

**MINUTES OF THE CHIDDINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 18TH JUNE 2019 AT 7.30PM IN CHIDDINGSTONE CAUSEWAY VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr R. Streatfeild (Chairman), Cllr C. Bishop, Cllr Mrs P. Harris, Cllr P. Myers, Cllr B. Taylor and Cllr H. Williams

Apologies: Cllr A. Baker, Cllr Mrs M. Quirk, Cllr J. Roper, District Cllr Mrs S. Coleman and District Cllr J. Osborne-Jackson

In attendance: Mrs L. Kleinschmidt (Clerk). County Cllr P. Lake attended the Open Session only.

Open Session

Report by County Cllr Lake

County Cllr Lake reported that Geoff Bineham, the Schemes Project Manager for KCC Highways, is producing a Highways Improvement Plan and Town and Parish Councils can prioritise improvements in their areas. KCC has said that it wants communities to have a greater voice. C.Cllr Lake said that he will bring Geoff Bineham plus Mike Payton, who is the Sevenoaks District Manager, to the parish to look at the Parish Council's priorities, and undertook to forward to the Clerk the template for the plan. C.Cllr Lake reported that KCC had investments in Woodford Equity Fund, at 4th April this represented 4% of KCC's investments in its pension fund, some £6.4bn. There are 65,000 people in the Kent Pension Fund who are eligible for pension benefits. KCC is disappointed that prior notification of the problems being experienced with the fund was not received. At this time it is unknown what the impact will be on KCC's cash reserves and the Pension Fund. It is hoped that the Pension Fund is in surplus and there will not be the need to use funding from residents' council tax to cover any shortfall. C.Cllr Lake undertook to find out more information on this issue.

Cllr Mrs Harris asked C.Cllr Lake whether KCC has changed the policy regarding the material used to fill potholes as the quality of repairs is not as good as it used to be, and potholes soon form again. C.Cllr Lake said that there has been no change in policy, and there does appear to be more potholes on our roads. This is partly due to the weather, but he said that he is trying to get more roads completely re-tarmaced rather than individual potholes repaired. He said that all potholes and other highway faults can be reported online at www.kent.gov.uk.

County Cllr Lake left the meeting at 7.40pm.

Report by District Cllr Mrs Coleman

In the absence of District Cllr Mrs Coleman, the Clerk read her report:

“Licensing Hearing for Neverworld: I attended the hearing on June 3rd and am satisfied with the conditions that have been put in place for the Neverworld festival being held again this year. A couple of local residents spoke against the application but commented to me afterwards that they felt that they had been given a very fair hearing. Planning application at Newtys Hurst Farm: The Planning Officer is required to make her recommendation on this application by July 8th. If she is minded to approve it, I will be referring the case for consideration by Development Control Committee. As I sit on this committee and have remained open minded on the application, I would have the choice to either speak at the meeting or to sit at the hearing and cast my vote. I am open minded about which route I take and perhaps the Parish Council could let me know if Members have a preference should it be referred.” Members asked that D.Cllr Mrs Coleman sits at the Development Control meeting and casts her vote, rather than speak, in case the vote is close. “Enforcement investigation: I have once again referred the field West of Coopers Corner for investigation by an Enforcement Officer. Appointment to Committees: I explained in my report for the Annual Parish Meeting that new Portfolio Holders were being appointed at the end of May. I have been asked to be the Deputy Lead for People & Places (a fancy title for Communities) and I am delighted to hold this position as creating and fostering a sense of community is close to my heart. This new role also offers me a greater opportunity to influence council policy on behalf of both the Parish Council and local residents. As part of the post-election reshuffle I have also been put on the Licencing Committee, whilst remaining on the Development Control and Housing & Health Committees.”

Report by District Cllr Osborne-Jackson

None.

Questions from Members of the Public

None.

Closed Session

23. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Baker, Cllr Mrs Quirk and Cllr Roper and members accepted their reasons for absence. Apologies for absence were also received from District Cllr Mrs Coleman and District Cllr Osborne-Jackson.

24. **Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest / Non-Pecuniary Interest on matters to be discussed**
None.

