

BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th March 2024. **Sheet 2355**

Those Present: Cllr. P. Hutt (Chairman); Cllr. H. Samuelson (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. G. King; Cllr. M. Akers; Cllr. J. Russell; and Clerk Mrs D. Horswell.

Also present: Ward Cllr. D. Smith; Ward Cllr. S. Jupe; and forty members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence; Cllr. A. Jeffers – on holiday; Ward Cllr. A. Ricketts and County Cllr. R. Thomas – meeting clashes.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Due to the number of residents present he explained that formal business of the Parish Council would be conducted first then planning matters would be discussed which he guessed the majority of the residents were there for and then continuing with the more formal Parish Council business.

2. Changes to DPI's & Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed: No changes in DPI's were declared.

As Village Hall Representative, Cllr. King declared an interest in matters relating to the village hall.

As Chair of Governors, Cllr. Samuelson declared an interest in matters relating to Blean School.

3. To Approve: Minutes of the last Meeting: of 12th February 2024.

Proposed by Cllr. Akers, Seconded by Cllr. Samuelson.

The Minutes were approved and AGREED by all Members present and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. Finance:

4.1 March Invoice Payments (Banking Report circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting).

| | | | |
|------|---------------------|---|----------------------|
| DD | Lili Waste Services | Waste Collection March | £102.38 (Vat £17.06) |
| Bacs | Mr K Waddington | Handyman Wages February | £222.27 |
| Bacs | Mrs D Horswell | Clerk Salary February | £868.12 |
| Bacs | Mrs D Horswell | Reimbursement for Replacement Rubber Buffers for Air Skier | £70.44 (Vat £11.74) |

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| Bacs | HMRC | PAYE & NIC February | £254.01 |
| DD | XLN | Telephone & Broadband March | £87.54 (Vat £14.59) |
| DD | HugoFox | Monthly Website Charge | £11.99 |
| Bacs | BVHMC | Hall Hire 11/3/24 | £36.00 |

Total Paid Out: £1,652.75

Paid in:

BVHMC Waste Collction for January & February 2024 **£95.36**

Bank Statement as at 29th February 2024 - Current Account £37,051.45

(This does not include all the outgoing transactions in this banking report).

Note: This includes CIL money from October 2023 of £2,091.16

Proposed by Cllr. Akers, Seconded by Cllr. Samuelson.

All Members present **APPROVED** and **AGREED** the payments.

5. Planning: (Planning Report for discussion circulated to Cllrs. prior to meeting)

Planning Applications:

CA/24/00198- Single storey rear extension together with single storey detached outbuilding – **The Oast House, Pean Hill – comments by 5th April.**

Decision Notices by CCC: None

Note: The broken pavement outside 47 Blean Common has been repaired by KCC. This occurred as a result of a creation of a new vehicle crossover which has, of yet, not been granted planning permission.

5.1 Draft Canterbury District Local Plan To 2040 - Land to North of University.

The Chairman explained that the first that the Parish Council were aware of the proposed development on land north of the University was reading it on kentonline.gov.uk and were very upset and disappointed that CCC have included it in the new Draft Local Plan.

Blean Parish Council are totally against the proposed development and will make representation to CCC and UKC to see what the plans are. Results of any meeting will be in the public domain.

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Once the Draft Local Plan has been approved by CCC tonight (11th March) it will go out for public consultation until 3rd June 2024 when the responses will be analysed and reported to City Councillors who will decide what changes should be made. In early 2025 CCC will publish the final Draft Local Plan when the public can make further comments before the plan is submitted to the Planning Inspector for approval.

Ward Cllr. Dan Smith explained that when CCC asked for a 'Call for sites' the University put this site forward which means it is considered.

Ward Cllr. Steph Jupe said that the main thing is for residents to respond to the consultation which can either be done online or by letter. As this needs to be in the form of reasons for objection there should be some sort of template giving information on writing letters to CCC. She suggested giving Ward Cllrs. a call.

Residents asked many questions and put forward ideas as to how this proposal can be campaigned against and a list of factors that would need addressing was put forward.

Representatives from Hackington Parish Council attended the meeting as they will be greatly affected as will Rough Common who, along with Blean, are the three joint parishes affected.

6. Reports from County Cllr. and Ward Cllrs:

6.1 There were no further items to report on from the Ward Cllrs.

6.2 County Cllr. Thomas in his absence had sent a report: See attached to these Minutes.

7. Reports and Updates:

7.1 Village Hall Report: - Cllr. King

It has been another busy month, particularly with private hire enquiries and bookings, and for our regular groups too. Pilates and Little Music stars have both enquired about extending their hours. An enquiry has been received from a Buddhist group interested in hiring a room every Thursday.

