

Blean Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held by Zoom on Monday 12th April 2021

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Those Present: Cllr. B. Flack (Chairman); Cllr. G King (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. A. Jeffers; Cllr. P. Hutt; Cllr. H. Samuelson and Clerk D. Horswell.

Also present: Ward Cllr. A. Ricketts; Ward Cllr. D Smith and County Cllr. R. Thomas.
No members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr. P. Wakeling (difficulties with connecting to Zoom.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for Members to hold a Minute's Silence to reflect on the life of the Duke of Edinburgh who has sadly passed away.

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

There were no changes or Declaration of Interests from Councillors.

3. **To Approve: Minutes of the last Meeting: of 8th March 2021.**

Subject to one alteration (10.4 Cllr. Flack reported in her role as Ward Cllr.) the Minutes were **APPROVED**.

Proposed Cllr. Hutt, Seconded Cllr. Samuelson, All Members present **AGREED**.

4. **Finance:**

4.1 **Approval for Invoice Payments and authorisation:** (Banking Report circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting.)

Banking Report April 2021

Method of payment	Payee	Description	Gross Cost
DD	Lili Waste Services	Waste Collection April 2021	£72.24 (Vat £12.04)
Bacs	Mr K Waddington	Handyman Wages March 2021	£185.93
Bacs	Mrs D Horswell	Clerks Salary March 2021 Petty Cash Chain and Padlock for gas cylinders	£732.03 18.86

Bacs	Mrs D Horswell	Re-imburement for Zoom Monthly payment	£14.39 (Vat £2.40)
Bacs	HMRC	PAYE & NIC March 2021	£160.86
DD	XLN	Telephone & Broadband April 2021	£61.13 (Vat £10.19)
Bacs	KALC	Annual Subscription	£622.10 Vat (103.68)

Total Paid Out £1,867.54

Bank Statement as at 31st March 2021 - Current Account £23,736.87

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

Proposed Cllr. Flack, Seconded Cllr. Jeffers, All Members present **AGREED.**

4.2 Note: The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit is due to take place on 28th April. This will be carried out at the clerk's home as the office space is too small to social distance. Cllr. Samuelson questioned whether this is allowed under Covid restrictions. The clerk felt that as it is work related it is permissible and is happy for it to take place in her home with a risk assessment undertaken to reflect this. Cllrs. were happy for this to take place.

The clerk also reported that the annual fire extinguisher check is due to take place on 16th April.

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

PLANNING REPORT April 2021

Planning Applications:

21/00467 - Installation of an air source heat pump - Bramley, Chapel Lane – Blean
Parish Council has no objection to this application.

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Planning Applications Received since last meeting:

1. 21/00512 - Single-storey side and rear extension - 5A Tyler Hill Road - Blean Parish Council have objections to this application as there are concerns about the overbearing and dominate nature of the extension. This will be a dominate building on the street scene and the width of the resulting development would accommodate the whole of the site. Although there is sufficient depth to the site to provide garden space and parking.

2. 20/01406 - Change of use from residential with up to 6 persons to care home with two-storey side extension with associated parking - Forge House, 1 Blean Hill – Amended plans/additional information Comments by 16th April

Decision Notices by CCC:

1. 20/02695 - Outline application for erection of two-storey detached dwelling including access, layout and scale - **Land Adjacent To The Sanctuary, Pean Hill - REFUSED**

2. 20/02518 - Detached two-storey dwelling with associated garage, parking, driveway and landscaping. **Land Adjoining Linden Lea, 2 Blean Common – GRANTED**

3. 21/00203 - Single-storey rear extension - **22 School Lane - GRANTED**

6. Reports from Ward Cllrs, County Cllr. and PCSO:

6.1 County Cllr. Report – Cllr. Robert Thomas

Cllr. Thomas said that due to purdah there is not much to report but spoke on the following:

- Village Hall Improvement Fund
- Rural Bus Shelter Scheme
- Vacancy for the position of Deputy Head at Blean Primary School
- Wild of Blean Project
- Highway Improvement Plans (H.I.P.)
- A290 issues

Cllr. Flack said that BPC's H.I.P. included the Crab and Winkle crossover at Tyler Hill Road.

6.2 Ward Cllr. Ricketts

In his report Cllr. Ricketts agreed with the problem at the Crab and Winkle/Tyler Hill Road crossover with cyclists not looking as they cross Tyler Hill Road.

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He also spoke of the recent accident on the A290 with speeding cars and said BRAKE are campaigning and have their next safety week in November.

He reported that CCC Policy Committee meet next month when electric charging points will be discussed.

6.3 Ward Cllr. Flack

Cllr. Flack reported that the matter of the felling of the trees in Chapel Lane as reported at the last meeting has been resolved. There has been a change of ownership and the present owner has planted 300 trees.

Cllr. Samuelson asked about the electric scooters that are around Canterbury. Cllr. Flack explained that it is a legal trial by BIRD between the University/K & C hospital/train station etc. If they go off route they cut out. CCC Enforcement Officers are allowed to stop any illegal scooters.

