

**MINUTES OF THE CHIDDINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT 7.30PM IN CHIDDINGSTONE CAUSEWAY VILLAGE HALL**

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**Present:** Cllr R. Streatfeild (Chairman), Cllr C. Bishop, Cllr Mrs P. Harris, Cllr Mrs M. Quirk, Cllr J. Roper, Cllr B. Taylor and Cllr H. Williams

**Apologies:** Cllr A. Baker and Cllr P. Myers

**In attendance:** Mrs L. Kleinschmidt (Clerk). County Cllr P. Lake, District Cllr Mrs S. Coleman and District Cllr J. Osborne-Jackson and members of the public attended the Open Session only.

**Open Session**

**Report by District Cllr Mrs Coleman**

District Cllr Mrs Coleman reported as follows:

1. Local Plan: SDC wrote to the Planning Inspector on January 3<sup>rd</sup> telling her that the council would not be withdrawing their Local Plan submission despite her accusation that it had failed to consult. It consulted eight neighbouring authorities, not just the immediate ones, and it should be noted that although there is a duty to cooperate, there is no duty to agree. Neighbouring authorities have all supported the SDC plan. An Independent Planning Advisor, who was engaged on the advice of the Government, has also confirmed that the approach was correct. Two other Councils, Wealden and St. Albans have had their plans rejected for a failure to cooperate but, in both these cases, their neighbours had objected whereas SDC's neighbours supported their plan. The Inspector's report was due by January 17<sup>th</sup> but has not yet arrived. The Government does have a complaints procedure, but this would not result in the Inspector's decision being overturned, it would just look at the costs incurred. The likely outcome is that SDC will go to Judicial Review and legal advice is being sought.
2. Licensing and Festivals: The licensing department has introduced an optional pre-application advice service, run on the same basis as the pre-application planning advice service. Although the service went live in January, staff shortages have meant that the details are not yet on the website. A shortage of staff resources was the reason that officers were unable to act against Neverworld after the festival held in 2019. Despite issues in 2018, last year the Noise Management Plan failed to include an action plan to deal with changes in environmental conditions due to such things as changes in temperature altering the direction and audibility of noise created on site. Michael Moss confirmed that Alex Lepingwell has indicated that he would like to apply for a licence again this year and would like a meeting with officers. The Licensing Authority will only be having one meeting with the organisers as anything more would require pre-application advice and payment. If significant changes are not made this year, it is likely that Licensing will be making representation for the application to be refused.
4. Summer Family Events: Imago have pulled out of running the play sessions, but SDC has appointed PlayPlace to run the sessions in 2020.
5. Planning and Enforcement: D.Cllr Mrs Coleman has had a meeting with Tom Tugendhat to press for changes in enforcement legislation so that officers have more powers to act and can be more effective. Stephen Whitehead has been outstanding in his role as Senior Enforcement Officer. His one-year contract finishes shortly, and D.Cllr Mrs Coleman has been fiercely lobbying for him to be kept on. She said that she understands that he has now been offered a six-month extension but do not know if he will accept this.
6. Clock House Farm: Following the interest shown by Chiddingstone Parish Council in this application, D.Cllr Mrs Coleman said that Peshurst Parish Council decided not to object to the application, as members felt it was better to be pragmatic and request that conditions are added to the proposal rather than objecting to it.
7. Three Horseshoes Lodge, Chiddingstone Castle: This is a complex and interesting planning case which D.Cllr Mrs Coleman said she will likely refer to Development Control Committee if the Planning Officer is minded to refuse the application. Staff illness, as well as the complexities of the case, have led to a delay in processing the application.

Cllr Streatfeild said that the Parish Council received some negative comments from residents on the Clock House Farm application hence the strong objection lodged. D.Cllr Mrs Coleman said that the Planning Officer has yet to determine the application. Polytunnels will be removed to site the caravans and Peshurst Parish Council felt that this would be less intrusive on the countryside. The Clerk asked whether there is any update on the barn near Oakenden Lane and the new track in Chiddingstone Hoath, but D.Cllr Mrs Coleman said that she had no update on either.

