Meeting No 3

SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 September 2018 in Shorne Village Hall

PRESENT	Mr R Lane (Chairman) Mr R Theobald Mr J Bugg Mr R Hardy Mrs S Lindley Miss P Clifton
APOLOGIES	for absence were received from Mrs L McCluskey Mr R Cooper, Mr C Rea and Cllr B Sweetland
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE	PSCO Kirsty Lowe PCSO Jo Hartley

23 Declaration of Interests by Members Regarding the Agenda

None.

24 Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 July 2018

The minutes were AGREED and signed as a true record.

25 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

26 CCTV

PCSO Lowe and PCSO Hartley led a discussion on CCTV and its usefulness to the Police. Mr Lane reported that CCTV recordings were reviewed with the Police on 18 September following a reported crime in Woodlands Lane which occurred on 13 September, and he had provided them with recorded images of a vehicle which may have been associated with the incident.

The Parish Council has entered into an annual Maintenance Agreement with Prestige. However they had not attended on the previous day to carry out the annual inspection.

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27 Lower Thames Crossing (17)

It is understood that the formal consultation is likely to commence during October, 2018. This consultation will include the latest changes to the design of the crossing. It is hoped that this will clarify what land is required for diversion of utilities and for environmental mitigation. It is understood that there will be an information event at the village hall in early November (post meeting note: this will be on 3 November).

Mr Lane attended a parliamentary briefing with Highways England (HE) at Westminster on 16 July, and Mr Lane and Mrs Lindley subsequently attended a briefing by an officer of KCC, facilitated by Kent Councillor Bryan Sweetland. We understand that the tunnel portal is likely to be extended to the south of the A226 and there may be further changes to the A2.

Mr Theobald reported that HE want a compulsory purchase of Muggins chalk pit. With regards to noise attenuation, Mr Theobald said it is better to have hedges than trees.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would consider the need for holding a public meeting when the Consultation comes out.

28 Report by Borough Cllr R Theobald

Cllr Theobald reported on recent developments on the Borough Council. A dispute had arisen between the Conservative Association and some Conservative Councillors following the de-selection of three sitting members including the Leader of the Council, David Turner, and Cllr Harold Craske, one of the members for Higham. The third member had, in effect, been disqualified from standing following an assault charge. As a result of their de-selection, the three members concerned decided to resign the Conservative whip and resign from the party. Seven Conservative members who were not seeking re-election also resigned the whip in protest at the de-selections. The ten members concerned then declared themselves 'Independent Conservatives', forming a separate group.

As the Council Leader and his Deputy were no longer Conservative members, it was suggested by the Conservative Association that the remaining members of the Conservative group should resign from posts held on the Council, including chairing committees. The chair of the Reg. Board, Cllr Michael Wenban, refused to resign and as Vice-Chair, Mr Theobald followed suit. When the Conservative group met, the policy was formally adopted that no Conservative members should remain in their positions as chairs and vice-chairs. Mr Theobald would have preferred a coalition but this was refused. Mr Theobald declined to resign which put him in breach of group rules and subject to suspension from the Conservative group. As it is not viable for a

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single independent member to serve on a committee, Mr Theobald decided to join Mr Wenban in crossing the floor and joining the Independent Conservative group.

Mr Theobald pointed out that he was elected to serve the people of Gravesham, and took an oath of office. He refused to resign on a point of principle. The end result is that it is unlikely that Mr Theobald will be representing Shorne, Cobham and Luddesdown as one of the Borough Councillors after next May's election unless he stands and is elected as an independent.

29 Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy (18)

At the previous meeting, Mr Theobald reported that the Local Plan will eventually go to public examination, and Gravesham Council is getting information ready for that process. The initial consultation has been completed and is being analysed, but there is no information regarding when feedback on the consultation will be published.

Mr Lane reported that he will be presenting the petition against building on the Green Belt for debate at the full Gravesham Council Meeting currently scheduled for 4 December, as he is not available for the October meeting. (Post meeting note: the Council Meeting has been rescheduled to 20 December.)

30 Gravesham Joint Transportation Board

The last Joint Transport Meeting was held on 12 September 2018. Mrs Lindley reported that Earl Bourner is to be replaced by Kevin Gate, who will be starting on 24 September 2018. Mr Theobald reported that he had raised the matter of the hatching in Stone Street in Gravesend as nothing has been done about this. He also raised the problems of vehicles exiting from Dering Way.

