

POSTLING PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of Postling Parish Council meeting held at Postling Village Hall on Tuesday 23 November 2021 at 6.30pm

1. Attendance and apologies for absence
Attending: Chairman Frank Hobbs, Cllrs Christine Hobbs, Helen Calderbank, John Pattrick, Charlie Wilkins, Dan Shaddick, Parish Clerk Clare Hamilton, County Councillor Susan Carey and 2 members of the public
Apologies: Cllr Yvonne Mumford, 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 28 September 2021.
4. 15-minute Public Participation session not required.
5. Matters arising from previous meeting:
The Queen's Green Canopy / The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, see item 11.
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:
 - a. **21/1699/FH/TCA 3 The Terrace, The Street, Postling CT21 4EX**
Proposal: Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising: (T1) Sycamore crown reduction by 2 metres in height and 1.5 metres laterally (T2) Willow crown reduction by 1.8 metres in height and 1.5 metres laterally. (T3) Hornbeam reduce height by 3 metres and reduce lateral limbs back to boundary line. (T4) Walnut reduce height by 3 metres and reduce lateral limbs back to boundary line. (T5) Cherry reduce height by 3 metres and reduce lateral limbs back to boundary line
F&HDC Approved
 - b. **21/2055/FH Land Adjoining Orchard Cottage, The Street, Postling CT21 4EU**
Works to trees covered by a TPO to include T1 - Cherry, overall crown reduction of 2.5 metres T2 - Cupressus spp, crown lift to a height of 2.5 metres above ground level T3 - Ash, pruning of the lower south facing branches to a height of 2.5 metres above ground level. G4 - Yew hedge, remove the entire thirty metre length of hedgerow All trees subject to Tree Preservation Order No 12 of 1988
PPC Support. Awaiting decision from F&HDC
 - c. **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
F&HDC Approved
 - d. **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 F&HDC
 - e. **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

Following a request for an update on applications 19/1258/FH Postling Lodge, and 21/0813/FH Farthing Common Reservoir, F&HDC Principal Planning Officer informed that: "Both applications remain under consideration. Any further actions will be notified to the Parish Council."

Chairman Frank Hobbs

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

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7. Highways

- a. Pilgrims Way, The Street and Staple Lane, Postling: 22.11.21-10.12.21, proving the route and desilting by Openreach. Works not yet started.
- b. Chairman contacted Highways on 5.11.21 regarding their inaccurate notice about road closures to *"Pilgrims Way, between Sandling Road and The Street"*. Highways assured that the letter will be re-sent with the correct information and that the closure on Pilgrims Way will be between Stone Street and The Street/Staple Lane. The contractors have also confirmed that Access Only signs will be used during the closure.
- c. Cuckoo Lane: 14.10.21, BT Openreach work to trees (PC not informed)
- d. Broad Street, Lyminge: 23-31.10.21, phased closures of Broad Street, Lyminge, from 23.10.21 with estimated completion by 31 October 2021 to provide new water supplies.
- e. Broad Street, Lyminge: from 31.10.21, temporary 30mph Speed Limit in conjunction with temporary traffic lights. 31.10.21 until estimated completion by 26 November 2021.
- 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 23 November 2021: £5,861.27
- b. Payments since last meeting:

C Hamilton	Salary August & Sept	£ 354.98
C Hamilton	Travel exp. Sept meeting	£ 7.20

Receipts since last meeting:

KALC	Refund of course fee	£ 60.00
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- c. Expenditure due before next meeting:

C Hamilton	Salary Oct & Nov	£ 354.98
C Hamilton	Travel exp. Nov meeting	£ 7.20

It was resolved unanimously to approve expenditure. Proposed Cllr Christine Hobbs, seconded Cllr Helen Calderbank, all in favour, approved by the Chairman.
- d. **It was resolved** unanimously to accept the proposed Budget 2022/23 and to request a Precept for 2022/23 of £3380.00.
- e. HSBC Safeguarding Customer Review update: Following HSBC Safeguarding Customer Review by phone on 09.09.21, clerk submitted further change of mandate forms to HSBC on 2 November to change account to a Local Council Account (Chairman to remain as signatory, Clerk to replace John Elphick as second signatory). Waiting for confirmation from HSBC. Clerk trying to contact Safeguarding manager to chase progress.

