

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 6pm (remotely via Zoom).

Present:

Cllr Spencer Phillips
Cllr Nigel Bunker
Cllr Adrian Coles
Cllr Jane Hall
Cllr Jane Hart
Cllr Jenny Li
Clerk Mrs Rachel Girt

Absent:

Cllr Nikki Ellis & Cllr Ken Newman

Two members of the public were also in attendance

#### 1. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Cllr Nikki Ellis sent apologies due to a family commitment. Apologies with reason noted.

#### 10. Correspondence

The Chairman brought forward agenda items 10 & 3.

Councillors were thanked for their work which had continued during recent extraordinary times. The Chairman outlined the engagement that the Parish Council continued to have (virtually) with members of the public, local services, Ashford Borough Council, Police, businesses and Ward Councillors.

The Chairman reminded Councillors of Standing Orders relevant to agenda items of the virtual meeting.

It was advised that correspondence had been received from a resident regarding the handling of a planning application by the Parish Council. A formal complaint will be responded to in writing and shared with Councillors when received.

## 3. Adjournment for Members of the Public to Address the Meeting (on planning matters)

A local resident addressed the Parish Council to express dissatisfaction with the way that a planning application had been responded to. The resident asked a series of questions.

The Chairman advised the resident that a response to a formal complaint made would be made in writing.

### 2.Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying None declared.

### 4. Planning

20/00576/AS

Apple Tree Cottage, Wye Road, Boughton Aluph, Ashford, Kent, TN25 4HY Erection of a detached dwelling with associated part-demolition of existing dwelling and widening of existing access

#### Objection.

Clerk to submit to Ashford Borough Council.

#### 5. Minutes

Minutes of Parish Council Meetings held on 10 February 2020 and 14 May 2020 were approved for signature.

#### 6. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

#### 7. Risk Register Review

The revised risk register for the year end 2019/2020 was reviewed and adopted.

# 8. Temporary Delegated Authority to Proper Officer (to provide for potential future COVID-19 disruption)

It was resolved to approve temporary delegated authority powers to the Parish Clerk as Proper Officer of the Council under section 101 of Local Government Act 1972. Expiration date 7/5/21 (in line with Coronavirus Act 2020 legislation). The provision of delegated authority to the Clerk to discharge any function of the Parish Council (excluding any power which may only be discharged by the Council), in line with current Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. This authority is to be used in conjunction with consultation (unless not possible) with Chair, Vice-Chair or Parish Council as appropriate.

#### 9. Finance

- i. Final accounts for 2019/2020 financial year were approved.
- ii. Revised costings (from KCC) for white poles scheme were approved.
- iii. Payments made February March 2020 were noted.

- iv. The appointment of Hugo Fox to provide new website (gold scheme) was confirmed.
- v. Payments due were approved.
- vi. AGAR 2019/2020 The Internal Audit Report was noted. All applicable internal control objectives had been met and Councillors thanked the Clerk for this positive outcome.
- vii. AGAR 2019/2020 Annual Governance Statement deferred viii. AGAR 2019/2020 Annual Accounting Statements deferred

#### 11. Information items

Ashford Borough Council is continuing its COVID response to assist residents. New to the scheme is the ability to access priority paid for slots at Tesco and Iceland for those needing to self-isolate.

National Association of Local Councils have advised that physical Parish Council meetings are still prohibited.

The meeting closed at 6.25pm.