25. **Appointment of Committees and representatives to other bodies**

Planning Committee: Cllr Mitzi Quirk (Chairman)
Cllr Richard Streatfeild
Cllr Howard Williams
Cllr Paul Myers

Finance Committee: Cllr Richard Streatfeild
Cllr Jonathan Roper
Cllr Howard Williams
Cllr Chris Bishop

Affordable Housing Committee: Cllr Richard Streatfeild
Cllr Andy Baker
Cllr Mitzi Quirk
Cllr Howard Williams

Aviation Working Group: Cllr Richard Streatfeild
Cllr Penny Harris
Cllr Chris Bishop

Representatives to other bodies:
HWCAAG: Cllr Richard Streatfeild
Cllr Penny Harris
Cllr Chris Bishop

Liaison between Parish Council and Parochial Church Council:	Cllr Howard Williams
Kent Association of Parish Councils, Sevenoaks Area Committee:	All
Chiddingstone Tennis Club:	Cllr Richard Streatfeild
Eden Valley Museum Trust:	Cllr Howard Williams
Margaret Hyde Almshouses:	Cllr Andy Baker
Chiddingstone Village Hall Management Committee:	Cllr Penny Harris
Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall Management Committee:	Cllr Andy Baker
CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England):	Cllr Chris Bishop
Chiddingstone Ramblers:	Ms Jenny Chettle
Chiddingstone Tree Warden:	Cllr Chris Bishop
Chiddingstone Pond Warden:	Mrs Penny Harris
Countryside Access Wardens:	Cllr Howard Williams
	Mr Rob McCoy
	Mrs Janet Lowry
	Mr Bill Lowry
	Mr David Hunt

26. **To review the following policies and procedures:**
i. Chiddingstone Code of Conduct

- ii. Social Media Policy
- iii. Complaints Procedure
- iv. Information & Data Protection Policy
- v. Document Retention & Disposal Policy
- vi. The Management of Transferable Data Policy
- vii. Members & Employee Privacy & Bring Your Own Device Acceptable Policy
- viii. Email Contact Privacy Notice
- ix. List of Documents for Retention or Disposal
- x. Inventory of Personal Data Captured, Stored and Processed

Members reviewed the above policies and procedures and confirmed that they are still current and fit for purpose. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Myers and all were in favour.

27. The minutes of the Chiddingstone Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14th May 2019 were approved and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr Bishop, seconded by Cllr Mrs Harris and all were in favour.

28. To hear report of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 21st May 2019

Cllr Streatfeild reported that verbal reports were given by Mark Streatfeild and Victoria Henderson on the Chiddingstone Literary Festival, by Alex Lepingwell on the Neverworld Festival and by John Balean on the Sports Association and Chiddingstone Cricket Club. The Community Award was presented to Carol Benton for her kindness and caring in the community, helping those in need, the elderly and the lonely in the parish, also her untiring work with the young people of all ages.

29. Planning:

i. To consider planning applications received

- i. SE/19/01418/DETAIL: Hilders, Ide Hill Road, Bough Beech TN8 7PW - details pursuant to condition 2 (materials) of planning permission 18/01500/HOUSE (erection of timber outbuilding / demolition of lean-to structure against Grade II listed barn). Proposed change of materials to Clado Corrugated Profile 13/3. Members had no objection to this application.
- ii. SE/19/01168/FUL: Chiddingstone Primary School, Chiddingstone TN8 7AH - replace like for like windows (7 in total) at the front of the school. Include secondary double glazing. Members supported this application.
- iii. SE/19/01353/LDCEX: Baldocks Stable, Tonbridge Road, Chiddingstone Causeway TN11 8JX - confirmation that the use of The Stables as a single self contained dwelling house is lawful. Members had no comment to make on this application.

ii. To report SDC notifications of planning decisions

- SE/19/00758/FUL: Kingston, Hever Road, Bough Beech - demolition of existing dwelling and garage and erection of replacement dwelling, associated landscaping and replacement waste treatment plant (cesspit). Application approved.
- SE/19/00725/HOUSE: 2 Forge Cottage, Ide Hill Road, Bough Beech - single storey rear extension. Application approved.
- SE/19/00706/HOUSE: Lockskinners Barn, Lockskinners, Chiddingstone - single storey link extension and alterations to the roof of the cow shed. Application approved.
- SE/19/01112/CONVAR: Land North of Chiddingstone Sports Ground, The Village, Chiddingstone - removal of condition 1 (removal of the stables) of 02/02738/CONVAR to allow permanent retention of existing stables building. Application approved.

iii. To discuss any updates regarding the Sevenoaks District Council Draft Local Plan

The Clerk reported that The Secretary of State has appointed Inspector Karen Baker DipTP MA DipMP MRTPI to carry out the independent examination of the Sevenoaks Local Plan. She will determine whether it has been prepared in accordance with the relevant legal requirements and that it is 'sound' i.e. positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. The Inspector is currently appraising the Local Plan and reading the representations received which is likely to take several weeks. Information on the examination is posted at www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/localplan examination.