9. Reports from District Councillor and County Councillor

See Appendix

10. Telephone kiosk adoption

It was resolved to sign the 'Agreement for the purchase of telephone kiosk(s) to a local authority in England or Wales' received from BT.

Regarding insurance, our provider informed that as long as the phone box is included in our risk assessments and maintained to ensure it is safe, they are happy to include it in our Public Liability at no additional charge.

11. The Queen's Green Canopy / The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Susan Carey kindly offered a tree which could be a replacement for the diseased holly tree felled from outside the village hall and would not incur a cost to the parish council. Bulbs could be planted around its base. Susan will request the tree officer contacts the Chairman to discuss suitable tree species.

It was resolved to update and confirm at the next meeting.

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12. KFRS/KALC Fire Hydrant Initiative

KFRS continue to inspect fire hydrants throughout Kent and Medway mainly on a rolling four yearly programme which for some hydrants is actually less due to the perceived risk they might support. Therefore they are asking local parish councils to undertake inspections in addition to the ongoing work KFRS undertakes.

- The inspections can be undertaken by anyone within the local council or community
- The inspections are to be visual inspections only and no risks should be taken at any time
- All issues reported to KFRS will be rectified based on the severity of the defect.

KALC has provided a parish Fire Hydrants map and Cllrs will inspect and report back to KFRS. Postling PC will sign up to the KFRS/KALC Fire Hydrant Initiative in order to receive further information on hydrant inspections/repairs.

13. For information

- Noticeboard: To be repaired
- KALC AGM: Chairman attended online on 13 November, 121 attendees. KALC membership subscription for Postling PC is expected to remain the same for 2022/23
- Mobile Library: Visiting times information uploaded to Community page of website
- Damaged road sign: Cllr John Patrick to report damaged road sign on Stone St/Pilgrims Way to Highways
- KALC Community Awards 2022: add to January agenda
- Parish Council meeting dates 2022:
Tuesdays at 6.30pm - 25 January, 29 March, 24 May, 26 July, 27 September, 29 November
- Next meeting: Tuesday 25 January 2022 at 6.30pm.

Meeting closed at 7.35pm

Signed.....Frank Hobbs, Chairman, 25 January 2022

Appendix

Report from County Councillor Susan Carey

Thank you to those who responded to KCC's consultations on our budget for 2022/23 and the one on Household Waste Recycling Centres. These have both now closed and will help us make our decisions. There's still time to respond to the Heritage Strategy which is asking for views on how KCC gives advice on heritage matters as part of the planning process, how archaeological finds are recorded, stored and accessed, a policy on metal detecting on KCC's own land and more. This consultation is open till 13 December and can be seen at <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/>

KCC has just announced our EV600 plan. This will provide 600 Electric Vehicle charging points in council owned car parks across Kent within the next two years. Folkestone & Hythe is one of the councils providing space for 94 chargers in at least 25 of its 27 car parks.

The roadworks programme is being paused over Winter and the gritting programme has begun. In October 3,166 sqm of road patching and resurfacing took place in the Folkestone & Hythe area and 77,307 sqm over Kent as a whole. The resurfacing programme will resume in the Spring. However, potholes will continue to be filled so please report potholes and any blocked drains (gullies) to KCC either online or at 03000 41 81 81 and make a note of the reference number which helps if the work needs chasing.

You may be aware of Kent's Plan Bee (if not, do have a look at what's happening to promote pollinators in the county). We now also have Plan Tree and each County Councillor is being allocated trees to plant in their division. If you have any suggestions on where best to do this in the Elham Valley, do let me know. The project is to run for three planting seasons and can be either street trees or other public land.

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Kent residents are being asked to report but not to pick up dead or sick birds they find as there have been a number of confirmed cases of avian flu in both wild and captive birds across the country including Essex. They should be reported to the Defra Helpline on 03459 33 55 77.

Susan Carey Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council

District Councillor, North Downs West, Folkestone & Hythe District Council

Correspondence received, includes:

- Civility and Respect newsletter
- KFRS/KALC Fire Hydrant Initiative
- KALC events information
- FHDC New Releases

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