### Report by County Cllr Lake

County Cllr Lake reported as follows:

1. He thought that the Parish Council's comments on the Clock House Farm application were excellent. There is pressure on schools and the NHS which are important considerations for an application like this.
  2. He has sent an email to Geoff Bineham in response to his email regarding the Parish Council's petition for a reduction in speed in Chiddingstone Causeway. Geoff Bineham said that traffic speeds are too high and there are no personal injury crashes recorded in the last 3 years. Michael Payne, who is the Cabinet member for Highways and Transport, signed the email. C.Cllr Lake said that he will push Michael Payne hard and if there is no success, he will take the matter to Tom Tugendhat. More signatures to the petition are required and the situation is not 'normal', so C.Cllr Lake is still hopeful that speeds can be reduced.
  3. C.Cllr Lake said that our roads are under pressure and potholes everywhere are unbelievable. KCC receives reports for 6,000 faults per month across Kent.
  4. There is a Gatcom meeting on Thursday, which C.Cllr Lake undertook to attend on behalf of the parishes, rather than on behalf of KCC.
  5. KCC's budget increase is likely to be 4% not 5% which is better. There is still pressure on social care.
  6. C.Cllr Lake has asked at KCC about DBS checks for drivers of commercial vehicles. The DfT do not demand drivers to have a DBS check but KCC will ask all drivers who transport children to do so.
  7. Kent has 400 young asylum seekers and there is pressure on school places and the NHS. There are 900 in the county over the age of 16 who are waiting to be processed.
  8. KCC had £250m in the Woodford Equity Income Fund and will soon find out how much they will get back.
- Cllr Bishop asked whether there would be a speed limit review in other parts of the parish, such as Wellers Town. C.Cllr Lake said that this is in the pipeline for discussion. Cllr Williams said that Shipbourne has a 30mph limit and is a similar village to Chiddingstone Causeway. Clerk to contact Shipbourne Parish Council to see how they were able to reduce the speed in their village to 30mph.

### Report by District Cllr Osborne-Jackson

District Cllr Osborne-Jackson paid tribute to Alison Cook, whose death will be of great loss to SDC.

1. District Cllr Osborne-Jackson attended a meeting with Network Rail and Southern Rail about the Godstone landslip. There is now a shuttle rail service from Edenbridge to Tonbridge from Monday to Friday, but not at the weekends. D.Cllr Osborne-Jackson has asked for the service to run at the weekends as well. Travellers can claim compensation for delays even if Network Rail make changes to their service due to an emergency, and not just for planned works.
2. He has spoken to the Community Safety Manager at SDC about Penshurst Station being used as a county line and he has now been referred to the Police on this matter.
3. D.Cllr Osborne-Jackson said that he received a letter regarding the Chiddingstone Affordable Housing scheme which he raised with Tom Tugendhat, who has written to Richard Morris at SDC.
4. He has also raised the matter of a possible halt in Bough Beech with Tom Tugendhat.

County Cllr Lake, District Cllr Mrs Coleman and District Cllr Osborne-Jackson left the meeting at 8.05pm.

### Closed Session

- 113. Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Baker and Cllr Myers and members accepted their reasons for absence.
- 114. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest / Non-Pecuniary Interest on matters to be discussed**  
None.
- 115. The minutes of the Chiddingstone Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019** were approved and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Mrs Quirk and all were in favour.
- 116. To approve list of meeting dates for 2020**  
Members approved the following meeting dates:

Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Annual Parish Meeting	Chiddingstone Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Annual Parish Council	Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Parish Council	Chiddingstone Village Hall	7.30pm

## 117. Planning:

### i. To consider planning applications received

- i. SE/19/03561/HOUSE: Polebrook Farm, Bore Place Road, Chiddingstone TN8 7AP - demolition of existing single storey extension consisting of study, office, 2 store rooms and garage. Erection of two storey and single storey extensions. Alterations to fenestration and roof. Members supported this application.
- ii. SE/20/00035/NMA: Land to the rear of 1 & 2 Camp Hill Cottages, Chiddingstone Causeway - Non Material Amendment to SE/19/02623/FUL (erection of semi-detached pair of dwelling houses and associated vehicular access) to show ground floor external door on side flanks of building to allow access into utility room. Members supported this application but asked that a condition be imposed on any approval to say that the glazing should be obscured on the ground floor external door due to the concern about overlooking.