7.2 N.H.W:

All relevant reports are circulated to Cllrs.

7.3 Footpath Report: Cllr. Samuelson and Cllr. Russell.

No report.

7.4 Highways Report: Cllr Jeffers.

No report.

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7.5 Speedwatch Report: Cllr. Akers and Cllr. Russell.

Cllr. Akers reported that there was a Police van monitoring motorists in Rough Common last Saturday.

7.6 Clerks Report:

Recreation Ground

Ken has spread another bag of shingle on the pedestrian gate access to the recreation ground – it is hoped it will compact down and grass will grow through.

Ken has fitted two replacement rubber buffers onto the Air Skier (as identified in the Annual Inspection Report) and has two spare ones for when the others need replacing.

Ken has been putting 30mph stickers and posters supplied by KCC around the village.

Ken has been asked by the Scout group who meet in the village hall to give a talk on litter-picking so the scouts can achieve their badges for this activity.

I met with the new Accounts Manager from Landscape Services who maintain the grass on the recreation ground, The Green and the paths in the Nature Reserve to see if the Parish Council are happy with the service we get from them. He is going to arrange a quote for the annual play equipment inspection as this is a service that they now supply to see if it is a viable alternative to the PC's existing supplier.

CCC Parish Engagement Meeting – 18th April – The Guildhall – 7pm – 9.30pm.

Dates of forthcoming Parish Council meetings in the coming year unless for any reason they have to be changed.

8th April (Annual Assembly), 13th May (Annual Parish Council meeting), 10th June, 8th July, 9th September, 14th October, 11th November, 9th December.

The Chairman thanked Ken for all the work he does around the village.

8. Matters raised by the Public:

Three residents brought up the matter of the continuing drainage problem in Chapel Lane and Badgers Close. This is an ongoing problem that they don't feel is being addressed in a satisfactory manner by the relevant authorities.

Kent Highway Services have been emailed and invited to visit and inspect the area but there has been no response from them.

Ward Cllr. Smith was shown photos of the situation and has said he will look into the problem.

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9. Matters to be discussed: (Any relevant papers circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting).

9.1 Drainage in Blean.

This was discussed under Agenda Item 8.

9.2 Update: Village Sign.

The contractors are waiting for the oak post to arrive.

9.3 KCC 30mph Toolkit.

As reported in agenda item 7.6 stickers and posters have been put on bus shelters, litter bins and lampposts. Several residents took wheelie bin stickers which were available at the meeting.

9.4 VH/BPC Rubbish Bin – whether to change to a lockable bin.

This has been requested by the village hall who pay 50% with the Parish Council to have the large bin emptied by Lili Waste Services. The cost to change to a lockable bin is £35 with one key, additional keys are £7.50 each. The clerk has emailed the VH Chairman with the costs.

The Parish Council were not aware of any problems and were concerned about the number of keys that would be required and who would have them.

10. Councillors' Reports:

10.1 Cllr. Akers reported that he will be starting on the Spring edition of the newsletter.

10.2 Cllr. King reported that the hedge at a property on the corner of Vicarage Lane has been cut back as has the garden in School Lane that had been reported.

10.3 Cllr. Hutt mentioned that there will be two green bin collections this month.

11. Any Other Business for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting on 8th April 2024 which will follow the Parish Annual Assembly.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

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Dates of forthcoming Parish Council meetings in the coming year unless for any reason they have to be changed.

8th April (Annual Assembly); 13th May (Annual Parish Council meeting); 10th June; 8th July; 9th September; 14th October; 11th November; 9th December.

These Minutes remain as draft minutes until approved by the Parish Council at the next meeting.

