

**MINUTES OF THE CHIDDINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.30PM REMOTELY VIA ZOOM**

- Present:** Cllr J. Roper (Chairman), Cllr A. Baker (for the Open Session only), Cllr C. Bishop, Cllr Mrs P. Harris, Cllr P. Myers, Cllr Mrs M. Quirk, Cllr R. Streatfeild, Cllr B. Taylor and Cllr H. Williams
- Apologies:** District Cllr Mrs S. Coleman and District Cllr Osborne-Jackson
- In attendance:** Mrs L. Kleinschmidt (Clerk). County Cllr P. Lake and Mark Ansdell from SDC attended the Open Session only.

As previously agreed, this meeting was recorded.

Open Session

Report by County Cllr Lake

County Councillor Lake reported as follows:

1. In its response to the latest lockdown, KCC has said that it is committed to maintain recycling centres, social care for children and adults, and business services. Schools, country parks and ROW will remain open. There is a team that advises businesses and residents on Covid-related issues, please see www.askphil.biz. Weddings and civil partnerships will not be allowed to take place over the lockdown period. There is a local track and trace system that supports the Government's track and trace system and this employs local people. Roger Gough, leader of KCC, is backing the Prime Minister's request for lockdown but wants to see it end on 2nd December.
2. A consultation started on 16th October and will run for six weeks which is seeking the views of residents on KCC's budget for 2021-22. The next year's budget will be extremely tight due to Covid funding this year and the consultation covers savings vs spending and the likely impact on council tax and business rates. There needs to be a sustainable social care system, education and children's services. Young asylum seekers in Kent are expensive as they need homes, education and also access to doctors, dentists and translators. The proposal is a 5% rise, which is a 3% rise in council tax and a 2% rise for social care. More funding needs to come from central Government. C.Cllr Lake said that he wants to keep council tax as low as possible.
3. Sevenoaks Weald Parish Council is willing to contribute £30,000 from reserves towards highway improvements in its parish if KCC is willing to match-fund this amount. This will go towards improved signs and a 20mph zone.
4. Both C.Cllr Lake and Tom Tugendhat have emailed Michael Payne about the current speed limit on the B2027 with a request to reduce the speed through Chiddingstone Causeway. C.Cllr Lake urged residents to also email Michael Payne at michael.payne@kent.gov.uk. Members agreed to wait until after the meeting has taken place with KCC Highways.

County Cllr Lake left the meeting at 7.42pm.

Report by District Cllr Osborne-Jackson

In the absence of District Cllr Osborne-Jackson, the Clerk read his report: "I hope members are keeping well.

1. I am pleased to report the COVID-19 test site at Otford Road has now opened and is in the hands of the Department for Health and Social Care who will allocate appointments, please note this is an appointment only site.
2. Officers in the Planning department are working very hard and using a lot of resources on the Grove Close case.
3. I received a response to my letter to the Chief Executive of the Post Office regarding the sudden closure of the Chiddingstone Causeway branch. The Office of the Chief Executive apologised for the sudden closure due to "the circumstances involved" The Post Office has said the local team worked hard to reopen the branch and I'm pleased to see this has happened."

Report by District Cllr Mrs Coleman

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

- "1. Covid-19: Last month I reported Covid infection rates were rising locally and this has continued; across the district we now have 209 active cases (a rate of 140/100,000 population, up from 73/100,000 last month but still approximately half the national rate). Hospitalisations are much lower and Pembury has plenty of capacity to meet normal health requirements.

“When we come out of second lockdown SDC is arguing for restrictions to be tiered by district rather than county, to ensure we are not impacted unnecessarily by Swale and Thanet where infection rates are higher. My volunteer support group has been reactivated to help vulnerable residents in the Chiddingstones and Bough Beech but most people now have access to online deliveries so I expect there to be very few requests for help this time.

