

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held virtually on 24 November 2020

Present: Cllr Tony Mould (Chairman), Cllr Richard Palmer (Vice Chairman), Cllr Stephen Harvey, Cllr Elaine Jackson, Cllr Eric Layer and Cllr James Morgan; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk)

Also present were two members of the public

Cllr Mould welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Mould reported that there have been no applications yet

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Ryan Condron (personal), Cllr Richard Geldard (work) and Cllr Steve Godmon (work); apologies accepted.

Apologies had also been received from County Councillor Mike Whiting (at another meeting) and Ward Member Alan Horton (at another meeting): apologies noted.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Layer declared a pecuniary interest in item 8 Planning iii.

Cllr Jackson declared a pecuniary interest in item 9. Amenities Committee iii

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2020

Cllr Jackson **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October as a true record; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. The minutes of the meeting will be signed when possible.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

SGN/KCC meeting

Cllr Mould said the meeting had taken place on 19 November and thanked Cllr Harvey for attending.

Cllr Harvey reported it had been a useful meeting and that he was able raise all the Council's concerns. KCC Highways and SGN have said that they will learn from the experience in Newington.

ACTION: Cllr Harvey to write article for Village Voice

The Tracies footpath

Cllr Mould said a resident has informed the Council that KCC Highways has marked up the path for repair

A2 resurfacing works

Cllr Mould reported that the work has been delayed a week or two to allow Persimmon to complete some of their works. The road will then be resurfaced to Ellen Field. KCC Highways is currently programming in the remaining stretch from Ellen Field to Key Street, but clearly want to avoid the worse of the weather and the first part of the New Year to help ensure the road is clear.

Swale Borough Council Anti-idling campaign

Cllr Mould informed Members that the school is in favour of the scheme, signage will be requested for the school.

Cllr Jackson reported that the tractor has gone over the green to cut the hedge and it has badly damaged the grass.

Cllr Harvey said the annual meeting with Aprille Hall, KCC Highway Steward has not taken place this year.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange meeting with Highway Steward

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Time.

A resident said that there have been issues with vehicles parking on the pavement outside Charlotte Court for deliveries and to use the shops. It is causing problems for elderly people. The path is not wide enough for vehicles to park with all four wheels on the pavement and pedestrians walk on the land in front of the properties. Vehicles are also parking outside the gates to Charlotte Court. There are issues all through the village along the A2, it is a narrow busy road.

Cllr Palmer said that he has raised the matter several times with Swale Borough Council. Parking on the pavement is not an offence and the Traffic Regulations Order for double yellow lines goes to the boundary of the property. A Parking Enforcement Officer has to see the vehicle there for ten minutes before issuing a ticket. The Police can deal with an obstruction. Cllr Harvey said the matter has been raised with KCC Highways and it is a budget matter. The Parish Council is working on a Parish Highways Improvement Plan and if this issue gets support it will add pressure.

The resident said that she has spoken to the developer regarding the enforcement issue of the windows. The resident said they had bought their house not knowing about the planning condition.

Cllr Harvey said solicitors should have picked up the condition when they carried out searches. Cllr Palmer said the residents may have a claim against the solicitor who carried out the searches. There may also be a claim against the developer. Independent legal advice needs to be sought.

Cllr Morgan said the shops could be approached to help with the parking issue.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Royal Mail Sorting Office.

Cllr Palmer said that if a van has its business name on it, Swale Borough Council can write to the company. After three or four warnings Swale Borough Council will contact the Police.

The meeting was reconvened.

7. VISITORS

i. County Councillor

KCCllr Whiting was unable to attend the meeting and submitted the following report:

I thank and congratulate everyone for their efforts locally in the fight against Coronavirus. The infection rate in Swale remains one of the highest in the country, but the figures I saw today confirm that they are, at last, reducing - down from some 650 cases per 100,000 to 546 cases as at 19 November. Let us hope that trend continues. It is vital we continue to obey the rules around social distancing, wearing a mask and hand washing.

Some families have contacted me, devastated because they cannot see their loved ones in care homes. This is a dreadful situation, but I note adherence to the guidance and the excellent work of care home staff has meant local care homes and their residents have been less affected by the virus than in many other parts of the country. It is very tough, and I am glad that government is looking at

how it might change the guidance around care homes, particularly as we approach the Christmas holidays.

