

Blean Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, School Lane, Blean
on Monday 9th March 2020

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Those Present: Cllr. B. Flack (Chairman); Cllr. H. Samuelson; Cllr. J. Rouse; Cllr. P. Wakeling; Cllr. A. Jeffers; Cllr. P. Hutt; Cllr. L. Harvey (entered the meeting at 7.35pm); Cllr. L. Williams (part of the meeting) and Clerk D. Horswell.

Also present: Ward Cllr. A. Ricketts; County Cllr. R. Thomas; PCSO Tom Daley and four members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** – Cllr. G King – family illness.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Changes to DPI's & Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:**
No changes or Declaration of Interests from Councillors.

3. **To Approve: Minutes of the last meeting held on 10th February 2020:**
Proposed by Cllr. Hutt, seconded by Cllr. Jeffers and all Members present
AGREED. Signed by the Chairman as a true record.

6.2 Standing Orders were set aside to allow PCSO Tom Daley to give his report as he was not on duty but was attending the meeting.
He had sent in a report prior to the meeting (attached to these minutes).

Tom reported that since he had written the report there had been two burglaries in the area with ongoing investigations being conducted.

As reported, he is carrying out patrols at the church if possible and there are the usual problems with speeding. Speed surveys are being conducted by KCC Highways which will result in longer term measures being put in place.

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

Banking Report March 2020

Approval for invoice payments

Method of payment	Payee	Description	Gross Cost
DD	Serco	Waste Collection March 2020	£98.10 (Vat £16.35)

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5. Planning: (Planning Report

PLANNING REPORT March 2020 (circulated to Cllrs. prior to meeting)

Planning Applications received since last meeting:

1. 20/00349 - Proposed two-storey side extension - 93 Blean Common - Comments by 13th March. It was agreed to ask for a condition regarding future impact.

2. 20/00407 - Proposed first floor front extension - 111A Blean Common, Blean, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 9JH - Comments by 20th March

3. 20/00470 - Proposed treehouse - Honey Lodge, Honey Hill, Blean - Comments by 27th March

There was a discussion over the concerns of car parking and access, number of trees affected and noise impact.

4. 20/00515 - Application for lawful development certificate for proposed single-storey rear extension - Hothe Court Farm, Tyler Hill Road - - Comments by 27th March

Decision Notices by CCC:

1. 19/10181 - Application for prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to 4 no. dwellings with associated building operations - Brook Farm, Denstroude Lane, Denstroude, Canterbury, CT2 9JX - Prior Approval Not Required. This decision had been looked into by Head of Planning who deemed it to be the officer's decision.

2. Proposed change of use of land from residential curtilage to purposes ancillary to the garden centre with single-storey detached timber building for use as a Tea Room with external seating area. - 42 Honey Hill Blean Kent CT5 3BP - GRANTED

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

6.1 County Cllr. Report:

County Cllr. Robert Thomas reported on the following items:

1. Heritage Museum £2k grant funding from KCC Members Grant

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2. A290 casualty reduction meetings have been taking place and further meetings are planned to finalise the improvements.
3. 2020/21 is the final year of this term of KCC. The budget was agreed at council last month. This includes £0.5m for detached youth activities and I'm working with the cabinet member to ensure there's good collaboration between partner agencies in Canterbury district which will include rural provision. <https://kccmediahub.net/kent-county-council-commits-1m-new-resources-to-support-youth-provision-across-kent745>
Other key highlights of the budget include:
 - £5.2m increase for Integrated Children's Services (3.6%)
 - £0.6m to ensure young people previously in care are exempt from council tax until the age of 21
 - £4.3m increase for disabled children's services (7.9%)
 - £3.0m increase for local authority funded support and assessment for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) (47.2%)
 - £5.1m increase in home to school transport (mainly special needs related) (12.9%)
 - £8.7m increase in community and residential care packages for older persons (10.8%)
 - £7.2m increase in community and residential care packages for adults with learning disabilities (5.4%)
 - £1.0m increase in community care packages for adults with mental health (19%)
 - £4.7m increase in Highways Transport and Waste (3.3%)
4. KCC's 5 year plan has been approved and includes a number of environmental initiatives including 1 tree for every resident. 1.5m in total across the county. <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s96083/Appendix%20A%205YP%20for%20Cabinet%20020320.pdf>
5. Since July last year I've been chairman of the Kent Environment Champions Group, (appointed by fellow Kent council leaders). It's now recognised that climate change is mainstream politics and the group will be disbanded as a fringe pressure group and will be reformed, akin to the Kent Resource Partnership, where all district councils, KCC and Medway and partner groups will get round the table along side the Kent council chief executives group to drive the agenda forward.
6. Since December I've been chairing the Affordable Housing select committee. We've finished our recent hearing sessions with key witnesses and a draft report is being written up. Key draft recommendations include mirroring Essex County Council's arrangements for a Housing Growth Unit, looking to establish formal arrangements with local planning authorities, if institutional investors or KCC pension fund can help deliver affordable housing and if when disposing of it's own land could KCC assess the possibilities of affordable housing use rather than an open market sale. More details on

