

## WOMENSWOLD PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Womenswold Parish Council was held at the Learning Opportunities Centre, Womenswold was held on Tuesday 15 May 2018 at 7.45pm

Present: Cllr I HOBSON – Chairman  
Cllr M McKENZIE -Vice Chair  
Cllr A WICKEN  
Cllr C BROWN  
Cllr J PERRINS  
Mrs V McWILLIAMS Clerk

There were no members of the public present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **1. Election of Officer (Chair)**

The Clerk asked for nominations for the election of a Chairman. Cllr Wicken proposed Cllr Hobson; seconded by Cllr Perrins there were no other nominations. Cllr Hobson accepted the nomination and all duly elected him as Chairman.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

County Cllr Michael Northey sent his apologies. City Cllr Simon Cook also sent his apologies as he had a prior engagement.

### **3. Comments from the public.**

There were no members of the public present

### **4. Reports from County Cllr Northey & City Cllr Cook**

County Cllr Northey reported that each County Councillor now gets a weekly update, on the work done on mending potholes and resurfacing roads. The road/traffic issue is by far the biggest item that people contact county councillors about. We are very conscious of the need to do more, and KCC has put in an extra £6 million, and the government has given another £2.5 million, making a total of £8.5 million for highways maintenance, though some of this is for drainage also. This week's totals, for the week ending 11 May for the whole Canterbury district are, numbers of potholes done 146, patching area 8 square metres, cumulative total to date 1922 potholes and 702 square metres of patching. The Canterbury number of potholes done so far is the second largest of all the 12 Kent districts.

City Cllr Cook reported that it's been a very busy year for the City Council and it's again been a privilege to be your councillor.

In our ward, it's been another year of helping with planning applications, rubbish bin collections, dealing with waste issues including fly tipping, yellow lines and many

other local issues. It's been fantastic to work alongside your parish council who do so much for this village.

Across the district there has also been a lot to do.

We have passed another balanced budget. It gets harder every year but this year we will be able to continue to deliver the services that you expect even with the cut to funding from central government.

We're pushing forward with ANPR car parking. The contract tender will be awarded very soon and we should be introducing it to the park and ride car parks by June. The rest of our car parks will follow - it'll make parking easier and more seamless, as well as only charging you for the time you use.

You'll have seen that we're in the process of putting the Marlowe Theatre into a charitable trust. Not only will it continue to be a fantastic theatre bringing top class shows to the city, but it will be able to bid for funding from more sources and do much more work in the community. We expect this to save our residents almost £250k in the first two years and £111k each year after that.

We've stepped up our efforts on enforcement - there have been several successes with fly tipping including one vehicle being crushed. This is helped by cameras that we can put in hot spots and we're always ready to hear your suggestions as to where they should go. We've just received powers that will make it easier to enforce against littering from vehicles and we hope to use this in particular to crack down on littering in lay-bys. We've also made sure that we don't miss out the villages when making sure people park sensibly outside schools. It's been good to see enforcement officers in Bridge several times in the last few months.

We know there have been issues with Serco in the last year, but we're working closely with them to ensure that we do everything we can to minimise any disruption to you getting your bins emptied. We've made it very easy to report missed bins on the council's web site but please let me know if you have any problems.

There's still plenty to be done in the coming year. In particular I want to focus on making sure we do all we can to reduce litter and fly tipping. I'll be working closely with Highways England in particular on the A2 - and indeed to make sure they take away their signs after they've finished with them. One particular knotty issue in Womenswold that I am also working on with KCC is the lorries parking on the B2046

I'm looking forward to another year working on your behalf. If there's anything that you need my assistance with, please get in touch and I'll be happy to help.

**5. Declaration of interests by Councillors.** There was no notification by members given of any pecuniary or personal interest in items on the Agenda.

#### **6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were approved and signed; proposed by Cllr Hobson & seconded by Cllr Brown.

#### **7. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.**

The Clerk had not heard anything further from the residents of Ropersole Park regarding the problems of lorry parking in the near by lay by.