2. Local Plan: SDC appealed the Planning Inspector’s decision to reject our Local Area Plan (which minimised new Green Belt development); she cited inadequate co-operation with neighbouring councils to try to meet elsewhere the forecast housing need which couldn’t be delivered in the district itself. SDC argued that many conversations with neighbouring authorities had taken place and we knew they were unable to accept ‘spill-over’ into their districts but the Judicial Review judgement (on Friday 13th November) was that even if the outcome of any discussions might already be known, formal duties cannot be avoided. We will now have to have another two rounds of public consultation, calls for sites, updated housing needs analyses, further inspection costs and at least another 3 years of SDC staff time that could be more usefully spent serving residents. The underlying thrust of the Planning Inspector’s issue with our plan remains, we simply can’t meet our forecast housing needs without destroying the Green Belt; although this is something Tonbridge & Malling have decided to do, at a cost of 450 acres of green space. On a technical note, the White Paper planning reforms would remove the Duty to Cooperate (with neighbouring authorities) so although the proposals might have many other issues for us locally at least this aspect would be a silver lining to the cloud.
3. Grove Close: Although this site falls within Cllr Osborne-Jackson's ward, I have been drawn into the issues by residents in my ward who are unhappy with the situation and have asked me to help them. I have queried the extent of the residential curtilage which is now being investigated by the legal team. I have also raised the issue of consistency of treatment with regard to equine development because I have had another similar case in Fordcombe.
4. Track in Chiddingstone Hoath and planning application at New Tyehurst Farm: I have asked for an update on both of the above but have not heard anything back yet. I will come back to you on these as soon as I can.”

Presentation by Mark Ansdell, Environmental Enforcement Officer at SDC

Cllr Roper welcomed Mark Ansdell to the meeting. Mark said that he is one of two environmental enforcement officers at SDC, both officers are part time but hours have recently been increased from 20 to 30 hours a week. SDC is looking to increase the number of officers in the medium term to 4 which will allow a greater opportunity for enforcement action to be taken.

Mark said that there has been an increase in fly tipping during the two lockdowns, partly because the household waste centres were closed temporarily. Unfortunately there is a growing number of people who are offering to take rubbish away for a small fee and this sometimes ends up as flytipping. This is not to be confused with companies which are properly set up and offer a legitimate service. There are hotspot areas in the district, these are usually close to the arterial routes of M25, M20, A20 and A21. These areas are often quiet leafy lanes with few houses and no CCTV. 80% of flytipping crimes are carried out by people who do not live within the district, and this can cause an issue with investigation. Where there is potential evidence, SDC will undertake a proportionate investigation. If the flytipping is on the highway, KCC will remove it, if it is on public areas, SDC will remove it and if it is on private land, the responsibility is that of the landowner. There are environmental and financial implications of flytipping. There were 17 reports in this financial year in the Chiddingstone and Penshurst parishes, which is favourable compared to other parishes, particularly in the north of the district.

Cllr Taylor said that he did not think that this figure captures all the flytipping reports. Mark said that the data may not have captured everything that has been reported. The top ten hotspots in the district have had between 10 and 30 episodes already in this financial year. Mark said that it is vitally important for flytipping to be reported through recognised channels with details of the exact location. SDC has some wildlife cameras that can be permanently fixed to a tree, and there are some semi-permanent cameras that can be located in hotspot areas for a couple of weeks. There are also a large number of private CCTV cameras fixed to dwellings and commercial buildings which could be used with the necessary approvals. These cameras can pick up vehicles within a given timeframe if flytipping occurs. Parishes can prepare a map showing where CCTV cameras are located close to hotspot areas and obtain the approval of the camera owner. Some parishes have started a flytipping action group, for instance Crockenhill and Fawkham, and they have had immediate success and achieved results with prosecutions. It is a community based initiative using residents and walking groups for example. SDC is happy to provide training to parishes who wish to start an action group.

Cllr Roper thanked Mark very much for sparing the time to come along and discuss this important issue with the Parish Council. Mark Ansdell left the meeting at 8.35pm.

