

WROTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING,
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 06th December at 7.30pm
In the Wrotham Pavilion TN15 7AH

Present: P Gillin (Chairman), D Beach, S Vick & T Jacob

In Attendance: Lesley Cox (Clerk), J O'Hara, I Stone, J Lovell & A Boulden

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Cllr's Coffin & Betts (T&MBC Meeting), H Rayner, K Denton & C Mills

2. **Attendance Register**

The attendance register was signed, and declarations of interest duly noted.

All Meetings

Cllr's Gillin, Rayner, Betts, Beach & Denton members of Keep Borough's Green

Cllr Beach member of the St George's Bell Ringers

Cllr Gillin member of Friends of Wrotham & Wrotham Xmas Lights

Cllr Mills chairman of Friends of Wrotham

Cllr's Rayner & Gillin members of Friends of St George's

Cllr Rayner member of St George's Church of England Wrotham

Cllr Rayner retired member of the Baltic Exchange Ltd

Cllr Rayner life member of the National Trust

Cllr's Rayner & Beach members of Kent Association of Change Ringers

Cllr Rayner assistant Village Magazine Deliverer

Cllr Rayner life member of the Royal National Lifeboat Institute

Cllr Vick member of Wrotham Fireworks

Cllr's Rayner, Gillin, Beach & Denton members of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England – WPC corporate member

Cllr Gillin committee member of Tonbridge & Malling branch of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England.

Cllr Coffin firework provider for Wrotham

Cllr Mills committee member of Wrotham Music Festival

Cllr Mills director of charity, Good Food Matters.

Cllr Rayner Conservative Party Member

Cllr Rayner Member of Tonbridge & Malling Conservative Party Executive & Management Committees

Provider of Electrical Services to Wrotham Parish Council – all meetings Cllr S Vick

Cllr Vick declared an interest in agenda item 14 and didn't participate in the decision.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2023 were proposed by Cllr Vick seconded by Cllr Jacob and agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

4. **Reports from Community Police and or Community Warden**

PC Dylan McElligott – Report Received Post Meeting.

06/11/2023 – Nuisance youths on West Street, tried to knock off someone's hat and being a general nuisance. The youths ran away when shouted at by the member of the public.

06/11/2023 – Youths on push bikes, one of which assaulted a member of the public by punching the victim. No injuries were caused, and the suspect is known however evidential difficulties prevented a prosecution.

12/11/2023 – Youths launching items with catapults on West Street although no damage was caused on this occasion.

12/11/2023 – Nuisance vehicle on Pilgrims Way.

17/11/2023 – Three calls relating to nuisance vehicles on Pilgrims Way.

20/11/2023 – Attempt theft of a vehicle on Wrotham Water Road. Due to the security feature in this particular vehicle, the vehicle couldn't be taken.

23/11/2023 – Vehicle stolen from the car park at The Moat Public House.

02/12/2023 – Victim was assaulted by an unknown group of males by pushing the victim against a car and punched in the face three times. I believe the group were youths, but no suspects have been named.

5. Public Question Time

Numerous examples of anti-social behaviour incidents were provided as evidence of the escalating problems occurring around the village. To discuss these issues further and decide on a village wide strategy to address the problems it was agreed to co-opt 3 non parish councillor members onto the Crime and Disorder Committee. Committee to meet on Wednesday 13th December 2023.

6. Winter Maintenance Planning

WPC currently has no means of towing the village gritter. Cllr Vick to compile a suitable article for social media to request assistance from local residents. Cllr Jacob to check out volunteer insurance implications.

7. Reports if any from County Cllr and or Borough Cllr

No Reports

8. Reports from various Committees

Grounds

Leaves and more leaves.

Buildings

Lease has been signed and we now have the keys for the new secure storage unit in Kemsing Road.

Highways

Update on the situation with connection transfers from UK Power Networks.

Bull Lane and the Lychgate, the jointer decided that different works other than on the order were required in Bull Lane and didn't know light No.5 was to be abandoned and started implementing other works not required without completing the joint to new light No.6. UK Power Networks have corrected the works to be as the order was paid for originally but there wasn't any window to get the jointer back and thus the traffic management stayed out for unexplained reasons. This work was programmed for the 1st December but has had to be rescheduled for the New Year and traffic management authorisation not obtained for the 1st December .

The light at the Lychgate is delayed because the existing service cable to the old column is trapped in concrete under the adjacent stone wall. The amount of cable on the column side of the wall is insufficient to joint the new service so UK Power Networks have decided that further excavation is required so they can joint in the footpath and feed a new supply cable under the wall to the new column.

The light in Old London Road programmed for the end of November couldn't be completed as the linesman only had ladders available, as their Cherry Picker Vehicle had broken down, the ladders however were not long enough to reach the work required. That will now be completed within all the other overhead line work.

