

Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council

Founded in December 1894

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday 12th July 2021 At Great Chart Village Hall Starting at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Alexander, Ackrill, P Barker, Y Barker, Gathern, Sullivan, Tate, Wiffen, Wilford.

ALSO PRESENT: Aniko Szocs (Clerk), Paula Cowperthwaite (Deputy Clerk), Cllr Blanford (ABC), Cllr Howard-Smith (ABC), Cllr Shorter (ABC), PCSO Stevens, 5 members of public

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Darvill, Cllr McClintock, Cllr Barrett (ABC), Cllr Ross (KCC), Cllr Simkins (KCC)

2. Declarations of Interest

To hear declarations of interest on this agenda, relating to:

2.1. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None

2.2. Other Significant Interests

Item 16.2.1 – Cllrs Ackrill, Wiffen

2.3. Other Interests

Item 7.1 – Cllrs P Barker, Y Barker, Sullivan

Item 7.2 – Cllr Y Barker

Item 7.3 – Cllrs Ackrill, Wiffen

Item 7.4 – Cllrs P Barker, Gathern

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The [minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 June 2021](#) were agreed to be accurate, and the council resolved to accept them as a true record.

Proposed:	Cllr Tate	Seconded:	Cllr Ackrill
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

4. PCSO Report

PCSO Stevens noted that her report went out at the beginning of the month. There have only been a couple of nuisance reports recently, so she asked for any questions.

The PCSO was asked about the ongoing catapult incidents. The issue is that the police need evidence of people committing the crime, most evidence provided is circumstantial. Catapulting is currently an issue shown by the number of reports being received.

5. Reports from Borough Councillors

5.1. Cllr Barrett – Singleton East Ward

Not present – apologies received.

5.2. Cllr Blanford – Weald Central Ward

Cllr Blanford noted that the planning portfolio holder is now Cllr Neil Bell who has taken over from Cllr Neil Shorter.

Chilmington secondary school – a design panel will be coming up with suggestions. A recent zoom meeting discussed design and access, the suggested ‘rural’ colour scheme was very brown heavy so Cllr Blanford has suggested greens, poppy red, oil seed rape yellow may be a little more cheerful. It is hoped that it will be open by September 2023.

Cllr Blanford has joined the affordable rural housing working group, organised by NALC. They are proposing to meet four times per year.

The Chilmington primary school opening will be delayed until October half term. Until then the school will continue to operate from Jemmett Road.

5.3. Cllr Howard-Smith- Singleton West Ward

Cllr Howard-Smith held a successful ward walk and thanked those who turned up. No major issues were identified, just a few minor issues such as overgrown pathways. She encouraged everyone to report issues online, as they are being checked and actioned.

The flyposting by estate agents should all have been removed by now. Please report this if you see any signage going forward.

5.4. Cllr Shorter - Washford Ward

Cllr Shorter is now the Portfolio holder for finance and IT, a role he left two years ago and which he looks forward to returning to. He retains responsibility for the CMO and remains as a board member.

Cllr Shorter will remain on the planning committee as a voting member, rather than as ex-officio.

There is a cabinet paper due on 29th July which will give likely solutions and costs for the way forward on the Stodmarsh issue. It will indicate where developers and development will go in the next 12 months, and the consequences on the local plan and the general direction of travel.

ABC will be the determining authority for the Chilmington secondary school. It is expected that the formal planning application process will begin in the autumn.

There are discussions ongoing regarding travel plans for the primary school.

Cllr Shorter will host a ward walk in October.

Cllr Gathern raised the removal of dead trees on Running Foxes Lane. The signage suggests they won't be replaced due to lack of funds. Cllr Shorter suggested that they were put in as part of the design of the area so maybe KCC may have a moral responsibility to replace them.

With regards to the Lodge Close pavement, Cllr Shorter will send the Clerk an email as previously agreed.

6. Reports from County Councillors (when in attendance)

6.1. Cllr Charlie Simkins

Not present – apologies received

6.2. Cllr Dirk Ross

Not present – apologies received along with a short note about a proposed telecoms mast in Harvest Way, and that the new shop in the Singleton Centre will be a café, and the original chip shop will be a kebab/pizza place.

7. Reports from Committees/Groups

To receive reports from committees

7.1. Chilmington Green Planning Working Group

Not met since the last council meeting but a meeting is planned for 27th July.

7.2. Great Chart Playing Fields

The AGM was held on 30th June. The next meeting is planned for 21st July.

