

A meeting of the Seal Parish Council was held on Thursday 12th March 2020 in Seal Pavilion on Seal Recreation Ground at 7.30pm

Present

**Mrs F Weston
Mr R Bourne
Mr C Tavare
Mr C Haslam
Mr J Spencer
Mr T Martin**

Also present the Clerk and Councillor Gough

Apologies: Mr T Bulleid, Mr M Penn, Mr M Brown, Mr A Michaelides, Councillor R Hogarth, Councillor J Thornton

Parishioner's question time - None

The minutes of the last meeting were amended, agreed and signed.

Declarations of Interest - None

ACTION

KCC Matters – Councillor Gough matters

New and high priority outstanding issues for the PC for discussion

Childsbridge Lane Railway Bridge – Roger Gough reported that the proposal to add a pedestrian pathway and traffic lights at the Railway Bridge will not be supported by Highways because of the visibility in both directions, and there have been no accidents reported or near misses. The Chairman said that this is a top priority for the Parish Council due to the danger to pedestrians, a recent very close near miss had been reported to KCC and it should not take a death to make something happen. The proposal to move the village sign, enabling the 30mph speed signs to be moved too was discussed. This was something that Roger Gough would be prepared to put some money towards, and he would have discussions with Geoff Bineham about this. It would be a first step to reducing speeding traffic. Mr Bourne has weekly data from the SID on the South of the bridge recording speed data and the volume of cars travelling at speeds. KCC are willing to place traffic counts along Childsbridge Lane to monitor the speed.

RG

Ongoing highway matters

Mr Haslam reported that 15 gulleys on Childsbridge Lane are not being drained, Councillor Gough to follow up with Emily Kinsella.

A25 Column – Geoff Bineham is chasing Streetlights, and this should be completed by the end of the month, this job has been raised.

RG

Carters Hill drainage – Emily Kinsella reports that the drainage has been completed.

Highway Schemes

KCC have asked the Parish Council to put forward roads that require major road repairs in the Parish. Members highlighted that Bank Lane is in need of repair and it that it would be worth putting in for the Childsbridge Lane signage request and surrounding area improvements.

FW/TM/CH

COVID-19

Councillor Gough reports that KCC are actively involved in making contingency plans focussing on social care, vulnerable people and putting protocols are in place. Preparing for Brexit has helped with this planning. **RG**

Copse Bank

A condition of the Planning Permission for Trinity School made £10,000 available for maintenance of Copse Bank footpath which is need of attention. Councillor Gough will look into this. **RG**

Schools - progress with Seal PS and Trinity

The school is installing bollards by the bus layby. They hope that this will be put in place by April and training will be available to assist the buses during this time.

Sevenoaks Local Plan and Sevenoaks Quarry

The Council has now received the Inspector's Final Report on the examination of the Sevenoaks District Local Plan, dated 2 March 2020. The report is available on our website at: www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/localplannews

Bentleys Meadow

Maintenance works of Home Zone. West Kent Housing Contractors could be paid to look after the whole area. **RG**

Other Matters Requiring Discussion and Action**Seal Recreation Ground Car Park - Height barrier, Bollards and Gates**

Awaiting update from Invicta and their solicitor to conclude the licence for operation of a walking bus with KCC. No further update. **JS**

The Clerk is awaiting a reply from the Primary School to find their intention for the walking bus. The Clerk has obtained a quote for signs and line marking in the car park. She will get further quotes for agreement and decision at the next meeting. **Clerk**

The Parish Council are pleased with the work on the bollards so far and we are waiting for a replacement metal gate which is due at the end of March. The application for Lawful Development Certificate for height barrier should be known by 23rd March. **RB**

CIL – SDC advised on this occasion that they will not give permission to use CIL money for the project on the bollards and replacement gates. Councillor Thornton had expressed her concerns by email to SDC regarding CIL money, the clerk has emailed SDC and is awaiting a response.

Along the A25 at the recreation ground the fencing is deteriorating, Mr Penn and the clerk have looked at the site. A quote for full replacement had been obtained. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Rob Crouch to quote for this and separately for repairing the existing fence **Clerk**

Playground Equipment in Seal Recreation Ground

At the last meeting the council agreed to spend £1,580 on artificial grass and the clerk has organised for a contractor to complete the work on 5 March 2020.

CPRE

It had been agreed that the Planning Committee should provide appropriate liaison with CPRE. **TM**

St Lawrence Recreation Ground

Mr Bourne reported on progress after meetings with Cricket and Football Club representatives. There was interest from both clubs to ensure they are each recognised as a Body enabling them to appoint two members to represent their clubs on the Trust. Mr Spencer would like to see something in **RB**

writing from them to agree a plan going forward. The chairman proposed that Mr Bourne and Mr Spencer are representatives for the Parish Council for the time being, Mr Tavaré seconded, and this was agreed unanimously.