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the committee can be seen at

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=954>

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6.2 PCSO Report – item reported earlier in the minutes after agenda item 3.

6.3 Ward Cllr. Ricketts reported that he had put forward ideas to the A290 Safer Roads meeting about the area around Blean School to be a school exclusion zone. Also, an amendment for £5,000 extra in the Capital Grant Fund had been voted down and the Concurrent Funding review will be taking place.

Cllr. Loveness left the meeting at 8.25pm.

7. Reports and Updates: (Reports circulated to Cllrs prior to meeting)

7.1 *Village Hall Report: No report.*

7.2 *N.H.W. Report (attached to these minutes)*

7.3 *Speedwatch Update:*

David Gammon reported that there had been no Speedwatch sessions due to the inclement weather. They are hoping to be working again soon.

7.4 *Footpath Report: Cllr. Wakeling and Cllr. Samuelson*

Nothing to report due to inclement weather and personal reasons. Cllr. Wakeling said that due to health reasons he is not able to continue walking the footpaths.

7.5 *Parish Council update: (attached to these minutes)*

Cllr. Flack said that she hoped the cost of the re-surfacing of the A290 will not come out of the £1.5m from the Safer Roads Fund.

8. Matters raised by the Public:

The following issues were raised by members of the public:

8.1 Mrs Letts reported that a lorry was pumping out the overflow in Tyler Hill Road as the sewer is not adequate for the houses and the water was flowing into her pond. Cllr. Flack said that there had been an excessive amount of rainfall and BPC are trying hard to address the drainage issues. It is Southern Water who we need to continue to put the pressure on to resolve the issues. The Parish Council have a supply of sandbags if anyone needs them.

8.2 Mr Spencley from Badgers Farmhouse detailed the problems he is having due to a part of the common ditch he and his neighbours share being blocked and a pipe

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being put in its place. KCC and KCSP have both been involved but, as it is not the responsibility of either it was thought that the only course of action would be for him to get a solicitor to write a letter. Cllr. Flack said that the Parish Council will also write a letter to the resident concerned and she will ask for the CCC drainage engineer to come out and take a look. Cllr. Thomas offered to help in any way he can.

9. Matters to be discussed:

9.1 Update on Gladman Appeal, Blean Common:

The saga of the application for 87 houses on land adjacent to Blean Common has taken another twist! Last week Blean Parish Council along with Canterbury City Council received a letter from the Planning Inspectorate to inform us that the appeal was to be re-determined at a new inquiry.

This took us all by surprise and a few telephone calls and conversations later we found out why this was happening and what it meant to us all in Blean. Below we have written a timeline to help understand the journey of this application:

- Early 2016 an application by Gladman for 87 houses which was refused by Canterbury City Council.
- Late Summer 2016 Gladman lodged an appeal against the above decision.
- Late 2016 a second application by Gladman for 75 houses was also refused by Canterbury City Council. Gladman decided to continue with the appeal on the first application.
- In February 2018 a Planning Inquiry was held and subsequently found in favour of Gladmans. Canterbury City Council decided to appeal to the High Court against the decision of the Planning Inspector.
- In April 2019 the appeal made by Canterbury City Council was heard at the High Court and Justice Dove's decision was given in June in which he found in favour of Canterbury City Council and awarded costs to the Council.
- Gladman Developments, following the High Court decision decided to make a further appeal to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court have made a decision that there are no grounds for appeal.
- This now means that rather like a circle, we now come back to re-hearing the original appeal against the original application for 87 houses. Hence a re-determination of the appeal which will take place later this year, at present no date has been set.