iv. To discuss The Town & Country Planning (Permitted Development, Advertisement and Compensation Amendments)(England) Regulations 2019

i. The Town and Country Planning (Permitted Development, Advertisement and Compensation Amendments) (England) Regulations 2019, SI 2019/907 bring into force some of the proposals outlined in the consultation response in England from 25 May 2019. Provisions include:

- making permanent the existing temporary right to enlarge a dwellinghouse by up to eight metres in the case of a detached dwellinghouse or by 6 metres in the case of any other dwellinghouse, as permitted by Class A of Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order (the GPDO), SI 2015/596, Sch 2, Pt 1 and removing the time limiting date of 30 May 2019
- increasing the height limit of electrical upstands and outlets for recharging electric vehicles to 2.3 metres
- introducing a new permitted development right allowing the change of use of a building falling within Class A1 (shops), Class A2 (financial and professional services), or Class A5 (hot food takeaways) of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (the UCO), SI 1987/764, Sch or a betting shop, pay day loan shop or launderette, to a use falling within Class B1(a) (offices) of that Schedule
- extending Class M of the GPDO, SI 2015/596, Sch 2, Pt 3 (retail and specified sui generis uses to dwellinghouses) to permit buildings with a use falling within Class A5 (hot food takeaways) of the UCO to also change use to a dwellinghouse
- extending the GPDO, SI 2015/596, Sch 2, Pt 4, Class D (shops, financial, cafes, takeaway etc to temporary flexible use) to include certain Class D1 (non-residential institutions) uses of the UCO as a permitted temporary flexible use and extending the period of time that a building can be in a temporary flexible use from two to three years
- removing permission for the installation, alteration or replacement of a public call box by, or on behalf of an electronic communications code operator
- removing deemed consent to display an advertisement on the glazed surface of a telephone kiosk.

ii. The government has published its response to its consultation on proposals to create and extend permitted development rights to support the high street and deliver new homes, which closed on 14 January. (https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/799220/Government_Response_to_Planning_Reform_Consultation.pdf).

Following the feedback from the consultation, the government has indicated that it will:

- extend permitted development rights and use classes - this includes plans to: allow greater flexibility for change of use, use the airspace above existing buildings for additional new homes and extensions, remove the right to install new public call boxes and the associated advertising consent, increase the height threshold for the installation of off-street electric vehicle charging point and make permanent other existing time-limited rights
- consider the responses to extend local authorities' freedoms to dispose of surplus land at less than best consideration without seeking consent from the Secretary of State, thereby providing greater flexibility to dispose of surplus land in support of local development objectives. The government will announce the way forward 'in due course'
- make the first listed building consent order which will allow minor, routine works to the Canal & River Trust's listed waterway structures without the need for individual listed building consent applications. This will be done 'as soon as parliamentary time allows'
- publish a final version of draft guidance on the compulsory purchase powers of new town development corporations. This sets out, amongst other things, the factors which ministers will take into account when deciding whether or not to confirm new town compulsory purchase orders. This is intended to provide additional clarity to those with an interest in proposed new settlements, including promoters, investors, infrastructure providers, landowners and local communities.

30. **Licensing:**

To discuss conditions imposed on the Neverworld Festival as part of the Premises Licence

The Clerk reported that the Premises Licence for the Neverworld Festival 2019 was granted with conditions at the SDC Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing held on Monday 3rd June 2019. The Committee reviewed all documentation and representations and heard from all parties including the comments from those that could not attend the hearing.

