

**Blean Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

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**Those Present:** Cllr. P. Hutt; Cllr. H. Samuelson; Cllr. G. King; Cllr. A. Jeffers and Clerk D. Horswell.

**Also present:** County Cllr. R. Thomas; Ward Cllr. D Smith and one member of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Cllr. B. Flack – attending a CCC Policy meeting; Ward Cllr. A. Ricketts – attending a CCC Policy meeting and PCSO William Lawrence – other duties. The clerk announced that due to health issues Cllr. Wakeling has resigned from the Parish Council with immediate effect. The Council Members expressed their disappointment and wished him well for the future.

As Cllr. Flack was absent from the meeting Cllr. Hutt took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Co-Option of new Parish Councillor:**

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Johan Russell onto the Parish Council. She signed an Acceptance of Office form which was counter-signed by the Clerk. She was given a Notification of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests form (DPI) to be completed and returned to the clerk who will forward it to the CCC Monitoring Officer.

Cllr. Hutt welcomed her onto the Parish Council.

**3. Changes to DPI's & Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:**

Cllr. King reported to the meeting that he has taken on the role of Chairman of the Village Hall.

Cllr. Samuelson reported that he is now Chairman of Governors at Blean School.

**4. To Approve: Minutes of the last Meeting: of 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.**

Proposed Cllr. King, Seconded Cllr. Samuelson and All Members present **AGREED**. These being approved the Minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.



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### Bank Statement as at 30th September 2021 - Current Account £45,567.75

*(This does not include all the transactions paid in or the outgoing transactions in the banking report).*

The clerk gave an explanation of the payment made in error to BPC from Dignity Funerals Ltd which has now been rectified.

### 6. Planning: (Planning Report circulated to Cllrs. prior to meeting.)

### PLANNING REPORT October 2021

#### Planning Applications:

**7. 21/01983** - Two-storey side extension - **1 Westfield – Blean Parish Council has no objections to this application.**

#### **Planning Applications Received since last meeting:**

**1. 21/02354** - Front and rear dormers, PV panels to roof, alterations to external materials and new open porch to main entrance - **47 School Lane** – Comments by 5<sup>th</sup> November.

#### Decision Notices by CCC:

**1. 21/01983** - Two-storey side extension - **1 Westfield - GRANTED**

### 7. Reports from County Cllr; Ward Cllrs and PCSO:

#### **7.1 County Cllr. Thomas:**

Cllr. Thomas said how pleased he was to get back to face to face meetings and gave the following report:

New term of council at KCC following the May elections and I am chairing Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee. It scrutinises Cabinet decisions before they are taken. At the July meeting we discussed the disposal of land to help facilitate a new hospital in Canterbury should the NHS decide to go ahead. <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=750&MIId=8531>

I am also chairing the Pension Board which is a scrutiny function of the Superannuation Pension Fund, which provides pensions to KCC employees and a number of other public sector workers. A governance review of the Pension Board was recently completed and

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I'll be working with officers to enhance the current setup.

I am continuing on the Kent Plan Bee members group (cross party). The second summit will be on 23rd November. Sign up details should follow shortly <https://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/nature-and-biodiversity/pollinators/kents-plan-bee-pollinator-action-plan>

There is KCC Environment Strategy Conference at Detling Showground on 2nd November. It will be a hybrid meeting, with some attendees in person and some online, and will have a number of keynote speakers who will focus on COP26, net zero carbon in Kent and other strategies.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/kent-environment-strategy-conference-tickets-181731071527?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

There are a raft of consultations at present ranging from adult social care, civil society, budget, HWRCs, mental health. All can be seen at <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/>

For any community group requiring funding a reminder about the KCC portal which contains links a variety of sources. This includes both the Combined Member Grant and COVID Recovery Fund which I oversee in the division. <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-grants-and-funding>

He said that he is willing to help get the Blean Speedwatch scheme back up and running and has a pot of money to help with local projects.

