**WATERINGBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 7th January 2020**

**7.30pm Wateringbury Village Hall**

**Present**

**Cllr M Wells (Chairman)**

**Cllr R Tripp**

**Cllr D Marks**

**Cllr F Fielding**

**In attendance:**

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

**Cllr M Balfour – Kent County Councillor**

**PCSO Wendy Stanley and colleague**

**Mrs Trudy Bailey – Rostrum Correspondent**

**4 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**

**19/087 CO-OPTION OF MEMBER ON TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Mrs Lin Simons, having previously resigned, was put forward for co-option. All members voted in favour and Mrs Simons was duly elected

**19/088 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllr S Hudson

**19/089 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

Cllr Tripp declared an interest in discussions on building work in The Orpines and asked for dispensation to comment. Members agreed and the dispensation was granted for the meeting only.

**19/090 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman referred to the building work in The Orpines, and invited Cllr Tripp to speak

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Cllr Tripp said the Contractor wanted to revise condition 6 of the landscaping scheme required already agreed under planning permission. The residents of The Orpines had signed a petition objecting to the changes.

Terracing and planting had been replaced by motorway styles barriers and trees would be planted 4mtrs down so could not be clearly be seen.

On behalf of the residents Cllr Tripp asked the Council to support them in ensuring the original plans were adhered to.

Cllr Tripp then left the room while a vote was taken. All members voted in favour and Cllr Marks agreed to word comments to go to Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council. Cllr Tripp returned to the meeting

It was felt that comments by the Parish Council on planning applications were not always taken into account.

The Chairman announced the resignation of Cllr Burrows for personal reasons

It was reported the building works at the corner of Red Hill were completed before Christmas

Repairs to the track were due to start on the 13th January

The Highways Committee meeting would be on the 21st January 7pm

A report had been received from Crispin Kennard of TMBC stating the pollution monitor showed no exceedance of the hourly limits for Nitrogen Oxide so far for the year, and had suggested a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the removal of the unit from the village hall foyer.

**19/091 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Balfour stated that any planning comments from Parish Councils were taken seriously. Cllr Balfour said Kent roads had deteriorated and there were numerous reports of pot holes. It was hoped Central Government would supply additional funds for repairs.

The Chairman said road surfacing on the A26 Tonbridge road from Mereworth towards Wateringbury had been carried out but stopped about 200metres from Danns Lane and asked why that was. Cllr Balfour was not aware of this and asked details to be emailed to him

The Chairman thanked Cllr Balfour who left the meeting at 8.20pm.

**19/092 REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Hudsonwas not present having to attend another meeting at the Borough Council

**19/093 CRIME REPORT**

Report attached. PCSO Stanley said there was nothing to add to the report

It was stated that a motor bike had been seen being ridden on the playing fields.

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PCSO Stanley was asked by a member of the public about vehicles parked on pavements. It was stated that as long as there is enough room for a pram or wheelchair to get by on the pavement parking half on the pavement was within the law. PCSO Stanley said she could put advisory notices on windscreens if vehicles were not parked correctly.

It was stated the Parish Council had had no response from the Police regarding the damaged to the wall outside the village hall. PCSO Stanley said to keep ringing to ask for an update.

The Chairman thanked PSCO Stanley and colleague who then left the meeting

**19/094 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 3rd DECEMBER 2019**

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

**19/095** **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 3rd DECEMBER 2019**

Cllr Marks referred to the repairs to the building at the corner of Red Hill. It was understood that Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council had, under emergency building regulations, taken over the repairs, which was opposed to what Cllr Hudson had said at the previous Parish Council meeting that as the building was privately owned the Borough Council had no control over the timing of the repairs. It was agreed Cllr Marks would write to the Borough Council seeking clarification.

**19/096 FINAL BUDGET 2020/2021**

Councillors had a breakdown of the final budget which showedthe precept figure for 2020/2021 would be £93,810.99 which was drop of approximately 4% on the previous year

Cllr Marks proposed the Final Budget be agreed and this was seconded by Cllr Tripp. All members voted in favour.

**19/097** **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES**

**Finance & General Purposes –** No meeting

Speed surveys – After discussion it was agreed to ask KCC for a speed survey on Bow Road to be sited just after the entrance to Phoenix Drive but before the zebra crossing. Also, on the A26 Tonbridge Road on the approach to Canon Lane to be sited between the entrance of Manor Farm and Bijou Nursery. It was agreed each survey would cost the parish round £400

Damage to the wall outside the village hall – A quote had been received from Birkby Construction for repairs at a cost of £1680. It was stated the wall was not insured. Cllr Marks proposed acceptance of the quote and this was seconded by Cllr Fielding. All members voted in favour

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Handrail at church -The Chairman referred to an email regarding a new handrail at the entrance to the church. The cost obtained by the church from Yalding Forge would be £2434, and the funds available for this was around £500 a shortfall of £1934. It had been suggested maybe the Parish Council would consider a donation.

After discussion it was confirmed there was the sum of £100 left in the donations budget that could be used.

Village Stocks – Chris Chaplin who had refurbished the Lock-up door had reported the stocks needed treatment as part of the wood was splitting. He had quoted the sum of £170 for 2 coats of Tung oil, prepare and 2 coats of paint for the metal work and £20 for the paint. Cllr Simons suggested maybe The Friends of Wateringbury could carry out the work. They would be asked

Toilet hire for fete – Two quotes had been obtained. One from Four Jays for a toilet trailer at a cost of £531 plus VAT and one from Euroloo who quoted for 3 single units and not a trailer as asked for at a cost of £920 plus VAT. After discussion a vote was taken - 4 in favour of accepting Four Jays quote - 1 abstension.

**Planning** – Meeting to follow.

**Wateringbury Sports & Recreational Association –** A meeting was to be arranged for the Committee on the proposals for a new pavilion. Cllr Fielding would be attending. The Chairman and Cllr Marks expressed an interest to attend. At some stage there would be a public meeting to get residents views and to seek support for the proposals. It was suggested that if Drayhorse Meadow became vacant the land could be registered with Fields in Trust. This was something for future consideration.

**Village Hall** – nothing to report

**Tonbridge & Malling Area Committee of KALC\_**- Next meeting 16th April

**Parish Partnership Panel** – no report

**Joint Parish Council Transport Consultative Group –** A report would be put to the Highways Committee Meeting

**Kent Community Rail Partnership** – No report

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

**Speedwatch** - report attached. David Merry had been contacted by the Kent Messenger who were doing research on Speedwatch. David had asked the Parish Council for permission to speak to the KM. Members felt David was in a better position to deal with this as he had all the necessary information to hand, and they were happy for him to speak to the KM

**Allotments** – letters had gone to 7 plot holders about the condition of their allotments. 3 would retain, 3 given up, and one had not replied. 3 possible new holders from April.

**Cemetery** – nothing to report

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**Joint Flood Group** – Nothing to report for Wateringbury but The Riverside Restaurant in Nettlestead had been flooded in recent heavy rains

**Village Warden** – report attached

**19/098 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

**19/099 PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

It was reported a resident of Pizien Well Road had cut back overgrown vegetation and cleared rubbish along the road in his own time. It was suggested this was reported in the Rostrum magazine

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 9.25pm

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