

## KENTISBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Parish Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 in Kentisbeare Village Hall at 7pm.

**Present:** N Allan, Mrs Q Broom, N Woofenden, N Sanders, Mrs F Ryan, E Southerden, Mrs E Ellicott, R Shore-Quinain, DCC Cllr. J Berry (present until item 9.5) and the Clerk. As an interested member of the public, MDDC Cllr. R Evans was present until item 9.5.

**01/01/23.** Public Question Time: None.

**02/01/23.** Apologies: Cllr. J Penfold & M Disney

**03/01/23.** Declarations of Interest: Cllr. R Shore-Quinain (DPI as spouse) payment to the Clerk and salary review.

**04/01/23.** The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 06/12/22 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

**05/01/23.** Matters Arising: None

### **06/01/23. Planning & Planning Correspondence/Information:**

**a)** Applications considered by the Parish Council: None.

**b)** Results of applications from Mid Devon District Council.

22/01783/HOUSE Erection of single storey extension, swimming pool building, therapy room outbuilding, carport and replacement garage. Postwood Gardens, Kentisbeare. EX15 2BS. Approved.

22/02132/HOUSE Erection of single storey extension following demolition of existing conservatory. Croyle Orchard, Croyle, Kentisbeare. EX15 2AN. Approved.

22/02034/CAT Notification of Intention to reduce lateral branches by 2.5m and crown lift to 3m 2 Oak and coppice to ground level clump of Sycamores within the Conservation Area. 3 High Street Kentisbeare, EX15 2AA. Approved.

22/01962/FULL Change of use of land and stable block to secure dog paddock/day care centre. Land at NGR 305456 108005 Dead Lane, Kentisbeare. Approved.

**c)** Culm Garden Village: The Chairman attended the last meeting of the Delivery Board – with the Local Plan review due next year it is hoped that concerns have been taken on board in respect of a buffer zone. Clarity regarding funding in respect of the relief road is anticipated shortly. The town council will not support more housing until improvements have been made in respect of Highways. Larger retail units are more likely to be sited near existing retail i.e. the areas around Fordmore and Mole Valley Farmers. A transport hub is being explored.

**d)** Any other Planning Matters: The district council has confirmed that the height of the ridge from ground level is correct in respect of planning application 21/01768/FULL.

### **07/01/23. Reports.**

**a)** P3 Footpaths and Parish Paths: Cllr. Mrs Ellicott reported that subsidence in one area on Bridleway 41 has been reported. The contractor will be asked to look at duck boarding in Silver Wood.

**b)** The Clerk. (i) A representative from Project Cosmic will attend a meeting later in the year regarding Office 365. (ii) The vandalised car abandoned in the village hall car park has been reported.

**c)** Reports from DCC & MDDC Councillors: DCC Cllr Berry gave a report in respect of the district and county council – the three weekly refuse collections appear to be going well. Recycling is not exported. There is a push for electric charging points for new homes. The new chief executive at DCC is now in place.

**d)** The Chairman & any other reports: Cllr. Allan joined the online autumn briefing with DCC J Hart. (ii) Following an invitation last year, Cllr. Southerden will shortly be joining the local neighbourhood policing team for an overnight shift. Cllrs. Berry and Evans informed the meeting that potential development within Mid Devon including the Culm Garden Village project will be discussed this year at the State of the District Debate – date tbc.

**08/01/23. Highways.** (i) The Clerk has reported the roads at Hollis Green and Machine Lane as requiring attention following the prolonged wet weather. (ii) DCC has secured £150,000 in its Road Safety Capital Allocation which it is anticipated will support six communities in benefitting from 20mph limits. The Clerk confirmed that as previously agreed, an expression of interest has been submitted for consideration for a 20mph limit to be implemented along the roads through Blackborough that pass the village hall and the three roads leading to the village square in Kentisbeare; from the village hall, the play area and Ford Farm. (iii) Councillors were reminded that reports in respect of Highways can easily be made online, as per details circulated previously; a reminder will be put into a future newsletter.