### **7.2 Ward Cllr. Smith:**

Cllr. Smith reported on the following matters:

- E-Scooters scheme which is being marred by bad behaviour and the need for Government legislation. The trial is due to finish in November.
- Local Plan
- Climate Change

**7.3 PCSO Report:** Please see report attached to these minutes.

## **8. Reports and Updates:**

### **8.1 Village Hall Report: - Cllr. King**

Hirings are on the increase now, as people begin to emerge from the Covid restrictions, all the necessary precautions are being taken, including cleansing, mask wearing and hand sanitising.

Following discussions between the BPC chair and clerk and the Lettings Officer and Hall Chairperson, confirmation has been requested from our insurers

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concerning cover for hirers who wish to go outside onto the recreation ground for organised events. Our insurers have assured us that they are fully covered provided they confine any organised activities to that portion of the field which is in the ownership of the village hall. All prospective hirers are being advised of this ruling and shown the limit of their organised events.

Monthly coffee mornings have resumed, and it is planned to hold a Christmas market as usual at the end of November.

Godfrey King. Chairperson

**8.2 N.H.W. Report** – Report attached to these minutes.

**8.3 Footpath Report –Cllr. Samuelson and Cllr. Hutt**

Cllr. Samuelson reported that the vegetation is overgrown onto the footway on Blean Hill from the Blean Tavern to the school. Clerk will report to KCC.

**8.4 Highways Report – Cllr. Jeffers**

Cllr. Jeffers reported that there had been a disappointing response from KCC regarding the crossover at Crab & Winkle Way/Tyler Hill Road which, in summary, indicated that they are not able to get anyone from resurfacing to maintain the coloured road surface that was historically there

**8.5 Parish Council Update – clerk** Report attached to these minutes.

**9. Matters raised by the Public:**

No matters were raised by the public present.

**10. Matters to be discussed:**

**10.1 CCC Capital Grant application 2022/2023:**

It has been agreed that BPC will not apply for a grant for 2022/2023 as the idea of a new picnic table can be funded by the Parish Council by way of the VAT refund.

**10.2 Change start times of Parish Council meetings:**

After discussion it was agreed that, due to some Cllrs. work commitments, it would be wise to leave the starting time as 7.30pm reviewable for each meeting.

**10.3 Commemorative tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee:**

The idea of a semi-mature indigenous tree to be planted in the Nature Reserve was discussed. It was thought that advice should be sought from Michael Walters as to which type of tree and where best to plant it.

Cllr. Smith spoke of the Green canopy Scheme and Cllr. Samuelson said that the school has 100 trees coming which are to be planted.

**10.4 Speed issues on the A290:**

Cllr. Hutt is still trying to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient date and time for all parties involved.

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### **10.5 Policy for Events on the Recreation Ground:**

Cllr. King spoke of the issues regarding this and confirmed that the Lettings Officer will show hirers the area of land on the recreation ground that is owned by the Village Hall and can be used for outside events and the hiring agreement will be amended accordingly. However, Members of the Parish Council thought that the area needed to be temporarily fenced off at each event so that there was no confusion. Cllr. King said that this will be discussed at the Village Hall's AGM next Tuesday.

### **10.6 Forward Planning for Blean Parish Council:**

Cllr. Hutt spoke of the need for more people to come forward to become Parish Councillors. Cllr. Samuelson suggested that there should be a drive in the New Year with maybe a public meeting to encourage residents to become involved with the Parish Council and a look at how the Parish Council communicates with residents. The clerk has indicated to the Parish Council of her intention to retire in the new year.

### **11. Councillors' Reports:**

**11.1** Cllr. King reported that the information on the Innovation Board on The Green is in need of renewing as it has faded.

**11.2** Cllr. Russell muted ideas on events for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Cllr. King left the meeting at 8.40pm.

**11.3** Cllr. Hutt drew Cllrs' attention to the matter of the licence for The Kissing Gate (formally Blean Tavern) which has been submitted to CCC Licencing Committee.