I've dealt with many reports of blocked drains, overgrown pavements, potholes etc, which I have passed onto KCC highways on behalf of residents. I remind everyone of the County Council's "Report a fault" web page, which provides a reference number and allows for the tracking of reported faults. It can be found at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>.

Nearly 200 people attended KCC's online Bee Summit to discuss how Kent can work to provide more habitat for bees and other pollinators. I have approved two requests for funding locally from my member grant fund for projects at Grove Park and Lower Halstow.

More widely, however, my grant funding for the year is now fully committed and I am grateful to those groups that have come forward during the year and who are bringing forward great projects for their communities.

As you will know, KCC introduced a 'Top-up' scheme this September to compliment the Government 'Gigabit Broadband Voucher' initiative.

This 'Top-Up' funding by KCC is aimed primarily at rural areas and sees the funding subsidy per Home or business increased from £1,500 or £3,500 respectively to a maximum of £7,000, representing one of the greatest investments in our rural economies in modern times.

Lower Halstow has fully embraced the offer and has just received formal scheme approval following an exemplary campaign by residents.

I would encourage all rural communities to apply for this funding without delay and to take a look at an excellent campaign example at www.Lowerhalstow.org

In addition, we are making good progress working with OpenReach on upgrading broadband in Bull Lane, Newington. There is a way to go, but KCC officers are fully supportive in finding a solution as quickly as possible.

I arranged and attended a wash-up review meeting with SGN, Kent Highways and others regarding the gas replacement works that took place in the summer. It was clear that lessons had been learnt about managing traffic, diversions, etc, and examples were given where these had been put into practice elsewhere. KCC say the resurfacing of the A2 will recommence shortly, along the stretch between the village centre and Ellen Field. The final section from there to Key Street will be completed in the New Year.

I have tried to attend as many Parish Council meeting as I can this month, something made easier with the use of technology, and I look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible before Christmas.

Thank you for everything you do for the communities you serve, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist you in any way.

ii. Borough Councillors

SBCllr Horton was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following report:

I am unable to attend as there has been an Extraordinary Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee called at Swale Borough Council to examine in detail the proposals for the spending of £23 million on forming a Local Housing Company, together with a second paper reviewing the decision to change the eligibility criteria for being on the social housing waiting list.

With the latest lockdown having been in place for much of the past month, the relatively low level of day to day work has continued, with referrals to other agencies around Universal Credit and how to access the most appropriate COVID related grant for a specific individual being the most usual sort of thing.

I have submitted responses on behalf of residents to the proposed local green spaces for the review of the Local Plan, fully supporting the application for the recreation ground/allotments /community wood (LGS 23). and whilst not directly in the parish the application at Rooks View at Keycol Hill (LGS 65).

I have expressed some reservation. however, on the application which sits across the boundary of Newington and Lower Halstow Parishes and therefore is within both Hartlip, Newington and Upchurch Ward and also Bobbing, Iwade and Lower Halstow Ward. (LGS 24). I estimate about a quarter of the proposed area is in Newington Parish.

I think this large tract of land, which lies land to the west of Lower Halstow and includes Callum Park, and is almost from Raspberry Hill Lane/Basser Hill south to and including the parish Church and Iwade Road in Newington, may be better considered as smaller parcels, with justification against the criteria for each.

Whilst I see the rationale for Hawes Wood, for example, taken as a whole the tract of land has a number of different uses, topography and possibly degrees of public access would in my view benefit from a closer analysis against the qualification criteria as a few smaller more clearly defined parcels.

Finally I have not heard back anything on the consultation regarding the telephone box, that said given the very low use of the box and general lack of interest these days in anything other than the traditional red phone boxes, I am not expecting the residents to persuade BT to retain the box and that is if they wish too and I doubt that is the view of most residents, certainly I have not had any representations made to me.

SBCllr Palmer reported that he had received a request for double yellow lines outside the school, this will be discussed at the Swale Joint Transportation Board in December and then will go out to consultation possibly after Christmas.

Following the issue in Church Lane where some cellars were flooded, another contractor found something in the road and removed it. There has been no flooding since.

Issues about the footpath at The Tracies have been raised.

The hedges along the A2 have been reported to KCC Highways and the hedges have been cut back.

There have been two residents with housing issues and this is being rectified.

