

**Meopham Parish Council
Environment & Amenities Committee
held on 17th November 2015 at 8.00 p.m.
at the Windmill, Meopham Green**

Committee Members: Cllr Goffon (Chairman) Cllr Knott (Vice Chairman), Cllrs D Bramer, M Bramer, Buchanan, Hasler, Howard, Leyshon, Powell and Wade

In attendance: Mrs S Egglesden (Parish Clerk), Cllr Ogden, G Willsher (MF&DG)
1 member of public (from 8.20pm)

Item 1 To receive Apologies for Absence

E.67 They were no apologies.

Item 2 To receive Declarations of Interest

E.68 Cllrs Knott and Buchanan declared an interest in item 11.1 (d) as members of Meopham Village Hall Committee. There were no other declarations.

Item 3 To approve minutes of the previous meeting

E.69 The minutes of the meeting held on 22/09/15 were approved as a correct record on a proposal by Cllr Buchanan and seconded by Cllr Knott and all voted in favour.

Item 4 Matters Arising

E.70 There were no matters arising.

Item 5 Planning Applications

E.71 The following applications were considered by this Committee

2015/1039 11 HADLEY CLOSE MEOPHAM GRAVESEND KENT DA13 0NX
Erection of a single storey side extension to form annexe comprising of lounge, bedroom, kitchen and shower room wc. Cllr Buchanan proposed a motion of no objections and this was seconded by Cllr Howard. All voted in favour of no objections and the motion was agreed.

2015/1018 MEOPHAM SCHOOL WROTHAM ROAD MEOPHAM GRAVESEND KENT
DA13 0AH
Siting of two temporary accommodation blocks for a 30 month period. Cllr D Bramer proposed a motion of no objection and this was seconded by Cllr Hasler. There were 9 votes in favour and 1 abstention from Cllr Buchanan who declared an interest as a School Governor. The motion of no objection was agreed.

2015/1064 GRAVENEY LODGE WROTHAM ROAD MEOPHAM GRAVESEND KENT
DA13 0AQ
Erection of a four bedroom detached dwelling in the grounds to the rear of the existing dwelling. Cllr Hasler proposed a motion of no objection subject to

neighbour consultation and this was seconded by Cllr Powell. There were 6 votes in favour and 4 abstentions (including Cllrs Goffon and Wade who declared an interest as the applicant is known to them). The motion of no objection subject to neighbour consultation was agreed.

2015/1015 LAND SOUTH EAST OF COZENDEN WOOD COPTHALL ROAD COBHAM GRAVESEND KENT DA13 9AU

Retention of existing mobile home and site/store. Cllr Powell proposed a motion of recommending to GBC that they allow temporary permission for 1 year. This was seconded by Cllr Hasler. There were 9 votes in favour and 1 abstention. The motion was agreed.

LINDEN WOOD MANOR

Cllr Buchanan proposed a motion that following receipt of an email from Vigo Parish Council, that the clerk contacts GBC Enforcements on behalf of the Council to raise concerns regarding the siting of the fence. This was seconded by Cllr Leyshon and all voted in favour. The motion was agreed.

Item 6 **Village Greens**

6.1 **To note the response from Maltbys regarding the easement valuation and to then consider and approve, if appropriate, the request from the resident to allow work to be carried out on Meopham Green for electricity and water services**

E.72 The valuation figure of £6000 from Maltbys for the easement was noted. Following discussion Cllr Goffon proposed a motion that the Clerk ask Kent Legal Services to include a condition in the contract with regard to the increasing value of the land if sold and the value goes up by more than 30%, then the easement payable should be increased. This was seconded by Cllr Powell. Cllrs Goffon, Hasler, Howard, Knott, Powell and Wade voted in favour and Cllrs D Bramer, M Bramer, Buchanan and Leyshon voted against. The vote was recorded, as requested by Cllr M Bramer. The motion was agreed.

Action: Clerk

6.2 **To receive an update on the relevant post work around the greens**

E.73 Cllr Knott reported that post work has been carried out on Harvel Green. The contractor will be moving onto Culverstone Green, Priestwood Green then returning to Meopham Green

6.3 **Annual Survey of Village Greens, Judsons Recreation Ground and Southdown Shaw for 2015**

E.74 Cllrs were requested to complete the allocated green survey form due in by 4th December 2015. As post work is still in progress this was not to be included.

Action: All Cllrs

E.75 Cllr Knott reported on her discussion with a resident regarding the amount of leaves on Edmund Green.

Item 7 **Rights of Way, including Footpaths Groups**

7.1 **Update on Millsole Green**

E.76 The land registry search had been carried out and the two owners are registered as living in Middlesex. It was agreed that the boundaries need to be established and Cllrs Goffton and Wade would visit the site and report back.

Action: Cllrs Goffton and Wade

7.2 **Update from Cllr Knott on Meopham & Districts Footpath Group AGM**

E.77 Cllr Knott gave a report. There is a change of chairmanship.

E.78 Discussion took place regarding byway NS287 and the funding request from County Councillor B. Sweetland. It was noted that the Clerk is looking into legal ownership of the byway and this request will be addressed at the next FC meeting.

Cllr Goffton proposed standing orders were suspended to allow Gillian Willshire to speak. This was seconded by Cllr Buchanan and all voted in favour.

Standing Orders were then reinstated.

Item 8 **Recreation Ground and Playground Equipment**

8.1 **Judsons Sub Committee**

8.1.1 **Health and Safety inspection update**

E.79 Cllr Howard reported that the inspection of the Judsons building had been carried out last week and the report will follow.

8.1.2 **To approve and agree, if appropriate, the recommendations from the Judson's Sub Committee from the meeting dated 29/9/15**

E.80 Cllr Goffton proposed that as we do not have the health and safety report that any recommendations from the Judsons sub committee are put on hold until we know the condition of the building. Cllr Buchanan raised concerns about the current safety of the building. Cllrs Powell and Wade confirmed that the Pavilion is not currently in use by anyone. Cllr Powell also confirmed that an electricity inspection had been carried out approximately 3 years ago, with details in the parish office. Cllr Powell proposed the agenda item motion and this was seconded by Cllr Hasler. All voted in favour and the motion to approve the recommendations was agreed.

Action: Judsons Sub Committee

8.2 **To receive an update on the wetpour at Judsons Play area**

E.81 It was agreed to discuss this in closed session

Item 9 **Grants**

9.1 **To consider appointing a member of the E&A Committee to look at grant information, in conjunction with the Clerk, with a view to**

looking for appropriate grants to assist with any E&A Committee Projects

E.82 Following discussion, it was agreed that the clerk would publish a link to the Kent 4 Community grants information on the parish website.

Action: Clerk

Item 10 Christmas Events

10.1 To approve costs for the purchase and erection of a Christmas tree on Meopham Green

10.2 To note the arrangements for turning on the lights for the Christmas tree on Meopham Green

10.3 To note the arrangements for the carol singing event on Meopham Green.

E.83 Cllr Goffton requested we look at the above 3 items together. Cllr Wade confirmed that £200 would cover requirements for the tree and she was in the process of organising this, with the tree going up on Friday. The switching on of the lights and carol singing, organised by the Church is taking place on 16/12/15 at 8pm. Cllrs Hasler and Wade agreed to take the lead in organising someone to turn on the lights.

Action : Cllrs Hasler and Wade

Item 11 Financial Matters

11.1 To consider and approve a request for a grant from the following:

- a) Meopham Mother and Toddlers Group
- b) Meopham & District Footpath Group
- c) Meopham over 60s
- d) Meopham Village Hall

E.84 Following discussion on all the grant applications, Cllr Powell proposed a motion to approve all grant requests and this was seconded by Cllr Goffton. All voted in favour and the motion agreed.

Action: Clerk

11.2 To approve the Environment and Amenities Committee Expenditure from 16/9/15 to 11/11/15

E.85 Cllr Knott proposed a motion to approve the expenditure and this was seconded by Cllr Buchanan. All voted in favour and the motion was agreed.

11.3 To note the emergency work to replace the gate on Harvel Green

E.86 This was noted

11.4 To note the Environment and Amenities Committee Income and Expenditure for 2015/2016 financial year

E.87 Cllr Wade queried the amount for August under the Service Contract budget heading. The Clerk would inform members.

Action: Clerk

11.5 To consider and approve the proposed Environment and Amenities Committee budget for the 2016/2017 financial year

E.88 Cllr Goffton requested a meeting with the 3 Committee Chairman and the Parish Council Chairman to look at the budget proposals. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange this meeting and the E&A budget would be forwarded to the A&R Committee meeting for approval.

Action: Clerk

Item 12 Correspondence

12.1 To note the correspondence received

E.89 Members noted the correspondence

CLOSED SESSION

Item 13 Trees

13.1 To consider the quotations submitted for the tree survey for all the village green and approve a contractor

E.90 Cllr Leyshon proposed a motion to appoint The Original Tree Surgeons Limited and Cllr Wade seconded this. All voted in favour and the motion was approved.

Action: Clerk

Item 8.2 to received an update on the wetpour at Judsons Play area

E.91 Quotations received were looked at. Following recommendations from one contractor and the GBC Inspection report, it was agreed to defer any work required here until the spring. It was agreed the clerk would contact the Service Contractor to request the leaves are cleared and moss removed from the wetpour areas.

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 10:10PM

Signed.....Dated.....