

CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2016

Present: Parish Cllr Steve Bailey (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Chris Brealy (Vice Chairman)
Parish Cllr Neal Fowler
Parish Cllr Tricia Chapman
Parish Cllr Chris Ellis
Parish Cllr Eileen Watkins
Parish Cllr Adrian Young
Parish Cllr Andrew Rabey
1 x vacancy
Ms Amanda Sparkes, Clerk to the Council
2 x residents
GUEST SPEAKERS - Annmarie Frenchum and Helen Calvert, Restorative Approaches Project Officers (for part of the meeting)

163. PRE-MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT – GRASMERE PASTURE

Around 12 residents from within the parish and outside from Whitstable started attending the venue from 6.30pm. It transpired they had been encouraged to attend the parish council meeting by person(s) unknown. The Clerk explained that whilst they were welcome to stay for the meeting, the Grasmere Pasture site, now selected by Canterbury City Council for housing in the Canterbury District Local Plan consultation, was not an agenda item for discussion at this meeting, as the item had been dealt with at the last meeting. The parish council has sent in written objections to both the environmental impact assessment application submitted (CA//15/02444/EIAb) and to the inclusion of the site for housing in the draft document. This response was available to view by the public as an appendix to the 14 December 2015 parish council meeting Minutes – copies were available at the meeting – and are also available to view on the city council's planning portal and on the parish council website www.chestfieldpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/

The Clerk explained that as the Grasmere Pasture site is not in the actual parish, the parish council is not a statutory consultee, but with the responses above, the parish council has done all that it can at this time. Ultimately its inclusion in the Local Plan and the decision on the EIA application are down to Canterbury City Council, as the planning authority.

The Clerk urged all the residents to upload or write to CCC with their own representations. With this information, most residents left the room prior to the meeting commencing.

164. GUEST SPEAKERS - Annmarie Frenchum and Helen Calvert, Restorative Approaches Project Officers

Annmarie and Helen had been booked to give a presentation from 7pm to 7.30pm on the National Lottery funded "Restorative Approach" project. They explained that they were part of Project Salus (which means 'well being' in Latin), formerly Kent Safe Schools.

They have been given 3 years' of National Lottery funding to train a number of young people aged 14-21 years and adult mentors to become restorative practitioners. Essentially, the project gets the victim and offender together facilitated by a practitioner, to enable both parties to speak about what happened and how it made them feel.

The project has been running in schools and based on feedback from young people who said they liked the project and liked the skills it gave them, but needed to use it out in the community, the Lottery application was formed.

Over the three year period, it is hoped that some 500 people will be trained – 300 young people and 150 volunteer adult mentors. Training has just started. There are three different types of training. The project will cover Canterbury, Dover, Swale, Shepway and Gravesham. The project has never been done before and as they are just doing the first round of training now, the officers hope to match up mentors and mentees very soon. The hope is to give people skills to avoid conflict and to look for different approaches and a way to move forward. Issues that could benefit from a restorative approach are parking issues, noise nuisance, cycling or ball games in inappropriate areas, anti-social bonfires, dogs barking – all are examples of where a meeting

with all parties could be set up and the restorative approach operated. It takes time to change a traditional mindset and preparation to the restorative meeting is key for and from both/all parties. The project reduces crime rates and makes communities more cohesive.

Helen explained that they would like the parish council to talk about the project within the community and identify key members of the community for training. All those trained get a certificate. Helen confirmed that the skills will not expire after the 3 year funding and it is hoped to get a model working and fully embedded by the end of the funding to enable the approach to be self sustaining. The parish councillors suggested the officers speak to the Scout Group in Whitstable, Whitstable Rugby Football Club, the Chestfield Warriors Table Tennis Club, and the Chestfield Cricket Club.

Annemarie offered to send some Restorative Approach text – when this is received, the Clerk will adapt for the March magazine, and forward to Cllr Fowler for him to forward to the district's 170 Neighbourhood watch co-ordinators and for inclusion in the NHDW newsletter.

Restorative approach questions:

- What's happened?
- What were you thinking?
- How were you feeling?
- Who's been affected/upset?
- What do you need to make things better?
- How can we move forward?