Currently 10 out of the 26 dangerous connection transfers have been completed.

UK Power Networks has now confirmed that they will require a road closure to work on the lights in St Mary's Road.

It has been established that light 33 in Kemsing Road is a potential lantern failure and has been referred to the manufacturer for replacement.

Crime & Disorder

Previously covered in Public Question Time

Finance

No Report

Planning

No Report

Skatepark

No Report

Climate Change Strategy

No Report

KALC

No Report

PPP

No Report

9. **Correspondence Received**

We Are Beams	Request for donation Charity is currently supporting 3 families of disabled children in Wrotham. Previously emailed	Donation of £200.00 proposed by Cllr Gillin, seconded by Cllr Jacob was agreed unanimously
T&MBC	On and off-street parking restrictions – Changes to parking restrictions and tariff change Previously emailed	Public Consultation www.tmbc.gov.uk/consultations deadline 7th January 2024
KCC	Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2024-2034 Consultation Previously emailed Kent Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan Consultation Previously emailed Locality Model for Special Education Needs Inclusion Previously emailed Family Hub and Commissioned Youth Decision Previously emailed KCC Budget Consultation Report Previously emailed	www.kent.gov.uk/localfloodrisk Consultation deadline 30 th January 2024 Public Consultation www.kent.gov.uk/KCWIP deadline 10 th January 2024 Public Consultation Visit Locality Model for Special Educational Needs Inclusion Let's talk Kent Deadline 24 th January 2024 For Information For Information www.kent.gov.uk/budget
Clerks & Councils Direct	November 2023 Issue 150	For Information
SLCC	The Clerk November 2023	For Information

10. **Financial Matters**

i. Cheques for approval and signature

It was proposed by Cllr Gillin seconded by Cllr Beach, and resolved that the following accounts be passed for payment:

Payable To	Invoice Details	Amount	Cheque No
KALC*	AGM Lunch	£6.00	BAC 07/11/23
Highgate Planning & Development Ltd *	Moto Planning Application Objection Addendum	£420.00	BAC 15/11/23
R Slegg	Pavilion Security Deposit Refund Payment reduced due to rubbish left onsite	£30.00	BAC 21/11/23
Kevin Holt	Ground Maintenance Works October 2023	£1,380.00	BAC 27/11/23
F Ward	Pavilion Security Deposit Refund Payment reduced due to condition of building	£30.00	BAC 29/11/23
Peter Barden	Litter Pick Open Spaces Maintenance – CPA Inspection - Multi-Court Vegetation Clearance and Removal - Leaf Clearance/General Clearance Burial Ground Maintenance Leaf Clearance/General Clearance Xmas Lights – Wrotham Traders Total	90.00 241.90 90.00 15.00 £436.90	BAC 1/12/23
Lesley Cox	Salary November 2023 deductions include pension contribution. Telephone Quarterly Office Allowance Total	2,366.61 20.00 150.00 £2,536.61	BAC
HM Revenue & Custom	PAYE / NI November 2023	£999.58	BAC
KCC Pension Fund	Pension Contribution November 2023	£1,180.65	BAC
Borough Green PC **	Skate Park Litter Pick / Checks November 2023	£150.00	BAC
Four Seasons Gardens Ltd *	Grounds Maintenance Contract 9 th Instalment 2023/24	£437.77	BAC
Astra Security Systems *	1 GB Monthly Data per Router Old London Road / High Street	£60.00	BAC
NKCS *	Contract Cleaning October 23 St George's Hall to contribute	£857.05	BAC
Assured Water Hygiene *	Pavilion salt x 8 delivered 3/11/23	£129.20	BAC
Heart of Kent Hospice	Donation agreed 1/11/23	£200.00	BAC
J Blewer & Son Ltd *	Ratchet Straps	£11.23	BAC
SLCC	Membership Renewal 2024	£298.00	BAC
Streetlights *	CPA Quarterly CCTV Camera Clean	£49.50	BAC
KAS Welding *	St George's Pre-School Box Brackets	£816.00	BAC
Viking *	Printer Ink – Stationery – Toilet Rolls	£113.23	BAC
Metro Bank Account Transfer	Balance B/fwd Rodent Control – Burial Ground * Replacement Leaf Blower & Padlock * Skatepark *** Heras Clamps * Carbon Literacy Action Day Registration Silver Birch Trees x2 * November Top UP Replacement Oven * – St George's Hall to contribute. Fasthosts – Generic Email *	1,348.04 (47.74) (122.49) (23.59) (95.00) (161.00) 1,500.00 (1,479.98) (12.00)	BAC

