

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 23RD MAY 2022 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, CHURHC
FARM AT 7.30P.M.**

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Mrs. J. Manser

**APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES AND APPENDIX OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 21ST MARCH
2022**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 21st March 2022 be **APPROVED AND SIGNED** by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

(i) **East Malling Village Sign**

The Clerk reported that a £1,000 contribution had been received from East Malling Conservation Group as a contribution towards the refurbishment of the East Malling Village Sign and an email of thanks had been sent.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

(i) **Traffic Surveys – Wateringbury Road**

The Planning and Development Committee had discussed the use of Trafficwatch to carry out traffic surveys in East Malling in connection with the proposal for development at Ivy Farm, Wateringbury Road.

The costs being £265 plus VAT for one strip and a discount for 2 strips of £400 plus VAT, Cllr. Mrs. Tatton is obtaining a quotation to provide 3 strips.

The proposed developers of the site have carried out surveys but it was felt that independent surveys should take place at different times to those.

As the Planning and Development Committee do not have a budget it had been agreed to refer it to this Committee for recommendation that the costs be funded from Legal Fees.

After discussion it was **AGREED** that if this goes ahead any costs be funded from the Legal Fees budget for this Committee.

(ii) **Path Across Willow Road Green**

Cllr. Thornewell said that we have not received the estimate from Leybourne Parish Council yet for the surfacing of the path at Willow Road Green but when received will be reported to the Allotments and Open Spaces Committee.

(ii) **Any Other Financial Matters**

Cllr. Thornewell reported that we are still awaiting the figures for the cost of the flowers and plaque from Larkfield Community Group at the Larkfield Village Sign at Larkfield Fire Station to which we are making a contribution in respect of the Queen's Jubilee.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Correspondence to report.

COTTENHAM ORCHARD

Cllr. Thornewell reported that we have received the necessary documents to apply for Village Green Registration for Cottenham Orchard and he has been looking into whether an orchard can be registered as a Village Green. In a recent Open Spaces magazine a community orchard has been given permission by Devon County Council.

Cllr. Thornewell has been in touch with Melanie McNair at Kent County Council who has given advice as to how to proceed and we have the Land Registry details giving the registered owner of the land.

Cllr. Thornewell **PROPOSED** that the Parish Council apply for registration of Cottenham Orchard as a Village Green as under the Commons Registration Act 1965 (as amended) and carry out the necessary formalities as required by Kent County Council as registration authority, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Mrs. Moore and **CARRIED NEM. CON.**

STAFF MATTERS

There were no Staff Matters

ITEMS CONTRIBUTED BY MEMBERS

Cllr. Bishop mentioned the storage of the Christmas Lights that are currently being stored by Paydens Chemists for the Martin Square lights but with Barry Pain retiring this will no longer be possible and it has been suggested by Cllr. Mrs. Oakley that maybe they could be stored in the changing rooms at the rear of East Malling Village Hall.

Cllr. Mrs. Oakley is having a meeting with Martin Square Traders and it was agreed to ask her the outcome before any action is taken.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 20th June 2022

CLOSURE

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.05p.m.

Chairman
20th June 2022