Items for information only and updates if necessary

Community Asset

Mr Spencer is dealing with the village hall application. No further update.

JS

Verge Cutting and Wildflower

The parish council are liaising with KCC and Kent Wildlife Trust on the sites. There is an information evening on 16th April at 7.30pm in the Pavilion with wine, nibbles and a Powerpoint presentation to discuss the project and to ask for volunteers. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CT

The clerk and Mr Tavaré have confirmed that volunteers are covered under the Council insurance. Our volunteer policy and risk assessments are to be kept on file. Mrs Weston and Mr Tavaré to look at first aid courses. In the November minutes the Council said that they would approve a budget of £286.49 and so far, the estimated figure on expenditure is £155.18. The Council to approve the budget figure at the next meeting. Following feedback from the Highways Dept the Parish Council will be requesting a change in mowing regime by KCC and licences for Parish Council volunteer groups to work on the two identified verges in Seal and Underriver. Mr Tavaré to organise through the Clerk. Mr Tavaré will contact the owner of the Stone Street site, as this is not highways. Godden Green residents are on board with investigating suggestions for the Green, which is managed by Sevenoaks District Council, but don't want to volunteer at this stage.

Councillor Vacancy – Seal Ward

At present we have an opportunity to become a parish councillor and have two vacancies available. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor, please contact the Clerk.

Seal Parish Council Contact Details

Seal Parish Council has changed their email address, all future correspondence to be sent to sealparishc@outlook.com

Seal Spring Clean

Mr Brown is organising the spring clean this year and involving the school.

Greensand Project – Bitchet Common

There is a walk organised at Bitchet Common open to the parish on 12th May, meeting at the One Tree Hill car park at 6.30pm.

Planning

The Council agreed the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings on 13th and 24th February 2020 which has been circulated. Mr Bourne proposed, and Mr Tavare seconded, and this was agreed unanimously.

The Council ratified the responses to planning application consultations submitted after these meetings, which has also been circulated. Mr Bourne proposed, and Mr Tavare seconded, and this was agreed unanimously.

Consultation on the Sevenoaks Neighbourhood Plan began on 31st January and runs until 12th March 2020.

There was a meeting of the Planning Committee after the Council Meeting for which an agenda was circulated.

The Clerk has replied to the Sevenoaks Neighbourhood response.

Mr Bourne, Mr Martin and Mr Michaelides to attend the tarmac meeting on 23 March at 6pm.

The Parish Council confirms that there is no appointment of a planning consultant.

Accounts and cheques

005878	Sevenoaks District Council	£32.00	Refuse collection
005879	Computer Troubleshooters	£1,635.70	New Computer
005880	Easigrass	£1,580.00	Artificial Grass for Play Equipment
005881	Inland Revenue		Deductions
005882	Kent County Council		Pension
005883	Mrs C Farrow-Ward		Salary
005884	Mrs C Boland		Salary
005885	Mrs C Boland	£234.97	Website, Software
005886	Mrs C Boland	£39.00	Gigaclear Reimbursed
005887	Cancelled Cheque	£0.00	Cancelled
005888	Contract Signs Systems	£12.00	Sticker signs
005889	Streetlights	£49.50	Lighting repair
005890	Castle Water	£161.60	Water
005891	Sevenoaks District Council	£32.00	Refuse Collection
005892	Sevenoaks District Council	£40.00	Refuse
005893	Seal Village Hall	£2,000.00	Grant
005894	Sevenoaks Volunteer Transport Group	£100.00	Donation
005895	Mr Mark L Edmonds	£100.00	Repair Garage Roof
005896	Mr A McFadyen	£253.00	Heating of water

AOB**Commons Act**

The Parish Council have heard from KCC regarding an application to record land as common land. The Council will forward a response to object to this.

Bank signatures

It was approved by the Council to remove Lorna Talbot from the Bank Mandate and to change our email address. This was approved and signed at the meeting.

Clerk Holiday Entitlement

The council approved of the clerk to carry forward 5 days of her holiday entitlement for the next year which will start from May 2020 to May 2021.

Matters for Information Only

A reminder to report all Highway issues direct to KCC 03000 41 81 81
<http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem> –

A reminder to report problems on PROW to 03000 41 7171 8am-8pm Mon-Friday.
<http://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-on-a-right-of>

Please report street light outages in Seal (other than on the A25) to the Parish Council.

Meeting closed 9.15pm