

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022  
IN THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, CHURCH FARM AT 7.30P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. T. Bishop (Chairman), Sharon Honess, R. Mitchell and Margaret Moore

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr. Mrs. J. Sharpe

**APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES AND APPENDIX OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March be **APPROVED AND SIGNED** by the Chairman.

**MATTERS ARISING**

There were no Matters Arising.

**STREETLIGHTING MATTERS**

It was reported that with our existing agreement expiring enquiries had been made for a new contract for the streetlighting energy charges.

The cheapest supplier was found to be SSE Business Energy and their quote for a period of 48 months from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 at an average monthly cost of £250 payable by direct debit had been accepted. This action was **RATIFIED**.

**FOOTPATH MATTERS**

(i) **MR493 – Bridge Over Old Mill Pond** – Update on bridge/Section 106 Agreement

This path is part of the route using MR95 FROM New Hythe Lane through the former Aylesford Newsprint site to Station Road, Aylesford. As previously recorded the bridge over Ditton Stream is in need of repair.

It was reported an email from Chelsea Honey-Bradfield confirmed there is a Section 106 payment to improve this path and MR474 by the river to Aylesford Village.

Cllr. Thornewell reported he had heard from Cllr. Mrs. Anita Oakley that at a recent site meeting a representative of Panattoni had found a letter to Aylesford Newsprint to the effect this was a KCC bridge.

It was **AGREED** we continue to press for the repair of the footbridge and seek a copy of the letter.

(ii) **Clearance of Overgrown Paths**

**M106, East Malling** – KCC had informed the Parish Council the path with the steps next to Manningham House, Chapel Street on their Definitive Map stopped short of the steps so they were not a KCC responsibility.

As a result the Parish Council Handyman, Martin had cleared the steps. Photographs were shown “before” and “after”.

It was **AGREED** Martin be thanked for doing an excellent job and we seek to have the Definitive Map amended. Cllr. Thornewell pointed out this would need some research and would, on past experience take some time.

**MR104 by Lunsford Allotments** – It was reported this footpath had now been cleared presumably by KCC.

**Other Footpath Clearance Work** – The other paths due to be done by KCC contractors all seem to have been cleared too but members are asked to let the Parish Office know of any still overgrown.

It was reported, following a resident’s complaint, the footway east of Fielding Drive had been reported on the KCC Portal as partly overgrown. It had been reported to KCC Officer Kris Rigg but he is leaving today.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no Correspondence.

## **WAR MEMORIAL**

This project had been delayed by COVID. The Clerk has asked for an up-to-date estimate from Burslems. It would then be necessary to seek a site visit with the Borough Council Listed Buildings Officer. Cllr. Bishop commented that Tunbridge Wells were now doing this work for our Borough.

It was **AGREED** this matter be pursued.

## **VILLAGE HALL MATTERS**

### **(a) Matters Arising**

#### **(i) Current Level of Hall Bookings**

Up-to-date information was circulated as to Village Hall income and bookings, including Changes to Block Bookings. The committee felt the position was satisfactory.

## **UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS**

New Police Powers that came into force on 28<sup>th</sup> June were reported given previous travellers occupying the Village Hall car parks. The Guidance on the use of powers is quite detailed and it will be a question of how the local Police use the new law about people who camp illegally on other people’s land.

**PROJECTS FOR POSSIBLE SECTION 106 CLAIMS** – East Malling Priority as 2 latest applications. –  
Shutters – Solar Panels/Heat pumps

Details of the system the Borough Council has set up for potential claims from developers that at Parish level give rise to a need for a facility and/or improvement of an existing one.

The Borough Council wish a proforma to be used and had provided as an example one lodged by Hildenborough Parish Council.

After some discussion it was **AGREED** that an up-to-date estimate for shutters at East Malling Village Hall be obtained and that this be submitted with the one for outside Gym equipment already obtained. It was **NOTED** the Borough Council seek an overall figure for each project with supporting statements.

It was also **AGREED** that we should investigate the possible provision of solar panels/heat pumps for all our halls and the results be reported to a future meeting.

**ITEMS CONTRIBUTED BY MEMBERS**

There were no Items Contributed by Members.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**      Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**CLOSURE**

There being no further items, the Meeting closed at 8.00p.m.

Chairman  
14<sup>th</sup> September 2022