

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
13TH NOVEMBER 2019 AT CHURCH FARM AT 7.30P.M.**

PRESENT: Cllrs. T. Bishop (Chairman), Mrs. L. Cook, Mrs. J. Manser, R. Mitchell, Mrs. M. Moore, R. Moore, Mrs. J. Sharpe and D. Thornewell
Under S.O.48(a): Cllr. R. Roud

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None Received

**APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES AND APPENDIX OF MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER 2019**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes and Appendix of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 11th September 2019 be **APPROVED AND SIGNED** by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

(i) **East Malling War Memorial**

The Clerk reported that we are still trying to arrange a meeting with Burslem's and the Conservation Officer at the Borough Council because of the Memorial being in a Conservation Area and also a Listed Building.

Burslem's have set out that as the Memorial is made from limestone they would carefully and thoroughly water wash it by hand using a bristle brush and use a steam cleaner with an atomizing nozzle to ensure low surface water pressure. They will not be seeking to achieve a "like new" finish or remove surface lichens. No chemicals would be used in the cleaning process.

The approach for repointing would be to test the viability of all areas of pointing and rake out and repoint all defective areas using NHL 3.5 and Silver sand.

Any re-lettering would be by hand-cutting and painting by an experienced stone letter cutter. The extent to which this occurs would be via consultation with the Parish Council.

(ii) **No. 58 Bus Service**

Cllr. Thornewell said that the above service seems to be running well, apparently they have more income than anticipated but fewer passengers.

(iii) **Public Conveniences – Martin Square**

Cllr. Thornewell commented that all Parishes have agreed to the transfer of the toilets apart from Hadlow; West Malling want them moved and the toilets at Wrotham are on their own land.

The intention is that the toilets be refurbished before the transfer and each Parish will receive £9,000 which will include legal costs.

It was generally agreed that we accept the transfer and we are pleased that we will receive the £9,000 but we would wish to have sight of the existing contract in respect of the maintenance and cleaning of the toilets before we commit. This information has been requested but has not been forthcoming.

STREETLIGHTING MATTERS

There were no Streetlighting Matters.

FOOTPATH MATTERS

(i) **MR114 – Amber Lane Development**

The Clerk reported that nothing further had been heard about the status of the above footpath from KCC and she was asked to send a further email asking the current situation.

(ii) **MR116 – Broadwater Road to Lavenders Road**

It was not known whether this footpath has yet been cleared of overgrowth but Cllr. Thornewell will check.

CORRESPONDENCE

Tonbridge & Malling
Borough Council:

Street Nameplate – Betjeman Close and Larkspur Road

Cllr. Thornewell reported that the nameplate was replaced in Betjeman Close but was installed in the wrong place.

Larkfield Community Group: **Picnic on the Rec – Letter of Thanks**

It was **NOTED** that a letter of thanks had been received thanking the Parish Council for allowing use of the Larkfield Village Hall, Recreation Ground and additional car parking space free of charge for the above event.

The Group have made alternative arrangements for the tables for next year's event so those in Larkfield Village Hall will not be used outside.

HALF-YEARLY BUDGET SITUATION 2019/2020

Members were circulated with an account sheet showing expenditure from the Budget up to end of September, half year. this was **READ AND NOTED** and felt to be satisfactory.

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET FOR 2020/2021

The Clerk had prepared a Provisional Budget for 2020/2021 which was **CIRCULATED** to Members.

It was **AGREED** the Budget for 2020/2021 be **RECOMMENDED** to the Finance and general Purposes Committee for **ADOPTION**, subject to any amendments they may wish to make. (Appendixed to these Minutes)

VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

(a) **Matters Arising**

(i) **Larkfield Village Hall Floor**

The Clerk reported that following the second visit by Dorrell's, the repairs to the floor are far more satisfactory and the account has now been paid. The stain they have used matches better with the rest of the floor and the knot holes about which we were showing concern have been filled.

(ii) **Disabled Parking Bays**

The Clerk reported that the Disabled Bays at Church Farm and at East Malling Village Hall have now been completed by the Handyman and Caretaking Supervisor. It had been necessary to order more paint to carry out the work at Larkfield Village Hall and these will be done as soon as weather permits and the car park is not in use by hirers of the hall.

(b) **Accounts for Payment and Cheques for Signature**

The List of Accounts for Payment was **CIRCULATED AND APPROVED** and it was **AGREED** the relevant cheques be **SIGNED**. (Appendixed to these Minutes).

(c) **Correspondence**

1ST Larkfield Scouts: **Larkfield Village Hall Car Park**

The Clerk reported that we have received an email from Joan Burnop. Treasurer for 1st Larkfield Scouts, expressing concern that they are having problems with parking in Larkfield Village Hall Car Park and is asking that the white lines be repainted showing parking bays which will hopefully encourage people to be more considerate when parking.

Also, they are having problems with people parking on the grass in front of the scout hut and request that some form of fence or bollards be erected to prevent this as they feel it is a safety concern when children are entering and leaving the hut.

After discussion it was **AGREED** to obtain quotations for the repainting of the parking bays at both Larkfield Village Hall, Church Farm Hall and East Malling Village Hall and the cost of posts for around the green area in front of the scout hut.

AKS Electrical (Kent) Ltd: **Quote for Electrical Work**

It was **NOTED** that a quotation had been received from AKS Electrical (Kent) Ltd to replace the meter tails in Larkfield and East Malling Village Halls in the sum of £771.40 exc. VAT.

It was **AGREED** that this quotation be **ACCEPTED** subject to the funds being available.

HALF-YEARLY BUDGET SITUATION 2019/2020

Members were circulated with an account sheet showing expenditure from the Village Halls Budget up to the end of September, half year. This was **READ AND NOTED** and felt to be satisfactory.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE BUDGET FOR 2020/2021

The Clerk had prepared a Provisional Budget for 2020/2021 which was **CIRCULATED** to Members.

It was **AGREED** the Budget for 2020/2021 for Village Halls be **RECOMMENDED** to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for **ADOPTION**, subject to any amendments they wish to make. (Appendixed to these Minutes).

ITEMS CONTRIBUTED BY MEMBERS

Civic Amenity Site for Tonbridge and Malling – KCC is currently tendering for these services and has received interest from a number of potential providers, who may wish to submit final tenders.

Each party will be promoting their own locations and each supplier will be responsible to submit their independent planning application to KCC for consideration.

They expect to award the contract during March 2020.

There was an exhibition that was conducted by Kent Enviropower Ltd (owners of the Allington EfW plant) to obtain views regarding the expansion of the energy plant and also the potential development of a Household Waste Recycling Centre.

This information was **NOTED** but we would wish for householders to be able to continue to use Cuxton Tip until the new site is established.

Cllr. Thornewell had received a call from a resident that he had reported the damage to the litter bin in the footpath leading from Tesco's to Brooklands Road to the Borough Council. No action has been taken to what was a weekly collection of the bin contents, resulting in rubbish being strewn on the ground. Cllr. Thornewell has also reported this to the Borough Council and also from the Parish Office.

A resident of The Lakes has reported a bin on the green area is overflowing and has not been emptied, this has been reported to the Borough Council.

Cllr. Mrs. Moore reported that dog bin on the footpath by her house is at an angle and needs attention. This will be reported to the Borough Council.

Cllr. Mitchell asked Members to save their crisp packets and there is now a box in the Parish Office for them to be deposited. The collection is in aid of the Air Ambulance.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 9th December 2019

CLOSURE

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.19p.m.

Chairman