The light in the car park and the lights in the alleyway between the car park and A2 have been reported to Swale Borough Council and are being rectified.

Swale Borough Council is administering the Government's COVID-19 support grant for the self-employed and small business owners. There is also support for those on low incomes who have to self-isolate, an article can be included in the Village Voice.

Kent County Council is trying to complete all strategic roadworks before Brexit and will try to finish the A2 before the New Year.

Cllr Mould thanked SBCllr Palmer for his report.

Cllr Mould reported that a grant request for the car park has been submitted to the Swale Western Area Committee. A representative is needed to attend the virtual meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

SBCllr Palmer said that both he and SBCllr Horton will support the request and it is important for a Parish Councillor to attend as well.

ACTION: Cllr Mould to attend the Swale Western Area Committee.

8. PLANNING

i. To receive an update

Ref: 20/504568/LAWPRO .19 Dennis Willcocks Close, Newington ME9 7SE

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed single storey rear extension

Cllr Harvey reported that a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 20/504715/FULL White Lodge, Keycol Hill, Bobbing ME9 7LE

Proposal: Conversion of the existing garage into residential accommodation. Erection of a new double garage with accommodation above.

Cllr Harvey reported that a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 20/504596/FULL Oak Hill House, Iwade Road, Newington ME9 7HY

Proposal: Conversion of the existing outbuilding to ancillary use as an annexe and erection of a single storey extension, improvements to the access.

Cllr Harvey informed Members that a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 20/504800/FULL 71 Playstool Road Newington ME9 7NL

Proposal: Erection of single storey side and rear extensions, including loft conversion with front dormers

Ref: 20/504801/LAWPRO 71 Playstool Road Newington ME9 7NL

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed loft conversion with rear dormer.

Cllr Harvey reported that a decision is yet to be made on the applications.

Ref: 20/501475/FULL Land Rear Of Eden Meadow, High Street Newington ME9 7JH

Revised Proposal: Erection of 35 No. residential dwellings including affordable housing and associated car parking, hardstanding, landscaping and open spaces, infrastructure including SuDs and earthworks accessed from the existing junction serving Eden Meadow from the A2 High Street.

Cllr Harvey reported that this is not in the call for sites and a decision is yet to be made.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment

Cllr Harvey reported that at the Swale Local Plan Panel meeting on 29 October it was said that no sites in Newington should be progressed for inclusion as allocations in the Local Plan Review.

Ref: 19/503203/FULL Land At 6 Ellens Place, Boyces Hill, Newington ME9 7JG

Proposal: Erection of a chalet bungalow with detached garage. Creation of new vehicular access and erection of a detached garage to serve no. 6.

PINS reference: APP/V2255/W/20/3250073

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 19/500029/FULL Land Rear Of 132 High Street, Newington ME9 7JH

Proposal: Erection of a 4 bedroom detached dwelling and associated carport/garage.

PINS Reference: APP/V2255/W/20/3247555

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 18/500767/FULL Newington Working Mens Club, High Street, ME9 7JL

Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 and removal of Condition 11 of application 17/504342/FULL (Retrospective demolition of former Working Mens Club and erection of 9no. dwellings and 1no. maisonette together with carports for garaging of cars (Revised scheme). (Vary Condition 2 to include reference to 'Titan-Sonair' ventilation system to bedrooms and dining room fronting the high street.)

Cllr Harvey said enforcement notices have been issued.

Ref: 19/502206/FULL 61 Playstool Road, Newington ME9 7NL

Proposal: Retrospective application for the erection of a first floor rear extension, loft extension and lean to roof at front and side of dwelling (resubmission of 18/502531/FULL).

PINS reference: APP/V2255/D/19/3240474

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 20/504132/FULL 37 London Road, Newington ME9 7NS

Proposal: Conversion of existing detached two storey garage into a two bedroom dwelling together with a single storey extension.

Cllr Harvey reported that there is an advertising hoarding on the fence and swale Borough Council has said that it is a hazard to motorists.

Cllr Jackson said the sign is also illuminated.

ACTION: Clerk to report to Swale Enforcement.

Ref: 17/503011/FULL

Proposal: Demolition of existing side conservatory, erection of replacement two storey side extension with front Juliet Balcony, erection of double garage with study in roof space and creation of new access and drop kerb

Cllr Harvey informed Councillors that the application has been permitted.