The Clerk reported that since the last meeting, the Planning Committee considered the following applications:

- iii. SE/19/02061/FUL: Lockskinners Farm, Chiddingstone TN8 7NA - partial demolition of workshops/offices (building 2) and conversion to facilitate a gym with alterations to fenestration. Demolition of storage area and partial conversion of existing stables with installation of mezzanine floor for light industrial/workshops and offices, with alteration to fenestration. Erection of two stable blocks and new barn. Relocation of site access and associated landscaping. Amended plan shows new barn removed from the proposal. Members had no additional comment to make on this amendment.
- iv. SE/19/03403/FUL: Land north of Clock House Farm, Salmans Lane, Penshurst TN8 8DJ - siting of twelve mobile homes to accommodate seasonal agricultural workers during the picking season and for unoccupied over-winter storage. (Adjoining parish). Members made a strong objection to this application on the grounds of inappropriate development on the Green Belt and AONB and on an unsustainable site.
- v. SE/19/03418/LDCEX: Land south of Lockskinners Farmhouse, Lockskinners, Chiddingstone TN8 7NA - use of land for commercial cross country activities and parking. Members had no objection to this application if the proposal satisfies planning policy.

### ii. Newtyehurst Farm

The Clerk reported that the application SE/19/01052/FUL has gone to appeal. This is for the proposed conversion of agricultural barns into 16 residential units, demolition of 2 existing residential units and construction of 2 replacement dwellings. Cllr Streatfeild said that this site was discarded under the Parish Council's call for sites for affordable housing as the site is unsustainable. The Parish Council is pursuing three sites across the whole parish for affordable housing and this site is not deemed suitable. Cllr Streatfeild said that the landowner has sought a meeting with the Parish Council and D.Cllr Mrs Coleman, date to be confirmed.

### iii. To report SDC notifications of planning decisions

- SE/19/02968/HOUSE: Hale Oak Farmhouse, Hale Oak Road, Sevenoaks Weald - erection of hardstanding. Application approved.

- SE/19/02061/FUL: Lockskinners Farm, Chiddingstone - partial demolition of workshops/offices (building 2) and conversion to facilitate a gym with alterations to fenestration. Demolition of storage area and partial conversion of existing stables with installation of mezzanine floor for light industrial/workshops and offices, with alteration to fenestration. Erection of two stable blocks. Relocation of site access and associated landscaping. Application approved.
- iv. To hear report of planning training event held at SDC on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
Cllr Roper, Cllr Williams, Cllr Bishop, Cllr Mrs Harris, Cllr Mrs Quirk and the Clerk attended this event. Cllr Roper said that the event was well run and more training will be offered in due course. Cllr Williams said that he felt that the speakers were sometimes hard to hear. Clerk to pass on comments.
- v. To hear update regarding SDC's Draft Local Plan  
See Open Session above.

## 118. Licensing

See Open Session above.