- The application was granted as applied for with a minor amendment specifically relating to licensable activities on Thursday evening 1st August. The application sought recorded music until 02:00hrs but this was reduced to 23:00hrs, any non-licensable activities after this time should be inaudible from the nearest residential dwelling; all other evenings were permitted live and recorded music until 02:00hrs with a decibel level of 45dB after 23:00hrs.
- In response to the concerns raised by local residents, 23 conditions in respect to noise have been imposed on the Premises Licence; these conditions satisfied the concerns raised by both Environmental Protection and Chiddingstone Parish Council. The Licensing Authority and the Environmental Protection Team will be monitoring these conditions during the event as was the case in 2018.
- The organisers have been instructed to notify residents, a minimum of 10 days prior to the event, of the contact details which can be used to report any potential noise nuisances.
- In respect to the concerns of littering, the organisers will be using a different contractor to deal with any litter left over from the event this year and the Licensing Authority will monitor the situation.
- The issue of the site being located in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and any potential impact on wildlife is not a consideration for Licensing, however the Licensing Authority will raise these concerns with the Safety Advisory Group in order to try and find the appropriate department or authority to review these matters and where necessary gather any evidence necessary to support these claims.
- In addition to the noise conditions imposed, SDC felt that some of the conditions imposed on the Premises Licence in 2018 were also relevant and therefore an additional 20 conditions (relating to parking, complaints procedures, amnesty bins, radio communication, unaccompanied children, SIA & steward visibility and a 'Challenge 25' scheme for alcohol sales) were imposed.
- Mindful of the difficulty in avoiding noise from aircraft, noise measurements will be recorded in period intervals of 1 minute. Aircraft noise will be redacted and at the end of each 15 minute period the arithmetic mean of the remaining measurements will be calculated. The result will be used as the test for compliance with license conditions.
- The sound propagation testing will take place between 20:00 and 21:00 on Wednesday 31st July 2019.
- The licensee shall nominate, in writing, a sound engineer (SPL Track) who throughout the course of the event shall be in control of the Music Noise Level. This sound engineer shall operate independently of any DJ, or artiste in all music areas within the licensed site.
- The licensee's sound engineer shall take continuous noise measurement readings from a minimum of four locations agreed in advance of the event with the District Council's Environmental Protection Officer. The monitoring locations will be sited so as to be representative residential exposure to the Music Noise Level from the event at Truggers Lane, Rectory Lane, Pigdown Lane and Markbeech. A further offsite monitor will be supplied for use if necessary.
- Concessions (food vehicles/bars/shops etc) should not be allowed to bring independent sound systems with a power output in excess of 100 watts onto site as these can influence the overall noise level of the event and are difficult to control. Such systems where used shall not be audible beyond 10m from the system. The acoustic consultant shall have sufficient authority to require that these are switched off or if necessary removed.
- No special effects, fireworks, strobes, lasers or pyrotechnic effects are to be used or take place within the licensed premises area without the written approval of the District Council which shall not be unreasonably withheld

Cllr Streatfeild reported that Alex Lepingwell said at the Annual Parish Meeting, in response to a question, that the Festival will not be offering compensation to residents of Truggers Lane. Cllr Streatfeild added that residents living near the Festival site have a lot to be thankful to Neverworld for as the event organisers put pressure on the landowner to only have one event on the site. Last year there could have been three large events over the summer months. There are a number of residents in the parish who support the event.

Cllr Mrs Harris said that the Neverworld organisers are working with the parishes, employing local people and last year gave a grant to both Chiddingstone and Hever Schools. Cllr Bishop asked if he could get involved with the sound issue during the festival. Members agreed, and Clerk to put Cllr Bishop in touch with Alex Lepingwell.

Day	Time	2016 Nearest dBA	2016 2km + dB	2017 Nearest dBA	2017 2km + dB	2018 Nearest dBA	2018 2km + dB	2019 Nearest dBA	2019 2km + dB
Thursday	10.00-23.00	65	70	65	75	60	70	55	70
	23.00-23.59	35	70	45	70	35	Low	0	0
Friday	00.00-01.00	35	70	45	70	35	Low	0	0
	01.00-10.00	35	70	35	70	35	Low	0	0
	10.00-23.00	65	70	65	75	60	70	55	70
	23.00-23.59	35	70	45	70	45	62	45	62
Saturday	00.00-01.00	35	70	45	70	35	Low	45	62
	01.00-02.00	35	70	35	70	36	Low	45	62
	02.00-10.00	35	70	35	70	35	Low	0	0
	10.00-23.00	65	70	65	75	60	70	55	70
	23.00-23.59	35	70	45	70	45	62	45	62
Sunday	00.00-02.00	35	70	45	70	35	Low	45	62
	02.00-10.00	35	70	35	70	35	Low	0	0
	10.00-18.00	65	70	65	75	60	70	0	0

