

HARBLEDOWN AND ROUGH COMMON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council at St Mary's Hall, Upper Harbledown

On Monday 25th February 2013

All Planning Applications received since the last Parish Council meeting were on display from 7.15 p.m.

Meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors J Larkinson (Chairman) A Cain, J Conway, S Denham, J Edis, B Golding , R Perham, B Shire, G Wright, Kent County Councillor John Simmonds, Canterbury City Councillor Michael Dixey, Mr D Frost (Clerk) there was three members of the public present.

137/12 Confirmation of Summons

All Councillors had received their summons to attend this meeting and the public notices had been served correctly.

138/12 Alterations to the Register of Councillors' Interests and Declaration of Interest on Items on the Agenda

There were no alterations to the Register of Councillors' Interests.

139/12 Apologies for Absence.

Councillor Gregory (Holiday).

140/12 Approval of Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor Perham and seconded by Councillor Golding that the Minutes of the meeting held on 28^h January 2013 be signed as correct.

141/12 Matters Arising.

Councillor Larkinson reported that we are still awaiting a costing for a Zebra Crossing in Rough Common Road, and that a suitable location was still being investigated.

At this point the Chairman asked whether any resident of the Parish wished to address the Council or ask any question about any agenda item.

Councillor Larkinson introduced Helen Bennington, Environmental Promotions Officer at Canterbury City Council, who outlined the new waste re-cycling scheme which is due to start on 1st April 2013. The new bins will start to be delivered to households in May 2013. Councillor Larkinson thanked Helen for coming to the meeting and giving details of the new scheme.

142/12 Planning applications.

The following planning applications were received. It was resolved that no objection be raised to these applications.

CA/13/00298/TPO. Harbledown Heights, Harbledown Park, Summer Hill Harbledown. Norway maple to be felled.

Members of the committee and members of the public discussed the following application.

CA/13/00165/FUL. Anester Cottage, London Road, Upper Harbledown. Erection of two-storey detached dwelling and detached single garage. Councillor Perham asked that members of the committee make a further visit to the site of the application, before any decision was taken. This was agreed and the visit will be made on Wednesday 27th February.

Discussion deferred to meeting to be held on 25th March 2013

CA/13/00265/FUL 6 Fir Tree Close, Rough Common, Two-storey side and single-storey rear extension.

CA/13/00031/FUL. Old Wyevale Garden Centre, Upper Harbledown.. Councillor Larkinson reported that there were twenty letters in favour and one against the scheme, which was discussed by the Parish Council at the 28 January 2013 meeting. Councillor Dixey said that the application could be refused as the Planning Officers thought that the application was a borderline case.

Decisions:

GRANTED.

CA/12/02071/FUL. 129 Rough Common Road, Rough Common.

CA/12/02265/FUL 58 Oaks Park, Rough Common.

CA/13/00029/FUL 25 Rough Common Road, Rough Common

Committee Reports

Finance

There was no report.

Open Spaces and Allotments

Open Spaces

Councillor Conway reported that Canterbury City Council have contacted him again regarding to proposed Management Lease of Neal's Place Field.

At the recent FOSAT meeting there was a consensus of opinion that it would be in the interest of the Parish to have a long term Management Lease with Canterbury City Council, to add Neal's Place Field to the portfolio of open spaces, which are maintained by the Parish Council. Councillor Conway asked the Committee for their agreement to continue negotiating with Canterbury City Council for the a long term Management Lease, as this, in his opinion, would help secure this open space against development and maintain a green belt buffer between Rough Common and Canterbury. Councillor Conway said that independent legal advice should be sought to help ensure that Canterbury City Council could be held to the terms of any agreement that may be reached. After a discussion it was agreed by the Committee that Councillor Conway and FOSAT could investigate the possibility of a Management Lease with Canterbury City Council. Canterbury City Councillor Michael offered to assist in the investigation, and his offer of help was gladly accepted.

Allotments

The Clerk reported that there would be one or two vacant plots at Cheyney Field, due to retirement of plot holders.

143/12 Reports of Councillors with Portfolios

Footpaths:

There was no report.

Tree Matters:

Councillor Shire gave her report.

Only one notice has just been received about Parish residents wishing to re-shape/remove trees; this will be covered next month.

The postponed meeting with Anna Palmer, Countryside Officer for Canterbury City Council was held on Tuesday 19 February. She met the Parish tree warden and Richard Tems representing Oaks Park residents. Anna Palmer proposes to obtain City Council and Blean Initiative support for a tree-planting event in, possibly October 2013 to develop a new line of oaks in Oaks Park to ultimately replace the old row which gave the area its name. The new trees, starting with a 3-pole support/protection. Will be pollarded so that they will be eventually, more like the oaks in, for example, Windsor Great Park than the very tall trees in the present row. They will also be similar to some of the ancient trees in Blean Woods, where creation of oak pollards is no longer happening, and they will be a reminder of the area's heritage.