31 Planning & Highways Committee

Mrs Lindley reported that there have been a number of planning applications with a few still in the pipeline.

Springhill in Pear Tree Lane. The appeal has been dismissed.

Burdett Avenue – Fence across the Roadway. The fence has been taken down by the householder.

Nuralite. Mr Theobald reported that the representations carried out by Mrs Lindley on the application, covering several pages, were very well done.

Plot Between 29/31 The Street. Mr Lane expressed his disappointment that the application to build a property on the plot between 29 and 31 The Street had not been circulated before the Parish Council submitted an objection. This was dealt with by Mr Theobald, Mr Bugg and Mrs Lindley. They had spoken to neighbours and other

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people in The Street, who considered that the elevation was far too big and the rear projection overlooked other property. Mr Theobald mentioned that there were other issues concerning main drains on the plot which needed to be addressed.

Action with Communities in Rural Kent (ACRK) is in the process of undertaking a Rural Housing Needs Survey in Shorne. The return date is Wednesday 3 October. Mr Theobald reported that this is the third Survey. He also drew attention to local authority housing in the parish which has been let to people from outside the parish, which would indicate that there was little need for more Council housing in the parish.

32 Neighbourhood/Parish Plan (19)

At the previous meeting, it was agreed that the Lower Thames Crossing should take priority over this at the moment.

33 Emergency Plan (20)

Nothing further to report. However, Mrs Lindley discussed the need to know who owns chain saws which might be useful following a storm with trees coming down, but response from a published request for information had not been very successful. Mr Bugg remarked that people tend to come forward and help with chainsaws in the event of storm damage to trees.

34 Update from Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee, including Crabbles Bottom (16 & 24)

At Crabbles Bottom, AGS Hoarding and Fencing have repaired the collapsed section of fencing, and also repaired the vehicle access gate. H&P Conservation Works cut back the footpaths and bridleway in September, and Tom Gozzett has cut the meadows.

Southern Water has finally cleared the long-standing fly tipping from their land in Crutches Lane. However, they have stated their intention to install a barrier closing off the layby verge to prevent parking and discourage further fly tipping. There is a concern that this will obstruct access to Crabbles Bottom. It is proposed to arrange a meeting between Southern Water, Shorne PC, Higham PC, and KCC to discuss the situation.

The ramps to the children's slide at Mill Hill Lane play area has decayed. Mrs Clifton requested a quotation for repairs from the Higham Handyman, but he has declined. An advertisement has been posted on social media and one person has said that he would provide a quotation. Mr Lane has asked Gravesham Borough Council whether they have any suitable redundant equipment available, and has also made contact with Hoo Parish Council, which it is understood are in the process of replacing their play equipment.

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Shared Access decided not to proceed with the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 25 July to discuss their proposal for a telecoms mast in Shorne.

Following receipt of quotations to resurface the village hall car park, Mr Lane has informed the Village Hall Management Committee that the Parish Council does not intend to proceed with this at this time.

35 Report by County Cllr B Sweetland (32)

Mr Sweetland had sent his apologies for his absence, but has advised that he would be prepared to contribute up to 50% of the cost of an external wall-mounted Automatic External Defibrillator (AED), which he expects to cost around £1400. This was discussed in further detail under item 41 below.

36 GDPR (34)

The shorneparishcouncil.org email domain has now been set up and the website updated. Members are requested to use the shorneparishcouncil.org email account and to include the disclaimer/confidentiality notice for all parish council correspondence.
At the previous two meetings, it was agreed that all Members would review the draft Data Protection Impact Assessment form and the data retention periods proposed in the Record of Data templates. Members are requested to confirm the actions are complete.

Mrs McCluskey is reviewing the need and practicality of encryption of electronic devices containing confidential information. Mr Theobald pointed out that the level of security needed should be proportionate to the sensitivity of the information held.

37 Website (21)

Contact details have been updated showing the new email addresses. Members were reminded to send suitable photos for the website to Mr Lane.