31. Finance

- i. To approve membership renewal to Aviation Environment Federation: £36
Members approved this membership renewal.
- ii. To approve membership renewal to Society Local Council Clerks: £110
Members approved this membership renewal.
- iii. To approve cost of Clerk's attendance at the SLCC South-East Regional Training Seminar: £40
Members approved this expenditure.
- iv. To discuss sharing the cost of automatic hourly back-ups with Vision ICT: £25 + £5 per month
Members approved this expenditure.
- v. To approve 2018/19 Year End Accounts
Cllr Streatfeild proposed that the Year End Accounts be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Myers and all were in favour.
- vi. To review the effectiveness of the Parish Council's Internal Audit Procedures
To be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.
- vii. Audit for year ending 31st March 2019
 - a. To consider and agree Annual Governance Statement 2018/19: Cllr Streatfeild read the statements as set out on the Annual Governance Statement and members responded as appropriate.
 - b. To consider and approve Accounting Statements 2018/19: Cllr Williams proposed that the Statement of Accounts be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Harris and all were in favour.
- viii. To consider 2019/20 Earmarked Reserves
Members discussed Earmarked Reserves for this year. Cllr Streatfeild proposed that £7,505.66 be transferred from the General Fund to a new CIL Earmarked Reserves. This relates to income from SDC in relation to the Parish Council's proportion of the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- ix. To discuss the Internal Audit report 2019
The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit was carried out on Monday 20th May and the report states that the books and records are in good order, and the systems for control of the Parish Council's finances are working well. There are no recommendations for change. Members thanked the Clerk for keeping the accounts in good order.
- x. To approve list of payments
Cllr Mrs Harris proposed that the list of payments be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Myers and all were in favour. Cllr Williams and Cllr Streatfeild undertook to authorise the payments online.

32. Affordable Housing provision in the parish

The Clerk reported as follows:

- i. Chequers Barn – Cllr Streatfeild, Cllr Mrs Quirk and the Clerk attended a Pre Planning Advice meeting at SDC with the landowner and his advisors. Alison Thompson from ERHA also attended the meeting. According to policy, there should be 11 affordable units in order to achieve 3 open market units. The draft Local Plan policy states that the amount of market housing must not exceed 30% of the total number of homes, or 3 homes, whichever is the lesser amount. The Local Plan hearing is likely to be September/October this year, after which the draft plan policies will hold more weight. The current scheme would not satisfy the emerging Local Plan policies, and the landowner is now considering the viability of the scheme and what could be done to ensure that the proposal is in line with policy. Cllr Streatfeild said that it was a friendly and direct exchange; the landowner said that he needs to maximise the profit for his pension fund, and Cllr Streatfeild said that the Parish Council will not support any scheme on this site that did not include affordable housing.
- ii. Chiddingstone Hoath, site opposite The Rock – there is no update as this site is pending the decision on the application at Newtyehurst Farm.
- iii. Site adjacent to Bassetts, Chiddingstone Causeway – English Rural Housing Association has submitted a revised offer for the land and is waiting to hear the outcome.

33. Highways

- i. To discuss the proposal to reduce the speed of vehicles on B2027 though Chiddingstone Causeway
None.

- ii. Highway Issues

The Clerk reported that she met with Highways officers recently and updated members as follows:

- i. Wellers Town surface water problem – this has been reported to SES water. Cllr Bishop said that the leaking valve has been repaired but the issue with the spring is ongoing. Clerk to contact Highways.
- ii. Wellers Town village sign – has been ordered and should be ready over the summer.
- iii. Somerden/Bore Place Road – request for new sign. This has been refused as there has been no injury sustained in this location. There clearly have been accidents as the hedge has been damaged in two if not three locations. Unfortunately, this is a no as no injury has been sustained.
- iv. Tonbridge Road, Knotley Hall to Compasses – areas already marked and job raised.
- v. Wheatsheaf wonky signs – new signs have been ordered, waiting for them to be made.
- vi. SID in Chiddingstone Causeway – request to move to Knotley Hall and replace with a solar or wind powered SID. KCC has refused this request as there is no evidence of speed related issues.
- vii. Bough Beech railway bridge – resurfacing job raised over bridge, part way down Ide Hill Road, part way down Hever Road and along to Chequers. Then some patching.
- viii. Wilderness Lane - passing places have been improved near festival site.
- ix. Mill Lane near Bough Beech junction – patching work has been scheduled
- x. Lockskinners Lane – planings requested.
- xi. Ide Hill Road – side of road has been improved between farm and cottages.
- xii. Top Hill – planings requested.
- xiii. Truggers Lane to Markbeech – planings requested.
- xiv. Hill Hoath Road has been re-surfaced.
- xv. A litter bin in Chiddingstone village has been backed into. This is on the KCC system but it may go to SDC who control the litter bins.
- xvi. Highways asked if the Parish Council could cut back the hedge and overgrowing vegetation opposite the end of Mill Lane in order to improve visibility. Clerk to ask Tim Kemp to do this work.
- xvii. Cllr Mrs Harris said that the road surface under the railway bridge at Bough Beech needs repairing. Clerk to report.
- xviii. Chested Lane – Cllr Streatfeild said that the Parish Council has had many meetings about the state of this road. There are large farm vehicles that use this lane, plus a greater number of school related cars and many delivery vans and lorries. Large vehicles are being driven onto the verges in order to allow other vehicles to pass, this blocks the ditch, damaging the drainage, surface water forms and then potholes appear. Hedges need to be regularly cut and ditches cleared. This is an ongoing project.