## 119. Finance

- i. To hear report of Finance Committee meeting held 13.01.20  
The Clerk reported that a Finance Committee meeting was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> January and members considered the Actual and Year End Forecast and prepared a Budget for 2020/21.
- ii. To discuss the 2019/20 Actual & Year End Forecast, and the 2020/21 Budget  
This was discussed in detail and the Finance Committee were happy with the figures this year. The Parish Council's employer pension contributions will increase from 12.8% to 24.7% from April 2020. Cllr Roper said that when the Parish Council started contributing to the pension in 2016, the rate was 18%, which was decreased to 12.8% for 3 years and the 2019 valuation has shown that an increase to 24.7% is required. Members approved the increase.  
The Clerk left the room whilst members discussed her salary review. Cllr Roper proposed that an increase of 1.5% be approved from April 2020, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Quirk and all were in favour. Members also said that a salary review will be made annually.
- iii. To set the level of the 2020/21 Precept  
The Clerk reported that based on the 2020/21 budget, the Finance Committee recommended that the Parish Council increase the precept from £38,755 to £41,500 for 2020/21. This represents a 6.7% increase, which is an increase of £4.32 per annum on a Band D property. Cllr Roper proposed that the Parish Council accept this recommendation and set the precept accordingly. This was seconded by Cllr Bishop and members were unanimously in favour.
- iv. To consider sponsorship of the Chiddingstone Literary Festival 2020  
The Clerk reported that last year, the sponsorship was £250 + VAT. Chiddingstone Castle has asked that the Parish Council increase its level of sponsorship this year. The Clerk read their email: "As you know this will be our 5th year and the festival has really grown in stature and reputation, being sponsored by the likes of Baillie Gifford, the Cheltenham and Hay Festival main sponsors. So we're doing something right. This year we plan to increase to 3 marquees and have even more to offer our visitors. With this in mind and to reflect the importance of the event in the social calendar of Chiddingstone we would hope we could rely on a slightly bigger contribution than in the past from the Parish Council to help fulfil our ambitious plans. Financial times are hard and getting sponsorship has proven even more difficult this year. It was also our thought that Chiddingstone might help to promote the event as "The VE Day celebration" taking place on the doorstep. I'm not sure in what capacity that could be done but obviously the parish magazine comes to mind, and any ideas from the council would be welcome? I look forward to hearing back from you very shortly as we will be going to press with our programme within a couple of weeks."  
Members agreed to keep the level of sponsorship this year at £250 + VAT.
- v. To approve list of payments  
Cllr Mrs Harris proposed that the list of payments be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Williams and all were in favour. Cllr Streatfeild and Cllr Roper undertook to authorise the payments online.

## **120. Affordable Housing provision in the parish**

### To hear update regarding the Chiddingstone Affordable Housing Scheme

The Clerk reported as follows:

- i. SDC has made an amendment to its Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document to take into account changes in the NPPF. This now states: “The Council (SDC) expects rural exception housing schemes to provide 100% local needs housing to meet identified needs. However, on rare occasions, proposals may include a small element of market housing to facilitate delivery. In these circumstances, the applicant will need to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Council that a scheme that does not rely on market housing has been fully considered and why it has been discounted or considered to be unviable. Where the Council is satisfied that an element of market housing is required, it will be expected, in the first instance, to be used to meet identified needs including housing for local essential workers, older people and plots for self build.”
- ii. The Housing Register is the waiting list for people in need of affordable housing in the Sevenoaks District and from 1 January 2020, SDC will manage the Housing Register and will support people with their applications. These changes will not affect who can join the Housing Register or how they can bid for properties. This process remains the same and can be viewed at [www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/housingregister](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/housingregister). Anyone making an application to join the Housing Register should visit [www.kent.homechoice.org.uk](http://www.kent.homechoice.org.uk).”
- iii. SDC has advised that they are going to tighten up their local connection criteria with a points system on a sliding scale so, for example, someone living in the parish for 10 years would achieve higher points than someone who has lived there for 3 years. This should satisfy local residents that the homes will be for people with a strong local connection.
- iv. KCC has launched a Select Committee on Affordable Housing. The select committee will gather information via hearing sessions with relevant witnesses and collect written submissions from experts and interested stakeholders. The Terms of Reference of the Select Committee are:
  1. To define and put into context affordable housing.
  2. To explore KCC’s current role in supporting the development of new affordable housing in Kent.
  3. To consider additional ways in which KCC can support the development of affordable housing in Kent.
- v. Site adjacent to Chequers – The Clerk reported that ERHA has said that their offer to the landowner, in its current format, does not work for him. They have a meeting arranged for 3<sup>rd</sup> February, and will update the Parish Council after that. The landowner is now contacting neighbours about the scheme seeking their opinion, and a neighbour has been in contact regarding the access to the road.
- vi. Site adjacent to Bassetts – The Information and Consultation event is booked for Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February as a drop-in event from 3pm to 8.00pm. The event is to display the preliminary plans. The medium room in the Causeway Hall has been booked. Alison Thompson and Gavin Missons will attend, and as many Parish Councillors as possible. The Clerk reported that an email has today been received from a resident regarding the publicity of this event, and members agreed that the Clerk would display posters on the noticeboards and on the Parish Council’s website.
- vii. Site Opposite The Rock – None.