Ref: 20/504184/FULL Bardfield Barn, London Road, Newington ME9 7TW

Proposal: Erection of a car port and home office (Class E) with associated hardstanding.

Cllr Harvey reported that the application has been permitted.

Ref: SW/16/507594/RVAR (KCC/SW/0526/2018)

Paradise Farm, Lower Hartlip Road, Hartlip, Sittingbourne ME9 7SR

Cllr Harvey said there was no further information.

Ref: 20/502218/OUT Home Farm, Breach Lane, Lower Halstow ME9 7DB

Proposal: Outline Application with all matters reserved for the proposed development of six houses and three bungalows.

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 17/505711/HYBRID Land at Wises Lane Borden Kent ME10 1GD

Hybrid planning application with outline planning permission (all matters reserved except for access) sought for up to 595 dwellings including affordable housing; a two-form entry primary school with associated outdoor space and vehicle parking; local facilities comprising a Class A1 retail store of up to 480 sq m GIA and up to 560sqm GIA of "flexible use" floorspace that can be used for one or more of the following uses - A1 (retail), A2 (financial and professional services), A3 (restaurants and cafes), D1 (non-residential institutions); a rugby clubhouse / community building of up to 375 sq m GIA, three standard RFU sports pitches and associated vehicle parking; a link road between Borden Lane and Chestnut Street / A249; allotments; and formal and informal open space incorporating SuDS, new planting / landscaping and ecological enhancement works. Full planning permission is sought for the erection of 80 dwellings including affordable housing, open space, associated access / roads, vehicle parking, associated services, infrastructure, landscaping and associated SuDS.

For clarity - the total number of dwellings proposed across the site is up to 675 -

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 18/505060/ADJ (Alternative reference: 18/504836/EIOUT) Binbury Park, Detling Hill, Detling, Maidstone, Kent

Proposal: Adjoining Authority Consultation from Maidstone Borough Council for Outline application (with all matters reserved apart from access) for the erection of up to 1,750 dwellings including affordable housing, 46,000 sq.m of commercial space, a hotel, a local centre, a new primary school, a park and ride facility, strategic highways improvements including new Kent Showground access/egress, accesses/roads including a new bridleway bridge, parking, associated open space, landscaping, services, and Sustainable Drainage Systems. In addition the proposals include a publicly-accessible country park including the Binbury Motte and Bailey Castle Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 20/505442/LDCEX

Address: 67 High Street Newington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7JJ

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate to establish the existing use of the MOT service centre/garage.

Cllr Harvey said an application to reopen the garage at the back of the site as an MOT centre has been submitted. This needs to be queried as it has not been an MOT centre for a number of years. The Village Hall Committee should have been consulted.

ii. Ref: 20/505056/FULL

Address: 30 Playstool Close Newington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7NJ

Proposal: Creation of hardstanding and driveway with associated dropped kerb.

Councillors considered the proposals.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** the Council had no objections to the application and asked that neighbours' views be taken into account; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

iii. Ref: 20/504812/FULL

Address: 118 Church Lane Newington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7JU

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension.

Cllr Layer did not take part in the discussion of this item.

Councillors considered the proposals.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** the Council had no objections to the application and asked that neighbours' views be taken into account; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

iv. Ref 20/505083/FULL

Address: 1 Libbetswell Cottages Boxted Lane Newington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7BX

Proposal: Erection of two storey side, single storey rear extension and loft conversion.

Councillors considered the proposals.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** the Council had no objections to the application and asked that neighbours' views be taken into account: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

v. Ref: MC/20/2358

Address: Rainham Bootfairs, South Bush Lane, Rainham ME8 8PS

Proposal: Change of use from agricultural land to a mixed use of agriculture and leisure activities including 6 days of bootfairs and 331 days for outdoor/drive in cinema, open air theatres/circus, weddings, motoring shows/events over and above the number of days allowed as permitted development under Schedule 2, Part 4, Class B of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)

Councillors considered the application and noted that boot fairs had been held on the site through the summer. The site is on the best and most versatile agricultural land. It was acknowledged that a small number of events can be held without planning permission. It is a narrow lane which residents use as an access to their village. The proposal will increase traffic going through Newington. The boot fairs will be on Sundays and the other events, by nature, will be at hours which would be considered anti-social. There would be a loss of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land. 76% of residents in Kent support open areas and this proposal would impact on the rural area.

