

POSTLING PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of Postling Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 29 January 2020 at 6.30pm in Postling Village Hall

1. Attending: Cllr Frank Hobbs in the chair, Cllrs Helen Calderbank, Christine Hobbs, Yvonne Mumford, John Patrick, Charlie Wilkins, Parish Clerk Clare Hamilton,
Apologies: Cllr John Elphick, County Cllr Susan Carey, District Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee.
2. There were no declarations of interest on Agenda items.
3. **It was resolved** to accept the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2019 which were signed by the Chairman.
4. There were no matters arising from Minutes of the previous meeting.
5. **To consider** 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:
 - a. **Y19/1258/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 (see Appendix). Awaiting decision from F&HDC.
 - b. **Y19/1424/FH Tolsford House, The Street**
Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising: Fell Ash (T1), remove lowest large limb (western side) of Ash (T2), pollard to 8m in height of Willow (T3), pollard to 2m in height of Willow (T4) and repollard to previous cut point of Sycamore (T5).
PPC No objection. F&HDC.No objection.
 - c. **Y19/0970 1 Court House, The Street**
Erection of a single storey conservatory at the rear of the property, and
Y19/0971 1 Court House, The Street
Listed building consent for the erection of a single storey conservatory at the rear of the property together with removal of rear window.
F&HDC Refused
 - d. **Y19/0257/FH Otterpool Park development, Ashford Road, Sellindge**
Ongoing. Responses from F&HDC Planning Officer are available on the F&HDC website.
 - e. **Y18/1300/FH Pent Farm, Pilgrims Way, Postling CT21 4EY**
Reserved matters application for the erection of a permanent agricultural dwelling being details pursuant to outline application Y17/0650/SH (details relating to landscaping, scale, appearance and layout) and Y17/1621/SH Pent Farm, Pilgrims Way, Postling CT21 4EY
Erection of a dwelling being details pursuant to outline planning permission Y17/0650/SH (details relating to layout, scale, appearance, means of access, and landscaping), together with discharging planning conditions 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.
PPC No Objection. Awaiting decision from F&HDC.
 - f. **Y17/1417/SH Postling Lodge, Farthing Common**
Tree clearing to access onto Loughborough Lane: Replanting is expected in early 2020. Should the replanting not take place, the Council can take formal enforcement action against the owner.
 - g. **Y19/0035/NMA Barndale, Sandling Road Lyminge CT18 8DX**
Amendment for an additional window. Awaiting decision from F&HDC.

Chairman Frank Hobbs

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

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6. Finance:

a. Balance of account at 29 January 2020: £6,036.72

b. Payments and Receipts since last meeting:

Payments:

C Hamilton travel exp. Nov £ 7.70

C Hamilton salary Oct & Nov £ 345.28

Receipts since last meeting: None

c. **It was resolved** to approve the following expenditure:

Clerk's travel expenses Jan meeting £ 7.20

Clerk's salary Dec & Jan £ 345.28

Proposed by Cllr Christine Hobbs, seconded by Cllr Charlie Wilkins, all in favour.

d. Precept request 2020/21 of £3,200 submitted to F&HDC (same figure as last year).

7. District Councillor's and County Councillor's reports: see Appendix.

8. Website (compliance with the Public Sector Bodies (websites and mobile applications) (no.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018): The parish clerk will register with HugoFox with the aim to have the new website complete in time for the next meeting on 25 March. A new domain name may be needed. Clerk's overtime fee of 2 days at £160 for building website was approved, with any further time to be approved. Costs were proposed by Cllr Helen Calderbank and seconded by Cllr John Patrick.

New website, to be managed by parish clerk, is expected to come in at c.£200 including year 1 domain name and hosting fee.

9. Community Resilience and Emergency Plan was discussed. The 'Household Emergency Plan' document will be circulated to parishioners on the parish email list and pinned to noticeboard. This can also be downloaded from <https://www.kentprepared.org.uk/>

- Parish Council to complete Kent Community Risk Register, ie. what to do in case of: severe weather, environmental issues (eg. flooding, land slip), emergency services, contact details for power outages, health and infectious diseases, structural damage

- Risk Assessment to be reviewed to ensure emergency situations for chairman and clerk are included.

10. Following a meeting with representatives from Otterpool Park team in December, a map has been received which confirms the water main runs via the A20 and not through Postling village.

- Ian McClintock has been working with F&HDC to provide advice direct to the parishes affected by Otterpool Park. Ian's contract has now come to an end, and F&HDC have stood down his services for now, but with the potential to enlist him again at a future point.

Councillors have found Ian to be a very useful resource. His knowledge, support and commitment to the parishes has been invaluable and Postling Parish Council thank him for his contribution.

11. KCC Parish Highways Improvement Plan: from KCC - 'The Highways Improvement Plan scheme has been in place since May 2019 and provides an opportunity for Parish Councils to engage with their residents to identify highway priorities in their area and then work with KCC on what highway improvement(s) could be taken forward in their area and how this might be funded.'

Any requests to this scheme are to be funded by the parish. Inclusion of request for replacement Postling sign at junction of Cuckoo Lane and Sandling Rd was discussed.