7.3. Singleton Spaces

The solar panels have been installed on the extension. £5k of the total cost came from the parish council budget line so thanks were given to the parish council.

There will be a grand opening event of the new extension on 31st July.

The first relaxation session will be this Saturday.

The centre hosted the inaugural meeting of Singleton WI and the CMO AGM will be hosted there on July 21st

The annual accounts are now on the charity commission website.

7.4. Amenities, Open Space and Environment Committee

At the last meeting allotments were discussed. There are 22 people on the waiting list so potential expansion plans were discussed.

There is an ongoing problem with allotment security and mindless vandalism.

Installation of electric vehicle charging points at SVH were discussed, as was the wooden horse on the A28

There are ongoing discussions with Aspire about pesticide use and potentially having areas where pesticides aren't used. The parish stewards are currently using a vinegar based solution around the parish.

Still waiting for input from Kent Wildlife Trust regarding Kent Plan Bee.

Cllr Gathern has received positive feedback for the article she wrote for the last newsletter about environmental actions being taken around the parish.

Public Participation: There will be 15 minutes of the meeting to hear public questions and comments.

A member of public requested information about the traffic monitoring survey that was carried out on the A28, but this has not been reported to the parish council yet. It was suggested that as Cllr Simkins part funded the survey, he might be a good point of contact for the results.

There was a report of flooding around a ditch near a member of the public's property. The resident said he had achieved some success via KCC Councillor Simkins but the issue remained unresolved. The parish council has no powers in this context and it was suggested the resident go back to Cllr Simkins for further action and failing a satisfactory outcome, contact Damien Green, the local MP.

8. Planning Applications for Consideration this Month

8.1. Planning Application Number [21/01067/AS](#)

Blue Barn Equestrian Centre, Blue Barn Farm, Ashford Road, Great Chart, Ashford Kent, TN23 3DH Outline Planning application with all matters reserved for future consideration for the redevelopment of previously developed land and the construction of mixed use development comprising 40 dwellings (C3) and 40 commercial units together with 4 custom build plot- Cllr P Barker

Cllr P Barker explained that the application is for 40 living units with ground floor commercial use and living accommodation upstairs/to the side. It also includes some custom builds, potential additional offices and four self-build plots. There is also a further application due for another 25 buildings.

It was noted that the Greater Ashford Development Framework recommended that there should be no development on the Great Chart side of the A28. This was also agreed by the Planning Inspectorate.

It has been suggested that the development will generate approximately 300 traffic movements per day, but it was noted that this would depend entirely on the type of commercial units. It was also noted that the existing gymkhanas that create current

traffic flow only happen on weekends, not during the working week. Applications can be refused if increased traffic becomes a danger.

There is only one entrance/exit to the development.

The development will be directly opposite the proposed secondary school and will present a significant danger to those attempting to cross the A28.

The council resolved to object to the application due to the previous agreement that no development should take place on the Great Chart side of the A28.

Proposed:	Cllr P Barker	Seconded:	Cllr Tate
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

8.2. Planning Application number [21/00795/AS](#)

Land at 10 Eggringe, Singleton, Ashford, Two detached two storey dwellings with associated access-

Cllr Y Barker explained that there had been a previous application for 1 x bungalow and associated access. The parish council had objected to this. The current application is for 2 larger dwellings which should be objected to on the same grounds which were lack of access and parking provision.

The council proposed to object to the application based on lack of access and parking provision.

Proposed:	Cllr Y Barker	Seconded:	Cllr Wiffen
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

8.3. Planning Application Number [21/01090/AS](#)

Blackwood Cottage, Bartlets Lane, Chilmington Green, Ashford, TN23 3DW Variation of conditions 3 and 4 on planning permission 21/00086/AS removal of condition 4 on planning permission ref. 16/00653/AS to allow annexe to be occupied independently to retain and relocate the home office and garden shed- Cllr Y Barker

Blackwood cottage was the annexe to Stone Cottage (application 8.4) and gained approval earlier this year. Permission was granted assuming the existing home office would be removed.

The proposal is to move the home office to a different location but some plans also suggest it has already been done.

The council resolved to support the application on the understanding that the planning applications in section 8.4 are refused.

Proposed:	Cllr Y Barker	Seconded:	Cllr Wilford
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

8.4. Planning Application Number [21/01091/AS](#) & [21/00086/AS](#)

1 Stone Cottages, Bartlets Lane, Chilmington Green, Ashford, TN23 3DW, Removal of conditions 3 & 4 on planning permission ref 16/00653/AS – Cllr Y Barker

Due to work that has previously taken place, the council resolved to object to the removal of conditions 3 and 4.

