

**Minutes of the Council Meeting of EDENBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL held in Rickards Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 14 March 2016**

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Present: Cllrs T Bryant, Mrs J Davison, A Layland, V Maynard, M McArthur, S McGregor (Chairman), B Orridge, C Pearman, and, B Todd

In attendance: C Lane (Town Clerk), two members of the public and no press.

**1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received, noted and accepted from Cllrs J Barnett (family commitment), R Davison (unwell), M Robson (unwell), J Scholey (business) and J Woollorton (work commitment).

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS OR PREDETERMINATION**

*The District Council members stated that although they would be considering planning applications at this meeting they would be reconsidering them at the district level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations there.*

*The meeting was closed*

**3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS - none**

*The meeting reopened*

**4. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8 February 2016**

Resolved: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 8 February 2016 be duly signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR REPORT AND NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA - none**

**6. TO CONSIDER THE CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Planning Applications for consideration**

Erection of a proposed replacement dwelling. **Graceful Gardens Hever Lane Hever Kent TN8 7ET** Ref. No: 16/00195/FUL | Received: Mon 25 Jan 2016 | Validated: Fri 19 Feb 2016 | Status: Application - Pending Consideration

*Members had no comment to make on this application which they considered to be new build in the Green Belt.*

Removal of two section of hedgerow **Chiswell Farn, Shernden Lane, Marsh Green**  
Ref no:16/00475/HDNOT

*Members supported this application providing that the ecological implications are taken into account.*

Change of use B1 offices to C3 residential **92 High Street Edenbridge Kent TN8 5AR**  
Ref no 16/00381/FUL

*Members support this application but wish the Officers to check the claim that parking is available 'on site' at the rear as the car park is not part of the development site.*

Erection of a single storey rear extension, pergola structure and covered decking area  
**38 Ridge Way, Edenbridge Kent TN8 6AR**  
Ref no 16/00234/HOUSE

*Members object to this application as they consider the accumulative effect of the previous extensions and the proposed roof high of the proposed pergola to be overbearing.*

Conversion of existing front garden into an off road parking area. Construction of a dropped kerb. Removal of Yew hedge. **2 Cornwallis Gardens, Marsh Green Road, Marsh Green, Edenbridge TN8 5QE** Ref 15/03468/HOUSE

*Members support this application*

Variation of condition 2 (in accordance with the following plans 3759a15/o3F & 3759a15/05B) and condition 4 (the materials on plan 3759a/15/03b) of SE/15/00326/FUL to erection of 3 no 2 bedroom terraced cottages with individual and community integral internal and external amenity space and dedicated parking, on the land rear of No 11 High Street. Removal of condition 3 (code for sustainable homes) **Land At the Rear of Fox And Manwaring 11 High Street Edenbridge KENT TN8 5AB**

*Members have delayed making comment on this application until the details of the conditions can be established.*

Various works to 2 Oak trees (TPO) **Willow Trees Crouch House Road Edenbridge KENT TN8 5EH** Decision - Granted

*Noted*

## **7. TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING REPORTS**

### **7.1 Emergency Planning Committee, 1 February**

Resolved: that the minutes presented by Cllr M McArthur be adopted.

### **7.2 Planning and Transportation, 22 February**

Resolved: that the minutes presented by Cllr S McGregor be adopted. Members were advised that the Chief Planning Officer had not been available to attend but a meeting had been arranged at the District Council.

### **7.3 Finance Committee, 22 February**

Resolved: that the minutes presented by Cllr S McGregor be adopted.

### **7.4 Personnel Committee, 1 March**

Resolved: that the minutes presented by Cllr M McArthur be adopted.

### **7.5 County Councillor's Report February – noted**

### **7.6 MP's Update – noted**

### **7.7 Working Group / Delegate Reports / Clerk's and Officers' Reports**

#### **7.7.1 Chamber of Commerce, 1 March 2016 - noted**

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **8.1 Items referred from Committees for decision**

#### **8.1.1 Open Spaces, barrier rail Recreation Ground**

Resolved: to reduce the possibility of unauthorised vehicles accessing the Recreation Ground from the eastern car park, it was agreed to install a low rail barrier along the field side of that car park, matching the one in place on the western side. To be funded from £1,245 in OS Contingencies, and £2,094 from OS Small Projects with the shortfall of £1,121 from the Contingency Fund.

#### **8.1.2 Street Lighting Working Group**

The Street Lights Review Working Group advised that all the 'red' and 'blue' works on the Inspection Report had been completed, leaving a balance of £4,461.25. Other outstanding issues were considered and it was

Resolved: to leave the Columns in Market Yard car park as all-night photocells, in line with Stangrove Park and the main approach roads into town.