More information at www.salus-solutions.co.uk or www.projectsalus.co.uk

The Chairman thanked Annemarie and Helen for their presentation and the Full Parish Council meeting then began:

165. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Cllr Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – There were no apologies for absence.

166. MEMBERS' INTERESTS – Cllr Chapman and Cllr Watkins explained they lived in close proximity to Grasmere Pasture, and whilst this was not scheduled as an agenda item, they would not therefore take part in any discussion of this, should this item arise for any discussion.

Cllr Young declared an interest in the planning application at No 22 Plantation Road and Cllr Fowler declared an interest in the Unsung Hero agenda item, having done the nomination.

167. VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL

The Chairman explained that there are now four candidates who have formally put themselves forward for the vacancy on the council. The parish council has never been in that situation before. The Chairman felt that the best way to make a decision is not for the four candidates to stand up at a meeting and present themselves, and the thank you buffet was also not the best forum. He explained that the Clerk had an idea to set up an 'employment panel' and meet with all the candidates separately. The Chairman, two other councillors and the Clerk should be in attendance. All the councillors were interested in being on the panel so it was resolved that the Chairman should review who the panel should be comprised of. A set of questions needs to be devised to ask the same of each candidate, and keep in mind the projects and gaps for this year to see who may fit best.

Cllr Bailey confirmed that the parish council would want to involve all of the four anyway, whether co-opted or not, and those not co-opted this time would be held on a waiting list to be re-approached for future vacancies. Cllr Bailey commented that there is a need to remember that this is a volunteer role and the parish council wants to be welcoming,

although the parish council do want to take this seriously to get the right person for the council and the community.

168. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2015**

Cllr Ellis proposed and Cllr Rabey seconded and the Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and the Chairman duly signed them.

169. **ACTION LIST APPENDIX 1a** - The list was read through and updated.

170. **POLICING**

Cllr Rabey advised he had nothing to report.

171. **PCSO report** - PCSO Jade Hoyle had sent her report to the Clerk for the meeting as follows:

- Shoplifting B&Q- 17th December 2015 - £63.12 Worth of batteries taken from the store.
- Fraud in Clover rise 20th December 2015 and 21st December 2015 – both occasions were when IP was expecting a replacement bank card, this was not received. The card was intercepted and items were bought on this card. This was cancelled and money returned to IP. This type of fraud incident is becoming a regular issue with people expecting replacement cards.
- Fraud in The Oyster bed restaurant 9th January 2016 – A large number of fake £20 notes found in till.
- There have been a number of speed checks conducted in the coastal area over the past few days, including one in Chestfield.

172. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Cllr Fowler gave his Neighbourhood Watch update:

1. Monthly Newsletter - The local monthly NHW newsletter (kindly compiled by Maralyn Whamond) has been distributed to our village coordinators.
2. Chestfield Golf Club have been made aware of a scam going on in the local supermarket car parks in this area. A member was approached as they made their way out of Tesco by a couple asking for directions, after giving rough directions the member went back to their car, the couple then appeared again this time with a map asking for more in-depth directions. Whilst distracted the member had their debit card stolen and within a short space of time over £300 was withdrawn. It seems that the offenders probably filmed our member inputting their PIN at the checkout and targeted them from there. Protect your PIN and be wary of any unusual requests from people, whilst out and about.
3. At Radfall Road, Chestfield, Between 10:00 on 5th January and 11:00 on 7th January. Burglar forced the lock to a copper gate and stole it.
4. A new NHW scheme has opened in Share & Coulter Road, Chestfield covering 28 properties. The new coordinator, Mrs Janine Browning has also joined the local NHW coordinators' group.

Cllr Bailey explained he had his debit/credit card details stolen after using his card at an online site. This subsequently resulted in thieves making over £450 worth of fraudulent purchases in his name before the card was cancelled. He has been reimbursed by his bank and the card cancelled. The matter is now a police case.

Cllr Fowler has set the annual neighbourhood watch village coordinators meeting for 7pm on Monday 15 February 2016. The Clerk has booked the WI hall for this. Cllr Fowler will send the invitations to the coordinators and print off some expenses claim forms for them too.

173. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING** – A resident commented that Jade Hoyle, the local PCSO had been regularly 'policing' the unmade bit of Grasmere Road, which had been very helpful. He was very complimentary about her attitude and Cllr Rabey offered to let her sergeant know of the great feedback.

Another resident commented on the graffiti on the underpass at Radfall Hill; Cllr Bailey confirmed this was being investigated.
The meeting continued.

174. **THANK YOU BUFFET FOR ALL THE VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS**

The Chairman advised that the thank you event for all the village volunteers was held on Friday 8 January 2016. 74 volunteers attended. Cllr Chapman advised she and her husband had thoroughly enjoyed the evening and asked to record thanks to the Chairman and Clerk for all their hard work. The Cricket Club was a well-received venue and it was in the middle of the village. Cllr Watkins commented that the event had been very welcoming and with a lovely atmosphere. A raffle had been held in aid of the Kent Air Ambulance Service which raised £125 less prizes expenses. Cllr Bailey advised he was going to talk to the new Chairman of the cricket club to look to setting up another quiz there.

175. **CHAIRMAN'S CHARITY FOR 2016**

Cllr Bailey advised he wanted to formally agree a 'Chairman's Charity for 2016' so that any fund raising events throughout the year (such as a quiz night or a Fun Day) can have a 'purpose'. As the parish council has already invited the Kent Air Ambulance Service to the annual electors meeting on 21 March 2016 he proposed and Cllr Chapman seconded that this be the charity for 2016. Different charities could be chosen for future years. The Clerk will advise residents in the March magazine.

176. **PLANNING**

Councillors considered planning applications in Appendix 2 previously circulated. Decisions reached and latest information now attached as Appendix 2 to these minutes.

Trees and tree works

Cllr Chapman advised that she had signed up free of charge to join the Woodland Trust in order to follow the progress of tree planting and also for updates on the Ash Dieback disease. She will keep a watching brief and report back as appropriate.

Consultation on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has issued a consultation on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (see <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-planning-policy-consultation-on-proposed-changes>). The deadline for responses is 25 January 2016.

DCLG advise that the consultation is proposing changes in the following areas:

- broadening the definition of affordable housing, to expand the range of low cost housing opportunities for those aspiring to own their new home
- increasing residential density around commuter hubs, to make more efficient use of land in suitable locations
- supporting sustainable new settlements, development on brownfield land and small sites, and delivery of housing allocated in plans
- supporting delivery of starter homes

Cllr Fowler had provided a draft response to this consultation, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Councillors discussed this and were in agreement with it. The Clerk will send it to the DCLG by e-mail to planningpolicyconsultation@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Review of the Canterbury District's Conservation Areas

A report went to CCC's 11 November Policy and Resources Committee:

<http://democracy.canterbury.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=615&Year=0>

The report outlined the Heritage and Design Team's intention to review the District's Conservation Areas. The review would aim to identify the District's important heritage assets and protecting them by applying the most suitable planning controls. The District currently has 96 conservation areas, the majority of which have not been appraised, and many of which have not been reviewed in many years. Several now contain properties and areas which do not comply with the 1990 Act's definition of an area of 'special architectural or historic merit', which significantly de-values the remainder of the heritage assets within the District.

Heritage is one of the District's greatest assets, and the Heritage and Design Team has a duty to ensure that the conservation areas are reviewed 'from time to time'. By using the most appropriate planning controls for each area, including Article 4 Directions (which remove permitted development rights), local listing, Tree Preservation Orders, and conservation areas, depending on the type and quality of the heritage assets, combined with design guidance, CCC can ensure that the heritage is properly cared for and enhanced.

Within the report is a flow chart indicating how a conservation appraisal would be undertaken by CCC, including the meetings and exhibitions. They want to engage parish councils and the community with local listing, assessing areas for potential designation or de-designation, advert control, and other projects to protect and enhance the heritage assets within the District. Ultimately, the pinpointing of the District's most valuable heritage assets will form the foundation of a Heritage Strategy with wider implications and cross-departmental connections.

