

Waltham Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on 3 October 2017 at Waltham Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: Mary Belotti (Chair), John Barry, Sue Browne and Sarah Tickner.
Parish Clerk: Tracey Block.
City Councillor Thomas
1 Member of the public

Meeting started at: 19.30

17/18.061 To receive and approve apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Robinson.

17/18.062 To receive declarations of interest: There were no declarations of interest.

17/18.063 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2017:

The minutes were then approved as an accurate record. Cllr Belotti signed the minutes.

17/18.064 Matters arising from previous minutes not covered by the agenda:

There were no matters arising to be discussed.

17/18.065 Public Session: To receive questions and comments from the public:

The member of the public present commented on the ground works that have been undertaken in the past couple of days. There has been digging out of a large area and putting in concrete. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Planning Enforcement to report this, Councillor Thomas is to be copied in on the email.

17/18.066 To receive reports from County and City Councillors:

Cllr Thomas reported that the City Council would be meeting on 4th October to consider the land ownership transfer of the piece of land adjacent to the A2 at Wincheap by the Park and Ride to facilitate a new Slip Road from the A2 in to Canterbury.

Cllrs Tickner and Browne expressed concern and asked where on the website the consultation documents could be found.

Cllr Thomas explained that the consultation was not a City Council consultation but a KCC/Highways England consultation as the plans are road network. As is the same for the Sturry road Bus lane consultation, KCC consult on roads and they have drawn a plan of how they believe the A2 "off slip" will work.

Cllr Browne expressed great concern as the plan put forward earlier in the year showed the off slip joining the traffic leaving the retail outlet road. This road is already overloaded at certain times of the day and long queues form to join the A28. Additionally, by law, priority will have to be given to drivers leaving the A2. This can only add to the congestion in Wincheap.

Canterbury City Council has agreed the compulsory purchase order for the wider area at Kingsmead, on the land opposite the Kingsmead Leisure Centre.

Cllr Browne expressed concern about the green area and was surprised that this was to be used for additional housing.

Cllr Thomas explained that part of the agreement means that 80% of the Kingsmead field will be registered as Village Green by Canterbury City Council and 20% will be built upon.

Canterbury City Council is also deciding on the Active Life proposal to merge with a larger leisure trust, "Fusion," this would give an £11 million investment into Kingsmead.

Cllr Tickner expressed concern at increasing prices.

Canterbury City Council will also be discussing the sustainable transport forum.

Cllr Tickner questioned the suitability of the adoption of the Sustainable Transport scheme as she feels it is only suitable for flat towns where cycling is possible.

There is a rural action guide released which will enable assistance to be given to rural areas under taking litter picking events (high visibility jackets and litter pickers/gloves).

Cllr Thomas agreed to circulate further details on all that had been reported on.
Cllr Browne regrets that Canterbury City Council were not able to capitalise on the river and railway crossings on the Elham Valley Line when it was closed after the war, as this could have provided a very good link road from the A28 to the A2 North west of the city.

17/18.067 Highways and Environment:

Duckpit Lane is in a poor state of repair. Potholes need repairing and it would be useful if it were swept. Cllr Thomas agreed to find out if Duckpit Lane is on a sweeping route.

Church Lane has pot holes – the Clerk will report both lanes to Kent Highways.

17/18.068 Financial Matters:

To note/authorise the following:

- i. **To note the Parish Council's financial position:** The Parish Council's book and cash balances had been reconciled as at 27 September, showing a cash balance of £16,008.90.

- ii. **To authorise any payments**

The following payments were authorised:

WSRA, £320.00 for grass cutting was paid by cheque no: 000514

PKF Littlejohn LLP, £120 for External Audit Fees was paid by cheque no: 000515

The Clerk had circulated an expenditure against budget spreadsheet and a concurrent functions expenditure against budget spreadsheet before the meeting.

17/18.069 To consider any changes to the Risk Assessment:

There are no changes at present.

17/18.070 Planning matters: to authorise a response to any application(s) and to note any recent planning decisions by Canterbury City Council or any correspondence on planning matters.

The Parish Council had been circulated with the Appeal Notice for Chaucer House.

17/18.071 To consider/approve attendance at training/other events:

The Clerk had circulated details of all events.

17/18.072 To note current consultations and correspondence that might be of interest and organise/approve/note any responses:

The Clerk had circulated all details.

17/18.073 To receive updates on ongoing Parish Council or village initiatives and review reporting arrangements:

- Community Resilience Plan

Cllr Browne would like to contact other parishes about this, the Clerk will contact Brook Councillors for some additional information.

- WSRA

The Spooks Night will be held on Saturday 28 October. The bonfire is growing well and should be a good blaze.

- Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee Italian Meal held on 2nd September had been very successful raising £291.68 in aid of the hall. The next hall meeting is 4th October when possible future events will be discussed, such as a Chinese New Year meal in February and the wine/mince pies preceding the Carol Service. However at present there is no Carol Service scheduled as Midnight mass will be held at St Bartholmew's this year.

There is nothing to report on the fabric of the hall or the land.

17/18.074 Any Other Business (for information purposes only):

There was no other business to discuss.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 7th November 2017

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm