

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, VESTRY HALL, CRANBROOK
ON THURSDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2018**

PRESENT: Cllr. Veitch (in the Chair) Cllrs. Beck, Bunyan, Cook, Fairweather, Fletcher, Holmes, Kemp (in part), Swann, and Warne. Borough Cllr. Hannam.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Clifford, Fermor, Hall, Hartley and Smith. Borough Cllr. Dawlings and KCC & Borough Cllr. Holden.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and read out the following statement.

Members are required to declare any interests, dispensations, predetermination or lobbying on items on this agenda. Members are reminded that changes to the Register of Interests should be notified to the Clerk. She notified those present that the meeting was being recorded as a Clerk's aid.

130/18: Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Cllr. Veitch referred to the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11th October and proposed adoption as a true record. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed.

131/18: KALC Community Award 2019:

Cllr. Veitch advised that the KALC 2019 Community Awards Scheme had been launched and we had been approached to consider a nomination. Several proposals of worthy recipients were suggested and after a vote it was agreed to nominate Denis Hemsted from Sissinghurst for his contribution to the Community over many years. Cllr. Fairweather volunteered to write a maximum of thirty words detailing our reasons for the nomination.

132/18: Chairman's Report:

Cllr. Veitch reported that the evening of Friday 26th October was a very happy and enjoyable event in the Vestry Hall. Cranbrook in Bloom's achievement of Gold in the South East in Bloom and Silver Gilt in the Britain in Bloom competitions were being celebrated in the company of the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells. She felt that many people may not be aware that entry into the Britain in Bloom competition is only by invitation from the organisers and congratulated everyone involved. She also presented the awards from our Allotments competition.

In conjunction with the Royal British Legion (Dave Hazlewood), St Dunstan's Church (David Riddick) and Phil Mummery, she had been busy with the preparations for Cranbrook's commemorations of the ending of World War 1. The leaflet describing the various events was included with Members papers, and had been distributed around the shops and businesses, and was included as an insert in last week's Wealden Advertiser. She hoped as many Councillors as possible would take part in the service, parade and visit the exhibitions.

St Dunstan's would like to know how many Parish Councillors plan to attend the Remembrance Service, as they are expecting a huge turn out and seating will be tight. Members were asked to email the Clerk if they were intending to attend so sufficient seating could be allocated.

She also asked for volunteers to help with the taking down of the exhibits in the Vestry Hall on Sunday evening, and the carrying of the Art Show display boards down to a waiting trailer at around 7.30pm on Sunday evening.

She thanked everyone who has helped with the preparations for the day. These included the Clerks and Nita Chandler who have done wonders with the poppy displays and all those who are providing the refreshments, including the Co-operative Store. Thanks too, to the schools for providing displays, the museum for moving their exhibit into the Vestry Hall, and to Mrs Barbara Parkes for providing the information on the men named on the Cranbrook War Memorial. There would also be information displayed on the names on the Sissinghurst War Memorial. She was very grateful to the organisers of the Art Show who had agreed to allow us to use their display boards and lights, and were guiding us with the taking down of the boards.

She hoped that it will be a very memorable event that would attract many people. The day is being photographed by David Merriweather, who is giving his services for free. It is hoped that there would be enough information and pictures to produce some sort of commemorative leaflet/publication but she would seek the expertise of the Parish Cake team for that.

She also advised everyone to pop in to the Art Show, she had been particularly impressed when attending the preview event.

Reports from Committees:

133/18: Policy & Resources:

Cllr. Swann gave a report of the meeting held on 6th November and highlighted item 179/18, the grant awarded to help set up an outdoor Christmas Market, which it was hoped would expand into a weekly market. Cllr. Beck declared an interest as the treasurer of the newly formed community group hoping to organise these events. In response to Cllr. Holmes he was able to confirm that there was no conflict envisaged between the outdoor market and the monthly Farmers Market held in the Vestry Hall.

Cllr. Swann proposed adoption of Minutes, seconded by Cllr. Bunyan and agreed.

134/18: Planning & Preservation Management:

Cllr. Bunyan referred to the minutes of the meetings held on 16th October and invited questions. None were raised.

135/18: Burials & Properties:

Cllr. Bunyan gave a report of the meeting held on 30th October and highlighted the decision to seek more quotes for the exterior decoration of the Vestry Hall.

Cllr. Swann referred to the decision at Policy & Resources to accept the quote for the installation of an L2 Fire Alarm system for the Vestry Hall complex from local company L & M Fire Protection Limited. With no questions raised, Cllr. Bunyan proposed adoption of the Minutes, seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed

136/18: Environmental Management:

Cllr. Fairweather advised the next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 27th November.

In response to Cllr. Swann's concern regarding how our litter collections would be affected by the new contract that TWBC had negotiated for waste collections, the Clerk confirmed she had emailed Paul Shipley – Contract Services Manager at TWBC to request some clarification.

Cllr. Beck thanked the White Horse for sponsoring the latest litter pick in Cranbrook by providing coffee and bacon rolls for the volunteers.

137/18: Neighbourhood Plan:

Cllr. Warne gave a report of the meeting held on 22nd October and expressed the frustration felt at the slow progress due to the lack of a Memorandum of Understanding from TWBC so had asked Cllr. Smith to look into preparing our own.

There is a workshop planned for next week for further work on the landscape policies.

Due to some negative feedback from Colliers Green residents she is going to see the Head Teacher at the Colliers Green School to organise an information evening in the near future. There is also an event being organised in Hartley as they have had a lot of sites put forward.