- xix. Cllr Williams reported that there is a large overgrown shrub very close to the road on the A2027 which is damaging vehicles. Clerk to contact landowner.
- iii. To discuss a Chiddingstone Highways Improvement Plan
Members agreed to discuss this further when the template has been received from C.Cllr Lake.

34. Rights of Way:

- i. To hear update regarding the Parish Countryside Access Wardens
The Clerk reported that three new volunteers have come forward, Rob McCoy, Janet and Bill Lowry. Their details have all been sent onto KCC who will arrange the online training session. Cllr Mrs Harris said that David Hunt is also being trained under the scheme.
- ii. To hear update regarding the new dog bin on SR526 at Chequers in Bough Beech
The Clerk reported that the landowner has agreed to pay for the new bin. The Parish Council will order the bin and send him an invoice. The Parish Council will pay for all emptying.

35. Aviation:

Cllr Streatfeild reported that there has been an exchange of letters to say that the communities want a mechanism that will balance noise vs growth. GAL has said no and they will not do it piecemeal. The Noise Management Board finished in early May and people are watching closely to see what will happen as the DfT is responsible, through the CAA, for regulating airport noise but this a local noise issue. Cllr Streatfeild reported that he sent out an email to interested and concerned residents and there has since been a request for an extraordinary meeting to be called with Baroness Vere (the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Transport), Martin Rolfe (CEO of NATS), Stewart Wingate (Chief Executive of GAL), Tom Tugendhat, the AEF plus representatives from the community groups: GON, GACC, CAGNE. Members agreed that this would be a good idea. Meeting to be arranged for September. Clerk to investigate cost of leaflet distribution through Royal Mail, plus advertising through Facebook, the website and the parish magazine. Date to be agreed. The Clerk reported that Chiddingstone Castle did not want to take liability for the noise monitor, and so it has now been suggested that the monitor be located at Chiddingstone School. There is now a payment of £500 per annum to site the monitor, and the period will be for two years.

36. 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 2: from Monday 3rd June 2019, KCC is charging for the disposal of non-household waste materials (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard) at KCC Household Waste Recycling Centres as follows:
Soil, Rubble & Hardcore: £4 per bag*/item. Limited to 5 bags/items per day
Plasterboard: £6 per bag*/sheet. *Any bag up to the size of a standard black sack.
Payment will be by card only and there will be a dedicated member of staff to assist customers when they arrive at site with chargeable waste items. See www.kent.gov.uk/recycling.
- ii. Item 5: Kent Police: A new concerning trend to be aware of is the disposal of baled waste. The waste is predominantly plastic, builders/commercial/household waste that cannot be recycled and which has no monetary value. The waste is compressed into a block or 'bale' and concealed by plastic strapping. These criminal offences have not been the random or opportunistic dumping of waste, but rather systematic and organised crime where secure sites have been targeted using, what appears to be, legal and above board measures through the property and land leasing process.
- iii. Item 6: Email from Jonathan Booth, Lambert & Foster, who are no longer acting for the Trustees in respect of the management of the village pond or cricket field. The new Managing Agents are Batcheller Monkhouse and the principle contact will be Charlotte Pearson-Wood.
- iv. Item 7: KALC: the Environment Agency launched a consultation on its draft National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England, see <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/fcrm/national-strategy-public>.
- v. Item 8: SDC: The environment secretary Michael Gove has announced a £10m fund to help encourage the planting of over a hundred thousand trees in urban areas across England.

The Urban Tree Challenge Fund will make grants available over the next two years for towns and cities wishing to plant more trees in their parks and green spaces.

- vi. Item 10: “We are writing on behalf of Southern Water, South East Water and Portsmouth Water to invite you to a stakeholder workshop where your feedback will help shape our proposed approach to addressing some of the major challenges the water sector is facing in the coming years. The population of the South East is growing rapidly. In addition, the impact of climate change will mean more droughts and extreme weather in the coming years. In short, there will be more people needing our water and wastewater services, with less water to go round - with the additional challenge of keeping bills affordable for all. In order to address these issues, it is vital we work in collaboration with each other as water companies, as well as with key stakeholders. We are hosting four workshops across the region. They will give you an opportunity to feed back on, and contribute to, our future plans to ensure that we can continue to provide a safe and reliable service that is resilient to the long-term challenges we face.