Closed Session

- 70. Apologies for absence** were received from District Cllr Mrs S. Coleman and District Cllr J. Osborne-Jackson.
- 71. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest / Non-Pecuniary Interest on matters to be discussed**
None.
- 72. The minutes of the Chiddingstone Parish Council Meeting held on 20th October 2020** were approved. The minutes would be signed at the next open public meeting. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Myers and all were in favour.
- 73. Planning:**
- i. To consider planning applications received
None. The Clerk reported that since the last meeting, the Planning Committee considered the following applications:
 - i. SE/20/02972/AGRNOT: Field west of Kilnwood, Coopers Corner, Ide Hill - agricultural building for general purpose use and grain storage. Members were concerned about such a large barn being erected in this remote location so far away from the centre of the farm holding.
 - ii. SE/20/02989/FUL: Land south of Puckden, Hoath Corner, Chiddingstone Hoath TN8 7BS - proposed conversion of outbuilding into separate unit of residential accommodation. Members had no objection to this application.
 - ii. To hear update regarding the development on land at Grove Close, Hampkins Hill Road
The Clerk reported that there has been an update from the Enforcement Officer in that the site may have a mixed use of residential and agriculture. The area of land where the field shelters are and horse grazing is taking place will not be affected mainly due to the fact that the field shelters are not fixed to the ground. These can be moved around periodically and therefore will not require planning permission. The aspects that the mixed use might however effect is the mobile home on site and the area to the rear of the house that has been fenced off to use as a garden and for dog day care. The Enforcement Officer has said that he is going to be taking Legal advice on this and whether benefit would be given if the mobile was placed more in one part of the land than the other. Cllr Roper said that District Cllr Osborne-Jackson is working closely with Planning and Enforcement Officers at SDC and will keep the Parish Council informed.
 - iii. To report SDC notifications of planning decisions
 - SE/20/02571/FUL and SE/20/02572/LBCALT: Larkins Farmhouse, Hampkins Hill Road, Chiddingstone TN8 7BB - the addition of 4 stables to the NW of the dwelling outside the residential curtilage, to include a hay store and tack room. The addition of a type 1 surface widening the track to the stables for horse box parking, and the addition of a 60m x 20m open ménage (sand school) to the north of the dwelling sited outside the residential curtilage, erection of storage barn 6.61m x 7.39m, and muck heap located to the east side of the ménage. Addition of open air swimming pool in sunken garden with changing room and plant room. Application withdrawn.
 - SE/20/02701/LBCALT: Cobham House, 4 The Village, Chiddingstone TN8 7AH - installation of a rock wool fire barrier within the loft/attic. Application approved.
 - iv. Changes to Use Classes Order and the General Permitted Development Order
The Clerk reported that Cllr Mrs Quirk, Cllr Myers and the Clerk attended the zoom event hosted by SDC. Cllr Mrs Quirk has provided the following notes:
There are changes to planning law which won't require formal consultation with the Local Authority. These cover changes to GPDO (General Permitted Development Order) as to what can be done without planning applications, changes to Class Orders and extending the time period for development rights.
Raising the Roof: This is to be done by Prior Approval (in the same way as agricultural barns currently) and applies to detached, semi-detached or terraced dwellings, allowable in the Green Belt but not allowed in Conservation Areas/AONB/SSIs or on Listed Buildings.

7m extra height can be added above the existing top floor. This is in effect two storeys of 3.5m each plus roof. The finished maximum height of the building must not exceed 18m. The building must be able to be altered without major alterations to the foundations, etc, and to ensure this there is a limit of 60 years on the age of the building, covering the time between just post war and 2005. (Buildings post 2005 are assumed to be structurally sound.) The roof design must follow form of the original building. The Local Authority will only be allowed to object on grounds of loss of amenity, loss of privacy, loss of light and damage to the street scene. In the case of the Green Belt, these additions could no longer be objected to on the grounds of harming the openness of the Green Belt.

New residential units on top of existing commercial or mixed use buildings: 2 storey additions allowed on top of existing detached commercial buildings, adding 7m height. Maximum height of finished building not to be more than 30m. New residential units on top count as separate units. Office buildings, light industrial, research and development and residential buildings up to 1,000 sq.m. can be demolished and replaced by residential units with 2 extra storeys (amounting to 7m height) added to the original height of the building, to a maximum of 18m. However, the footprint must be that of the demolished building. This is expected to be focussed on Brown Field sites. A question was asked about parking requirements for these developments. The answer was that no Highway Assessment would be needed and the Local Authority has no powers to request or control parking provision. It was hoped that if these developments were mostly on Brown Field sites then there would have been some existing parking provision.