Resolved: not to install a new column in Hilders Close.

Resolved: to budget to replace six concrete columns a year, at £2,500 per column, initially £15k in the 2017/18 budget and thereafter inflation linked. The Clerk and RFO to be asked for guidance under what heading this provision should be. The concrete columns would then be replaced as and when necessary.

Resolved: to replace the remaining 15 Sox lanterns with 50w Son lanterns (matching our others), at a cost of £285 each, total cost £4,275 + Vat, from the remaining balance of £4,461.25.

Resolved: to consider replacement of the two Station Approach lanterns which have Metal Halide lamps with 50w Son lanterns, at a total cost of £570 + Vat, following request to Southern to cut back the trees being actioned.

Resolved: now the street light project is all but completed, and the maintenance of the lighting stock kept well in hand by our excellent lighting contractor, to disband the Task and Finish Group and all future street light reports to go Open Spaces Committee.

### **8.2 Review of Byelaws**

Members reviewed the byelaws but did not wish to make amendments at this time.

### **8.3 Parishes Family Fun Days – Summer 2016**

The delivery costs for the popular Parishes Family Fun days scheme has increased to £462.21, resulting in a budget shortfall of £323.84. The Great Stone Bridge Trust has been approached for funding to cover the shortfall, and to provide two additional special activities, one at each of two sessions (a Magician and Circus Skills) at £550.

Resolved: that the sessions should go ahead, funded from the contingency if funding is not forthcoming from GSBT.

### **8.4 Celebration for Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**Clean for the Queen.** On Friday 4 March at 2pm a hardy bunch of volunteers gathered at the Leisure Centre car park, to take part in the 'Clean for the Queen' litter picking campaign. Twenty five bags of rubbish were collected and a beautiful tea provided afterwards for the volunteers at Doggetts Barn by Cllr Jill Davidson.

**Gift to children at Edenbridge Primary School to commemorate HM Queen Elizabeth II 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.** Members considered an engraved pen and a gilded medal, in a Perspex case.

Resolved: to purchase gilded medals at a special price of £1.99, each funding to be agreed at the Finance meeting.

### **8.5 Review of recording of meetings**

The Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014 gave members of the public the right to film or take photographs at meetings.

Resolved: that following an extensive trial, there had been no requests to view video recordings of the council's meetings and the practice of recording meeting should cease.

### **8.6 Council Review 2016**

Resolved: to remove council representation to the Sustainable Edenbridge Group, the Campaign to Protect Rural England and the Sevenoaks Youth Advisory group. To advise them that should they wish to provide information to the council, on specific activities or issues, this would be welcomed.

Resolved: that unless specified, one councillor plus a substitute, to be appointed to each external body.

Resolved: The Edenbridge and District Rail Travellers' newsletter to be included in the Planning and Transportation meeting agenda.

Resolved: that with the exception of the Twinning Association, reports to council only to be made when there is something exceptional to report. Members to use their discretion in deciding which, if any, items are exceptional, and to provide written reports in time for publication of the Council agenda.

Resolved: that, whilst being appointed to the various groups and committees, members do not have powers to take decisions on behalf of the council. Any proposal needing approval should be included in a delegate report so that the full council has the opportunity to discuss it. Requests for members to attend meetings in other than a personal capacity require approval from council. Urgent decisions to be approved by Chairman and one other member.

Resolved: that except where a matter is urgent, information to be circulated by the Clerk by way of a weekly email update to including information from NALC and KALC. Links to the organisations to which the council is a member to be provided so that members can access information they require themselves, along with details of the Council's website and Twitter accounts.

### **8.7 Replacement laptop and additional phones**

Resolved: to replace the Community Warden laptop at a cost of £856.45+ Vat. from the depreciation fund. The cost to include integration onto the new server.

Resolved: to purchase two additional handsets for the new phone system at a cost of £143 + VAT, one for the hot desk and one for the members' area to be used by the Emergency Planning Committee, as and when needed. To attempt to sell the old handsets.

### **8.8 Estate Matters**

Members are advised that the residents of Stangrove and Spitals Cross Estates are petitioning the District Council for additional parking on their Estates. The District Council is willing, subject to some restrictions, to gift the land it owns to them and there is the possibility of major works taking place to the trees on the Stangrove Estate in the near future.

Resolved: that a meeting should be hosted by the Town Council to bring the parties together to see if there might be a way forward.

*The meeting ended at 9.00pm*