#### **8 Finance**

Barclays Community Account £12,384.91 (12 April 2018)

Business Saver Account £1,874.41

##### **Monies in**

Precept £6031.22

##### **Expenses**

Val McWilliams Clerks Salary SCP 20 £10.50 per hour 26 hours in March/April £273.0 plus £80.00 Office Management = £353.00 Stationary £23.28 +VAT £4.6

Sub Total £27.94 **TOTAL £380.94**

MFW Payroll £165.00+ VAT£33.00 Total £198.00

CPRE Subscription £36.00

KALC Subscription £129.02 + £25.80 Total £154.82

The Fifth Trust £195.00

Harmer & Sons Grass cutting Green & Rec Ground (£248.00 +VAT £49.60)

Sub-total £297.60

Dr McWilliams Materials for Defibrillator (£68.79+VAT £9.35 = Total £78.14

The Fifth Trust Grass Cutting Church Yard £195.00

ACRK Subscription £50.00

Ian Hobson Lite Hosting (£14.99 +VAT £3.00) Total £17.99

**Total £1,603.49**

These figures were approved by the Council; proposed by Cllr Wicken and seconded by Cllr Perrins.

The Clerk presented the accounts to the Council, which had been audited by the Internal Auditor.

The resolution to apply for the Certificate of Exemption from PK Littlejohn the External Audit was passed unanimously. The Chair and Clerk signed it and the Clerk will now forward it to PK Littlejohn for acceptance.

Councillors approved the Annual Return and all supporting documents for the financial year end 2017-2018 which was signed by the Chair which were signed and dated prior to the meeting.

Acceptance of the forms was proposed; by Cllr Wicken, seconded by Cllr Perrins.

All records of the annual finances will be put on the website and notice board. Anyone is permitted to view the accounts should they wish by contacting the clerk.

## **9. Planning/Trees**

18/00853 Change of use from agricultural use to office together with external alteration  
18/00855 Application for listed building consent for internal and external alterations both at Woolage Farm, Woolage Green Womenswold CT4 6SG  
There were no objections raised to the proposed plans. The Clerk to inform CCC.

17/00261 Proposed 3 no. dormer windows to front elevation and 1 no. dormer window to rear elevation together with porch to rear.  
Nethersole House, The Street, Womenswold, CT4 6HE **GRANTED**

## **10. General DATA Protection Regulations**

Regarding the appointment of a Data Protection Officer, we are still waiting for the necessary legislation to be passed before doing anything further.

## **11. Environmental Issues**

The gates have now been installed either side of the field on Footpath CB 209  
The Clerk had heard from Highways reporting a complaint regarding the salt bin being too close to the hedge in Woolage Green. They will investigate and get back to the Clerk.

Cllr Hobson reported that the recent Litter Pick had been a great success and was very grateful to all who had turned up.

The White lines have still not been reinstalled at the crossroads on Firs Road, Woolage village. Highways are reportably going to resurface parts of the road after which the white lines will get done.

We are still waiting for Jamie Cole to do the repairs to the playground equipment. The Clerk will chase.

Cllr McKenzie and the Clerk are meeting with Highways to discuss the unofficial lay by near The Beacon following the success of putting traffic cones up on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018

## **12. Defibrillators & Sitings**

Womenswold is still waiting for confirmation from the church for permission to place one inside the church porch. Councillors will look at the site and confirm with the church exactly where and how they propose installing it.

The one for Woolage Green has now been installed in the telephone kiosk.

The one for Woolage Village is ready to be installed at The Place, Woolage Village.

The Clerk was asked to write to her son thanking him for the wooden house he built for the defibrillator ready to install it.

The owner of the bike shop felt that by installing the defibrillator by the bike shop would encourage vandalism. Councillors agreed to reconsider putting it inside Ropersole Park again

### **13. Councillors' Portfolios**

**Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC):** Cllr Brown has still heard nothing from KALC. The Clerk will chase again.

**Amenities and Welfare:** Nothing to report.

Andy Coles has still got to do the repairs to the playground equipment. The Clerk will chase him again.

**Roads & Services:** There are numerous pot holes around the villages.

**Communication – Website** Cllr Hobson reported that the website was up to date. He is preparing for the July newsletter and asked Councillors to think of things to put in it as nothing happens in the winter so he could be short of material.

**Police Liaison:** PCSO Gavin Dodwell reported thefts in Barham and Woolage Village.

### **14. General Correspondence**

Clerks & Councils Direct

Kent Voice

Countryside Voice

#### **Emails sent to all**

GDPR Consent Form & General GDPR Update

Canterbury Quality Bulletin

NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin 18 - 4 May 2018

### **15. Any Other Business.**

There was no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

### **16. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 10th July 2018 at Two Sawyers Function Room, Woolage Green at 6pm.