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What does that mean for Blean, it's residents and the Parish Council?

Following discussions with our colleagues in the Planning Department of the City Council, Blean Parish Council are accepting the Planning Inspectorate's invitation to resubmit our original arguments with regard to drainage and traffic. We will also be submitting (as a Rule 6 party) a further statement emphasising the changes that have taken place over the last 3 to 4 years within our area. The arguments of the case are based on interpretations of policies etc. which are the realm of the City Council to uphold and defend at the Inquiry. A request has been made by Gladman for an extension to the time-frame (which we have agreed to) allowing us until early May to prepare our statement.

We will continue to keep you all informed and will post the statement on our website when it is prepared and completed.

Cllrs. Agreed to set aside Standing Orders at 9.25pm to be able to continue with the meeting.

9.2 Letter from resident ref precept 2020/2021:

The clerk explained that she had received an email from a resident enquiring the reasoning behind the precept set for BPC for 2020/2021. The resident had been satisfied with the explanation given (general increases in all services, increase in KALC subscription and web services charges).

9.3 Precept explanation for residents:

It was agreed to put the budget figures and explanation on the website.

9.4 Update: Parish Council website:

Cllr. Hutt said that he had secured an HTTP address at no cost. He is waiting for the Statement of Compliance before proceeding further. Cllrs. agreed for Cllr. Hutt to carry on.

9.5 Parish Plan:

There has been no further work done on this at present. It was agreed to publicise what has been achieved from the previous plan.

9.6 Feedback: Local Plan Review meeting:

Cllrs. Flack, Rouse, Hutt, Jeffers, King and the clerk along with Ward Cllr. Dan Smith had attended the meeting with Simon Thomas, Head of Planning and a Planning Officer. It was thought to be an extremely useful and interesting meeting

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which would influence the development or non-development of the village. It was thought to be particularly useful to be at the beginning of the process.

9.7 Update: *Request to have a goal net on recreation ground and possible costings for skateboard ramp:*

Follow up for next meeting.

9.8 Feedback: *Concurrent Funding Workshop:*

Cllr. Flack reported that this had been held last Thursday with 17 out of 24 parishes attending. The engagement with the Parish Councils was excellent. There will now be a consultation.

10. Councillors' Reports:

10.1 Cllr Hutt reported that the ditch on Honey Hill had over-flowed last Thursday resulting in Honey Hill being flooded. The landowner has agreed to maintain the ditch – Cllr. Hutt will keep an eye on it.

On 1st March there had been an accident on Pean Hill in which a vehicle had overturned – no further information at this time.

10.2 Cllr. Samuelson asked whether, in future, meetings could start at 7pm. This was agreed by all Cllrs. Present.

10.3 Cllr. Rouse reported that there had been flooding in School Lane due to the excessive rainfall.

10.4 Cllr. Jeffers said that two lines had been placed on the A290 which he presumed was a traffic survey. Cllr. Flack confirmed that it was part of the KCC crash reduction evidence.

10.5 Cllr. Wakeling reported that a bollard had been taken out at the Royal Oak crossing.

10.6 Cllr. Flack reminded Councillors that the Rural Forum was to be held on 23rd March at 6.30pm in The Guildhall.

The Annual Parking Review is out and there is to be a consultation on Concurrent Funding.

11. Any Other Business for discussion at next meeting:

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish meeting followed by the Parish Council meeting on Monday 6th April at 7pm in the main hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Date _____

Signature _____

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PCSO REPORT

BLEAN AND HACKINGTON

FEB 2020

Information provided by: PCSO Tom Daley

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Crimes of note:

- 08.02.2020 Vehicle Damage, Whitstable Road, Vehicle criminally damaged.
- 16.02.2020 Theft From vehicle, Rough Common Road, Males got into car and items missing
- 28.02.2020 Attempted Burglary, School Lane, Blean, Male tried front door of property

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Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:

- Eggs thrown at people from moving car, University of Kent
- Eggs thrown at House from moving car, Calais Hill, Tyler Hill
- Abandoned Vehicle Tyler Hill

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Items of good work:

- Attended Coffee morning John Graham Centre
- Am starting to introduce myself to local residents by knocking at people's doors.
- Patrolling the Blean Church on regular occasions during evenings, to discourage youths using the car park to take drugs. This seems to have had an effect. I am beginning to see far less of this.