Cllr Palmer declared that he has already submitted comments on the proposal.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to object to the proposals because of the effects of the air quality in Newington; the high number of attendees in the applicant's plan; the effect on residents from traffic at anti-social hours; the loss of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land;

residents value the use of the open countryside; the increase in traffic through Newington; there is no traffic survey; South Bush Lane is used as a route to and from Newington.

9. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

i. To receive the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 17 November 2020 and consider the recommendations

Cllr Jackson reported that Persimmon has confirmed that it expects there to be an occupancy of 107 homes by the end of January, this will trigger the remainder of the s106 money. It has been established that Swale Borough Council owns the beginning of the track to the car park. The water usage at the allotments has been high this year, it has been agreed that the Allotment Association will contribute towards the water cost if the usage is above 110m³.

Cllr Layer reported that he had checked for leaks but all is in order, the meter at the Pavilion needs to be checked.

Cllr Jackson said the company is going to take photos of the Tespar bands. The Clerk has contacted KCC Highways to ask for the old salt bag to be removed and for the new bag to be placed in the car park. It has been agreed to purchase six 5' Christmas trees and lights and the Allotment Association have offered to help with the planting.

ACTION: Clerk to inform the PCSO and Community Warden where the trees will be.

Cllr Mould said that three tree surgeons have been approached to give a quotation for the Community Woodland tree work, one is going out to give a ball park figure

Cllr Mould said the track gate keeper has asked that the track gate times be changed for the winter to 8am to 4.30pm, currently it is open from 7am to 5pm.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the time be changed from 7.30am – 5pm and that the matter will be reviewed in March.

Cllr Harvey reported that there was concern that new wet pour would be put on top of old wet pour at the play area and that this would only have a one-year guarantee. There was also an expensive play board which was not in the spec. Wicksteed has offered to drop the play board; they will completely resurface the area under the flat swing and they will give all wet pour, whether new or surface dressing, a five-year guarantee. The company wanted to start on 1 February 2021 but this could clash with half-term and it has been agreed to start on 22 February. It will take four weeks and will be complete by Easter. The quotation includes an allowance of £657 for an independent safety inspection. If new chains are ordered, Wicksteed will give the same discount and replace them free of charge.

Cllr Harvey reported that the Friends of Newington Recreation Ground have raised £1,000 for seating.

Cllr Mould **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 17 November 2020 as a true record; **SECONDED** by Cllr Layer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Palmer reported that there had been two resident objections to the phone box consultation on the grounds that people might not have a phone and that it could be used in an emergency. The objections have gone to BT.

ii. To consider the quotations for the garage anti-graffiti mesh

Cllr Mould reported that he is still waiting to receive quotations.

iii. To consider honorarium for Pavilion Caretaker

Deferred to end of meeting

10. VILLAGE VOICE AND MEDIA

Cllr Mould said the COVID-19 support payments will be included; the Christmas trees and Charlotte Court; three items from KCCllr Whiting's report. There will be a Christmas Quiz and a Newington Quiz. There will be no Village Voice in January and the next edition will be in February.

11. FINANCE**i. Cheque list: to consider invoices for payment**

Chq no	Payee	Reason	Amount
3168	Mr MJ Marshall	Cemetery and Churchyard maintenance November 2020	£550.00
3169	Mr R Malone	Litter Picking November	£459.00
3170	Mrs W Licence	Salary and expenses	£980.17
3171	HMRC	PAYE & NI	£182.08
3172	DCK Accounting Solutions	Payroll fees- October and November	£60.00
3173	Mr A Mould	Sign	£19.01
3174	Mrs E Jackson	Bulbs and planters	£86.45
3175	PKF Littlejohn	External audit	£480.00
3176	Mr R Burrows	Track gate keeper	£100.00
3177	Fasthosts Internet Ltd	Domain name renewal	£73.20

Cllr Palmer **PROPOSED** the signing of the cheques; **SECONDED** by Cllr Mould: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ii. External audit report

Item for next agenda.

iii. To consider renewal rates for Pavilion electricity supply

Councillors raised concern at the increase in the rates.