## **121. Highways**

- i. To discuss the proposal to reduce the speed of vehicles on B2027 though Chiddingstone Causeway  
See Open Session above.
- ii. To hear update regarding fly tipping in the area  
Cllr Taylor reported that flytipping has been cleared in Mill Lane and Clinton Lane on Saturday. The results of an investigation are awaited regarding fly tipping at Coopers Corner. Cllr Taylor said that the junction at Coopers Corner is dangerous and there are car parts on the verge due to an accident. Clerk to discuss with Geoff Bineham and ask for a map showing the accident hot spots in the parish.
- iii. Highway Issues
  - i. Hampkins Hill Road was closed for one day on 17<sup>th</sup> January for carriageway patching works.
  - ii. High Street, Chiddingstone – Cllr Streatfeild reported that the fete committee met and it is not possible to hold the fete on the sports field in June due to cricket home matches. There is a possibility that the fete may be held in the High Street to include the school grounds, and a road closure order will be requested.

The fete dance will be held in the village hall and community garden. Members were supportive of this suggestion.

- iii. Chiddingstone Literary Festival – Clerk to remind Chiddingstone Castle about litter and ensuring that the roads remain open.
- iv. Chiddingstone Real Football – Clerk to remind organisers to ensure that litter is collected after the event and that stewards are available to manage the traffic.

#### **122. Rights of Way:**

To discuss PROW SR416 across the old airfield in Chiddingstone Causeway

The Clerk reported that in December several complaints were received from residents because the farmer had allowed his sheep onto the footpath which had got very muddy. He had also erected a fence at both ends in order to keep the sheep in. The Clerk contacted the KCC PROW officer who said that this was not permitted without approval, and the sheep should be off the path. PROW contacted the farmer who has now erected a fence to keep the sheep off the path, has removed the fences and cleaned the path.

#### **123. Tree Warden / Pond Warden reports**

Cllr Bishop reported that a 200/300 year old oak tree was felled before Christmas in the Chiddingstone Conservation Area, and he spoke to the SDC Arboricultural Officer who inspected the stump and said that the tree was rotten. However, no request to fell was made prior to the felling and Cllr Bishop undertook to ask why this was allowed.

Cllr Mrs Harris said that the ponds are full due to the excess rain and said that she is keeping an eye on them.