The Committee did resolve to go ahead with the review. The recommendation for Chestfield is that the conservation boundary should be drawn tighter around the historic structures. The report included a template for evaluating the area(s).

RESOLVED at the December 2015 parish council meeting, that the Clerk with Cllr Fowler and Cllr Rabey with planning responsibilities should prepare for the CCC exercise.

The Clerk advised she had researched the listed buildings in the parish and would circulate this to all councillors. There are not very many. Cllr Ellis agreed to study this list and add any of 'local interest or merit' that are not already included on it.

The Clerk explained she has emailed the Heritage team officer and asked whether there is an order for the areas to be re-appraised and when Chestfield may be timetabled. Ideally, the Clerk and Cllrs can learn from another area's review first on the approach that CCC are using.

The Clerk will research what the NPPF says about conservation areas.

She will also research the Canterbury District Local Plan for conservation area policy guidance.

Affordable housing for local people

The application at Bodkin Farm Chestfield (CA/14/01319/OUT) raised an issue around affordable housing allocations in the Canterbury district. Chestfield Parish Council is leading a *call for Canterbury City Council to introduce a local connection criteria in new development sites, that are not rural exception sites, and with a sizeable element of affordable housing, so that at least a percentage of these are allocated to tenants with a local connection to the local area - where there is a local desire for this to be introduced in any consent of that development.*

18 of the other parish councils in the Canterbury district also share the concern and have written to CCC. So with Chestfield, this makes 19 asking for a reconsideration of the housing allocation policy. The Clerk sought an update from CCC and has been advised that a report will be going to a committee in the New Year. The Clerk will keep a watching brief for this.

A housing needs survey for Chestfield

The aim of this survey will be to identify all types of housing need for Chestfield.

Whilst finding land to build any affordable homes identified as being needed, is likely problematic in the village, a call for sites could be undertaken, alongside a survey of the village on the ground with the rural housing enabler, who could write to any landowners to see if they will sell some land. (The price paid is linked to the number of units built).

A housing needs survey and write up report could also help the parish council to inform (with evidence) the large planning development(s) that may come in to, or possibly adjacent to, the village – and could steer what is actually needed locally.

The survey is being worked up with the Housing Enabler at Action with Communities in Rural Kent, who will post out the survey to all the households in the village – and receive them back direct – so the parish council remains impartial and one step removed. The housing enabler will analyse and collate the information obtained and write a report for the parish council.

The Clerk met the rural housing enabler on 4 December 2015 about the covering letter and content of the survey, with a view to capturing the whole housing needs within the village. The parish councillors changed one question to probe what support from residents there is for the different 'affordable' housing types that are possible. The Clerk has re-contacted the housing enabler about this and the survey is being amended.

For information, the housing enabler has confirmed the cost of the survey based on 1346 households (Census 2011) and a 30% response rate will be £1974 + VAT. The parish council made budget provision of £2000 for 2016-2017.

The Clerk gave a verbal update at the meeting – she is in dialogue with the rural housing enabler and the end of January is being worked to, to post out the surveys, although an error with software meant CCC have not yet provided all the addresses for the parish yet, which may cause a delay if not rectified.

The Clerk will upload a copy of the covering letter and survey to the parish council's website when confirmed.

177. FINANCIAL MATTERS

RECEIVED the bank statement for December 2015, and RESOLVED the signature of a councillor other than the Chairman thereon;

NOTED a payment of £16.33, for the Plusnet Internet account was taken by direct debit on 18/12/2015.

NOTED that the Christmas Carols evening raised £36.90 in donations from residents

NOTED a payment taken by direct debit on 2 January 2016, of £104.50 for the quarterly BT telephone bill

NOTED that the raffle held at the Volunteers' Thank You Buffet raised £125 less £43.35 spent on raffle prizes (plus some donations) –this was raised in advance of the donation to be made to the Kent Air Ambulance Service at the annual electors' meeting to be held on 21 March 2016

NOTED the internal audit exercise was undertaken on 11 January 2016 with the auditor's report due to be presented to the next meeting

178. AUTHORISATION OF ACCOUNTS

The Clerk presented finance sheets for cheque payments requiring authorisation totalling £1,264.65, together with an additional sheet totalling £4,580.59. It was RESOLVED that the financial matters and accounts be authorised for payment.