### **12. Any Other Business for discussion at the next meeting:**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

## **PCSO Report**

***Blean, Rough Common and Tyler Hill***

***September 2021***

*PCSO William Lawrence Canterbury Community Safety Unit.*

*Information provided by: @kentpolicecbury*

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### ***Crimes of note:***

24/08/2021-Criminal Damage Blean Park BLEAN

10/09/2021-Interference to a motor vehicle Cherry Garden Road CANTERBURY

15/09/2021- Burglary Chapel Lane BLEAN

18/09/2021- Theft of pedal Cycle Grimshall Court CANTERBURY

20/09/2021-Criminal Damage to a Motor Vehicle Whitstable road BLEAN.

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### ***Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:***

Nothing To Report

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### ***Items of good work:***

Public engagement events will be held once a month at a venue in one of the three villages dates will be published in due course. I have tried to spend as much time as possible out on the ward, however we have been very busy with demand this month especially with Canterbury pride and freshers week.

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### ***Updates of previous reported issues:***

Speeding in Blean one of our special constables was in Blean this month doing speed checks and two tickets for speeding were issued.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT- September 2021/October 2021

Blean village co-ordinator:- David Greenman, 3 Vicarage Lane, Blean, CT2 9ET  
Phone: 01227 450853/mob 07843962986  
e-mail: david.greenman@btinternet.com

3 reports, relevant to the village, were received from Kent Police between 10<sup>th</sup> September and 05<sup>th</sup> October and forwarded electronically to the 17 links around the village of Blean.

If you see someone acting suspiciously report this to the police by all means. However, if you are forwarding to the police a report you have received as a third party they will not accept it. Fraud is a bit different as it is difficult to detect in many cases.

A new Fraud Hotline has been launched by the police:

*New Fraud Hotline – 159, a new emergency hotline, has been launched for people to report and check financial scams as they happen. A potential victim who dials 159 will be automatically connected to their bank's fraud prevention service. Anyone who receives a call or message from somebody claiming to be from a trusted organisation and who suggests money should be transferred is being urged to hang up and call 159. The new service is being promoted by Stop Scams UK - a coalition of banking and technology companies. Initially, the project is being run for a year, but the intention is for it to become a universal service eventually. However, not all banks and building societies are signed up. TSB will not join until January. Banks that are taking part include Barclays, Lloyds (including Halifax and Bank of Scotland), NatWest (including Royal Bank of Scotland and Ulster Bank), Santander and Starling Bank. Nationwide Building Society said it would join but it also launched its own version on Monday. More than 80% of UK mobiles and landlines will be able to use 159 at the outset, costing the same as a national rate*

### Security marking

*When security-marking your valuables, always include information that will identify you as the owner, for example your postcode followed by your house number or initials of your house name.*

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*Choose an area on the item that is not often handled so that the marking doesn't fade, for example the back of a games console or inside your mobile phone underneath the battery.*

David Greenman  
NHW coordinator for Blean      10<sup>th</sup> October 2021

## CLERK'S REPORT October 2021

- A letter has been sent to BVH regarding the extension of reduced utility costs for the parish office as the clerk is still working from home.
- Overgrown vegetation over the chevron sign in Tyler Hill Road reported 28/9/21 Ref 599431
- The Nature Reserve has been cut, baled and cleared.
- The authorisation of work to be completed on the swings and seesaw following the annual inspection has been received from Wicksteeds.
- The insurance claim for the seesaw repair has been submitted to BPC insurers.
- A list of the remaining jobs on the play equipment has been sent to Paul Wells for quotes.
  
- Notice received of KALC AGM on Saturday 13 November 2021 – Two representatives of each Parish Council are invited to attend.
  
- Received - Kent PCC's Special edition Newsletter - Police and Crime Plan Survey 2021 OPCC/MS/OG/030/21
  
- Came & Company Local Council Insurance has rebranded to Gallagher.

*Our local council specialists are now part of one of the largest Public Sector teams in the UK enabling us to provide insurance solutions to more of the Public Sector than ever before.*

*We've changed our name but you will still deal with the same people and receive the same service you have always enjoyed, and your current insurance policy terms and conditions are unaffected by the rebrand.*