

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY, 27TH JANUARY 2020 AT CHURCH FARM AT 7.30P.M.**

PRESENT: Cllrs. Mrs. M. Moore (Chairman), T. Bishop, Mrs. J. Manser, R. Mitchell, R. Roud and D. Thornewell

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Mrs. A. Oakley

**APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES AND APPENDIX OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 16TH
DECEMBER 2019**

After amendment to the item regarding the Care Quality Commission to "CQC" it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 16th December 2019 be **APPROVED AND SIGNED** by the Chairman

MATTERS ARISING

(i) **Heating Issues – George Holding Centre** – Update

The Clerk reported that she has not yet received the report from Kent Boilercare to include a quotation for the supply and installation of a combi boiler in the Pre-School at the George Holding Centre. She will be chasing this.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

(i) **Accounts for Payment and Cheques for Signature**

The List of Accounts for Payment was **CIRCULATED AND APPROVED** and it was **AGREED** that the relevant cheques be **SIGNED**. (Appendixed to these Minutes).

(ii) **Bank Mandate – Amendments**

The Clerk reported that she is in the process of removing Councillors from the Bank Mandate who are no longer serving members. and it was **RESOLVED** that, the Authorised Signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in section 1.3 of the submission online, be changed in accordance with the section Authorised Signatories. This was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Thornewell and **SECONDED** by Cllr. Mrs. Manser that the necessary action be taken to remove old Councillors from the mandate and add new ones if they agree to become signatories. **CARRIED NEM. CON.**

(iii) **Christmas Lights – Capping**

Cllr. Thornewell reported that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at the Borough Council have agreed to cap the budget for Christmas lighting at £40,000. No individual figures have been provided yet, in our case, for Martin Square

CORRESPONDENCE

Heart of Kent Hospice: **Letter of Thanks**

It was **NOTED** that a letter of thanks had been received from the Heart of Kent Hospice for the donation given in this Financial Year.

Home Start:
South West Kent:

Request for Grant

It was **NOTED** that Home Start are asking consideration be given to a grant in support of their work in helping disadvantaged families in the Parish.

The charity is currently supporting one family and their two young children under five in Larkfield and last year they supported one family and their young child in East Malling.

It was **AGREED** that a grant of £100 be given to Home Start and we thank them for stating that they are helping families in this Parish.

Salus Group:

East Malling Junior Youth Club

Roxanne Frost from Salus is telling the Council that they have been running a free of charge, open access youth club in East Malling for 8-12 year olds and detached sessions in East Malling and Larkfield for 12-19 year olds in partnership with Kent County Council or over a year and more recently with the detached.

As part of this club the young people are encouraged to take ownership for their activities and learning and upon consultation recently the young people have looked into a residential trip in the summer holidays to Kingswood in Ashford.

They are asking whether there is any funding available to make this trip happen particularly with help for coach hire to travel to and from for the young people.

After discussion it was **AGREED** to ask for more details regarding when and where the youth club meet as Members were not aware of their existence. Also, could they provide some idea of costings for the residential trip. Once information has been received then we will reconsider the possibility of funding.

Communigrow:

Letter of Thanks

It was **NOTED** that a letter of thanks had been received from Communigrow for the £150 donation. They invite Councillors to visit and see what they are doing.

Kent County Council: **Kings Hill School**

It was **NOTED** that Kings Hill School are to alter the age range from 4 – 11 years to 2 – 11 years, to enable the school to establish a nursery class.

CAR PARKING, LARKFIELD VILLAGE HALL/PLAYING FIELDS

The Clerk reported that considerable problems have been experienced at the Larkfield Village Hall Car Park and surrounding areas with parking when there are a number of junior teams playing on the Sportsfield. This happens on a Saturday and Sunday. The Clerk circulated pictures showing the situation.

The Clerk was asked to obtain quotations for the marking out of the car park with parking bays.

After discussion it was **AGREED** that a site meeting be held on a Sunday morning to assess the situation and ways to resolve the issue. Representatives from the Larkfield Football Club; Larkfield Scouts be invited to attend when a date is arranged.

SEAT ON A20, LARKFIELD/DITTON

Cllr. Thornewell reported that the bench on the A20 has been totally vandalised and pictures were circulated showing this. This Parish Council share the cost of this bench and any maintenance required. It has now been removed by Ditton Parish Council and they have provided a quotation for a replacement as the cost to repair would be in the region of £200 but they are suggesting a replacement bench made of recycled plastic at a cost of £314.16.

Concern was expressed that recycled plastic could be set light to and it was felt that a metal bench would be preferable. Ditton Parish Council already have benches in recycled plastic which have not been vandalised or set light to.

STAFF MATTERS

There were no Staff Matters.

ITEMS CONTRIBUTED BY MEMBERS

Cllr. Thornewell reported a resident's telephone call saying Castle Lake had been sold by Whitbread's for £1. The lake abuts Willow Road Green. He has been in touch with Leybourne Parish Clerk who told him the lake is land-locked by a piece of land acquired by two Solicitors in the Isle of Man. Whitbread's have little interest in the land and Leybourne have been pressing them to put up signs to deter "anti-social use". It was **AGREED** that we could investigate further and to obtain a copy of the Section 106 Agreement and planning documents.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 24th February 2020

CLOSURE

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.17p.m.

