony at the Civic Centre in Folkestone. Susan was at the ceremony which covered the whole of Kent at 1pm and Jenny attended the local proclamation for our district at 3pm. We know there have been many local events to mark the Queen's passing including church services and we've also been able to attend some of these as well.

The District Council held a summit on the rising cost of living. The aim is to ensure the council is working effectively in partnership with local organisations and the voluntary sector to assist those residents who face challenges around food, warmth and energy during the winter months. Voluntary organisations across Folkestone & Hythe were invited including Kent Police, Citizens Advice and representatives from the health and education sectors. If you or someone you know is struggling financially then do please ask for help. There are multiple schemes to help the most vulnerable and both the District Council and County Council websites have very helpful pages with information on benefits, possible financial support and advice.

Jenny reported that she had taken Dr Susan Priest around the Ward, particularly noting the refurbished telephone box with the wonderful history display.

She also reported that at the recent Police & Crime Panel meeting a discussion took place on the 101 facility that was totally unsatisfactory. The Commissioner agreed to ask for a detailed report on the system to discuss at the next Panel Meeting.

We've been writing about the District Council's plans for a new Garden Town at Otterpool Park (next to Westenhanger station and between Stanford, Lympne and Sellindge) since it was first proposed in 2016. The new town is intended to take the majority of the new homes needed in our district over the next 20 years (and more) rather than add several hundred homes to each village and thousands to each town over the same period. One of the advantages of creating a new town is that new facilities such as health, schools, recreation etc. can be created at the same time. The location has good existing transport connections to both the M20 and the rail network and roads, footpaths, bridleways and cycleways will be improved as part of the development. The first phase of Otterpool Park is at last at outline planning stage with further amendments and information now available to view on the council website. The statutory public consultation runs till 5pm on Monday 10 October. Comments can be sent via the Planning Portal or by email to [otterpool.applications@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:otterpool.applications@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

Susan Carey and Jenny Hollingsbee your Folkestone & Hythe District Councillors

*Chairman Frank Hobbs*

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