



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON
MONDAY 7th MARCH 2022 AT 7.30PM.**

38/22 Those Present:

Councillors: K Lamb (Chair), C Chapman (Vice Chair), G Clements, B Swan, S Peall, S Jones, no members of the public and the Clerk.

Apologies: Received and approved from Cllr K Allen.

39/22 To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other significant interests (OSI's) or a voluntary interest relating to items on the agenda.

None were declared.

40/22 Public Contribution

No members of the public present.

41/22 Minutes of meetings

1. **Resolved:** The minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council of 7th February 2022 were **approved** and were **signed as a true record** by the Chairman of the meeting.

42/22 Chairman's Report – (Chairman of the meeting)

It is with sadness that I announce the passing of Colin Johnson, who served for 50 years as a Parish Councillor. A memorial service is to be held on 14th March at 11.30am in St Marys Church.

Thank you to Steve Elgar for repairing the leak in the burial ground.

The Environment Working Group has two new members. The remaining whips donated by the Woodlands Trust have now been planted in the burial group.

Next month we will be discussing a representative for the Shepway Area Committee meetings.

The Royal British Legion will be holding a Dedication Ceremony, following the installation of their memorial bench, on Saturday 9th April at 10.30am on New Road, adjacent to Church Walk.

43/22 **Staffing Committee**

Following the Clerks half year appraisal, it was **noted** that the pay reviews have now been agreed by the unions at an increase of 1.75%. As previously agreed, this is to be back dated to April 2021. It was **agreed** the clerks' hours are to remain unchanged. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would carry out the SLCC FILCA training course.

44/22 **C&A Committee**

The new gate to the King George V (North end by The Orchards) is to be installed, this was agreed in July 2019.

Further to a brief discussion, it was agreed that the C&A committee would obtain prices to improve the facilities at The Gore which are to be discussed by Full Council at the next Ordinary meeting.

45/22 **Queens Green Canopy / Queens Platinum Jubilee**

1. **Queens Green Canopy** – Further to the Queens Green Canopy meeting on 21st February, the council are waiting for confirmation from the Sir John Williams Trusts / Community Trust that the Jubilee Orchard on the triangle can proceed. It was **agreed** that a Jubilee Mulberry Tree would be planted in the King George V. It was **agreed** that Cllr Clements would obtain quotes and availability for fruit trees and the Mulberry tree up to the agreed amount of £800. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would obtain quotes for tree plaques for all the Jubilee trees to the village.
2. **Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacon** -It was **agreed** that discussions regarding the beacon would be deferred until the April Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.
3. **Queens Platinum Jubilee** - It was **agreed** that Elham Parish Council would make a contribution of up to £1500 towards the Queens Platinum Jubilee event being arranged by Elham Village Hall Association.

46/22 **Twinning**

The Chair and Vice Chair met with the Clerk of Ambleteuse to discuss the possibility of twinning. Following a discussion, it was **agreed** that the Clerk would organise a visit to Ambleteuse to continue discussions.

47/22 **Finance**

1. **Resolved:** The Accounts from January 2022 were a **true record** and were signed by the Chairman of the meeting.
2. **Resolved:** The Bank Reconciliation from January 2022 a **true record** and was signed by the Chairman of the meeting.
3. It was **noted** that all Councillors received the Accounts for February 2022.
4. It was **noted** that all Councillors received the Bank Reconciliation for February 2022.
5. **Resolved:** The following virements were **agreed** - £256.57 from Training to Clerks Salary, £460.16 from Room Hire to Clerks Office Expenses. £500.00 from War Memorial to ringfenced War Memorial, £2100.00 from C&A to ringfenced Queens Platinum Jubilee and £9500.00 to ring fenced C&A The Gore (*with virements from £243.00 from Room Hire, £750.00 from Insurance, £323.00 from Subscriptions, £1050.00 from Tree Maintenance, £485.00 from Burial Ground, £100 from donations/grants, £1000 from Highways, £2000.00 from*

Contingency, £2500.00 from Professional Fees, £500.00 from Environment and £400.00 from C&A and £149.00 from training).

