



Rolvenden Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Rolvenden Parish Council held in Rolvenden Village Hall, Rolvenden on 16th March 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Mrs D Curtain (Chairman), Cllr E Barham, Cllr N Cackett, Cllr Mrs F May, Cllr Mrs I Newman, and Cllr Mrs L Walker.

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

Also present: Cllr K Walder (Ashford Borough Council) 6 members of the public

856. Apologies for absence:

Cllr S Bryant, Cllr A Johnstone, and Cllr Mrs T Turner

857. Declarations of Interest:

1. Declarations of Members' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

None.

2. Declarations of Members' Other Significant Interests:

Cllr Mrs I Newman, trustee of War Memorial Trust, trustee of the Non-Ecclesiastical Charities. Member of the Village Hall Committee.

Cllr E Barham trustee of Basil Russel Trust, trustee of the Windmill Trust, Royal British Legion. Minute 861 Planning as owner of Sandhurst Lane Cottages and Neighbour to Winser Road

Cllr Mrs F May, Secretary Rolvenden Village Hall,

Cllr Mrs D Curtain, Trustee of War Memorial Trustee. Minute 862 invoice Sharky Sparky (family connection)

3. Declarations of Members' Other Interests:

None

858. Public Participation:

A resident raised the issue of lorries reversing into Corker's yard which is not helped by cars parked by the telephone box. This also causes problems for pedestrians wanting to cross the road.

The Chairman will approach Kent Highways to see if there any possible solutions to the problems.

859. Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th February 2023 were submitted, but not approved as Councillor Barham raised an objection that under Other Items for Information a request was made for an agenda item at the March meeting to establish a Management Committee to determine the future operation of the Thoburn Land Trust lands.

An amendment will be made and the minutes resubmitted in April for approval.

860. Ashford Borough Councillor's Report:

Cllr Walder reported that the Borough Council had set its budget for the forthcoming year having benefited from £600k from the levelling up fund. It is unknown if the current level can be sustained beyond next year.

Cllr Walder was please to advise that she has a further £500 grant available for a Coronation event.

Members of the Council should be aware that residents are beginning to ask questions about the future of the Land Trust and that consideration should be given to holding a consultation event to ascertain what residents would like to see the land used for.

861. Planning:

PA/2023/0294 – 3 Sandhurst Lane Cottages, Sandhurst Lane, Rolvenden – Proposed rear extension.

Resolved: The Parish Council supports the application.

PA/2023/0295 – 4 Sandhurst Lane Cottages, Sandhurst Lane, Rolvenden – Proposed rear extension.

Resolved: The Parish Council supports the application.

PA/2022/3137 – Listed Building Consent Horseshoe Cottage, 3 Winsor Road, Rolvenden – Erection of a porch to the rear elevation.

Resolved: The Parish Council supports the application

862. Finance:

Schedule of payments:

Litter picking	£120.00
Staff costs	£1,014.88
PCC St Mary the Virgin (VH ground rent)	£85.00
Tompsett landscaping	£117.60 (VAT £19.60)
Sharky Sparky	£292.80 (VAT £48.80)
The Star (Warm Hub)	£162.30

Councillors Mrs Curtain and Mrs Newman verified the entries through the bank account.

Cllr Walker reported that the Warm Hub has been very popular but will close on 31st March. A vote of thanks was proposed for the team running the hub.

Resolved:

- 1. To receive and note Report RPC/22/16**
- 2. To receive and acknowledge the financial movements for the period 1st April 2022 to 28th February 2023**

863. Coronation of H M King Charles III:

Arrangements are currently being made for a village event to mark the occasion of the Coronation of H M King Charles III on Saturday 6th May 2023.

As reported by the Borough Councillor a £500 grant has been made available for the event. Cllr Walker reported that the committee would like to provide a commemorative mug to all of

the children, a quotation is to be sought with the possibility of this being funded by the Parish Council.

A Coronation Oak has been donated and planted on St Mary's Green, there will be a church service and the tree will be dedicated on the Coronation weekend.

864. Climate Change:

The Earth's climate is changing. Global temperatures are projected to continue rising, bringing changes in weather patterns, rising sea levels and increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather for the UK.

The extent of change will depend greatly on how successfully we cut our greenhouse gas emissions.

We need to understand how our climate might change so that we can prepare. The impacts of climate change, including flooding and droughts, will vary from place to place meaning that action at the local and regional level is vitally important to help reduce the risks.

The Parish Council noted the report, it was acknowledged that the Parish has higher emission levels than the Borough as a whole and the national average. This is due to a number of factors, poor public transport resulting in reliance upon private cars, an older population, older housing stock which is not as well insulated and being a farming community.

865. The Thoburn Land Trust:

The Parish Council is the Sole Corporate Trustee of the Thoburn Land Trust and a separate meeting being scheduled to commence after the Parish Council meeting. Councillor Barham wished to bring the future usage of the land onto the Parish Council agenda.

It was agreed that the future usage of the land known as Church Fields be put to consultation of the residents at a special meeting to be held in the coming months. Prior to this being arranged it was agreed that an independent land agent should be consulted and asked to make recommendations for consideration. In the meantime it was agreed that a short term tenancy until 31st December be granted to the existing tenant in the form of the draft grazing agreement circulated with the Trust agenda. Councillor Barham would contact the tenant to seek his approval of the draft prior to it being signed.

A draft allotment lease was also discussed it was agreed that some of the points contained within the document needed clarification and that the annual rent should be set at 1/3 of the plot income received by the Allotment Society.

866. Other Items for information:

KCC have been contacted with regards to Broadband connections, it has been confirmed that there is a new programme with the procurement phase due to end in November 2023.

The Tigers now have 5 teams playing at the football ground and permission has been granted for Wittersham to also play there as their ground is waterlogged.

The litter pick was very successful with 25 volunteers and thanks were made to the Star for the refreshments at the end. Unfortunately Ashford Borough Council did not provide assistance as part of the area picked was the A28 which has resulted in the waste not being taken away which included some large items and asbestos. A quote is being obtained for its removal as it is deemed as commercial waste.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm