

**Minutes of Mersham with Sevington Parish Council Meeting held in
the Church Room, St John the Baptist Church, Mersham on Monday, 17th July 2017**

Present	Peter Turley (Chair)	Rob Hansen
	Gavin Murphy	Jan Oakley-Hills
	Henrietta Sawdon	Mick Smithers
	Kenton Stewart	

In attendance: Paul Bartlett, Graham Kingston, Tracey Block (Clerk) and 1 member of the public

To be actioned by

The meeting started at 7.30pm	
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Fletcher and Whitehead.	
Declaration of interest in items on the agenda There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.	
Minutes of the Meeting on 19 th June 2017 were approved as a true record and signed accordingly.	
Matters Arising from the Minutes There were no matters arising from the minutes	
Public session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item. <i>The sign-post for the footpath by the shop has broken.</i> The Clerk will report this to KCC Parish Paths Partnership. <i>The proposed lorry park at J.11 is likely to make the A20 busier so will there be a cycle path incorporated into the plans?</i> The Judicial Review needs to be heard following the statement that was made last Autumn. If the High Court squash the Judicial Review, £250,000,000 will be spent and the planning will be put in at Shepway, at this point a request can be made to Shepway to incorporate Cycle lanes etc. The Judicial Review is not expected to be heard until November.	
Report from Borough Councillor Blind Lane – The owners of Petworth have lodged an appeal against enforcement. The hearing will be on 8 th August at 10am. It has been noted that a caravan from the property has been removed from the site and placed on Kingsford Street, the Community Warden has reported this to both Ashford Borough Council and the Police. S.106 agreement for Stour Park (U19) is causing delay to progress of Kingsford Street close off and turning circle construction. Waterbrook Dev't. GSE is causing contention with the placement of the enlarged lorry park, putting a large lorry park adjacent to houses is ill-advised. Various sites as part of Ashford Borough Council's 2030 plan have come to light. They are broadly not contentious for this area. 350 extra houses on Finberry, extra 50 houses on Waterbrook, Village Hall site but the Old Rectory Close site is contentious. The public consultation is now open and is on-going until 31 st August. It is important to be supportive of what you want to see. Note the lorry park should not be too close to the houses. Planning Infringement Issue at Bower Farm – Cllr Bartlett has objected, the Council will object, the residents have lodged objections. No planning consent has been given and it is hoped that the issue can be easily resolved. Cllr Turley will forward details to the Clerk for the Council to lodge an objection and Cllr Turley will also contact Richard Alderton with regard to the matter. Kent Wool Growers is not going in to U19 as they are experiencing financial difficulties. <i>Has the land been</i>	

<p><i>sold on?</i> It may have been sold on but Ashford Borough Council are still dealing with Financial Life with regard to this site.</p>	
<p>Report from Community Warden The Community Warden that it had been quite a quiet month, the caravan at Kingsford Street has a couple residing in it but has been reported.</p> <p>There was an abandoned vehicle in Chequer Tree Farm Road but this has now been removed.</p> <p>The school had been involved in the Safety in Action Event.</p>	
<p>Co-option of a replacement Councillor for Mersham Ward A letter of resignation was received from Cllr Sawdon from the Sevington Ward. Cllr Oakley-Hills proposed that Henrietta Sawdon be co-opted as a Parish Councillor for Mersham Ward. Cllr Murphy seconded this proposal and all were in favour. Henrietta will be co-opted officially at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk will notify Ashford Borough Council that a vacancy has arisen on the Sevington ward and an advert will be produced.</p>	
<p>Local Plan Update Cllr Turley had produced a draft response to the Local Plan. Cllrs Turley and Murphy have met with residents and Cllr Bartlett. The draft is written on the basis that it will be discussed and circulated and when finalised the Clerk will submit the document.</p>	
<p>Planning Matters: A list of Planning Applications was circulated as Appendix A with the agenda, those requiring a response were:</p> <p>Reference: <u>14/00490/CONF/AS</u> Address: Phase 1, Waterbrook Park, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Kent Proposal: Discharge of conditions 13, 17, 18, 30 and 31 The Parish Council raises no comment to this application</p> <p>Reference: <u>14/00490/CONG/AS</u> Address: Phase 1, Waterbrook Park, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Kent Proposal: Partial Discharge of conditions 2 The Parish Council raises no comment to this application</p>	
<p>Email received regarding Cranwell House The email received by Cllr Turley regarding a proposal to build 2 additional cottages on land at Cranwell House was circulated and discussed. Key points were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the information provided The Parish Council had a low confidence level in whether any of the suggested village benefits would be realised. • The final view of any revised planning request would need to be considered in light of the outcome of the approved 2030 plans. • There was concern about the traffic/access impact. • The extent to which loss of green space within village centre would be assessed once detail plans available. 	
<p>Financial Matters To approve the following financial documents: To note/authorise the following:</p> <p>To note the Parish Council's financial position: The Parish Council has a bank balance of: £31638.24 To authorise any payments including the Clerk's Salary and the Litter picker's Salary</p> <p>The following payments were authorised:</p>	

Cheque	Payee's Name	Reason for Payment	Amount	Notes	
501798	I King	Litter Pickers Salary – July (Mersham)	£ 93.60		
501799	T Saint	Litter Pickers Salary – July (Sevington)	£ 116.13		
501800	T Block	Clerks Salary – July	£ 401.52		
501801	HMRC	Tax paid on Salaries	£ 77.60		
501802	I King	Litter Pickers Salary – August (Mersham)	£ 93.60		
501803	T Saint	Litter Pickers Salary – August (Sevington)	£ 116.13		
501804	T Block	Clerks Salary – August	£ 462.40		
501805	P Turley	Flowers for Lady Mountbatten's funeral	£ 100.00		

A budget over expenditure and financial statement had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

The documentation to add Cllrs Turley and Murphy as additional cheque signatories was partially completed and will be circulated to other Councillors to complete before being sent off to the relevant authority.

Any Other Business
Rose Cottage, opposite Cherry Glebe, has had fir trees cut down and they have been left and are a fire hazard. Cllr Smithers is to approach those responsible for this.

The Clerk had located the owners of the land behind the shop and had circulated a copy of the title plan and register. Cllr Smithers is to approach the owner to see if anything can be done to help create parking spaces.

Councillor Stewart confirmed he will progress installation of new bench opposite the Royal Oak.

The next meeting was confirmed as Monday, 18th September 2017, the Clerk would like any items for the agenda by Friday 8th September, please.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.30 PM.

All