6. **Resolved:** The February 2022 invoices were **agreed**, and payments were **approved**. *Please see appendix 1.*

48/22 Planning

1. The receipt of received applications were **noted** and comments **agreed**.
22/0209/FH - The Stable, Henbury Lane, Elham, Canterbury, CT4 6NL- Enlargement of existing domestic shed to form double garage. **Resolved: No objections, comments of the Council were that they would like a condition to ensure the proposed building remains ancillary to existing property.**
22/0129/FH - Updown Cottage, The Row, Elham, Canterbury, CT4 6UL - Crown raise of 4 meters to Ash tree covered by TPO No. 13 of 2020. **Resolved: No objections.**
22/0140/FH - Pine Villa, Clavertye, Elham, Canterbury, CT4 6YE - Erection of a two storey rear extension, insertion of velux roof windows & internal alterations (existing conservatory to be demolished). **Resolved: No objections.**
22/0073/FH – High Beeches, Vicarage Lane, Elham CT4 6TT. Re- consultation due to incorrect proposal description: Demolition of existing rear store/garden room and replace with new single storey rear extension together with associated patio alterations (patio alterations to include increase of height to form a raised terrace area with 1.1m high post and rail balustrade). **Resolved: No objections.**
2. The receipt of received applications since the agenda was issued were **noted** and comments **agreed**. No were received.
3. Decisions made by Folkestone and Hythe District Council were **noted**.
21/2493/FH - North View, White Horse Lane, Rhodes Minnis, Canterbury CT4 6XP - Replacement of external cladding including improvements to wall insulation and ventilation. **FHDC refused application.**

49/22 Consultation

Resolved: Councillors would reply to the KCC Bus Funding Reduction Consultation as individuals. The Clerk is to advertise the consultation on social media, in the noticeboards and on the website.

50/22 In the absence of County Councillor Susan Carey, a report was read to the room:

Following the invasion of Ukraine, KCC has reviewed our suppliers to make sure we have no contracts with Russian companies and therefore indirectly funding President Putin's regime and its aggressive policies. Our energy subsidiary LASER has suspended Gazprom from our existing fixed price gas framework and no further business will be done with this company. Our Pension Fund has 0.3% of its investments in Russian assets and our Fund Managers are seeking to reduce this. We are also looking ahead to our responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act should the situation worsen.

We held our budget meeting on 10 February and after a full day's debate agreed a 3% rise in our share of council tax (2% for normal services and an extra 1% ring-fenced for social care). To balance the budget we also needed to agree a number of savings such as reducing the subsidy for the Kent Travel Saver and withdrawing subsidies for a number of bus services. Two of the affected bus services serve our

area – the Kent Karrier service where the subsidy per journey is £40.06 (£184,964 a year) and the No 17 bus between Folkestone and Canterbury where the subsidy is £3.82 a journey (£46,613 a year). There is a public consultation on the proposal and you can read more and respond by [20 April](#) at letstalk.kent.gov.uk (Hard copies of the consultation and alternative formats are also available.)

Around 4,000 households have expressed an interest in our Solar Together scheme which uses collective buying power to get a good price for solar panels/battery storage. It's free to register your interest and a quote is without obligation <https://solartogether.co.uk/kent/home> With energy costs on the way up and energy security also a real issue it's a timely offer. Householders, community buildings and small businesses in Kent are all eligible to apply. The deadline is 15 March.

Susan Carey,
Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council

District Councillor – Stuart Peall

New lease of life for empty properties. More than 800 long term empty properties have been brought back into use in the Folkestone and Hythe district thanks to Kent's No Use Empty (NUE) run by Kent County Council with Folkestone & Hythe District Council. National Empty Homes Week (28 Feb - 6 Mar 2022) aims to highlight the work of schemes such as Kent's No Use Empty (NUE) and encourages property owners to take part and make use of available funding. F&HDC was one of the founding partners and in 2014 introduced top up loans to help tackle some of the larger empty properties that needed extra financial support. The loans are administered by the NUE team at KCC on a recyclable basis. The total loan investment stands at £12m (£10m from NUE and £2m for the district) with 833 properties given new life.

