

RIVERHEAD PARISH COUNCIL
February Minutes 2023

Meeting of the Riverhead Parish Council held at 19.30 hours on Monday 20th February 2023.

1. PRESENT:

Mrs Collins (Chairman), Mrs Kennett (Vice-Chairman), Mrs King (Vice Chairman), Mr Colnet, Mr Croucher, Mr Smith and Mrs Stewart.

Also present: Mrs Estefani (Clerk), Cllr Bayley SDC, and Trevor Harrison (Riverhead resident).

Apologies accepted: none

Not present: Cllr Brown SDC and Cllr Chard KCC

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- No declarations of Interest.
- No breaches of GDPR.

3. MINUTES:

The minutes of the meetings held on Monday 16th January 2023 and 30th January 2023 (extraordinary meeting) had previously been circulated and were approved and signed.

4. Reports from District/County Councillors

Cllr Bayley updated the council on ongoing issues in Worship Hill and Chipstead Lane.

5. MATTERS FOR REPORT

- Trevor Harrison, resident from Chipstead Lane was invited to speak. He stated his ongoing appreciation of all the Council members for the work they carry out in the community, especially in the Parkland. TH handed out a list of questions that he would like to be included at the next Council meeting regarding the *“worsening traffic situation in Chipstead Lane”*:
 - *To whom have the Council relayed their concerns about the traffic problems in Chipstead Lane?* Kim Bayley reported that *“Access only was never taken forward”*.
 - *Has the Council considered and evaluated the earlier proposal from KCC Highways for Chipstead lane to be access only?*
 - *Has this Council spoken to Otford PC about how they were able to help their parishioners given that both councils are at the same level in the Local Authority hierarchy?*
 - *Does this Council realise that the original KCC proposal would actually cost next to nothing and could easily be afforded by our local community?*

a. Action points outstanding since previous meeting

- No outstanding issues.

b. Highways

Street lights

- Invoice from EON – Npower for December for a total £1,251.52 has been queried. Mara chased it but we still have not had a reply. The invoice for January has also now been received for a total of £1,234.96. CC offered to contact them directly and chase the claim. Mara to send invoices and contact details at EON.
- Nothing else to report on street lights.

Footpaths and pavements

- CK reported to the Council about costs for barrier planters, railings planting boxes, hanging baskets, flower towers and central reservation area planting and watering. All councillors agreed prices are reasonable and direct benefits to the residents.

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- Nothing else to report.

Street furniture

- The purchase of Street signs for Churchfields and Witches Lane they have been ordered as well as new finials and repainting of the Hamlin Road's street sign.
- CIL funds to be used for the repainting of street lamps.
- Nothing else to report on street furniture.

Traffic and local parking

- Frank's barber has received two fines from Miller & Carter. Mara has checked the car registration and it is correct so it must be a mistake. He has been asked to contact M&C directly.
- Nothing else to report.

Local business and services:

- E-Watch reports:
 - Aisher Way in *Riverhead* - On Tuesday 7th of February around 14:00. Somebody stole clothing from the charity point in a supermarket car park.
Crime Report No. 46/26808/23
 - London Road in *Riverhead* - On Saturday 11th of February between 11:31 and 13:39. Somebody stole a vehicle, GD65***, from the road.
Crime Report No. 46/28230/23
- Nothing else to report.

c. Village Hall

- **Safety Checks – Safety Log Book** – Alan confirmed all tests have been logged. AC reports that Infant PADS need to be ordered and radiator in the hallway is still not fitted. Clerk to chase.
- Michele has reported a fault with the top lock of the main entrance door. AC to check it. It might only need a bit of oil.
- Little Mill has been chased to confirm the date to replace the broken window but they still haven't got back to us.
- Alan offered to secure shut the broken blind and leave it closed for the time being. AC will do this after Little Mills has fixed the window.
- Alan was thanked for mending the kitchen shutters and the faulty light bulb in the entrance.
- Nothing else to report.

d. Parkland

- JK updated the council from the last working party, the volunteers cleared the wood chippings.
- CC/PS reported that they need to tidy up the shed and evaluate if there is still need for a new storage container.
- No other issues to report or questions on Parkland.

e. Allotments & Open Spaces

- CC and PS confirmed that had checked the lease document that DMB has sent and they confirmed it is ok to accept all changes in it. Mara to email DMB.
- The new gate on Broadmead is completed. Padlock to be ordered.
- Gate in Church Field needs to be re-wired. CK to liaise with Alex to replace it with new chain wire and make good.
- SS is liaising Tim at Coblands to plant the fountain.
- No further issues or questions on Open Spaces.

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f. Communications

- The Coronation Party: volunteers needed to make crochet poppies to make a big Union Jack. SS has made a flyer and will distribute to local business.
- Invoice for portable toilets for the party has been received for a total of £378.00. Invoice to be settled after the 1st April as budgeted in next year's budget.
- Nothing to report or questions on Comms.

6. NOTIFIED ITEM

a) To review and consider payments from budget of £1,225.00 to charities which will bring direct benefit to Riverhead and its inhabitants. *LGA 1972 s137*

- I propose to donate £1,400 to the published list of charities, seconded by Cllr Phil Smith *Approved by Show of Hands.*

Full list of donations was agreed as follows:

- Hospice in the Weald £200
- Friends for Families £200
- Kenward Trust £200
- DAVSS £200
- Riding for the Disabled Association £200
- Mental Health Resource £200
- Women's Refuge £200

b) To nominate members of the community to the KALC Community Awards.

- I propose Priti Patel, seconded by Cllr Alan Colnet *Approved by Show of Hands.*

c) To consider applying for the Community Mobilisation Grant 2022/23.

- I propose Every Step Counts and Senior Coffee Mornings to bid together, seconded by Cllr Shirley Stewart *Approved by Show of Hands.*

d) To consider taking part in the South and South East in Bloom scheme.

- Full council agreed to not take part on this occasion. As an alternative idea, a competition of hanging baskets with the Coronation theme was suggested.

7. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a) Invoices for payment were reviewed and approved.

- List of payments over £500:
 - EoN trading and Npower Total £1,251.52
 - Streetlights Total £688.09.
- A list of payments was previously distributed.

b) Total Income received £ 2,560.53 since last meeting.

The list of receipts was previously distributed.

c) No further issues to report or questions on Finance.

8. PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Planning applications reviewed in the month were:

a) 22/03581/HOUSE – Jestam House 8, Amherst Hill, Riverhead TN13 2EL

b) 23/00086/HOUSE - 66 Chipstead Lane, Riverhead TN13 2AG

c) 22/00014/RFPLN - Chevening House Chevening Road Chevening KENT TN14 6HG

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- A list of general correspondence was distributed in the meeting room.

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10. CLERK'S OFFICE

- CK proposed to add in next month's agenda a Motion to change the Standing Orders to allow Chairman to extend her post. Seconded by Cllr Shirley Stewart. *Agreed by Show of hands.*
- CK suggests Rebecca attends the next council meeting as potential new councillor to join the council.

The meeting closed at 21.15pm