179. CLERK'S REPORT

Invitation to the Lord Lieutenant's annual civic service

There has been an invitation for a councillor and his/her guest to attend the Lord Lieutenant's annual civic service, at the All Saints Church in Maidstone on 15 March 2016.

CCC training on Code of Conduct

CCC is offering training on Code of Conduct issues to parish councillors. Failing to comply with certain parts of the Code of Conduct is a criminal offence. The monitoring officer at Canterbury City Council receives and considers complaints alleging that a parish councillor has breached their Code of Conduct. She is offering sessions to advise councillors on the practicality of complying with the Code while carrying out the councillor role. Cllr Rabey is booked to attend a session at the Guildhall, Canterbury on 14 March 2016 and will report back at the parish council meeting on the same date.

Pat testing - NOTED that the Clerk arranged the annual pat testing of the electrical items in the office on 23 December 2015.

Unsung hero

In the December edition of the magazine Chestfield Parish Council invited residents to advise of an exceptional person or persons in the village; someone who lives in the parish and who has made a significant contribution or made a difference to their local community.

One nomination has been made by Cllr Neal Fowler:

“Just over 3 years ago John and Sonia Turner moved into 12 Shepherd’s Walk whereupon they became acquainted with their neighbour, Mrs Mavis Preston, who owned a dog, which for personal reasons she could no longer exercise herself. John and Sonia immediately offered to walk the dog for her, and did so every single day up until the pet’s recent demise last year. During their daily strolls around the village they made a point of picking up litter and were often seen returning home with bags full of rubbish that they had collected. Their altruistic efforts have helped improve our village environment, keeping it a cleaner and tidier place for us all to enjoy. They still go around collecting litter to this day.”

Cllr Bailey will arrange an etched glass vase or similar for the winners and consider a press opportunity to award this to them.

KCC Adult cycling training initiative

Kent County Council are running free Adult cycle training across Kent. The two hour courses are for anyone who wants to start cycling, return to cycling, a confidence booster, or improve their cycling in busy environments. The courses are free and all people need to do is sign up and turn up with their bikes. Cyclists are an identified high risk group in terms of road crash casualties, hence the support for the provision of more training.

Four different types of course are offered, catering for all levels from absolute beginner through to experienced cyclists, who wish to enhance or refresh their skills. The free courses are all 2 hours in duration and are delivered by nationally accredited instructors, who are employed by KCC.

Cllr Rabey at the November 2015 parish council meeting offered to be the lead on behalf of the Parish council. When he gets dates back from the project officer, Cllr Bailey will speak to the Whitstable Rugby Football Club about the course running in their ball court.

180. **QUEEN’S 90th BIRTHDAY 2016**

The parish council considered whether to mark the Queen’s 90th birthday in 2016 with a celebration event or to combine it with a Fun Day for the village again. This could include a Royal Fancy Dress competition or theme, crown making activities, etc. The Chairman agreed to speak to the cricket club re possible dates, ideally in June 2016.

181. **NETWORKING EVENT**

The parish council would like to host an event for all the village residents’ associations representatives to meet to network, and discuss common items such as the upkeep of unadopted roads. Cllr Ellis commented that running unadopted roads is a burden, and there could be benefits in a meeting to learn best practice and to see if there could be economies of scale for combining the numbers of potholes for filling etc.

The Clerk was asked to write letters to the Residents Associations of Maydowns Road, The Drive and Drove, Ridgeway, Broomfield Gate and Radfall, Shrubhill, The Leas and Fairlawn, and Grasmere Village Residents Association.

The parish council is happy to fund the hall hire to facilitate a meeting.

182. **PARISH PLAN UPDATE /VILLAGE SURVEY**

The Clerk advised that she and Cllr Fowler met and finalised a trial survey. This was presented at the thank you buffet and the volunteers were asked to complete it. By doing a trial version the questions can be tested to ensure they give workable responses and the volunteers can advise how easy it was to complete and whether any issues/questions are missing. The volunteers will be asked to complete the final survey again when it is extended to the whole village – it may change between the trial and final version.

