

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

Present **Parish Councillors** Davina Ransom [DR], Andy Kershaw [AK], Steve Bennett [SB]

In Attendance Sara Archer – Clerk, District Cllr Abi Smith, PC Andy Howe, plus 4 members of the public.

26/24-25 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies had been received from Cllr Gilly Brown (holiday) Cllr Jason Button (holiday).

27/24-25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**
Cllr Bennett declared an interest in Item 31/24-25 (a) payment submitted to SNS.

28/24-25 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
 - A representative from Monkton Under Fives Playgroup introduced herself and explained that the facility

- was now under new management. The original signage fixed to the bus shelter had been repainted and refreshed and apologies were offered that the Parish Council had not been approached before the signs had been replaced on the shelter. The Bloor group offered to maintain the signage and clean the

29/24-25 **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**
It was resolved to accept the minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 11th July 2024

as a true record. These were proposed by Cllr Bennett and Seconded by Cllr Kershaw and duly signed by the Chair of the meeting.

30/24-25 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
Cllr Ransom – Vice Chair, chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr Brown.

- The repair of the stocks was in hand. The Clerk would approach the local tradesman to enquire whether he could undertake the repairs and provide an update at the next meeting. **Action: SA**

31/24-25 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**
a) Members resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments below, which had been previously circulated.

This was proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Kershaw.
NEST - Clerk's pension
S. Archer - Clerk's salary & expenses

S. Archer - Clerk's salary & expenses	
Hugofox - Website hosting fee	£11.99
D. Smith - Repair of fencing at Rec Ground	£200.00

Spectrum Safety - Fire Equipment service	£90.54
NEST - Clerk's pension	

S. Archer - Clerk's salary & expenses	
ATS - Payroll Admin fee	£66.00
UMBC - Employee PAYE	

HMRC - Employee PAYE	
SNS - Domain hosting fee	£121.56
Hugobox - Website hosting fee	£11.99

NEST - Clerk's pension	21,700
S. Archer - Clerk's salary & expenses	

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

b) The banking reconciliations for July & August were approved.
This was proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Kershaw.

c) The Clerk advised she had circulated the letter of completion for the external audit to members. The suggestion to transfer to a '.gov.uk' domain was noted. The Clerk would make enquiries with KALC to confirm whether this was formally required, as the PC already adopts a designated email for Parish Council business. The conclusion of audit had been published accordingly, no issues to note.

32/24-25

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

To receive updates for the following:

a) County Councillor – No reports available.

b) District Councillors –

Cllr Abi Smith advised she had attended the peace vigil held in Ramsgate regarding the unrest in both the UK and other countries in the world. It had been arranged by Raushan Ara and had received a positive reception.

Cllr Smith was encouraged following the briefing held by the Manston Transformation Group, with regard to the detention centre. The facility will remain as it is currently, processing migrants within 24 hours and there are no plans to extend the centre to a long term facility.

TDC had retrospectively approved the battery energy storage facility at Richborough despite concerns being raised. It was noted that the land had been included in the Local Plan and was therefore difficult to challenge.

Cllr Smith had attended training regarding housing options, and reminded members there were places remaining on the KCC GROWTH programme – for mental health and wellbeing. Transport could be provided for anyone unable to make their own way to the event being held in Westgate.

c) Parish Councillors –

Cllr Bennett had attended the CPRE meeting, nothing to report.

Cllr Ransom had attended a workshop on an individual basis – Making Space for Nature, held at Quex Park. She explained that it was becoming a legal requirement for planning to take nature and diversity into account, this included a number of factors such as protecting areas of grassland, scrub, trees, hedgerow freshwater and coastal.

d) Kent Police –

PC Andy Howe reported as follows, which had been circulated to members for information prior to the meeting:

As you will see, the areas of concern were sexual offences and public order through July.

The sexual offences were directly linked to several accosting incidents where females were approached by a male, this person has now received a Community Protection Warning from me, and no further incidents have occurred. Please be aware that Police class this a "sexual offence" however no sexual act occurs, and it is only classed as such, due to it being an early indicator of possible escalation.

The public order instances can be directly attributable to hot nights, too much alcohol and the football tournament, so we should not be too concerned about these.

Through August we have seen no stand out offence types and it was a reasonably safe month.

From myself, I have been focussing on farm areas during the Hare Coursing season, since the crops were cut back, we have had intelligence of poaching, lamping and hare coursing albeit we have only received one call which was attended by two response patrols which seemed to have scared them off.