#### **124. Aviation:**

- i. Cllr Streatfeild reported that the HWCAAG meeting arranged for 14<sup>th</sup> January was cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. The Noise Management Board has been reconstituted and now focuses on District/Borough Councils and County Councils. Gatwick's Big Enough has taken the view that they do not want to be involved and will continue campaigning from outside the NMB.
- ii. GON: "A proposed runway extension to the UK's second busiest airport has been strongly opposed by a county council. KCC's transport boss, Cllr Michael Payne (Con), said the authority "firmly" objects to the proposed move during a public meeting at County Hall in Maidstone this week. Speaking to colleagues at KCC's cabinet meeting at on December 2nd, Cllr Payne said: "Our position is that we are firmly opposed to this or potentially any second runway at Gatwick. Routine use of Gatwick's emergency runway would result in significant increase in air movement and potential increase in noise, air quality and other issues."
- iii. CAA: "Last October the Government gave the CAA, as airspace regulator, a decision-making role for a wholly new category of airspace change. This category is known as a planned and permanent redistribution of air traffic through changes in air traffic control operational procedure, or PPR for short. The Government had identified that while changes to airspace design are subject to the CAA's airspace change process, and need to be consulted on, air traffic control procedural changes could be implemented without consultation, even where the noise impacts from the resulting shift in the distribution of aircraft are similar. As a result, the CAA is introducing a new process for making PPR decisions from 1 February 2020. The new process begins with the air navigation service provider identifying whether an air traffic control operational procedure change might qualify as a PPR and explaining why it is needed. The air navigation service provider must then assess and compare the impacts of the options available to meet that need, consult those potentially affected about the option(s) chosen, and take feedback into account in any final proposal."
- iv. CAA: "Post Implementation Review (PIR) of Gatwick Airport Limited's Route 4 RNAV-1 SID Airspace Change Proposal. The UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has now published a draft report of its Post Implementation Review (PIR) of Gatwick Airport Limited's Route 4 RNAV-1 SID Airspace Change Proposal. See [www.caa.co.uk/CAP1872](http://www.caa.co.uk/CAP1872). Route 4 is one of Gatwick's departure routes for aircraft taking off from the airport toward the west. Soon after take-off aircraft wrap 180 degrees round to the right and heads east. Following a Judicial Review of its original decision regarding this ACP, the CAA realised that the decision was based on a misunderstanding of the location of the conventional SID. The CAA's draft report of its PIR therefore concludes that the implemented ACP is not a satisfactory replication of the Route 4 conventional departure route and because of this, it does not meet the ACP's original stated aim.

This means that Route 4's RNAV-1 SID will be de-notified and removed from the Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP). As a result aircraft will be required to fly the 2012 conventional SID which was re-instated on 12 September 2019."

- v. CAA: Consultation on CAA Minimum Requirements for Noise Modelling - "In order to carry out certain of its regulatory duties, the CAA requires stakeholders (usually from airports) to provide us with outputs from noise modelling. Such outputs are typically in the form of sets of 'noise contours', along with the area they cover and/or the number of residents living within them. Currently, different stakeholders use different levels of sophistication in this modelling, which is as expected since they have different numbers of residents affected by aviation noise. Up until now, it has been the responsibility of each stakeholder to decide on the level of sophistication of noise modelling appropriate for its circumstances. The CAA now believes that it is appropriate to specify the minimum acceptable level of sophistication of noise modelling required for us to carry out our duties, to provide clarity to sponsors and stakeholders about the methodology they should use and therefore reduce ambiguity, and to provide consistency across different groups of airports. The CAA has published a consultation document where it defines categories of noise modelling and puts forward its proposals for the minimum requirements which different stakeholder and sponsor groups should achieve in order for the CAA to carry out its duties."
- vi. Gatwick Airport Ltd: "Gatwick Airport's recent Master Plan for the airport's future growth was shaped in response to Government policy calling on UK airports to 'make best use of their existing runways'. Following 12 weeks of public consultation, which saw over 5,000 responses from local residents, community groups, businesses, councils and other key partners, 66% of respondents supported Gatwick's plans to make best use of its existing runways. In light of this strong support, Gatwick has now started the process to bring its existing Northern Runway into routine use by notifying the Planning Inspectorate of its intention to prepare an application for development consent. We are carrying out further surveys to assist with the preparation of the required Environmental Impact Assessment and have begun to actively engage with public bodies and statutory consultees. The next stage of formal public consultation is likely to take place in Spring 2020 and we will of course, be publicising dates in advance as well as setting out how and where we will carry out consultation. Ahead of that full and thorough public consultation, we appreciate that the local community will wish to learn more about the rigorous statutory planning process that the Northern Runway project will be subject to. We are therefore arranging a series of events where Parish Council, Town Council, and neighbourhood group representatives can learn more about Gatwick's Northern Runway project and how they can engage with the forthcoming planning process. We would like to invite you to a roundtable meeting with neighbouring parishes on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020, with tea and coffee from 5.30 p.m. with a 6.00 p.m. start, at Crowne Plaza Felbridge, London Rd, East Grinstead RH19 2BH." Cllr Streatfeild and Cllr Bishop undertook to attend.