At the thank you buffet the volunteers were also asked if any of them would help with delivering the final surveys and then door knocking again to collect them to get as good a response rate as possible. 32 volunteers gave their details for this. The Clerk will devise a programme of coverage for these and identify any gaps for the final survey delivery etc.

Cllr Fowler and the Clerk will do the analysis of the trial surveys returned. Cllr Fowler has already devised an analysis spreadsheet.

In order to boost the response rate, it was RATIFIED that there should be 4 x £25 vouchers offered as prize draw incentive for those who return a survey (although there is still the option to return a survey as an anonymous response and forego the prize draw opportunity.)

183. **SPEEDWATCH**

Since the last meeting 4 checks have recorded 52 vehicles travelling between 37 - 45mph.

184. **HIGHWAYS**

The Chairman explained that he had received a telephone call about the flooding on the road by Johnsons Nurseries. The call would have been better directed to the Kent Highways call centre – the Clerk will email the number round to all councillors for their information.

Broken barriers at the Swalecliffe station roundabout

Yet again, the barriers on the train station side of the Swalecliffe roundabout at the bottom of Chestfield Road have been damaged by a vehicle. The Clerk has reported this.

Residents' petition regarding flooding issues at Radfall Road

At the November 2015 parish council meeting, the Chairman explained he had received a petition from 77 people of 68 different households in the Broomfield Gate, Radfall Hill, Dukeswood and Radfall Ride roads, who have all been affected by flooding of the Chestfield Road under the A299 bridge/underpass.

The residents are campaigning for a proper solution, especially as this is one of the main routes in and out of Canterbury. They asked that the parish council formally pass this petition over to the highways authority.

After some research, the Clerk sent a copy of the petition with a covering letter, on 30 November 2015, to the following three bodies:

- The Business Performance Team at Kent County Council, County Hall, Maidstone.
As the issues relate to drainage this was directed to Kathryn Moreton who is the Drainage Manager. The Drainage Team need to continue to investigate Southern Water and approach them for a solution to the capacity problem. In the covering letter, the Clerk pointed out that it is also important that the Drainage Team contact all land owners to advise that water should not be allowed to discharge from their properties onto the Highway.
- Southern water
In the covering letter to Southern Water, the Clerk asked that they inspect their system including the ditch into which this water discharges. This ditch will be within riparian ownership but needs to be monitored by Southern Water to ensure that the routine maintenance required is being undertaken. The Clerk has been advised that the ditch runs through the Molehill Estate, and through The Drove etc. in the village.
- The Land Drainage Team at Canterbury City Council
The letter asked that they look at the water that discharges from the farmers' field on the corner of South Street and Radfall Hill. This water significantly adds to the amount of water that flows across the carriageway in this location and may well be contaminated with agricultural chemicals.

Updates:

Southern Water instructed an Investigation Technician for Kent, who is aware of the history of flooding in the area, and Southern Water's County Sewerage Engineer. They undertook a Closed Circuit Television Survey of the area.

Further to thorough investigations into the cause of the flooding, the Sewerage Engineer has been able to determine that the flooding is not caused by any Southern Water sewers.

He and the Technician have advised that they believe the cause of the flooding could be due to the surface water running down the slope under the bridge and then flowing down the road before settling in the lowest point, causing that section of the road to be flooded.

An alternative cause of the flooding could be that the manhole at the side of the road is surcharging and flooding the road. The investigators have been able to confirm that the pipe running into the manhole comes from a ditch. Southern Water, do not own, maintain or manage any ditches however.

Southern Water sent a copy of this letter to the Local Highways Department to advise of Southern Water's findings.

The Clerk has emailed a highways manager on 30 December 2015 to ask for an update from them.

On Monday 4 January 2016 and Tuesday 5 January 2016 the bottom of Radfall Road, the Old Thanet Way by Johnsons Nurseries and also the B&Q car park were badly flooded. A picture of the flooded road by Johnsons Nurseries appeared in the local paper on 7 January 2016.