The topics we will be discussing on the day will include, but not be limited to:

- Water resources, droughts and the co-delivery of our regional campaigns
- Our water conservation initiatives, such as Target 100
- Our proposals to help customers in vulnerable situations and those who struggle to pay their bills
- How we can continue to innovate through working in collaboration
- The role our stakeholders can play in helping us to produce a Social Contract
- Helping to support economic growth in your region
- The work we are doing to protect the environment
- Our plans for a new reservoir at Havant Thicket

Nearest workshop is at The Hilton Hotel, Maidstone on Friday 28th June, 10.00 to 13.15 with lunch and optional afternoon session 14.00-15.00.

- vii. Item 12: Email from Tom Tugendhat: “Govia Thameslink Railway, Southern’s parent company, have agreed to contribute £15million towards a Passenger Benefit Fund which can be spent on schemes at either a local station level such as additional seats, cycle racks of waiting shelters, or for the wider passenger benefit such as improvements to the GTR app or longer toilet opening hours at stations. With six stations on two different lines across our area, I want to make sure that we can ensure that as much of this money is spent on the projects locally as possible, and that other improvements they will propose will make a difference across the network too. So, I have set up a survey to get your views and those of others who rely on southern services. You can find it at www.surveymonkey.com/r/SouthernBenefitFund. I’ll use the responses from this to base the projects which I will be pushing for funding for.” The Clerk reported that Cllr Mrs Quirk has suggested that a halt could be installed at Bough Beech. Clerk to forward the suggestion to Tom Tugendhat.

- viii. Item 13: Copy email from a Chiddingstone resident regarding noise from Hever Festival Theatre.

- ix. Item 14: ACRK/SDC – free advice service for rural retailers.

- x. Item 15: Braeburn Care – invitation to a ‘cuppa & cake’ fundraiser in aid of Dementia UK on Wednesday 19th June at Aurora House, Chiddingstone Causeway from 10am to 3pm.

- xi. Item 16: Kent Police: The Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) is looking for volunteers (Independent Custody Visitors – ICVs) across Kent to visit Custody suites to check on the welfare and conditions of those held in police cells and report back to the PCC. This can be as often as once a month. In addition, ICVs attend training sessions, between two and four panel meetings a year, and an Annual General Meeting. The time commitment required is around three to five hours a month and all ICVs are asked to carry out at least one night-time visit a year (between 10pm and 6am). The PCC’s recruitment drive closes on 1st July. More information about ICVs, and the application form, can be found here: <https://kent-pcc.gov.uk/what-we-do/holding-kent-police-to-account/independent-custody-visitors>.

- xii. Item 17: SDC News Releases (i) Armed Forces Day celebrations will begin in Sevenoaks with a traditional flag raising ceremony on Monday 24 June 2019. The ceremony will begin at 10.20am outside SDC’s offices on Argyle Road, TN13 1HG, with help from Westerham Sea Cadets and Sevenoaks Air Cadets. (ii) A Sevenoaks resident has pleaded guilty to fly-tipping in Riverhead following an investigation by SDC. Twenty-nine year old Brendan Dewberry of Whitley Woodworks, Whitley Farm, Sevenoaks was fined £1,745, including court costs, at Sevenoaks Magistrates’ Court on Friday 7 June. SDC is the only local authority in Kent to have a dedicated fly-tipping investigation team who will take a zero tolerance approach.

Residents can report fly-tipping on public land and on the highway by calling SDC on 01732 227000.

(iii) The Try Angle Awards this year celebrates its 25th anniversary recognizing the efforts and achievements of young people and groups in our community who really TRY their best aged 11-18 years old (up to 25 years recognizing special needs and disabilities). Nominations are open until 30 June across the 8 categories (Sports, Art, Music, Community Action, Good Friends and Young Carers, Personal Development, Courage and Positive Intervention). Nominations at www.kent.gov.uk/tryangle.