Channelling district's help for Ukraine. Folkestone & Hythe District Council has pledged to support local organisations trying to help those caught up in the conflict in Ukraine. The council is working to establish links with any groups in the district which are collecting donations of items to help those Ukrainians fleeing their homes or stuck in cities at the centre of the fighting. These links will be published on the council website and organisations can post their collections by adding to the council's Facebook post. Whilst these links are being established any residents wanting to help are urged to support the national charities channelling donations of money to where it is most needed.

Updated rules on controlling dogs in public spaces across Folkestone & Hythe are being proposed. Cabinet members have agreed that a new Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for 2022-2025 will be put out for a 10-week public consultation. The Dog Control PSPO places restrictions on dog fouling (across the district), dogs off leads (selected areas and dates) and dog bans (selected areas and dates). The current Dog Control PSPO has been effective in supporting enforcement against irresponsible dog ownership and related anti-social behaviour. Failure to comply with a PSPO results in a £100 Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN), when paid within 14 days. Failure to pay a FPN can mean a court prosecution and fine of up to £1,000.

It's full charge ahead for our car parks. The first of the district's new 94 charging points for electric vehicles (EV) are now up and running. These are in car parks at Church Road, New Romney, High Knocke, Dymchurch, and The Paddocks, Hythe. From Friday 11 March, those at Tram Road, Folkestone, and Wilberforce Road, Sandgate, will be working, making a total of 20 points across the five car parks. Work is underway at 23 more sites and it is expected all will be operational by the end of April 2022. Folkestone & Hythe District Council has partnered with Kent County Council and five other local authorities for the roll out, which will see one of the largest networks of consistent charging points. The new charging points are being installed by Connected Kerb, one of the UK's biggest providers. The six existing off-street points, provided by F&HDC, will be replaced. A total of 23 charging points provided by commercial businesses are already in place and will remain. The charging points offer a mixture of fast 7Kwh, 22kw and rapid 50Kwh, depending on the location. A total of 600 points will be installed across the county over the next two years, with districts applying for 75% funding through KCC, and Connected Kerb funding the remaining 25%. A balanced budget for Folkestone & Hythe. An exciting programme of investment into the district has been agreed by councillors. The 2022/23 budget approved on 23rd February will see £18m spent on core council services and projects that will continue the revitalisation of Folkestone & Hythe following the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding for the provision of fisherman-style huts for rent on The Stade, the new Green Business Grants Scheme and a fantastic Folkestone air display - scheduled for Sunday 21 August - was agreed as part of the package. The agreed budget will also ensure the council continues to deliver high-quality services. These include:

- Providing support to homeless households
- Emptying approximately 2.5 million bins a year
- Leisure facilities
- Maintaining parks and gardens
- Dealing with planning applications

Folkestone & Hythe District Council's portion of council tax equates to about 13% of the total bill. An increase of 1.96% (equivalent to less than 15p a day for an average Band D property) was agreed for 2022/23.

51/22 Correspondence

The receipt of correspondence was **noted**, and any required actions **agreed**. *Please see appendix 2.*

52/22 Date of next meeting and Close

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 4th April 2022 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Appendix 1