Right hand sign for Radfall Hill to alert drivers to the junction at Dukeswood

There is a problem at the junction of Radfall Hill with Dukeswood. Drivers drive fast down Radfall Hill from Broomfield Gate/Tyler Hill direction towards the right hand turn in to Dukeswood. There are real hazards and risks of rear-end collisions for drivers wanting to turn right in to Dukeswood if there are vehicles coming up the hill and therefore causing them to have to stop and wait to turn. The Clerk could provide speedwatch statistics of speeding offences at this location since 2011.

The parish council has recently discussed paying for a new highways sign drawing attention to the existence of a right hand junction when coming down Radfall Hill to the Dukeswood entrance. A Kent highways schemes planning and delivery officer advised that KCC has in the past dealt with all requests for signage, and carried out the necessary design work and installation. However, due to a need to prioritise all their resources and funding towards KCC's Casualty Reduction programme, they are currently unable to progress any requests for new signage. The officer explained that for the parish council to have a new sign installed, the parish council would need to appoint a traffic consultant. After the December 2015 parish council meeting the Clerk contacted a local independent traffic consultant. The traffic consultant needs to advise on the type of sign required, design this, and then carry out the necessary liaison with Kent Highways. Once the parish council has agreed plans with a consultant, the consultant would then contact Kent highways to ensure the design meets their criteria.

Once KCC has approved the design, the consultant will be given a list of approved contractors to install the sign, after attaining the necessary work permits. The Clerk has asked the consultant if they can help and to give an estimate of costs too. No response has yet been received so the Clerk will chase, and if not successful, source another traffic consultant.

185. ENVIRONMENT

New walks within the parish

The Clerk has worked up four additional walks assisted by a resident. The Clerk would like to record thanks to resident Mr Peter Yarlett who met her on 24 November 2015. He is a member of the Chestfield History Society. Mr Yarlett also kindly measured the sections so that accurate distances may also be known.

The revised routes are considered level, are attractive and are pushchair and children friendly. All four are shorter than the originally devised route and with can be standalone walks or used together to add optional 'extensions' to make the walks longer if desired.

- **Route A** – 2.0 miles – starts at Play Park, goes round Green Leas, Fairlawn, then along The Leas, The Drive, The Drove, footpath circling Birkdale Close and back again.
- **Route B** – 1.3 miles – starts at Play Park, along Chestfield Road, Cherry Orchard, Shepherds Walk, Grasmere Road, and back to the Play Park (can be walked in reverse also)
- **Route C** – 1.25 miles – starts at Play Park, along The Ridgeway, across Grasmere Pasture, down Grasmere Road and along Chestfield Road back to the Play Park (Can also be walked in reverse).
- **Route D** – 2.0 miles – Starts at the Play Park, along Chestfield Road, to The Leas, Green Leas, Fairlawn, The Leas, The Drive, The Dove, footpath circling Birkdale Close, along Molehill Road, back along The Drove, The Drive, then along Chestfield Road back to the Play Park.

Councillors discussed the routes and commented that Route A and D have a problem with access to The Drove from Birkdale Close – there is a short 10m stretch that is very muddy. Cllr Brealy said he has got some hardcore that could be put down here – Cllr Fowler and Cllr Rabey agreed to help to lay this.

However, Route D has the further problem of a lack of pavements in Molehill Road.

RESOLVED therefore to work up Routes A, B and C.

The Clerk will contact the Residents Association of Green Leas, Fairlawn and The Leas to advise them of the project, as these are unmade roads, and Cllr Rabey will make the Birkdale Close Residents Association aware of the routes also.

Cllr Ellis confirmed that the three routes would be discussed at the next meeting of the Chestfield History Society. Promoting these local walk(s) is an opportunity to prepare a leaflet showing points of historical interest. The History Society has representatives who would be happy to draw together the points of interest.

Flytipping in Molehill Road

Quotes for the installation of four bollards are in hand and will come to a future meeting. KCC Cllr Mike Harrison has said he is prepared to match-fund them.