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12. Correspondence received, as circulated in weekly email update to Councillors, plus:
 - Otterpool Park - Water mains
 - M20 weekly updates - circulated to parishioners
 - Kent Downs AONB Unit - subsidised tree packs
 - KCC Select Committee on Affordable Housing
 - F&HDC Newly published plan - Forthcoming decisions - Cabinet - 19 February 2020 - Places and Policies Local Plan – Main Modifications Consultation (Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) Section 20 (7C) and Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012)
 - Age UK invitation 28 January
 - Kent Police - Latest Rural Task Force report & Rural Matters magazine - Winter 2019/20
 - KALC Health and Well Being Conference - 6 Feb, Swanley
 - KALC defibrillators and accessories offer
 - F&HDC Community Safety Partnership 'Local Engagement Meetings' (LEM's)
 - East Kent Clinical Commissioning Groups survey
 - KCC updating their military events calendar - any parish VE Day 75 events/celebrations to list?
 - Public Health England Bulletin on the Wuhan novel coronavirus
 - Invitation to join Action with Communities in Rural Kent
13. For information
 - Report of blocked drain/gully at Tolsford House: KCC Highways fault ref. 474029 logged 24.12.19: Enquiry under investigation
 - KALC Community Awards Scheme 2020: Nomination submitted
 - It is understood the Church bells will be rung to commemorate 75th anniversary of VE Day, 8 May 2020
 - Highways: Overnight closure of part of Sandling Road, Postling planned for Saturday 22 February 2020 from 9.00 pm through to approximately 8.00 am: Sandling Road will be closed between the junctions with A20 Ashford Road and Cuckoo Lane, to the actual extent indicated by signs and barriers on site. Works are to 'Replace a high profile faulty fibre optic joint enclosure'. Notice circulated to parishioners on email list and on noticeboard.
 - 2020 meeting dates: 25 March; 27 May; 29 July; 30 September; 25 November.

The meeting closed at 7:25pm.

Next meeting 25 March 2020.

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Appendix

5a. Comments to F&HDC on Y19/1258/FH Postling Lodge, Farthing Common:

Postling Parish Council Object to this application on the grounds that:

1. The gateway is out of keeping with the woodland setting within the AONB.
2. The entrance driveway is on a blind bend on a narrow road.
3. There appears to be the creation of another driveway adjacent to the one detailed in this application, but not included in this application.
4. During construction of the walls, gates and tarmac driveway, many trees were felled, and where the entrance was widened and the passing bay created, it has broken the natural wildlife corridor.
5. No comment can be made regarding the outbuildings as these cannot be viewed from the road.

7a. Report from District Councillor:

MHCLG Garden Communities capacity funding for this year (Otterpool Park) - we have recently been notified that we will be receiving £580K. It's the second highest allocation to any project.

Folkestone & Hythe District Council's overview and scrutiny committee is planning its programme for 2020/21 and seeking suggestions for matters which are important to your community. If there are items you would like considered please send to Committee Services at the Council.

Special meetings are being held for Folkestone & Hythe district residents to have their say about any community safety issues where they live. On Thursday 26 March those living in North Downs East and North Downs West can join a meeting in the Hawkinge Community Centre, Heron Forstal Avenue, CT18 7FP. All meetings start at 7pm. Further meetings for all areas have been planned for this year and all dates and more information about the community safety partnership can be found at folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/communitysafetypartnership

Consultations are out for the Budget proposals and the Play Strategy and these can be found on the District Council Website.

A plug again for Age UK Hythe & Lyminge which offers services to residents of North Downs West (including Postling). The new Dementia area in Lyminge has been very well received and has attracted many clients. However, there is capacity to take more people and residents over 50 years of age are encouraged to visit to see the services on offer, which also include delivery of meals. The shops at both the centres are open Monday to Friday 9am - 3.30pm AND on Saturday mornings from 9.30am - 12.30pm. Volunteers are always welcome and details can be found on the website.

Jenny Hollingsbee Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Communities, Lifeline, Area Officers & Street Homeless. District Councillor, North Downs West Ward

7b. Report from County Councillor

KCC will be debating and setting its budget for 2020/2021 on 13 February. A rise of just under 4% (half 'ringfenced' for spending on social care and half towards increased costs for other services). This is the first year since 2010 when our Government grant will rise rather than reduce but we will still be making savings and using some of our reserves to balance the budget. As well as rising demand for social care KCC, in common with other local authorities, has seen a sharp rise in the number of children assessed as needing special education which is considerably more expensive than mainstream education. We are also proposing to allocate more spending on our roads.

You will be aware that Highways England are removing the barrier for Operation Brock on the M20 and restoring it to a normal motorway with a hard shoulder by the end of January. This will of course mean that if there is cross Channel disruption due to bad weather, industrial action or other emergency, we will once again have Operation Stack and KCC is pressing the Government to do more to make trade between the UK and continent 'frictionless' by use of new technology for 'smart borders'.

Finally, I'd like to draw your attention to the consultation under way on KCC's priorities for the next 5 years. As well as commitments on the Environment there's a shift of emphasis to our universal services such as Highways. This is your chance to say if you agree with the direction we want to take so please go to www.kent.gov/5yearplan and give your views. You have until 17 February.

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

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