

# Lenham Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LENHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2008, IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr. N. Godfrey, Chairman presiding  
Cllr. A. Barr, Vice-Chairman,  
Cllrs. J. Bate, M. Crutcher, L. Davison, Miss S. Goodwin, M. Michaelas,  
J. Nye, M. Osborne, G. Wilders, and Mrs. P. Sutton (Clerk).  
B. Cllr. T. Sams. Cllr. Sams was also Harrietsham PC's rep.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. Wilders, who was attending his first PC Meeting, and B. Cllr. Sams. The Clerk confirmed that Cllr. Wilders had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Mellett expressed the concern of his family at the Council's refusal to no longer allow photographs in the Cemetery. Cllr. Barr explained the reasons for bringing in the rules and said that the family's comments would be considered and the rules looked at again.

Mr. Mallett was concerned at the PC's intention to set up a website when his website lenham.net was available for use by the Community. The Chairman replied that a Parish Council had to be in control of a website and pointed out that the Parish Council was not in competition with other websites or Focus. Cllr. Davison explained that at present the PC were only looking into KCC's new website and no decision had been taken on the way forward.

Blaise Matthews reported that the LYPC had discussed future plans. The next meeting would be on the 7<sup>th</sup> February in the Youth Centre and the AGM would be held in March. The Chairman thanked the LYPC for what they had achieved.

The Community Warden reported that December had been a quiet month and she had spent some time with elderly residents. She detailed the forthcoming Afternoon Teas for the Elderly that she was arranging. Dog fouling was a problem which she had reported to the Dog Warden.

PCSO Nicola Morris detailed the five crimes reported since the last meeting. She updated Cllrs. on the progress of PACT and would be arranging a Public Meeting shortly. She had been awarded £2000 grant funding from MAYDAG to bring Charlton Football coaching to Lenham and Harrietsham. Harrietsham PC would consider putting in £500 and she asked that Lenham consider making a contribution. The Chairman said this would be considered at the next PC Meeting. The Chairman queried if the Police hired out speed equipment which Parishes could use for a trial period and the PCSO agreed to follow this up.

The Chairman declared the Meeting open at 8.10 p.m.

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Council accepted apologies for absence from Cllrs. Greenwood, Richards, Younger and B. Cllr. D. Marshall.

### 07/82 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr. Barr declared an interest in the item 07/85A.

### 07/83 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2007, were confirmed as a true record and it was RESOLVED that they be approved and adopted.

07/84 MATTERS ARISING

- A Update on Power for The Square (07/74A) The Chairman reported that he had submitted a bid to MBC and was awaiting a response from the Business Assn. regarding a contribution.
- B Update on CCTV connection, The Square (07/74B) There still appeared to be a slight problem with the Dog & Bear connection.
- C Update on Royal Mail Post Bus Service (07/74C) Cllr. Crutcher reported there was a delay with KCC providing the bus. However, KCC would continue with the service until a bus was available. The business plan would be available within the next few days and driver training would be organised. He had also spoken to some Cllrs. about becoming Trustees when the Company Ltd. by Guarantee was established. He would put in a bid for funding towards publicity and running costs for the first year and would approach the schools to see if they wished to become involved in a logo and name for the bus.
- D Quotations for Churchyard Floodlighting (07/75A) A further quotation had been received and following discussion it was RESOLVED that the quotation from Mr. R. Cannings in the sum of £380 be accepted.