Proposed:	Cllr P Barker	Seconded:	Cllr Wiffen
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

8.5. [Planning Application number PROW/AW239/1579](#)

Proposed extinguishment of public footpath AW239 at Great Chart in the Boroughs of Ashford, TN26 1JL

Another footpath (AW237) currently runs parallel to the A28 and intersects with the AW245 in the same way as AW239. However, the AW239 runs through a private garden and near to a private dwelling, therefore it is proposed that AW239 is extinguished.

The council resolved to support the application.

Proposed:	Cllr Wiffen	Seconded:	Cllr P Barker
Vote In Favour:	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

8.6. [Planning Application Number 21/00787/AS](#)

1 Forge Cottages, The Street, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent, TN23 3AJ Remedial work to the exterior brickwork by rendering the ground floor level. -Cllr Y Barker

The council resolved to support the application.

Proposed:	Cllr Y Barker	Seconded:	Cllr Tate
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

8.7. [Planning Application Number 21/00023/GPDE/AS](#)

16 Homestead, Singleton, Ashford, Kent, TN23 4PX Notification of a larger homes extension- single storey rear extension (depth 3.60m x ridge 2.80m x eaves 2.45m)

This application is to replace an existing conservatory. If this wasn't a larger home then it would have fallen under permitted development. The council resolved to support the application.

Proposed:	Cllr Y Barker	Seconded:	Cllr Wiffen
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

8.8. [Planning Application Number 21/01163/AS](#)

Agricultural Buildings and yard north west of Great Chilmington Farmhouse, Chilmington Green Lane, Chilmington Green. Erection of 4 detached single storey dwellings together with associated infrastructure – Cllr Y Barker

Although the council have no issues with the proposed dwellings, it resolved to object to the application due to lack of access for emergency and utility vehicles.

Proposed:	Cllr Wiffen	Seconded:	Cllr Ackrill
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

9. Planning Decisions

[Planning decisions](#) were shown on the screen.

An additional decision was also added.

2 Hillcrest, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent, TN23 3AZ

Notification of a larger homes extension - single storey rear extension (depth 5.50m x ridge 2.80m x eaves 2.80m)

It was suggested that the council may wish to comment on future permitted development applications.

10. Policies for approval documents to review.

[Action Plan](#) 2021-2022. This is a live document that can be amended even after it has been approved. The council resolved to approve the plan.

Proposed:	Cllr Wiffen	Seconded:	Cllr Ackrill
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

11. Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council logo

The final [Logo](#) designs were shown on the big screen. A vote was held for each design.

Design 1 – 4 votes

Design 2 – 2 votes

Design 3 – 2 votes

The council resolved to accept the logo with the most votes.

Proposed:	Cllr Alexander	Seconded:	Cllr Wilford
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

12. Community Heroes

To receive information on the scheme and to review the [Community Heroes](#)

A scheme for residents who want to volunteer within the parish, equipment would be provided but they would have a recognised role as a community hero. A registration form and risk assessment must be completed to make volunteers aware of any risks.

The council resolved to adopt the scheme.

Proposed:	Cllr Wiffen	Seconded:	Cllr Wilford
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

13. Wooden Horse

Cllr Blanford has offered some grant funding to ensure any work needed is carried out before the winter weather comes.

14. Time of the meeting

The council resolved to keep the meeting start time as 7:30pm

Proposed:	Cllr Y Barker	Seconded:	Cllr Alexander
Vote In Favour: 6	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 3	MOTION CARRIED

15. Postponed Christmas dinner

The council resolved to forego the 2020 Christmas dinner and look to book a 2021 Christmas dinner at SEC in either November or December.

Proposed:	Cllr Gathern	Seconded:	Cllr Ackrill
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

16. Finance

16.1. Items for Payment and bank reconciliation

The council resolved to agree the [items for payment and bank reconciliation](#) in July and acknowledge bank reconciliation.