Cllr. Ricketts thought it a good idea although needed to be separated with pedestrians.

Cllr. Flack said she will take it up again with BIRD. Cllr. Smith thought there were problems with educating people and there needed to be feedback to allow control.

County Cllr. Thomas commented that this is a trial but needs to work in a safe manner and the Police have a role to play as well as CCC and KCC. He urged people to keep reporting back.

6.4 PCSO Report: Please see report attached to these minutes.

7. Reports and Updates:

7.1 Village Hall Report: - Cllr. King

Cllr. King reported that the news is encouraging and there have been requests for bookings for next year.

7.2 N.H.W. Report – No report.

7.3 Footpath Report –Cllr. Samuelson and Cllr. Hutt

Nothing to report at the present time. They asked for footpath maps to be sent to them.

7.4 Parish Council Update – clerk

Nothing further to report that is not in the agenda items.

8. Matters raised by the Public:

No matters raised as no members of the public present.

9. Matters to be discussed:

9.1 For Discussion: Nature Reserve sign

The sign at the entrance to the Nature Reserve had been damaged but the clerk reported that this has now been repaired.

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9.2 For Discussion: CCC Capital Grant Application – Basket Swing

Cllr. Flack thanked Cllr. Hutt for starting the process of filling in the application form, she will fill in the extra bits and the clerk will complete the financial part. The Parish Council will contribute two years of Vat refund which amounts to £3,000 with Cllr. Flack, in her role as Ward Cllr, donating her Members Allowance of £500. She will make a similar donation to the other two Parish Councils in her Ward.

Cllr. Samuelson thanked her for this on behalf of Blean Parish Council.

9.3 For Discussion: Gladmans Appeal

Cllr. Flack said there are a considerable amount of documents from Gladmans for re-assessment. Cllr. Jeffers said that most documents are updated. Cllr. Flack is to meet with the Planning Officer dealing with the case and there is to be a virtual meeting between all parties on 19th May.

9.4 For Discussion: Future Parish Council meetings – Government ‘Call for Evidence’ regarding virtual meetings

Cllr. Flack explained that, according to Government guidelines, virtual meetings cease on 7th May with face-to-face meetings having to take place with social distancing. The ‘call for evidence’ consultation calls on Parish Councils to give their experiences on the remote meetings they have held. Cllr. Flack asked Cllrs. to send their thoughts to the clerk in order to get our response in by 17th June. Cllr. Thomas said there is a legal challenge regarding the decision about virtual meetings.

As far as Blean PC is concerned, the committee room is too small to meet and any future meetings will be dependent on whether the village hall can accommodate us in the community space or the main hall if they are not already booked.

Due to this ruling, it was agreed to hold the Annual meeting virtually on Tuesday 4th May, maybe not have a meeting in June, and perhaps things will be in a better position by July. Cllr. Samuelson said he felt strongly that the Parish Council should not meet until September. It was agreed to carry on as we are until we know how the village hall are going to work. Cllr. Smith suggested alternative venues, e.g. University to meet, but it was thought there would be a cost implication and it would be too far for residents to attend. Cllrs. unanimously agreed for the clerk to continue to work from home.

10. Councillors’ Reports:

10.1 Cllr. Hutt reported on the increase in traffic on the A290.

10.2 Cllr. Jeffers agreed with Cllr. Hutt about the increase in traffic on the A290 and the concerns he has over the condition of the road which he had reported on-line. He had an automated response with a reference number and when he tracked the report it said that the works had been completed, which they had not, so he had made a formal complaint to KCC. Cllr. Thomas said he will look into the matter. Cllr. Jeffers asked for a footpath map to be sent to him.

10.3 Cllr. King said Mrs Dunster had asked him to say that she had nothing to report on the condition of the pavements. Cllr. Flack asked Cllr. King to thank Mrs Dunster.

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10.4 Cllr. Flack reported on the matter of Arby's café which belongs to Brook Farm. It has been visited by a CCC Enforcement Officer, resulting in the occupants planning on putting in two applications, one for the café and one for the glamping site.

11. Any Other Business for discussion at the next meeting:

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Date _____ **Signature** _____

Next meeting is the Annual Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 4th May at 7.15pm.

PCSO Report

Blean, Tyler Hill, & Rough Common

March 2021

Information provided by: PCSO William Lawrence , Canterbury Community Safety Unit.

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Crimes of note:

- 12/03/2021 Purchas Court CANTERBURY theft of a bicycle
- 06/03/2021 Bossenden Court CANTERBURY theft of a bicycle
- 07/03/2021 St Thomas Hill CANTERBURY Burglary

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Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:

- No incidents of note.

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Items of good work:

- I am still regularly still performing speed checks across all the parishes and details are being passed onto Kent Speedwatch.

Updates of previous reported issues:

- Speeding in Blean our road safety team conducted a visit to Blean where two tickets were issued for speeding and an arrest was made for drug driving.