February 2022 invoices approved at March 22 meeting

Payee	Cheque No.	Amount	VAT	Net	Comments
EDF	ONLINE	£8.98	£0.43	£8.55	Electric
Clerk salary **	ONLINE	£1,014.57	-	£1,014.57	February 22 Salary February 2022
Clerks expenses	ONLINE	£51.00	-	£51.00	Expenses
HMRC **	ONLINE	£85.57	-	£85.57	National Insurance
Elham Primary School	ONLINE	£57.00	-	£57.00	Room Hire
Sid Moffatt	ONLINE	£355.64	-	£355.64	Noticeboard Main.
Harmer and Sons	ONLINE	£9,636.00	£1,606.00	£8,030.00	Grounds Main.
Nest	Direct Debit	£35.17	-	£35.17	Clerks FEB 22 Pension
B Passmore	ONLINE	£240.00	-	£240.00	Payroll
123.reg	Direct Debit	£71.99	£14.40	£57.59	SSL Certificate
Castle Water	ONLINE	£40.60	-	£40.60	Water
KALC @	DEBIT CARD	£60.00	£10.00	£50.00	Planning Conference
KALC @	DEBIT CARD	£60.00	£10.00	£50.00	Audit training
T Metcalfe	ONLINE	£704.46	£117.41	£587.05	Gate to KGV 130.19
SLCC	DEBIT CARD	£144.00	£24.00	£120.00	FILCA
Viking	ONLINE	£38.82	£6.47	£32.35	Stationery (Jan)
Viking	ONLINE	£20.92	£3.49	£17.43	Stationery (Feb)
Palmer Trust	ONLINE	£225.00	-	£225.00	Rent
St Marys Church Hall	Chq	£105.00	-	£105.00	Time for Talk
Reliable Networks	ONLINE	£31.92	£5.32	£26.60	Microsoft License
TOTAL		£12,986.64	£1,797.52	£11,189.12	

* Bacs / Card payment to be authorised by 2 Councillors

** Bacs / card payments authorised by 2 Councillors prior to meeting

*** Nest Direct Debit set up agreed with February 2019

© transaction authorised by Chairman prior to meeting 4.1 Financial Regs

APPROVED

Appendix 2 - Correspondence Log – February 22

Date	Email/ Phone Call	From /To	Re	Action
08/02/22	Email	Keith Holmes Memorials	Enquiry.	Clerk responded.
08/02/22	Email	FHDC	Press release – solar scheme.	Sent to all.
09/02/22	Email	FHDC	Fly tipping report ref: 11225132.	No further action.
10/02/22	Email	FHDC Planning	Weekly Planning List.	No action.
10/02/22	Email	FHDC Planning	Delegated List.	21/2493/FH decision sent to all Cllrs.
11/02/22	Email	Resident	Yew tree Churchyard.	Clerk responded.
11/02/22	Email	Shepway Area Committee	February Agenda.	Sent to all Cllrs.
11/02/22	Email	Resident	CC. correspondence to FHDC re Kings Arms.	Sent to all Cllrs.
11/02/22	Email	FHDC Planning	22/0209/FH.	Sent to all.
12/02/22	Email	TEAP	Damage to the burial ground shed.	Clerk to action.
15/02/22	Email	Hopkins +	Defibrillator certificate.	Informative.
17/02/22	Email	FHDC Planning	Re-consultation 22/0073/FH.	Sent to all Cllrs
17/02/22	Email	FHDC Planning	Weekly Planning List.	No action.
17/02/22	Email	FHDC Planning	Delegated List.	No action.
18/02/22	Email	Resident	Longland Farm- 20/0304/FH.	Clerk to respond.
20/02/22	Email	Resident	Tree on corner of Water Farm.	Sent to Tree Warden. Clerk responded.
21/02/22	Email	FHDC	Notice of Vacancy.	Displayed in the noticeboard.
22/02/22	Email	123.reg	SSL Certificate.	No action.
22/02/22	Email	Resident	correspondence re Kings Arms.	Sent to all Cllrs.
24/02/22	Email	FHDC Planning	Weekly Planning List.	No action.
24/02/22	Email	FHDC Planning	Delegated List.	No action.
25/02/22	Email	FHDC	Core Strategy Review – Inspector’s report.	Sent to all Cllrs.
25/02/22	Email	P Roberts	Twinning.	Clerk to respond post meeting.
28/02/22	Email	FHDC	Press Release – Charge points in district.	Sent to all Cllrs.
28/02/22	Email	Shepway Area Committee	February minutes.	Sent to all Cllrs.
28/02/22	Email	Rev. Deb	Contact details to forward correspondence received.	Clerk to action once received.
03/03/22	Email	P Roberts	Twinning.	Clerk to respond post meeting.