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Updates of previous reported issues:

- As the weather improves, I intend to pay more attention to public spaces, such as recreation grounds and woodlands. Last summer there were quite a few reports of youths, being anti-social, drug taking and causing criminal damage. This is something that I intend to stamp down on.
- I hope that residents will have noticed my contact posters in the area. I will put up more. Currently they are in Tyler Hill Hall, Costcutters in Blean and Rough Common Hall. If the parish clerks are able to help me put up more of these I would appreciate it.
- I look forward to the spring and seeing more of you all.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH report- February 2020/March 2020

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

Seven reports, relevant to the village, were received from Kent Police between Feb 13th and March 5th/2020 and forwarded electronically to the 17 links around the village of Blean.

As well as providing information on local crime, the Neighbourhood Watch also exists to distribute information designed to benefit the public's general wellbeing. Everyone must now be familiar with the coronavirus but I make no excuses for including some basic facts. They come from a doctor working in a Chinese hospital:

- 1. If you have a runny nose and sputum, you have a common cold*
- 2. Coronavirus pneumonia is a dry cough with no runny nose.*
- 3. This new virus is not heat-resistant and will be killed by a temperature of just 26/27 degrees. It hates the Sun.*
- 4. If someone sneezes with it, it takes about 10 feet before it drops to the ground and is no longer airborne.*
- 5. If it drops on a metal surface it will live for at least 12 hours - so if you come into contact with any metal surface - wash your hands as soon as you can with a bacterial soap.*
- 6. On fabric it can survive for 6-12 hours. normal laundry detergent will kill it.*
- 7. Drinking warm water is effective for all viruses. Try not to drink liquids with ice.*

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8. Wash your hands frequently as the virus can only live on your hands for 5-10 minutes, but - a lot can happen during that time - you can rub your eyes, pick your nose unwittingly and so on.

9. You should also gargle as a prevention. A simple solution of salt in warm water will suffice.

10. Can't emphasise enough - drink plenty of water!

THE SYMPTOMS

1. It will first infect the throat, so you'll have a sore throat lasting 3/4 days

2. The virus then blends into a nasal fluid that enters the trachea and then the lungs, causing pneumonia. This takes about 5/6 days further.

3. With the pneumonia comes high fever and difficulty in breathing.

4. The nasal congestion is not like the normal kind. You feel like you're drowning. It's imperative you then seek immediate attention.

David Greenman

NHW coordinator for Blean

05/03/2020

Parish Council Update:

1. One tree that had fallen in the recreation ground and a further two that were identified by the tree surgeon as unsafe have been felled and the fence at 18 School Lane repaired – see Banking report

2. The very bad condition of the road surface on the A290 resulting in loose chippings being thrown up onto the pavements by vehicles has been reported to KCC Highways. Dangerous for both vehicles and pedestrians. Patching to be done until complete resurfacing is carried out later in the year.

3. Agenda item 9.2 - Letter from resident ref: Precept 2020/2021

An email was received from a resident asking why the precept for 2020/2021 had been raised by 11.6% in Blean. The clerk sent the budget figures and explanation of the expected increase in the cost of services and the resident was happy with the response.

4. There have been many incidents of flooding in the village this week with properties having to be pumped out by the fire service. Residents are worried about the ditches that have either been filled in or are not properly maintained by landowners.

5. A resident is concerned about the number of lorries that are coming through on the A290 during the night seemingly travelling over the speed limit. This mainly seems to be occurring when there are roadworks at Brenley roundabout although the diversion routes are not directing them onto the A290.

Events to attend: • Police Initiative Presentation – Herne Community Centre – 2nd April – 6.30pm • Rural Forum – 23rd March