Use Class Orders: There is a change being made to the Use Class Orders of buildings which came into effect on 01.09.20. All existing Classes except A4 and A5 will be changed to one new class (Class E). See chart. No formal change of use planning application will be needed to change use of a building from one existing Class to the new Class E. A certificate of permitted development (GPDO) should still be sought. Applies to all areas including AONBs and Conservation areas, where no planning application is required, but GPDO is. Properties have to have been vacant for the previous 6 months.

<u>Use of Class Order</u>	<u>Existing</u>	<u>New</u>
Shop	A1	E
Finance/Professional Services	A2	E
Café/Restaurant	A3	E
Office that is not A2	B1a	E
Research and Development	B1b	E
Industrial with no amenity harm	B1c	E
Clinic, nursery, day centre	D1	E
Gym, indoor recreation	D2	E

The following will need formal planning approval because of local disturbances they might cause.

Pubs	A4
Takeways	A5

The new F class gives greater protection to communities for amenities that are vital.

Schools	F1
Community uses including small shops, community halls, outdoor recreation, swimming pools	F2

Cllr Mrs Quirk asked Aaron Hill for clarity on Permitted Development in AONBs and Conservation Areas. He said that single storey rear extensions, to the permitted size, are allowed, but not side extensions or 2 storey additions.

Extensions in deadlines to commence work: If planning approval already granted and permission expired between August 2020 and 31 December 2020, the permission will automatically be extended to May 2021. If planning permission expired between 23.03.20 and 18.08.20, applicants will need to apply for GPDO to extend the permission to May 2021.

Enforcement: The Enforcement department has two agency officers until March. They will be advertising for two permanent investigators. This will give a team leader, a compliance assistant, two investigators and a planning officer who helps.

Other Points: In the general discussion at the end the following points were discussed:

1. SDC has moved to paperless on all planning applications and now no paper plans are received from applicants, SDC will print out plans for Town and Parish Councils. SDC would like Town and Parish Councils to move to paper-less but happy to do this in a phased way. There was a feeling amongst some Parish Councillors that paper plans are very useful.
2. Site Notices. These are now posted to applicants for them to display. They have to put them up and send photographs of proof to the Planners. There was concern regarding compliance.
3. There was a request from Parish Councillors for the telephone access to Planning Officers to be made easier. It was pointed out that a quick discussion with a Planning Officer helps clarify many problems and is invaluable, and Planning Officers have been encouraging parishes to ring them, but calls are often faced with obstruction. SDC will aim to make this work differently.
4. There was a request that all Clerks should be given a list of Planning Officers phone numbers, and they said they would do this.

Cllr Myers added that these new regulations do not include properties that were built before 1948.

- v. SE/20/01809/HOUSE - 27 Truggers Cottages Truggers Lane Chiddingstone Hoath KENT TN8 7BP – the application is going to be considered by Development Control Committee on Thursday 19th November at 7pm and Cllr Mrs Quirk is registered to speak on behalf of the Parish Council.

74. Finance

- i. To hear report of the Finance Committee meeting held on 10th November 2020

Cllr Roper reported that the Finance Committee met on 10th November and discussed the budget versus actual, which is on track. There will be another meeting in January to discuss the budget for next year and the precept requirements, and the Finance Committee will take a recommendation to the Parish Council at their meeting on 19th January.

- ii. To hear update regarding the application to SDC for CIL funding towards the Bough Beech parking area

The Clerk reported that the next CIL Spending Board meeting will be taking place on Wednesday 10th March 2021 and all applications must be received by no later than 5pm on Monday 30 November 2020. The Clerk has sought updated quotes for the new parking area from the three companies who provided a quote previously.

- iii. To approve list of payments

Cllr Taylor proposed that the list of payments be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Streatfeild and all were in favour. Cllr Roper and Cllr Myers undertook to authorise the payments online.

