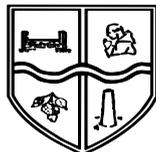


Monkton
Parish Council



PARISH CLERK: Sara Archer, 204 Monkton St, Monkton, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4JN
Tel.01843 821989 E. clerk@monktonparish.co.uk

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
20th November 2017 at 6.30pm at Monkton Village Hall.**

Present Parish Councillors John Way [JW], Teresa Brown [TB], Chris Ransom [CR], Kevin Knight [KK]

In Attendance Sara Archer (Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer) [SA], plus 8 members of the public.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, a minutes silence was held in respect of the passing of Cllr Ken Gregory last month.

33/17-18 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Cllr Derek Crow-Brown and KCC Cllr Emma Dawson

34/17-18 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None.

35/17-18 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
It was resolved to accept the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th September 17. These were proposed by Cllr Way seconded by Cllr Brown and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

36/17-18 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
Cllr Way advised there was nothing to report on this month.

37/17-18 **RECREATION GROUND**
a) Cllr Way advised that the repairs to the Play Area had been completed. Unfortunately, due to the weather, the equipment could not be repainted, however, this would be completed in Spring. The installation of a roundabout in place of the three springer boards was being explored.
b) Cllr Way and the Clerk gave a short explanation of the problem encountered with the external water pipe that feeds the Pavilion building. It is apparent there is a leak however, the exact location of this can not be identified. The Clerk is in discussions with Southern Water to explore the options to resolve the problem and the potential installation of a new water pipe being laid is currently the most favourable solution. Southern Water have replaced a faulty stopcock which is located by the meter. All were in agreement to go ahead with the replacement pipe. The Clerk will explore options for funding to assist with the costs involved.

38/17-18 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**
a) Members resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments which had been previously circulated. Cheques signed as appropriate.
b) After much consideration, it was felt that the Parish Council were not in a position to install a village flag pole at this time. Concerns were raised regarding land ownership and potential insurance and financial complications. It was advised that Terry Marsh, Chair of the Village Hall Committee, could confirm the ownership of the land outside the Hall. Issues regarding the changing, storage and responsibility of the flags were also raised.
It was proposed by Cllr Way that considering the current financial constraints and associated concerns, a flagpole should not be installed at this time. This was seconded by Cllr Ransom.
c) The Parish Council have been advised that TDC will be withdrawing a percentage of their funding which is currently awarded to all Parishes. Consequently, the Parish Council have to explore ways of meeting this shortfall.

39/17-18 **PLANNING**
a) A list of current Planning Applications had previously been circulated to the Cllrs. Decisions were noted and no further issues were raised.

Signed..... *Date*.....

40/17-18

HIGHWAYS

a) There were currently no issues outstanding.
The road sweeper would be requested to sweep the leaves at the closed end of Monkton Street which were becoming hazardous and slippery.
Residents were advised to contact the Community Warden regarding parking issues along the road.

41/17-18

INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) County Councillor – Cllr Emma Dawson was not present.
- b) District Councillor - Cllr Crow-Brown was not present.
- c) Village Hall Committee – Nothing to report. The usual Christmas activities – OAP Christmas Lunch, Hoodnors and Father Christmas’s Grotto would be taking place.
- d) Thanet Rural Regeneration Group – The Speedwatch scheme was underway. Pete Mitchell and David Blackwell were still unable to get authorisation to run the sessions in Monkton. The Clerk would contact the Co-Ordinator on their behalf.
- e) Thanet Area Committee – A number of comments had been made with regard to the overdevelopment of the rural villages. A recent traffic survey in Minster has shown an increase of 48% of traffic going through the Village.
It was advised that Stanford West would no longer be a site for a lorry park as an alternative to Operation Stack. Potentially, Manston Airport may be reconsidered for such a use.
It had also been reported that developers had been refused permission to demolish the Crown & Sceptre in Acol to build new houses in its place.
- f) Parish Council Forum – The main discussions at the meeting involved the budget cuts faced by TDC. These would undoubtedly affect the Parish Councils and the likelihood of an increase in Council Tax was probable.
- g) MFC – Nothing to report.

42/17-18

DATE/TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting would be held on 15th January 2018, 6:30pm in the Village Hall.

Future dates: To be confirmed with the Bookings Officer of the Village Hall.

The Public were then invited to raise any issues of concern.

- The Parish Councillor vacancy would be advertised in due course.
- Concern was raised with regard to the speed of vehicles using the Recreation Ground. The speed sign would be repainted on the access road. Farmer Dyas would also be approached for permission to erect a speed awareness sign such as ‘Children – Slow Down’.
- The final draft of the Local Plan had been released for consultation. Residents were encouraged to submit comments online or by post to TDC no later than 18th January 2018.

The meeting closed at approximately 19:15hrs.

Signed.....

Date.....