Date _____

Signature _____



Councillor
Robert Thomas

March 2024

robert.thomas@kent.gov.uk 07740347419

New Cabinet Member for Environment (me)

I was appointed as the new cabinet member last month and I have spent the last few weeks meeting the teams in Environment and the Circular Economy. The net budget for 2024/25 is £96m (split £3m for Environment and £93m for Waste). [New Cabinet Member at KCC - News & Features - Kent County Council](#)

Making Space for Nature

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The Government has announced its Local Nature Recovery strategy for which Kent is one of 48 bodies coordinating the country's response. Volunteers can get involved with the project [Get involved | Making Space For Nature Kent](#)

Kent Downs National Landscapes Geo Park

Kent Downs would like to get UNESCO World Heritage status for a Geo Park which spans Kent, the Channel and France which would be a world first cross border Geo Park [Cross-Channel UNESCO Global Geopark for Kent Locals and Visitors - Kent Downs](#)



DIVISIONAL & LOCAL ISSUES

1. Village Green application for Church Street Playing Fields [Application to register land known as Church Street Playing Fields, Whitstable as a Village Green | Let's talk Kent](#)
2. The Canterbury City Council (Public Footpaths CH1, CH2, CH4 and CH67 (parts) at West Blean Woods Diversion Orders 2024 [The Canterbury City Council \(Public Footpaths CH1, CH2, CH4 and CH67 \(parts\) at West Blean Woods Diversion Orders 2024 | Let's talk Kent](#)
3. Speed changes in Tyler Hill confirmed [Canterbury Hill, Calais Hill and Wood Hill in the District of Canterbury - Amendment 4: Speed limit order | Let's talk Kent](#)

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4. Herne Bay High School expansion of school places [Herne Bay High School | Let's talk Kent](#)

NEWS

1. Canterbury City Council due to consult on new Local Plan. The change of plan includes 2,000 new houses at the University of Kent and removal of bypasses [Revised draft Local Plan ditches zones and bypasses proposals - Canterbury Newsroom](#) and [Better bus services at heart of draft Transport Strategy - Canterbury Newsroom](#)
2. The Annual parking review will discuss changes to parking regulations on Tuesday 19th March [Agenda for Joint Transportation Board on Tuesday, 19th March, 2024, 7.00 pm | Canterbury City Council](#)
3. Thanet Way repairs [A299 Thanet Way to undergo extensive rebuilding - News & Features - Kent County Council](#)
4. KCC Budget approached [Plan to Secure Kent's Future approved by councillors - News & Features - Kent County Council](#)
5. No Use Empty Update [No Use Empty scheme goes from strength to strength in Kent - News & Features - Kent County Council](#)
6. More money for potholes [Millions in extra cash to fill Kent's pothole backlog - News & Features - Kent County Council](#)
7. KCC continues to make representations to government about the importance of planning and preparation for the EU Entry/Exit System that's due to be implemented from October [Government must not drag its heels in supporting Kent as EES checks loom - News & Features - Kent County Council](#)
8. CCC will reopen the Sturry Road Park and Ride on 1st April (no joke!) [Park and ride at Sturry Road returns - and it's cheaper for residents! - Canterbury Newsroom](#)

CONSULTATIONS

KCC

1. Minerals and Waste [Minerals and Waste | Let's talk Kent](#)
2. Moving Traffic Enforcement [Moving Traffic Enforcement | Let's talk Kent](#)
3. Early Years [Early Years Education in Kent – supporting settings to embed inclusive practice | Let's talk Kent](#)
4. Start for Life Strategies [Best start for life strategies | Let's talk Kent](#)

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5. Adult Social Care charging [Adult Social Care Charging | Let's talk Kent](#)
6. School Term Dates 2025-2028 [School Term Dates for 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28 | Let's talk Kent](#)

KENT POLICE UPDATES - link for the past month's crime statistics in each village as well as contact details for your neighbourhood team.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Blean | Chartham |
| Chestfield | Harbledown |
| Hackington | Rough Common |



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|---|--|
| APPLY | Adoption and Fostering |
| | Assisted Bin Collection |
| | Births, death, marriages, ceremonies |
| | Business Support |
| | Bus and Travel Passes |
| | Community grants and funding |
| | Community Right to Challenge and Bid |
| | Disabled Parking Blue Badge |
| | Film in Kent |
| | Free School Meals |
| | Garden Waste Collection |
| | Highways Permit – close a road, tourist signs, skip on highway, dropped kerb |
| | Kent Adult Education classes |
| Library Services – books, magazines, newspapers, archives, iPads and more | |
| CCC Jobs & KCC jobs | |
| REPORT | Bus Feedback |
| | Environmental issues – bins, litter, dog fouling |
| | Flytipping |
| | Illegal Parking |
| | Kent Highways – potholes, drainage, pavements, streetlighting etc |
| | Missed Bins |
| | Noise, Smoke or Smell problem |
| Planning Enforcement | |

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| | Public Rights of Way |
| | Trading Standards |

Asset of Community Value

A list can be viewed [here](#) including expired nominations