ACTION: Clerk to ask for best rate.

iv. Any other finance matter received by 24 November 2020**Direct Debit Payments**

15.10.20	Haven Power	Street lighting	£23.25
19.10.20	Haven Power	Pavilion/ Recreation ground electricity	£132.05
27.10.20	NEST	Pension	£189.49

NatWest accounts:- 05.11.20 £75,334.28

Nationwide:- £78,828.85

12. CHURCHYARD AND CEMETERY**i. To receive an update of the Churchyard and Cemetery**

Cllr Mould said the repair to the cemetery drive will start next week.

ii. To consider request to cull rabbits at the Cemetery

Cllr Layer reported that there has been a request to cull the rabbits at the Cemetery and there has been an offer to shoot the rabbits. The grass has been cut and it looks fine. There are some scrapings made by the rabbits but no warren in the Cemetery. There are a few holes

under the back fence possibly made by a fox or badger and there is an animal home on the other side of the hedge.

Councillors expressed concern if animals were killed or trapped at the cemetery. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the request to shoot or dispose of the rabbits at the Cemetery be refused.

13. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Mould reported that there has been a meeting to produce a Parish Highway Improvement Plan and the Working Party has identified a list of areas to consult with residents. Residents will be asked to feed back their views to the Clerk.

Cllr Jackson said there was an earlier consultation and residents should be thanked for responding. It can be said that this is the next step.

14. STREET LIGHTING

Cllr Mould said the Clerk is waiting for a photo of the Tespar band.

15. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Palmer said the next KALC Swale Area Committee is on 8 December.

Cllr Mould reported that there has been a virtual Governors Meeting and a Finance Meeting. The school has had to close one class and now another class has been closed as a teacher and teaching assistant have tested positive for COVID-19. The virus does not affect primary school children as much as secondary school children

Cllr Palmer said that the numbers of infections in Swale is very high and this puts schools under pressure. The headteachers and teachers are doing a great job keeping things going in challenging times.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 30.10.20- SBC: Planning Training
2. 03.10.20- NALC: Tree charter newsletter
3. 02.11.20- Mike Whiting: Area Committees
4. 02.11.20- KALC: HCLG Select Committee Public Survey - The Future of the Planning System in England & KALC response
5. 02.11.20- NALC: CEO Bulletin
6. 03.11.20- KCC: Newington wifi update
7. 03.11.20- KALC: Newsletter
8. 04.11.20- KALC: national lockdown update
9. 04.11.20-Coop: links to finding and Cooperate platform
10. 05.11.20- KCC Highways to the annual Kent Highways parish seminar (November 19)
11. 07.11.20- resident email regarding the footpath at The Tracies
12. 09.11.20- NALC: CEO bulletin
13. 09.11.20- KAE craft courses
14. 09.11.20- resident concerns regarding fish and chip van in Station Road.
15. 09.11.20- Kent Police reports
16. 12.11.20- KALC- KCF Social isolation campaign - *added to website*
17. 12.11.20- KALC: bitesize learning flyer
18. 16.11.20- KCC PROW: Extension of temporary closure of Public Footpath ZR59
19. 18.11.20- KCC member briefing on the environment
20. 18.11.20- NALC CEO bulletin
21. 19.11.20- The Tracies resident update
22. 20.11.20- Kent County Council Safeguarding SPD and Statement of Community Involvement

Cllr Mould said that a resident has raised concerns about the fish and chip van at the car park.

Cllr Palmer said that he had also received complaints about the van being in the station car park and that he had raised the matter with the licensing department. This trader does have the relevant permit and the van is now in the car park at The Bull.

Cllr Harvey said he was concerned about the nearby residents who are affected by increased traffic and smell.

Cllr Palmer said there have been no complaints since the van moved to The Bull.

Cllr Mould said there had been correspondence about the footpath at The Tracies.

Cllr Palmer said that KCCllr Whiting has responded to the resident.

Cllr Harvey said the developers had agreed they would make good the path.

ACTION 1: Cllr Palmer to contact developers.

ACTION 2: Clerk to respond to resident.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No further matters were raised.

Cllr Jackson left the meeting

9. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

iii. To consider honorarium for Pavilion Caretaker

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 it was resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of an honorarium for Pavilion Caretaker

It was agreed to form a Working Group of Councillors to consider the matter at a meeting on Thursday 10 December at 7pm.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate the job description.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 15 December 2020

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman

Date: 15 December 2020