

Chislet Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 18th July 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Chislet Centre

Present : Cllrs Warnock (in the Chair), Fee, Higglesden, Prosser, Appleby, Cassidy & Halfacre

In attendance : Mr. G. Eaton, Clerk to the Council, and KCC Cllr Marsh

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Stoward & Rose and CCC Cllr Carnac

2 Declarations of Councillor's Interests in items on the Agenda

Cllrs Fee & Appleby declared an interest in planning application 24/01026

There were no other declarations of Councillor's interests in items on the Agenda

3 Public discussion

There were no members of the public present

4 KCC & CCC Cllr reports

KCC Cllr Marsh reported that KCC was 'in limbo' waiting for the new Government to find its feet and set out their policies and financial priorities

5 Minutes of the last Meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th June 2024 were unanimously approved and signed

There were no matters arising of note

6 To discuss correspondence received

Email re further consultation on the proposed Sea Link Project (circulated by email) – no action

Email from CCC re refuse lorries using Chislet as a 'rat run'. Agreed Clerk forward the email to Cllr Halfacre to draft a response

Cllr Halfacre

Email on policy renewal – scrap metal dealers and sex establishments – no action

7 Speeding Farm vehicles

There was a general discussion about the speed some farm vehicles were travelling at whilst driving through the Parish. It was noted that a parishioner was due to meet with one of the large farm managers to discuss this matter, and it was agreed that the Council would take no further action until after that meeting had taken place

8 To consider Planning and Enforcement matters

CA/24/01026 – single storey industrial building
Port Farn Industrial Units , Island Road, CT3 4DA

After a discussion it was agreed by a majority vote (six to one) not to make any comments on this application

9 To consider Finance matters

The following accounts were approved for payment -

SO	G Eaton	Clerk's salary & expenses	£470.80
BP	Inland Revenue	Clerk's tax	£104.00
BP	Lionel Robbins	Internal Audit Report	£140.00

The balance on the bank accounts as at 12.07.24 was noted

Unity Trust Bank £39127.46

To discuss possible projects

It was generally agreed that some of the Council's significant reserves should be spent on worthwhile community projects, and several such projects were discussed including –

Clearing vegetation from around 30 mph signs
Bus shelter revamp – Cllr Higglesden to obtain a quote

Cllr Higglesden

Footpath maps/noticeboards
Move phone box so that it can be used as a community resource

Cllr Warnock asked Cllrs to come to the next Meeting with other ideas for useful projects

To consider the Internal Audit Report 2023/2024

There was a general discussion regarding the Internal Audit report and the processes involved in preparing the annual accounts and signing off the Annual Governance & Accounting Return (AGAR)

Cllr Halfacre was concerned that proper process had not been followed and that the Internal Audit report was not available before the AGAR was signed off by Cllrs. He was also concerned that no Risk Assessment had taken place

It was agreed that the Risk Assessment should be considered at the August or September 2024 Meeting

10 Any Other Business

Cllr Warnock recommended that all Cllrs read the Good Cllrs Guide and the Code of Conduct

Cllr Cassidy updated on the Speed Watch Group confirming that a number of suitable locations in Chislet had recently been approved by Kent Police for speed watch sessions. More volunteers were needed

Cllr Warnock thanked all those who represented the Council at the Chislet Fair

Cllr Appleby proposed that a formal 'follow-up' process be put in place to automatically carry forward any agenda items which were minuted as 'to be discussed at the next meeting' – to ensure those items were not overlooked and could be fully considered by Council. Cllrs agreed this would help the continuity of decision making in Council meetings

It was also proposed that the Council's annual HIP submission should remain on the Agenda throughout the year to allow for Report updates

11 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 15th August 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Chislet Centre, Church Lane, Chislet

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.50 pm