75. Affordable Housing provision in the parish

The Clerk reported as follows:

- i. Site adjacent to Chequers Barn, Bough Beech: Alison Thompson from ERHA said that they have just agreed the Heads of Terms with the landowner so will now progress with the option agreement.
- ii. Site adjacent to Bassetts, Chiddingstone Causeway: Cllr Roper and the Clerk attended a zoom meeting on 5th November with ERHA and Kent Highways, which was positive. The schemes project officer who has taken over from Geoff Bineham is Whiney Gwillim. The Highways officer present said that she would speak to Whitney and see if a Traffic Regulation Order could be put in place for a speed reduction through Chiddingstone Causeway. She was positive about the request at the meeting to change the definition of land in front of Causeway House to that of Highways land although it would retain the same ownership as currently. This would allow Highways to approve the reduction or removal of vegetation in order to allow sight lines for the proposed new development. Cllr Roper said that there is an overlap between the request for a speed reduction in Chiddingstone Causeway and the requirement for sight lines at the proposed new development. It is hoped that these two issues can be dealt with simultaneously. Highways has now responded about virtual meeting to look at the current speed limit.
- iii. Site opposite The Rock, Chiddingstone Hoath: none.

- iv. ACRK – free virtual workshop on Delivering Affordable Housing on Friday 27th November from 12.30pm to 1.30pm. The Clerk, Cllr Roper and Cllr Mrs Quirk are booked onto the event. Cllr Mrs Harris asked to attend if there is availability.

76. Rights of Way

- i. To hear update regarding SR540 in Chiddingstone Hoath in particular the slippery footpath surface
Cllr Streatfeild reported that the landowner has rotovated the surface of the path and Cllr Mrs Harris said that this was only effective for a few days as it became slippery again when it rained.
- ii. To hear update regarding damaged bridge between Chiddingstone and Wellers Town
The Clerk reported that Cllr Mrs Harris went to investigate and took photos. The fault has been reported to Kent ROW under reference 201153748. It is on the coach road between Wellers Town and Chiddingstone.

77. Highways

- i. To discuss the speed limit on B2027 through Chiddingstone Causeway
See Open Session above.
- ii. To hear update regarding drainage work adjacent to the road in Wellers Town
The Clerk reported that the KCC drainage officer has reported that a road closure order has been issued for 3 days from 8th December in order to install dished concrete channels to allow the water to flow down to the ditch and onto the stream.
- iii. To discuss flytipping in the area and to consider forming a cross-parish anti-flytipping action group
It was agreed that Cllr Roper, Cllr Taylor and the Clerk would discuss this by email and bring a recommendation to members at a later date. Cllr Taylor undertook to discuss the SDC reporting system with Mark Ansdell.
- iv. The Clerk reported that she attended the Highways Seminar today via zoom. KCC reiterated the importance of keeping the roadside verges well maintained for the safety of all road users. KCC has received funding of £1.975m from the DfT towards highways innovation over 2 years.

78. Defibrillators

The Clerk reported that the new defibrillators in Chiddingstone Causeway and Chiddingstone Hoath have been received and she is waiting for the electrician to install them.

79. To discuss the replacement of the wooden fingerpost opposite the junction to Camp Hill

None.

80. To discuss the tree survey carried out on 4th November and recommendations for work

The Clerk reported that she and Cllr Bishop met The Original Tree Surgeons in Chiddingstone on 4th November.

Tree Number	Tree Specie	Age	Observations	Priority	Condition	General Tree Work Required	Cost
Chiddingstone Hoath - The Green							
T64	Oak	Medium	Dead wood in crown	Yes	Good	Remove all dead wood	£55.00
Chiddingstone Closed Churchyard							
T1	Cedar	Medium	2 x hanging branches	Yes	Good	Remove two hangers	£20.00
T3	Oak	Large	Dead wood in the crown	Yes	Good	Remove all dead wood	£70.00
T4	Beech	Large	Dead wood in the crown	Yes	Good	Remove all dead wood	£40.00
T7	Conifer	Large	Dead wood in the crown	Yes	Good	Remove all dead wood	£150.00