I have been abstracted on a number of occasions to assist with call demand and summer events including Dreamland events. Unfortunately, this will always be the case until we manage to recruit more officers, but I am lucky in as much as, I am usually the last to be called upon.

The following are updates for August relating to calls to your specific Village:

Monkton:

There were 13 calls to Monkton during August, most of which were non emergencies such as "concern for welfare". Please can we all consider any elderly or vulnerable neighbours in the village and contact either social services or Police if you believe they need some help.

The previous issue of arson in the play area seems to have disappeared. I don't know if this was my interactions with a few of the kids in the area as they seemed a little sheepish when I asked if they knew anything about it. If you do see children misusing any public property, please contact me or Kent Police.

PC Howe asked members to note that a structural engineer from KCC had given special permission for the farm vehicles to cross the bridge at Gore Street during the harvest. Following the harvest, the weight restriction would be re-enforced.

Signed.....

Date.....

33/24-25

RECREATION GROUND & PLAY AREA

a) A written inspection report had been completed by Cllr Bennett with no additional issues to note.

b) The Clerk and Cllr Ransom had met with the Maintenance Manager of the Foxhunter Caravan Site to discuss the damaged fencing. Concern had been raised by the new owners of the Site, that children were gaining unauthorised access to the facility in order to use the swimming pool etc. Children were also accessing the Recreation Ground via the damaged fencing. It was agreed that the repairs to the chain link fencing were not sufficient to prevent the children from gaining access. The Foxhunter would be planting brambles and other suitably prickly bushes, and installing a CCTV camera to improve the security into the Caravan Park. It was suggested the Parish Council adopt a similar deterrent and encourage brambles to grow across the access point.

c) Damage to the Pavilion door was noted and discussed. It was agreed the door should be replaced, however, it was not necessary to be a fire door. The Clerk was arranging for a fire safety assessment of the building to be completed. **Action SA**

d) Cllr Bennett advised he had researched the replacement self-closing mechanism required for the play area gate and forwarded details to the Clerk for order. **Action SA**

e) Volunteers to join a working party to maintain, litter pick and generally keep an eye on the Recreation Ground were welcomed. The Fixtures Secretary would also approach the Football Club to assist with the maintenance of the area. The suggestion would be published on the social media pages to encourage villagers to be involved. **Action AK**

34/24-25

HIGHWAYS

a) Cllr Kershaw confirmed that the fly-tipped asbestos at the western end of Monkton Street had now been removed.

b) Concerns regarding the parking along The Street opposite 66 Monkton Street had been raised. Cllr Kershaw advised he had contacted Stagecoach to request data of incidences of delays to the service or vehicular damage. A response was still awaited.

The mini-roundabout and associated road markings had been repainted.

The water leak adjacent to the Methodist Chapel had been reported and was under investigation awaiting repair.

35/24-25

PLANNING

a) **OL/TH/20/1755 - Land North And East Of, Canterbury Road, BIRCHINGTON, Kent**

Noted that the Planning Committee at TDC had deferred the application.

b) **F/TH/24/0484 - 32 The Oaks, Monkton, Kent, CT12 5FN – Permission Granted**

F/TH/24/0271 W S Cole And Son, 116 Monkton Street, Monkton

Development proposal by Guildcrest Homes – Land South of Monkton St

Cllr Ransom confirmed that the Parish Council would be submitting a response to the consultation on the amendments to the National Planning Policy Framework. Consultation closes 24th September.

36/24-25

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN

Cllr Ransom attended a workshop regarding the requirements to adopt a Community Resilience Plan for the village. No further update at this time. It was suggested that smaller Parishes such as Monkton, Acol, and St Nicholas with Sarre collaborate to produce a Plan.

37/24-25

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Clerk advised that following guidance released from KALC and TDC, updated Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct had been received, which had subsequently been amended for the Parish Council and circulated for comment. Members had considered the documents and agreed to adopt the policies accordingly.

RESOLVED: To approve the updated model Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct for 2024.

Declarations of Interest Forms completed, to be sent to the Monitoring Officer.

(Proposed: Cllr Ransom, Seconded: Cllr Kershaw)

38/24-25

DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

The next Parish Council meeting would be held on 7th Nov 2024 in the Village Hall, 7pm.

(Apologies noted from Cllr Kershaw)

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8:10pm.

Signed.....

Date.....