(iv) SDC is holding a free Helping Hand into Work event on Friday 28 June to help residents who are out of work and searching for a job. The open day takes place at SDC's offices on Argyle Road, Sevenoaks between 10am and 12pm. It is a free event but places must be booked in advance by calling 01732 227000 or emailing communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

- xiii. Item 18: Eden Valley Museum: invitation to a private members' viewing of the Hop Picking exhibition on Tuesday July 2nd 6 – 8pm at the museum, please RSVP.
- xiv. Item 19: KALC Sevenoaks Branch – invitation to the next KALC Sevenoaks meeting on Friday 21st June at 7:30pm with a presentation and update from SDC's new Senior Planning Enforcement Office, Steve Whitehead. After 21st June, the next two meetings in 2019 will be Fridays 30th August and 29th November.
- xv. Item 20: High Weald AONB Unit: The High Weald AONB Partnership, which includes the 15 local planning authorities with land in the AONB, has drafted a Design Guide for new housing development in the High Weald. Once adopted, the Guide will be a material consideration in the determining of planning applications within the High Weald AONB. The Design Guide gives succinct, practical and consistent advice on design expectations for new housing development within the High Weald AONB. This will enable higher quality and landscape-led design that reflects intrinsic High Weald character and is embedded with a true sense of place, without stifling innovation and creativity. See www.highweald.org/look-after/planning/design-guide-consultation. The Design Guide is subject to consultation from Wednesday 19 June until Wednesday 14 August 2019.
- xvi. Edenbridge Town Council: the next Eden Valley Tourism Forum is on Tuesday 2nd July at Hever Castle Golf Club, from 2 to 4pm. There will be an opportunity to see the new Hever Castle Health & Wellbeing Centre, treatment rooms, and the Waterside Bar, Restaurant and Terrace, and to have a long-overdue update from different tourism providers in the Eden Valley. Cllr Streatfeild undertook to attend if he could.

37. To consider how the following Parish Projects are progressing:

- i. Maintenance of Closed Churchyard and other parish areas:
None.
- ii. Rural swathe and visibility cutting contract
The Clerk reported that the first cut has been done, and the second one is usually done in August and the third cut in early November. Members discussed the email correspondence between Cllr Streatfeild and Mr Richard Lockwood during the month. Cllr Streatfeild said that overgrown soft vegetation on the road side does not slow traffic speeds and it does make it more dangerous for all road users. The Parish Council has taken advice on this matter over the years and road safety is of prime importance. Members agreed that the maintenance of the verges is therefore most important.
- iii. Chiddingstone village carpark
The Clerk reported that she has emailed the National Trust on the proposed scheme to the rear of the village hall.
- iv. Bough Beech car parking area:
The Clerk reported that she is in the process of preparing an application for CIL funding from SDC. Simon Taylor has advised that the next CIL Spending Board meeting has been delayed until September.
- v. Bulk Refuse Freighter held on 15th June:
Members agreed that the service on Saturday was well supported with no problems raised. The next dates are 14th September and 7th December.
- vi. Litter Pick held on 15th June:

Cllr Streatfeild:	Chiddingstone Hoath area:	6 volunteers
Cllr Myers:	Bough Beech area:	3 volunteers
Cllr Bishop:	Chiddingstone area:	1 volunteer
Clerk:	Chiddingstone Causeway area:	3 volunteers.

The next date is Saturday 14th September. Cllr Williams reported that the student who is litter picking as part of his Duke of Edinburgh award has now finished and Cllr Williams has written a report for him. Cllr Taylor reported that he has footage on his dash-cam of people throwing rubbish from their cars and asked how this could be reported. The Clerk suggested that Cllr Taylor sends this information to our PCSO and also John Cox at SDC. Members agreed that some anti-fly tipping signs should be investigated at the hot spots – Wilderness Lane, Lockskinners Lane and Top Hill.

vii. Summer Family Fun play events

The Clerk reported that the free play event provided by SDC will be held on Friday 16th August from 10am to 2pm. The Clerk has told the Fete Committee that the Parish Council will give a grant towards a Bouncy Castle at the fete, but the Fete Committee has struggled to find an affordable option that satisfies their insurance requirements.

38. Items for reporting or inclusion in future agenda

- i. In the absence of Cllr Baker, the Clerk reported that he attended a Margaret Hyde Trust meeting last week and the committee wanted to ask the Parish Council if they could make a contribution towards the refurbishment of No. 3 South Row, which is empty after the sad death of Roy Jenner. The Trust's finances are in good order, however over £21,000 is needed for the refurbishment. Item to be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.
- ii. The Clerk reported that the phone box in Chiddingstone Causeway was hit by a tractor and the Clerk arranged for the farmer to straighten it up.
- iii. Cllr Streatfeild reported that he contacted a cycling club as groups of cyclists were riding through the parish at the weekend riding in large groups, making it impossible for other road users to pass. A reply has been received which says that the club will endeavour to accommodate the parish's request for smaller groups. Cllr Streatfeild said that the Parish Council is not opposed to cyclists using the lanes in the parish but it is important that the roads remain safe for all road users.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 16th July 2019 7.30pm in Chiddingstone Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm

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