07/85 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/SPOKESPERSONS

- A Planning Cllr. Osborne reported on the meetings held on the 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2007 and 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2008, which had been circulated to all Cllrs.  
Coullings Yard Cllr. Osborne reported that MBC had agreed to a meeting with the site owner and LPC. Cllrs. Osborne and Barr would attend.  
Kent International Gateway A Public Meeting had been held on the 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2007, which had been poorly attended. An article would be appearing in Focus detailing LPC's objections.
- B Parish Plan Steering Group Cllr. Barr reported that the next meeting would be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January. The Group would be considering the welcome pack.
- C Highways & Transportation The following was reported:-  
Harrietsham PC Details of the Harrietsham Cllr. dealing with highway matters was awaited.  
Letter to Mr. Harrison-Mee Cllr. Crutcher had emailed LPC's concerns and it was agreed that the Clerk would send a hard copy of this to Mr. Harrison-Mee with copies to C.Cllrs. Bruce-Lockhart and Paul Carter.  
Spreadsheet Cllr. Davison reported that progress was now being made with the various matters reported to Kent Highways.  
Pipkin Seminar This would be held on 10<sup>th</sup> January. The Chairman would try to attend.
- D Law & Order The following was reported:-  
Lenham Neighbourhood Watch Cllr. Richards had indicated that there had been a poor response to the request for volunteers.
- E Environment The following was reported:-  
Lenham Walks Cllr. Nye reported that following a complaint of a bull in a field on one of the walks he had investigated and although notices had been placed by the landowner there was no sign of an animal.  
Natwest Bank Cllr. Michaelas reported that the recent work to remove the graffiti had left the building looking untidy. Cllr. Greenwood to be asked to bring this to the Bank's attention.  
Rayners Hill Orchard Project Cllr. Barr reported that Pippa Palmer was arranging an event on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January to record peoples' memories of how Lenham's landscape has changed over the years. The planting of the new orchard would commence on the 16<sup>th</sup> February.
- F Lock-Up Project The Clerk reported that Cllr. Greenwood had contacted an Architect and discussed various matters which he would report at the next PC Meeting.

07/86 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE MEETINGS

Lenham Storage: Potential Recycling Site Cllr. Miss Goodwin reported on the meeting with Lenham Storage, the main purpose of which had been to replace the existing recycling site in Lenham. Unfortunately the Company had been unable to help with this due to lack of space and health and

safety implications. The Company had raised the possibility of a cardboard collection from local businesses to Lenham Storage for processing and this would be discussed with the Business Assn. The Parish Council then considered various sites for recycling and some of these would be followed up.

Meeting with Parochial Church Council A report of the meeting had been circulated to all Cllrs. In reply to the Chairman's query Cllr. Barr confirmed that the repair of gravestones in the Churchyard was the responsibility of the PCC. The future of Church funds was a major problem and the Church was willing to look at ways in which the Church could be used by the community.

07/87 KAPC/KENT RURAL

Maidstone Area Committee Agendas had been received for the AGM of the Area Committee and Committee Meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2008. Cllrs. Godfrey and Bate would attend.

Parish News 329 Copies had been received. It was noted that the KAPC would now be called the Kent Assn. Local Councils.

07/88 ACCOUNTS

Cheques for consideration & payment

Clever Curves	Annual inspection	£352.50
Miss C. Metcalf	LYPC Reimburse stationery	£24.44
Mr. D. Matthews	" "	£4.99
Lenham Ironmongers	Materials to clean High St. railings £38.93)	
	Bulbs, Churchyard Xmas tree £65.43)	£104.36
Supplies Team	Cartridge	£48.46
Lenham P.Hall Cttee	Hire of hall	£251.00
EDF	Street Lighting: January maintenance	£58.77
EDF	December energy	£58.12
Lenham Storage Co.	ADSC Installation & 12 mths. Rental	£244.96
Cash	Petty cash	£50.00
Kent Air Ambulance	LYPC Donation	£32.00
L. Enhancement Assn.	LYPC Donation	£32.00
EDF Energy	Lock-Up standing charge + 1 unit	£22.79
Natwest Bank	Bank charges	£6.00
Salaries and expenses detailed as Appendix A and filed with the signed copy of these Minutes.		
<u>Cheques paid into Acct.</u>		
Lenham W.I.	Donation to LYPC	£50.00
MBC	Maidstone B.Cllrs. contribution to CAB	£200.00
A.W. Court	Fee, purchased plot & interment of ashes (double)	£180.00
Cleverley & Spencer	Fee, Place 2 x kerbs	£120.00
Natwest Bank	Liquidity Manager Interest to 30.11.07	£212.44
Natwest Bank	Reserve Acct. interest to 30.12.07	£151.34

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Natwest Bank Bank charges £6.00

It was RESOLVED that the accounts be approved and the cheques signed.

07/89 CORRESPONDENCE

- A Lord Lieut. Of Kent: Annual Civic Service An invitation to attend had been received and Cllr. Barr would inform the Clerk if he could attend.
- B Kent Air Ambulance Annual Report and Financial Statements Receipt reported together with a request for a donation.
- C English Rural Housing Assn. A copy of Bulletin had been passed to Cllr. Barr who reported that money would continue to be used to build homes in rural areas.

The Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.