Tree Number	Tree Specie	Age	Observations	Priority	Condition	General Tree Work Required	Cost
T8/T9/T10/T11	4 x Sycamore	Large	Overgrown with Ivy	Yes	Good	Girdle the Ivy at the base	£45.00
T17	Ash	Large	Overgrown with Ivy	Yes	Good	Girdle the Ivy at the base	£15.00
T24/T25	2 x Hawthorn	Medium	Overhanging the lawn	Yes	Good	Prune back the encroachment off the lawn	£25.00
T27	Ash near big Yew by Church	Large	Hangers in the crown	Yes	Good	Remove hanging branches	£25.00
T28	Yew	Large	Dead wood in the crown	Yes	Good	Remove dead wood	£125.00
T36	Hazel	Medium	Overhanging the Yew tree	Yes	Good	Prune back all the encroachment from the Yew	£80.00
T56	Yew	Large	Dead wood in the crown	Yes	Good	Remove all dead wood	£30.00
T59	Yew	Large	Dead wood in the crown	Yes	Good	Remove all dead wood. Cut back low limbs from the road (by Castle Inn)	£75.00
T63	Oak	Large	Low limbs over the road	Yes	Good	Crown lift 3.5m	£50.00
						Total	£805.00

Cllr Mrs Harris proposed that the above work is approved. This was seconded by Cllr Williams and all were in favour. The Clerk undertook to obtain the necessary approvals where required.

The following work does require approval from the Diocese and SDC. This is being considered separately from the above as it will be a longer timeframe. Members approved the work if other approvals are received.

Tree Number	Tree Specie	Age	Observations	Priority	Condition	General Tree Work Required	Cost
T6	Conifer	Medium	Damage has compromised the tree safety	Yes	Poor	Fell to ground level	£300.00

81. Aviation

- i. Cllr Streatfeild reported that the Noise Management Board is not working well and GON and other environmental groups might leave if they don't achieve what they want at the next meeting. Gatwick Airport is in deep trouble due to the pandemic and is not thinking of making any concession to the environmental groups at this stage.
- ii. AEF re: current UK airport planning applications and proposed expansions: "Despite record drops in air travel and uncertainty around the pace and scale of recovery from the pandemic, many UK airports continue to press ahead with their expansion plans. We continue to be concerned at the number of expansion plans across the UK, and to highlight the discord between these and the Government's net zero commitment. Our new airport expansion guide tracks the progress of new and existing applications and draws attention to this concerning trend. Heathrow Airport was at the Supreme Court in October challenging February's ruling that the Airports National Policy Statement, which supported its expansion, was unlawful on climate change grounds. The verdict is expected in January 2021.

- “Permission has been granted for a judicial review of the Government’s decision in July to grant Manston Airport permission to open as an air freight hub. The decision had gone against the advice of the planning inspectorate, and according to campaigners, will damage the local economy and impact negatively on the UK’s carbon budget and our commitments to the Paris Agreement. A study from NATS found public support for airport expansion at a three-year low and that “the proportion agreeing that airport expansion is the right thing to do has dropped considerably compared to 2019”. Meanwhile, a new report from the New Economics Foundation finds that the economics of airport expansion don’t stack up.”
- iii. AEF – the date of the AEF Virtual AGM is Thursday 26th November 3pm to 5pm via zoom.
 - iv. CAA “The DfT and CAA, as co-sponsors of airspace modernisation, released a statement in July 2020 confirming a continued commitment to airspace modernisation and the need to consider how individual organisations may progress airspace change in response to the Airspace Change Organising Group’s (ACOG’s) report on ‘Remobilising the Airspace Change Programme’. In our July update we stated that we had immediately accepted three of ACOG’s recommendations and the DfT and CAA and committed to considering the remaining recommendations in further detail. Our October update provides information in relation to Sponsors restarting a ‘paused’ ACP and how we intend to assure that ACPs in the FASI-S programme that are progressing to a CAP1616 Stage 2 Gateway assessment do not constrain the optimisation of the wider network.”
 - v. Gatwick Airport Ltd: “Every year, Gatwick holds an Airspace and Noise Management Board Public Meeting. This year’s meeting will be held virtually on 3 December and is an opportunity to:
 - Hear from Gatwick about the impact that Covid-19 has had on its operations and changes to how the airspace is used.
 - Hear about the Noise Management Board and how Gatwick and its industry and community partners work together to manage aviation noise.
 - Ask questions of Gatwick representatives and the Noise Management Board Chairs.”
 Cllr Streatfeild said that the community groups are working better outside the Noise Management Board and will not be attending this event.