**09/01/23. Finance.**

- a) The bank balance was noted as at 31/12/22. Direct Debits: Nest 02/12 £71.71, EDF 10/12 £7. Utility Warehouse 30/12 £41.05.
- b) Payments were approved totalling £1929.40:
- Chq 2015 Clerk – salary and expenses. *See declarations.*
  - Chq 2016 Website and Newsletter.
  - Chq 2017 SMA Services. Payroll provider.
  - Chq 2018 HMRC. Quarterly payment.
  - Chq 2019 Kentisbeare Village Hall. Room hire.
  - Chq 2020 Kentisbeare Parish Church Magazine. Printing costs.
  - Chq 2021 Power for Christmas lights in village square.
  - Chq 2022 Power for Parish Council owned Christmas lights in St. Mary's church 21/22 & 22/23.
- c) Requests for financial support: (i) Citizens Advice, Torridge, North, Mid & West Devon – it was agreed for a donation of £100; cheque number 2023. (ii) Mid Devon Mobility – it was agreed for no donation at this time.
- d) An estimate from Dutch Landscape Architects Ltd., - the agent managing the tender process – was agreed for administration of the contract once awarded. It was further agreed for the Clerk to apply for a grant from The DCC Locality Budget 2023/24 to help with the cost.
- e) The annual renewal quotation for website, e-newsletter and social media works was agreed; there is no increase in the monthly fee. *Thanks go to the administrator for ongoing works.*
- f) To confirm costs - it was agreed for no increase in the following charges: (i) Advertising on the Parish website (ii) Allotment rental (iii) Use of office equipment by the Clerk as Booking Secretary for Kentisbeare Village Hall. *DCC Cllr. Berry and MDDC Cllr. Evans left the meeting.*
- g) Precept 2023/2024: Following an informal meeting with the Clerk, Chairman and Vice-Chairman and circulation of suggested figures to cover financial needs for the coming year, a report was given and it was resolved to set the precept for 2023/24 at £40,999. It was noted – as reported by Cllr. Mrs Broom - that Kentisbeare Village Hall Committee has suggested that Blackborough Village Hall has the full amount allocated for the village halls in the next financial year which was agreed. The precept figure includes grants for the following - Blackborough Village Hall, the three churchyards, the youth club and one or both of the sports clubs. Further improvements at the Parish playing field are needed and a fund will continue to be built for the cycle track. A contingency fund will be held as required. Councillors were unanimous in their decision to set the precept at £40,999. As in previous years, MDDC will deduct the subscription for DALC. h) Any other financial matters: None.

**10/01/23. Kentisbeare Play Area.**

- a) Cycle track – update: Confirmation has been received from DCC that the application to The Locality Budget 2022/23 for £1935 towards costs associated with publishing and managing the tender has been approved. The Clerk reported that the procurement process ends shortly. Details of compliant bids will be available at the next meeting.
- b) Any other matters: MDDC has confirmed that the bin in the park has been vandalised; although it is usable, a new bin will be required as the sleeve cannot be replaced. It was suggested that the new bin is fixed securely on a concrete pad; a quotation will be sourced.

**11/01/23. Power Allotments Devon:** Details circulated to all previously - information regarding a community energy site finding project, jointly run by the Devon Energy Collective and Regen, and funded by Devon County Council (the project as it is, currently funded by Devon County Council comes to an end on 31/03/23). Councillors noted the details but could not identify any potential possibilities at this stage, so it was agreed to publicise the details and a landowner may come forward.

**12/01/23. Annual Parish Meeting (APM):** It was agreed to hold a reception with the APM. The Clerk will arrange for a few speakers to give short presentations. The Keepers Cottage will supply refreshments and Kentisbeare Village Stores will be supported where possible.

**13/01/23. Correspondence & Any Other Consultations.** Clerks and Councils Direct.

**14/01/23. Items for information, future agenda items, and dates of future meetings.** Next meeting – 14/02/23.

**15/01/23. Review of staff salary and expenses:** The council went into Part 2 for a salary and expenses review. *See declarations – Cllr. R Shore-Quinain left the meeting.*