Xmas Light Materials *	(30.10)
Skatepark *** Heras Fencing Security *	(103.96)
Open Spaces Materials *	(7.99)
Land Registry Search	(6.00)
Account Fee	(7.80)
Materials St George's Hall to contribute *	(26.40)
Postage Signed Lease & 10 Large 1st Class Stamps	(22.20)
Account Balance	701.79
Monthly Payment	£298.21

* denotes items including VAT

** denotes 22.3% to be reimbursed

*** denotes 73.3% to be reimbursed

Payments made by Direct Debit / Standing Order Since Previous Meeting 01st November 23

SSE	Streetlight Electricity Supply	£905.89	16/11/23
Engie	Pavilion Gas	£148.58	21/11/23
Water Plus	Pavilion Metered Water	£47.87	
Water Plus	Allotment Metered Water	£10.02	
BT Group	Parish Email	£7.50	22/11/23
Water Plus	Burial Ground Metered Water	£4.94	28/11/23
T&MBC	West Street Car Park Non-Domestic Rates	£134.00	01/12/23
Opus	Pavilion Electricity	£340.14	04/12/23

ii. Bank Reconciliation for sign off

The following account balances were checked, agreed and signed by Cllr Beach

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES as at 5th October 2023

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
Current	£50.00
Business Reserve	£7,923.79
Business Savings	£61,581.70
Community Skate Park	£1.02
CCLA Parish Fund	£42,147.43
CCLA Community Fund	£75,943.05
Metro Account	£1,348.04
TOTAL	£188,995.03

11. Date of next Parish Council Meeting

The date for the next meeting was proposed for the 10th January 2023 to be held in the Wrotham Pavilion at 7.30pm. The date for the interim planning meeting to be advised.

12. Planning Committee to Consider

1. Applications received

Application Number	Address	Details	Parish Council Recommendation
TM/23/03130/FL	Kildonan St Mary's Road	Demolish rear conservatory and build single-storey side extension	No Objections
TM/23/02083/TPOC	Land North of Fen Pond House, Fen Pond Road, Ightham	4x Oak - cut back branches by approximately 20%.	No Objection, subject to officer approval
TM/23/03214/TEN	Orange Tq 6135058000,	Prior Telecommunications Notification: The	Attached refers

	Borough Green Road	installation of a new 25m High Swann 5SH Tower. The development will include a base station, 2.4m high fencing compound, 6no. operator cabinets, 4no. dishes, 12no. antennas 1no. meter cabinet and ancillary development thereto.The installation of a new 25m High Swann 5SH Tower. The development will include a base station, 2.4m high fencing compound, 6no. operator cabinets, 4no. dishes, 12no. antennas 1no. meter cabinet and ancillary development thereto.	
TM/23/03211/TPOC	St George's' Court West Street	T17, T18 dead trees - fell to ground level T25, T24, T23, T22 T21, T20, T16, T15, T13, T12, T8, T4 -All require to be cut back on the west side by 1.5m to remove overhang from the neighbouring properties. This will also require a crown lift to 4.5m to allow the tree line to be pulled away from neighbouring properties running along the boundary allowing more light as they heavily shade the houses. This will also allow the street lights to shine more visibly along the footpath. Standing in Group G3 of Tree Preservation Order.	No Objection, subject to officer approval
TM/23/03198/PSID	Wrotham Secondary School, Borough Green Road	Part-demolition of existing school buildings and erection of replacement school buildings with associated parking and landscaping including the siting of two temporary classroom, buildings during construction	Deferred to planning committee meeting

i. Notifications of Decisions

Application Number	Address	Details	Decision
TM/23/01824/FL	Green Leas Pilgrims Way	Construction of a new stable building, hardstanding and paddocks, including the change of use for part of the residential garden to include private equestrian use	Approved 2 nd November 2023
TM/23/00835/FL	Grange Park School	Erection of a single storey	Application

	Borough Green Road	modular classroom and toilet facility	withdrawn 14 th November 2023
TM/23/02005/RD	Westlands Farm Borough Green Road	Details of conditions 4 (Soil site investigation) and 8 (Foul and/or surface water disposal) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/20/02378/FL (Conversion of agricultural buildings into 1 no. dwelling with associated landscaping and car parking)	Refused 21 st November 2023

2. Correspondence Received

T&MBC Weekly Planning Lists

PART 2

13. Ground Maintenance Contract 1 – Tenders

The proposal to award the contract to Capel Groundcare from April 2024 to March 2026 was agreed unanimously.

14. St George's Pre-School

Ratification of the decision taken to support the continuation of the pre-school for the benefit of the village by covering the cost of the project to provide a new electricity supply to the school building, was agreed unanimously.
 Cllr Vick abstained from voting.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

.....Chairman

.....Date