82. To discuss correspondence received

- i. Item 9: SDC re: Care for Our Community – a voluntary scheme that supported residents in the first seven months of the pandemic is getting ready to help out again as we enter a second lockdown. ‘Care for our Community – Sevenoaks District’ was set up in March to support vulnerable people, including those shielding. Around 1,500 volunteers came forward helping those in need by collecting their shopping and prescriptions, having a friendly chat and more. The scheme was stood down in the autumn as the transmission of the virus fell. As the nation prepares to stay at home once again to limit the spread of the virus, anyone who needs help is being urged to sign up to the ‘Care for our Community’ scheme. To request help, residents should visit www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/requesthelp or call the Council on 01732 227000.
- ii. Item 10: PCSO Samuel Rustrick – monthly report. Unfortunately, this next month will be the last month that PCSO Joseph Cain and PCSO Amy Best will be the local officers for your areas. They have both gained promotions and will be progressing in their career to become Team Leaders elsewhere in Kent. Due to this, I, Sam Rustrick will be taking over the local area and will be your local officer. I have been crewed with both Joe and Amy so have got to know all the areas and the problems I will be dealing with. This link will provide you with much information and advice around the Coronavirus, what Police are doing, and where you can go / who you can approach for support during this time.
See www.kent.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/c19/coronavirus-covid-19/. A large amount of our time is now being spent on Covid related calls and patrolling in the district to deal with any regulation breaches and provide advice and reassurance to all. This is also due to a reduction in other types of crime and ASB. Please be aware that there has been a rise in cases of Scams & Fraud. There is information on the Kent Police website and any incidents can be reported to Action Fraud - <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>
Leigh & Chiddingstone: We have completed regular patrols around Leigh and Chiddingstone and been hitting the hot spots for anti-social behaviour. A group of young people from Leigh were spoken to and were reminded about the social distancing rules. Investigations were conducted after a report of a car driving dangerously in the area was made; as a result, a driver was spoken to regarding speed and driving carefully.”

- iii. Item 11: Kent Police: Chiddingstone Causeway – between 6.30pm on Saturday 31st October and 10am on Sunday 1st November somebody broke into a vehicle parked in the road. Property taken includes tools.
- iv. Item 15: Kent Police: The Kent Police Property Fund is looking for applicants now. The Kent Police Property Fund is generated from the sale, at auction, of items seized in police operations. If you are a local, charitable organisation with a clear connection to Kent, you're welcome to apply. Criteria: The projects supported by Police Property Act Fund donations must be for charitable purposes and must benefit the residents of Kent. The aims of a project must include one or more of the following.
 - 1. To support people who are or have been victims of crime or vulnerable to crime.
 - 2. To improve the quality of life for residents by initiatives which prevent crime or reduce the fear of crime, such as divert people, especially young people, away from crime, reduce drug and alcohol abuse and reduce re-offending.
 - 3. To promote greater co-operation between the police and local communities by encouraging the development of a positive relationship between members of local communities and the police, especially those sections of the community which are currently under-represented in the police service, such as improving informed community engagement in the policing of Kent, and developing local partnerships which have a relevance to policing in Kent and relationships between police and the community.
 Please see <https://www.kent.police.uk/propertyfund>
- v. Item 16: Email from Beth Kemp, Youth Work Manager from YMCA in Tonbridge: “I have recently joined YMCA West Kent as the Youth work Manager. I am trying to understand what “need” there is for young people and how we can support with meeting this. I am writing to you to find out whether youth clubs are running (before/after COVID-19) and what support they may need, if any.” Clerk to contact Chiddingstone Youth Club.

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

- i. Rural swathe and visibility cutting contract
The Clerk reported that the third swathe cut can be done mid to end November. The other three parishes want a full cut rather than visibility only. Members agreed.
- ii. Bough Beech Parking Area
See item 74(ii).

84. Items for reporting or inclusion in future agenda

- i. The Clerk thanked Cllr Mrs Harris for laying a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council on Remembrance Sunday.
- ii. Cllr Bishop reported that there is some Ash dieback on Hill Hoath Road. Clerk to contact the landowner. There is also some deadwood on an oak tree between Wellers Town and Watstock, and Cllr Bishop undertook to speak to the landowner.
- iii. The move to go paperless for planning applications to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

85. Date of next Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 7.30pm via zoom

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.