In addition to the line of oaks within the site it was suggested that an oak pollard each side of the entrance to Oaks Park would enhance the area and mark the entrance to a "heritage site".

Anna Palmer also looked at the verges of Rough Common Road and will liaise with Highways about where trees might be planted. Silver Birch and Rowan have been suggested, and the opinions of residents will be sought via the Parish Newsletter. Both have small leaves and are not large or dense trees; rowans have attractive flowers and fruit, which are not large

enough to cause problems.

Under 'planning' there is a notice about removing a Norway Maple subject to a TPO. This was agreed with the arboricultural officer of the City Council last year and there is no objection. The trees are not native; native trees have been planted elsewhere in the garden, and the TPO was created for reasons not concerning heritage or beauty of the area.

Kent County Council offers weatherproof A4 public information notices about Ash Dieback and I propose that we obtain at least 3 for the Parish noticeboards.

Highways:

Councillor Larkinson said that there were potholes in Rough Common Road, which needed urgent attention. These have been reported to Kent Highways.

Councillor Shire asked for speed checks in Rough Common and for 30 miles per hour sign painted in the road to remind drivers of the speed limit. Kent County Councillor John Simmonds said that speed checks had been carried out in the last two to three years and the average speed was recorded at around 34 miles per hour.

Councillor Shire asked if a village sign for Rough Common could be considered.

Park and Ride:

There was no report.

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Newsletter:

Councillor Wright reported that she is working on the Spring 2013 edition.

144/12 Reports of Councillor representatives

No Man's Orchard:

Councillor Larkinson said that the possibility of filming at the Orchard, reported at the last meeting, is not likely to happen. Councillor Larkinson reported that the Orchard will be involved at the Bigbury Road event with the Wild Life Trust at the May 2013 bank holiday.

Police Liaison:

Councillor Edis reported that she has seen and spoken to the PCSO, temporarily assigned to the Parish.

Rough Common Village Hall:

Councillor Cain reported that the Clerk had received the advice from the NALC legal team. The voluntary registration of title in the name of the Parish Council will not alter the Council's duties as custodian trustee, which are established in the 1994 Charity Commission Scheme. The Committee agreed that the voluntary registration of title should be in the name of the Parish Council; Councillor Cain said that historical legal costs incurred would be borne by the Rough Common Village Hall Management Committee.

Councillor Cain reported that Viridor are prepared to release the balance of the grant based on the builder's invoices, and therefore the construction will be able to be completed.

Councillor Cain also reported that the gas central heating will be installed on 2nd April and the installation should take about one week.

Councillor Cain asked whether the Parish Council could make a donation to the cost of extra bark covering for the play area, the need for which was reported in Digley Associates report produced in December 2012. There was a discussion on this and a vote was taken with five in favour and two against. Councillor Perham said that future arrangements for play area inspections at Rough Common Village Hall Playing Field should be made by the Rough Common Village Hall Management Committee, 1st April 2013, and the Committee agreed this.

Councillor Cain also asked about a grit bin to be provided for the Hall car park, but she was told that this is something that the Rough Common Village Hall Management Committee must provide.

KALC:

There was no report

145/12 Update status on other items:

Councillor Larkinson reported that Michael Walter would be the guest speaker at the Annual Parish Assembly to be held on 29th April at Rough Common Village Hall. He will be giving a talk on The Blean Woods.

A member of the public asked if we could ensure that the speaker delivered his talk standing so that the talk could be heard by all of the audience.

146/12 Correspondence:

The digest had been circulated and was available for Councillors to read.

147/12 Finance and Accounts for Payment: It was resolved to accept the accounts for payment. Proposed by Councillor Denham and seconded by Councillor Edis.

148/12 Future Issues: Park and Ride
Neal's Place Meadow
Notice Board replacements
Annual Parish Assembly
Rough Common Village Sign.

The next meeting will take place on 25th March 2013 at St Michael's Church Hall Harbledown commencing at 7.30pm. Planning Applications will be on display from 7.15 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

HARBLEDOWN & ROUGH COMMON PARISH COUNCIL

**SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AUTHORISED AT PARISH
COUNCIL MEETING ON 25th February 2013**

Date		Chq	£
05-Feb	Digley Associates	269	72.00
25-Feb	D Frost Salary & Exps Jan 2013	270	525.62
25-Feb	Signworks	271	235.20
			<hr/>
			832.82
	HMRC PAYE Month 10 Feb 2012	BACS	140.20
			<hr/>
	Total payments		973.02
			<hr/>
	Significant receipts		<hr/>
			<hr/>
	BALANCES		
	Lloyds TSB Bank	5,917.13	
	LloydsTSB Bank Corporate Deposit	27371.27	
	NS&I	80812.09	
	TOTAL FUNDS HELD	<hr/>	
		114100.49	
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