38 Finance

The Clerk had previously issued a finance schedule for the preceding period, and Mr Lane thanked Mrs Martin for this. In future it will only be necessary to review exceptional items during the meetings. Expenditure was as follows:

(a)	Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)	15th Repayment on Loan - 24 September 2018 (Paid by Direct Debit)	£1623. 48
(b)	Talk Talk (Paid by DD)	Account (Aug'18)	£ 42. 93
		VAT	£ 8. 58
			£ 51. 51

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(c)	Talk Talk	Account (Sept'18)	£ 42. 67
	(Paid by DD)	VAT	£ 8. 53
			£ 51. 20
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(d) The following accounts were passed for payment and cheques issued.

Kent County Council	GDPR Conference – 28.6.2018 attended by Mr R Lane and Mrs L McCluskey	£ 50. 00
Mrs T Martin	Postage & Stationery	£ 15. 28
Mrs L Brown	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£ 65. 00
Mrs T Martin	Salary - Sept' 2018	£832. 98
	Less Tax	-£ 87. 53
		£745. 45
		======
Inland Revenue	Tax deducted from Clerk's Salary	£ 87. 53
	PC's Contributions for NI	£ 19. 41
		£106. 94
		======
Mrs T Martin	Salary - Oct' 2018	£832. 98
	Less Tax	-£ 87. 53
		£745. 45
		======
Inland Revenue	Tax deducted from Clerk's Salary	£ 87. 53
	PC's Contributions for NI	£ 19. 41
		£106. 94
		======

39 <u>Update on any meetings of Outside Bodies (26)</u>

(a) <u>Parish Council Chairman's Meeting with Gravesham Borough Council</u>
Mr Lane attended the meeting at the Civic Centre on Wednesday 19 September. Fly-tipping was discussed at the meeting, but GBC said that they did not monitor the cost of clearing fly-tipping separately from other litter and waste collection duties. Mr Lane suggested that the costs should be separately identified, otherwise there is no way of monitoring this. Meopham and Sole Street raised the issue of enforcement of parking restrictions in the villages. Mr Lane said that Shorne had similar problems,

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and that occasional visits from enforcement officers should be undertaken. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 21 November. If Members have anything they wish to be raised, please advise Mr Lane.

40 Correspondence

There were no items of correspondence, other than a letter from Shorne Village Hall regarding defibrillators. This was discussed in item 41.

41 To Consider a Contribution towards of Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)

The Village Hall Management Committee has written to the Parish Council stating that it is considering the installation of an AED inside the village hall. It was reported that a parishioner in The Street suffered a cardiac arrest on 6 September. The AED would be available for public use during hours when the village hall is open. The Village Hall Management Committee has invited the Parish Council to contribute towards the cost, which is unlikely to exceed £1,000.

An alternative would be to install an external AED outside the village hall. This would be more expensive (circa £1400), but would be available at times when the village hall is closed. The Village Hall would not be prepared to provide this facility, but may be prepared to contribute towards the cost if the Parish Council decided to install one.

Kent Cllr Sweetland has advised that he would be prepared to contribute up to 50% of the cost of an external wall mounted Automatic External Defibrillator.

Members agreed to go ahead with obtaining an external wall mounted Automatic External Defibrillator plus cabinet to be installed outside the village hall. The Parish Council will write to the Village Hall Management Committee advising that the Parish Council would like to propose that this is funded and treated as a joint project with the Village Hall.

42 Matters Raised by Members

(a) Notice Boards

At the previous meeting, Mr Hardy referred to difficulties in maintaining up to date notices of all Council and Committee Meetings on all the notice boards. It was proposed that agendas and notices should be published on the website and on the main village hall notice board, with a disclaimer notice on other boards directing people to the website. This has now been carried out.

(b) Litter Patrols

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Mr Lane reminded Members that the Shorne Village Litter Patrol will take place this Saturday 22 September. Mrs McCluskey intends to arrange a litter pick in Shorne West during October. This will now take place on Sunday, 14 October 2018.

(c) Mr Theobald reported that he had the drawings for the Village Hall and that he was going to get them scanned. He will investigate the costs for this. Members agreed that if the costs are reasonable, he should proceed with getting the drawings scanned.

(d) Mrs Lindley reported that the cost for printing the Annual Report by Northfleet Press will be £1162.00. Members agreed to this.

(e) Mrs Lindley reported that she has circulated the quoted costs for the Traffic Survey in The Ridgeway and Pear Tree Lane. The contractors recommended by KCC were still the cheapest so she will go ahead with this.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.18 pm.

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