## **125. To report on correspondence received**

The Clerk reported that lists of correspondence received have been circulated and drew members' attention to the following:

- i. Item 5: ACRK Oast to Coast publication. Emailed to all members.
- ii. Item 6: Invitation to the AGM of the Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall Management Committee on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm.
- iii. Items 10 and 18: (i) Email from Halstead Green Belt Future Group: Invitation to an important Green Belt Manifesto meeting hosted by Halstead Green Belt Future Group on 28 January 2020 at 7:30pm at Halstead Village Hall, Knockholt Road, Halstead, Kent TN14 7EX. Initially it is our intention that all Sevenoaks District's Parish Councils will support, agree and adopt a common Manifesto to protect our countryside from over-development. This Manifesto could then expand from our local District to the rest of Kent and beyond. As more Parish Councils and other bodies adopt the Manifesto, more visibility, credibility, higher profile and influence it will gain." (ii) Second email from Halstead Green Belt Future Group: "We are delighted to advise that Richard Knox Johnston, Chair of the London Green Belt Council will also attend and give us a presentation on his "Positive Vision for London's Green Belt". This presentation initiated a terrific response from Sadiq Khan, the London Mayor, whose letter was couched in the very terms of argument that we all would use to save our Countryside.

“Also in attendance will be Nigel Britten, Chairman of Sevenoaks District Committee CPRE Kent. We are really excited that these two prominent Green Belt campaigners are supporting this initiative.”

- iv. Item 16: Kent Police: Tonbridge Road, Chiddingstone Causeway - between 8:00pm on Sunday 5th January and 6:35am on Monday 6th January, somebody stole a vehicle parked in the road.
- v. Item 17: KALC: details of the Annual Planning Conference in Lenham on Friday 13 March 2020. Closing date for registering is Friday 6 March.

**126. To discuss nomination for the KALC Community Award Scheme 2020**

Members discussed the nominations and selected the successful person to receive the award this year.

**127. To consider how the following Parish Projects are progressing:**

- i. Maintenance of Closed Churchyard and other parish areas:  
The Clerk reported that the 2020 contract starts on 1<sup>st</sup> March. This is year 2 of 3.
- ii. Rural swathe and visibility cutting contract  
The Clerk reported that the third and final cut this season is in the process of being done, it was delayed due to wet weather.
- iii. Community Garden: To discuss new lease from The National Trust and agree legal fees  
The Clerk reported that the draft lease has been sent through, and the Parish Council made the comments on the draft, which the National Trust has forwarded to their solicitor.
- iv. Chiddingstone village carpark  
Nothing to report.
- v. Bough Beech car parking area:  
The Clerk reported that Simon Taylor, who is leaving SDC in February, has promised to look at the Parish Council's application for CIL and give us some pointers. He had said that it's definitely worth applying again.
- vi. Bulk Refuse Freighter  
The Clerk reported that the dates for this year are 7<sup>th</sup> March, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 12<sup>th</sup> September and 5<sup>th</sup> December.
- vii. Parish Litter Pick  
This will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> March.
- viii. Rural Crime  
Clerk to invite the Police to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Taylor reported that BBRAT has offered to fund CCTV at flytipping hotspots in Bough Beech

**128. Items for reporting or inclusion in future agenda**

- 1. Cllr Mrs Harris reported that the Chiddingstone Village Hall committee meeting was held, which was useful, and there has been a request for a handrail on the steps to the garden. Item to be added to the February Parish Council meeting agenda. The AGM will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> April.
- 2. Cllr Mrs Harris reported that there are potholes near The Castle Inn. Clerk to report.
- 3. Cllr Williams reported that a horsebox is parked near Larkins Farm in the field. Clerk to check the planning history and discuss with planning officers if required.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30pm in Chiddingstone Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

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