Cllr. Holmes queried the item which referred to the Brick Kiln Farm S106 agreement, Cllr. Kemp offered his opinion on why it had not yet been signed. Cllr. Warne referred to the Minutes of the meeting on 22nd October and proposed adoption, this was seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed.

Reports from Delegates:

138/18: Cranbrook Conservation Area Advisory Committee:

Cllr. Bunyan advised the next meeting was scheduled for 28th November. Cllr. Swann also mentioned that Nick Baldwin – Senior Traffic Engineer at TWBC was attending a site meeting with CCAAC members to clarify exactly what signage is necessary for each of the options under consideration for implementing Cranbrook's waiting restrictions.

139/18: KALC:

Cllr. Veitch advised there had not been a recent meeting and she had nothing to report.

140/18: Cranbrook 500 Committee:

Cllr. Cook reported that the School would be represented at the Lord Mayor's Show this Saturday. He also referred to the last of the Anniversary Talks on the fallen of Cranbrook during the Great War. He thought Members may be interested to know that that the British pilot that landed the first military plane in France was an old Cranbrookian, he was also responsible for bringing down the first German plane.

141/18: CVLT:

Although not an official Parish Council delegate, as a Member of the CVLT, Cllr. Kemp gave a brief update on the Trust's recent activities.

141/18: Cranbrook Museum:

Cllr. Holmes advised the meeting scheduled for next week had been cancelled and he was not aware of a new date being agreed as yet.

142/18: Hop Pickers Line Heritage Group:

Cllr. Holmes gave an update on the Horsmonden Nostalgia Day which had been very successful with approximately 250 people visiting the stand. The possibility of guided walks on parts of the line is also being explored.

143/18: Transport Accessibility Group:

Cllr. Holmes reported that he had still not received a response from KCC in regard to his enquiries in relation to the change of service provider on the 297 route. The Group's next meeting is scheduled for 7th December.

144/18: Cranbrook Tourism Group:

Cllr. Holmes gave a report of the meeting held on 17th October and advised that Cllr. Dawlings is continuing to make progress on the promotional film about Cranbrook and Sissinghurst. Cllr. Clifford's offer of assistance has been gratefully accepted, bearing in mind his experience in the field.

Due to the success of the full page promotional adverts in the Wealden Advertiser, the Group would be looking to repeat them next year and are likely to apply to us for funding again. The Group were also keen on the idea of small plaques at locations around the town to give visitors more information on the Town's history.

145/18: Age Concern:

Cllr. Warne reported that the Committee has welcomed Juliet Mellor. They continue to work closely with the Tenterden Hub and are looking into a possible sharing of some services.

146/18: Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported that the Bowls Club land has been successfully registered as belonging to Cranbrook and Sissinghurst Parish Council.

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147/18: Correspondence:

There was no correspondence to report.

148/18: Items for Information:

Cllr. Veitch advised the Mayor's Toy Appeal had been launched. Gifts to be donated can be brought into the Weald Information Centre between 10th November and 12th December. She suggested that items particularly suitable for teenagers are most welcome.

Cllr. Veitch had been informed that the Cranbrook Branch of the Women's Institute was dissolving but would continue as a less formal ladies group. They meet on the first Wednesday of the month at Church House.

Cllr. Swann referred to an historic informal agreement in regard to the Weald Sports Centre. Cllr. Veitch was keen to investigate further and thought it could make for an interesting article in Parish Cake.

Cllr. Kemp apologised for his late arrival this evening and for his recent absence from meetings.

Cllr. Cook drew attention to the news that the No. 349 Sunday Bus Service had been extended to next summer, which is great for those bus users wanting to visit Hastings on a Sunday.

Cllr. Holmes endorsed Cllr. Veitch's opinion on the Art Show. He had also attended the preview event and felt the standard was particularly high this year.

Cllr. Fairweather advised that the BBC Rickshaw Challenge was due to come through Sissinghurst at around 11:15am on Saturday. Local companies had donated food and drink for a BBQ, all proceeds going to the Children in Need appeal. He encouraged Members to support the event.

Cllr. Warne referred to the draft Goudhurst Neighbourhood Plan which was now out for its six week consultation.

Cllr. Beck raised concern about recent crime in the area and wanted to encourage everyone to report all crime or any suspicious incidents to the Police. The Clerk agreed to ask the P.C.S.O. for an update on recent crime statistics.

149/18: Reports from Borough and County Councillors:

Report from Cllr. Hannam:

Cllr. Hannam was pleased to report that Frittenden was no longer being considered as the location for a new garden settlement, the agreed location would be announced soon.

He reported that as the TWBC grant to the Citizen's Advice Bureau had been cut to nil next year so they would be looking for even more support from the Parishes to continue their valuable service.

He reported that several years ago TWBC had put all their efforts into trying to defend the appeal for the Common Road development and as a result of not having a contingency plan, the developer had got away with a minuscule S106 contribution. It was hoped that a lesson had been learnt from this and in future local communities would be able to secure more benefits from developers.

Report from Cllr. Dawlings:

Cllr. Veitch read a brief report from Cllr. Dawlings which reiterated the success of the Wealden Advertiser promotions. He also advised of an exchange between the Rugby Club and the Community Centre steering group on the size of facility being developed at the Tomlin Ground, which he saw as being entirely complimentary.

His time otherwise has been committed to Benenden's NDP and arranging a fundraising City Lunch for the Rugby Club. At TWBC, the Local Plan interfacing with Parish NDPs is the current big issue.

The meeting was closed.