**WATERINGBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd December 2019**

**7.40pm Wateringbury Village Hall**

**Present**

**Cllr M Wells (Chairman)**

**Cllr R Tripp**

**Cllr D Marks**

**Cllr F Fielding**

**Cllr M Burrows**

**In attendance:**

**Mrs S Cockburn - Clerk to the Council**

**Cllr M Balfour – Kent County Councillor**

**Cllr S Hudson – Tonbridge & Malling Borough Councillor**

**Mrs Christine Byron – Rostrum Correspondent**

**3 members of the public**

**The Chairman opened the meeting by reminding everyone in attendance the meeting may be filmed, recorded, photographed or otherwise reported and asked if any person present intends to make a video or audio recording of the proceedings. None**

**19/075 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllr Simons

**19/076 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

None

**19/077 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman thanked Cllr Marks for laying the wreath on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the Council

The Chairman told the meeting on the 17th December the Parish Council would be 125 years old. After the 1894 Local Government Act Parish Councils came into existence. In Wateringbury there were 17 candidates for 9 vacancies, so an election was held. The first lady to be elected was a Mrs Lemmens in 1919.

**22**

The Chairman announced additional dates for 2020. The Annual Parish Meeting would be on the 19th May and the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting on 17th November.

**19/078 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Balfour acknowledge the problems caused by the temporary traffic lights while work is carried out on the corner of Red Hill. Possible sharing SID with another parish. Cllr Balfour agreed Wateringbury was a hotspot as far as pollution was concerned.

Cllr Burrows stated the scaffolding at the corner of Re Hill might could have be done in a better way. Cllr Balfour said he was sure TMBC would have looked at this carefully, but as the contractor had been arranged by the private owner of the property it would be difficult to question whether the scaffolding was sufficient for the work.

Cllr Marks raised the question of issues, such as the electronic speed sign at Canon Lane and cameras on the traffic lights, which the Parish Council found met resistance even though the PC was happy to contribute to or pay for the equipment. Cllr Marks asked Cllr Balfour for his support in tackling these issues. Cllr Balfour said yes of course he would want to be involved to make thing better for the village. Cllr Balfour suggested a meeting with officers at KCC to discuss these issues.

Cllr Hudson asked Cllr Balfour if the Parish council did not go for the SID equipment would he consider donating some funds towards other traffic calming project. Cllr Balfour said any request for funds would be looked at individually

Cllr Balfour wished everyone a happy Christmas and left the meeting at 7.55pm

**19/079 REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Hudson reported issues on waste collection were much quieter. There was far more recycling in the borough than the contractor Urbaser had predicted and it had been necessary for them to increase the number of vehicles used.

Cllr Hudson referred to the repairs at the corner of Red Hill stating the property was privately owned and all costs were being met by the property owner TMC had little or no control over the work

Cllr Hudson referred to the meeting of the Joint Transportation Board on the crossroad alterations which due to KCC having insufficient funds could not progress. Cllr Balfour had put forward a proposal that KCC try and find the funds which although was seconded was voted down. KCC would now have to go back to the drawing board.

**23**

Cllr Hudson had spoken to KCC about traffic calming, such as traffic islands, that Hadlow had in place on the A26.

Any work on pavements in the village had been suspended due to the work at the crossroads.

KCC had said there was no room available on the A26 for a crossing Cllr Hudson had approached the Estate Manager at Wateringbury Place about using some of their land and she was waiting for any outcome.

Cllr Tripp said he was in favour of the crossroad alterations as anything that reduced the high pollution levels would have his backing and he pointed out that not everyone in the village had seen the KCC plans. Cllr Hudson said an article setting out the alterations appeared in the March edition of Rostrum

The Chairman confirmed that if the crossroad plan had been supported a public consultation would follow.

**19/080 CRIME REPORT**

No report received.

**19/081 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 5th NOVEMBER 2019**

The Minutes having been read were approved by Cllr Marks and seconded by Cllr Fielding and signed as a correct record.

**19/082** **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 5th NOVEMBER 2019**

Matters arising attached.

**19/083 MINUTES OF FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING 19TH NOVEMBER 2019 TO BE APPROVED FOR ACCURACY AND MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

The Minutes having been read were approved by Cllr Tripp and seconded by Cllr Fielding and signed as a correct record

Matters arising from Minutes attached.

Tree Charter – Parish Councils were encouraged to join the Tree Charter initiated by The Woodland Trust who are giving away hundreds of trees to school ad communities. It was not clear where trees could be planted in the village, so it was agreed to leave this to a future meeting

**19/084** **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES**

**Finance & General Purposes –** Next meeting 17th November 2020

**Planning** – Meeting to follow.

**Wateringbury Sports & Recreational Association –** nothing to report

**Village Hall** – Cllr Fielding reported the Village Hall Committee were still working on a proposed new lease.

**24**

**Tonbridge & Malling Area Committee of KALC\_**- No meeting 5th December

**Parish Partnership Panel** – no report

**Joint Parish Council Transport Consultative Group –** Meeting 28th November

**Kent Community Rail Partnership** – No report

**Highways & Transportation** – next meeting 21st January 2020

**Speedwatch** - report attached

**Allotments** – nothing to report

**Cemetery** – The rabbit treatment was carried out on the 28th November. Work on the privet, lime trees and car park edge had been completed. The Contractor is unable to continue from 2020 due to a move to the Isle of Man. Quotes will be obtained.

**Joint Flood Group** – Nothing to report

**Village Warden** – report attached

**19/085 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Agreement of the Financial Statement was proposed by Cllr Tripp and seconded by Cllr Marks. All cheques were signed

**19/086 PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

It was suggested perhaps trees could be planted at the Mill Pond.

The Chairman pointed out this was private land.

It was stated the light had been left on again in the pavilion

Mrs Byron wished Councillors a happy Christmas and New year and thanked them for all their hard work during the year. The Chairman thanked Mrs Byron for her good wishes and kind comments

There being no further business the Chairman wished everyone a happy Christmas and closed the meeting at 8.50pm

**25**