Proposed:	Cllr Wiffen	Seconded:	Cllr Gathern
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	MOTION CARRIED

Items for Approval for Payment July 2021

Method	Items for Approval	Description	Total payable	VAT
Bacs	HMRC	July Contribution	£1,561.90	
Bacs	Salary	July salaries	£4,795.60	
Bacs	Kent Pension Fund	June Pension Contribution	£917.23	
Bacs	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Refill Waste Bags	£223.20	£37.20
Bacs	Clerks Councils Direct	Membership renewal	£100.00	
Bacs	Rialtas	Cost of Annual Account software support	£148.80	£24.80
Bacs	Tuckwells	Mower monthly maintenance	£38.98	£6.50
Bacs	The Countryside Charity	Membership renewal	£36.00	
Bacs	Tuckwells	To fit new deck on the mower	£1,607.22	£267.87
Total:			£9,428.93	£336.37

Income

Method	From	Description	Total received	VAT (if applicable)
BACS	Ashford Borough Council	SEC Extension Project final payment	£5,250.00	
BACS	HMRC	VAT Claim	£10,728.04	
BACS	Metro Bank	Bank interest	£3.66	
Total:			£15,981.70	

Credit card payment items for Information	Description	Total paid	VAT
Account Number: 19079376			
Sam Turner Sons	Eco Marker	£19.79	£ 3.30
Annual Subscription	Hootsuite Social Media handle	£561.60	£ 93.96
DVLA	Motor Vehicle Tax	£277.50	
Plusnet	Telephone and Broadband	£60.41	£ 10.07
Totalmerchandise	Key rings with 20 mph logo on	£185.33	£ 30.89
Account Number: 24056805			
Dial Direct	Van Insurance	£50.40	
Travis Perkins	Wood	£26.00	
Bilby Plastic	Replacing damaged perspex on noticeboard	£34.56	£5.76
Sainsbury's	Unleaded Petrol for lawn mower	£38.50	£6.42

Bliby Plastic	Replacing damaged perspex on noticeboards	£98.46	£16.41
Tesco	Fuel for van	£30.11	£5.02
Sainsbury's	Fuel for van	£50.35	£8.39
B&Q	Hooks to secure shutters at Playing Fields	£75.92	£12.65
Jewson	WD40	£8.74	£1.46
B&Q	Retractable knife, pencil, combination square	£18.17	£3.03
Total:		£1,535.84	£ 197.36

Great Chart with Singleton Parish NEW

Bank - Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 4 June 2021

Confirmed Bank & Investment Balances

Bank Statement Balances

28/05/2021	Metro Bank Current Account	4,382.88	
28/05/2021	Metro Bank Instant Access	102,203.30	
28/05/2021	Metro Bank Credit Card 6934	-67.65	
28/05/2021	Metro Bank Credit Card 8589	-142.09	
31/05/2021	NatWest Current	100.00	
28/05/2021	NatWest Reserve Account	213,232.43	
31/03/2021	Nationwide Business 1 Yr Fixed	210,358.13	
			530,067.00

All Cash & Bank Accounts

1	Metro Bank Current Account	4,382.88
2	Metro Bank Instant Access	102,203.30
3	Metro Bank Credit Card	-209.74
4	NatWest Current Account	100.00
5	NatWest Reserve Account	213,232.43
6	Nationwide Business 1 Yr Fixed	210,358.13
	Other Cash & Bank Balances	0.00
	Total Cash & Bank Balances	530,067.00

16.2. Grant Applications

16.2.1. [Singleton Spaces](#)

The council resolved to support the grant application but capped at £1000.

It was also suggested that availability of grant funding to local non-profit organisations should be more widely promoted within the parish.

Proposed:	Cllr P Barker	Seconded:	Cllr Gathern
Vote In Favour: 5	Vote Against: 2	Abstain: 2	MOTION CARRIED

16.3. [The Helping Hand Company order \(Community Heroes Scheme\)](#)

The council resolved to accept the quote for the order capped at £2500, and also to include the new logo on them.

Proposed:	Cllr Ackrill	Seconded:	Cllr Wiffen
Vote In Favour: 9	Vote Against: 0	Abstain: 0	

17. Clerk's Report and Update on Issues not Listed Elsewhere on the Agenda

[Report on recent or ongoing activities.](#)

Cllr Gathern raised the issue of fly tipping around the charity bins at the Singleton Centre shops. Cllr Howard-Smith noted that this has been identified on her ward walk and is something she is aware of.

18. Correspondence

None

19. Items for Information or Agenda for Next Meeting

- Circulation of SID data
- Update on the wooden horse

20. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The next scheduled Council Meeting will be held on **Monday 13 September 2021 starting at 7.30pm at Singleton Village Hall**

The meeting closed at 9:45pm

Signed as a true record by:

Cllr McClintock _____

Date: _____