

Little Chart Parish Council

Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council Meeting declared open at 7.32pm at the Village Hall, The Street, Little Chart, Ashford, Kent TN27 0QB on Tuesday 3rd September 2019

Unique Minute Number 74/	Business	Record	Action (by whom, and within what timescale)
1	Note of Persons Present	Cllrs Brasier (Chairman), Ladds, Diebel, Beck, Rivolta, 1 member of the public, Mr Sharpe (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer RFO)	
2	Apologies for Absence	Cllr Clair Bell of Ashford Borough notified her prospective late arrival, following her invitation (see below Item 12)	
3	Declarations of Interest	There were no Declarations of Pecuniary, Significant or Other Interest.	
4	Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 9th July	These were read and agreed as a true record and Cllr Brasier signed them.	Clerk to place paper copy in Minutes Book immediately, and ensure website is updated by 30 th September
5	Matters Arising	<p>From Minute 73/10 the Chairman reported that the boulders were now available for a working party to pick up and place on the vulnerable edge of the Plantation. A reply from Kent County Council recommended a spacing of 450mm from the edge of the tarmac. The Councillors and member of the public then left the Hall (7.40pm) to examine the proposal <i>in situ</i>, returning to the meeting shortly afterwards (7.50 pm). The Council RESOLVED to obtain white paint to increase boulder visibility.</p> <p>From Minute 73/5 Kent County Council Speed Survey in Little Chart – the Clerk reported that the results had now in fact been received by email, and invited those present to view a display board of selected information. After assimilating the very detailed data, the Council RESOLVED to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Campaign for extending the speed limit area outward within the current Traffic Regulation Order (by 20 metres); 2. Campaign for lowering the speed limit in The Street to 20 mph, in line with the national “20’s Plenty” initiative; 3. Investigate robust traffic calming and speed reduction measures for Swan Lane from the Forstal to Pluckley, and for the Street from Swan Bridge to Hurstford Lane. 	<p>R Brasier to co-ordinate delivery of two boulders and Saturday morning working party, and obtain suitable masonry-type paint.</p> <p>Clerk to communicate with Kent County Council as the Highways Authority, and draw up a position paper, for the November Parish Council meeting.</p>
6	Public Interval	The member of the public brought the Council’s attention to a bad pothole in the public highway outside Walnut Tree Farm in Swan Lane, and during the discussion another set of potholes outside The Priest House in The Street was mentioned.	Clerk to photograph, measure depth and report to Kent Highways online Portal, by 12 th September.

7	Financial report	The RFO reported to the PC that the bank reconciliation at the date of the meeting was correct, with no uncleared cheques or payments in transit. The main account holds £18,600.17 and the No 2 account £0.01 (to keep it open). The Council discussed early termination of rolling contracts where value for money could not be demonstrated. The Council RESOLVED to accept the report. Proposed Cllr Brasier, seconded Cllr Ladds	
8	Planning Application: 19/00176/ TC The Granary, Ram Lane – further permission sought for tree work on 2 trees within the Little Chart Forstal Conservation Area.	The Council viewed printed-out papers for the tree work application, and noted it involved different trees from those dealt with in Tree Application 19/0113/TC. After discussion the Council RESOLVED to support. Proposed Cllr Brasier, seconded Cllr Ladds	Clerk to communicate 'support' to ABC using online Planning Portal, by 10 th September 2019
9	Little Chart Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) Appointee.	Cllr Diebel having been appointed at the Parish Council Annual Meeting, he now proposed an improved channel of communication between the VHMC Secretary and the Parish Council Clerk. After discussion, the Parish Council RESOLVED to delete his appointment to this outside body and write formally to propose a new arrangement.	Clerk to draft letter to VHMC and communicate with Councillors by email, as convenient.
10	Correspondence	The Council noted the consultation on removal of the BT Phone box, and the change of responsibility for the upper reaches of the River Stour.	
11	Exchange of Information	While awaiting Borough Councillor Clair Bell's arrival, Councillors revisited the scope for maintenance of The Plantation.	Clerk to draw up specification for tree work and arrange tenders from contractors, by November meeting.
12	Invited Guest to address the Council	Borough Councillor Clair Bell joined the meeting at 8.50 pm, and reported on various matters within Ashford Borough. Councillors asked a number of questions, and at the close Cllr Bell said she would be happy to support financially any further speed surveys, given the worrying results of the July exercise.	
13	Request for a legal easement at The Forstal	The Council considered the matter under Standing Order 1c and RESOLVED to exclude the public from this business. Cllr Clair Bell and the member of the public then left the meeting. The Council then received an update from the Clerk on the correspondence with the Council's solicitor and surveyor in this matter, awaiting reply.	
14	Date, place and time of next meeting	The next meeting will be on Tuesday 12 November 2019, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall unless otherwise notified.	Clerk to publicise agenda by Wednesday 6 th November.

The meeting concluded at 9.22 pm.