Access to the ball court at Whitstable Rugby Football Club

At the November 2015 parish council meeting Councillors discussed their concern that grant money for court and fencing improvements was given on the understanding that there would be improved public access but since the Rugby Club have recently laid new surfacing the gates are being locked. The result is that children are cutting and damaging the fence in order to gain access. The Clerk has now formally writing to Whitstable Rugby Football Club with the parish council concerns about the lack of access to the ball court, and ask that the matter goes to the Rugby Club's next committee meeting. This letter went to the Club Secretary, Chairman and President, Pat Todd (who is also a city councillor).

The Secretary acknowledged receipt and advised that their next committee meeting is scheduled as 11 January 2016, and this has been made an agenda item.

The meeting closed at 10.05p.m.

Signed: Date:
Chairman

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until they are approved by the parish council at their next parish council meeting

CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING REPORT, 11 JANUARY 2016

APPENDIX 2

New Applications

42	CA//15/02659/MIN – Chestfield Farm, The Drove Non-material amendment to planning permission CA/14/02715/VAR for the variation of condition 19 (drawings) attached to planning permission CA/14/00021/VAR; amendment for replacement of the brick and render infills within glazing on the corners of Plot 2.	The parish council has no comment.
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43	CA//15/02633/FUL – 20 Little Paddocks Replacement garage with first floor extension above, new porch to front	The parish council has no comment
44	CA/15/02648/FUL – Land rear of 19 and 21 Chestfield Road Erection of two detached dwellings with associated access and parking	This plot has planning history – a refusal of two detached homes CA/14/01093/FUL and a permission for a single dwelling on CA/14/02244/FUL. Cllr Fowler and the Clerk did a site visit with nearby residents on 5 January 2016. A full response has been written and will be uploaded to the planning portal. The parish council objects to the application and is prepared to send a councillor to the development management meeting when it is considered.
45	CA/15/02629/FUL – The Oaks, Radfall Road Replacement of existing detached timber frame dwelling with new four-bedroom detached dwelling including integral garage, associated parking and landscaping	The parish council had not heard from neighbours prior to the meeting. There may be a response to report to the next meeting.
46	CA//15/02679/MIN 22 Plantation Road Request for a non-material amendment to planning permission CA/15/00294//FUL for first-floor addition to be constructed over existing ground-floor addition and roof terrace to rear of dwelling. (Revised scheme); revisions in respect of additional window to the west elevation	The parish council has no comment to make.
47	CA/15/02686/FUL April Cottage, The Leas Insertion of patio doors to rear elevation. Alterations to front boundary wall to provide new vehicle egress. Insertion of roller shutter doors to existing garage.	The parish council has no comment to make.
48	CA/15/02749/FUL – Molehill Road Replacement of 16.8m high monopole with a 17.5m high monopole supporting 3 antennas, removal of 1 cabinet and installation of 2 new cabinets at ground level and ancillary development.	The parish council has no comment to make.
49	CA//15/02755/TPO Iwade, Radfall Road, Chestfield, CT5 3EP To fell one Oak tree subject to T.P.O No 1 1957.	The parish council has no comment to make.

Notifications

CA//15/02206 Molehill Cottage, Molehill Road, Chestfield, CT5 3PD Removal of existing garage and construction of replacement garage/workshop/studio	Refused by CCC - The proposed development, by virtue of its size, form and design would result in a structure of size and scale that would detract from the setting of nearby Listed Buildings and prevent public views of these properties. Furthermore, the proposed development, due to its proposed size and scale would detract from the character and appearance of the Chestfield Conservation Area as this ancillary curtilage building would have an overly dominant appearance within the street scene.
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CA//15/02044 - The Bell House, 86 Chestfield Road, Chestfield, CT5 3LT Demolition of existing temporary outbuildings and new build swimming pool, games room and workshop for domestic use.	Granted by CCC
CA//15/02238 5 Shepherds Walk, Chestfield, CT5 3ND Single-storey side extension and associated alterations.	Granted by CCC
CA/15/02242/FUL – Oaklees, Radfall Ride Erection of a detached double garage	Granted by CCC
CA//15/02444/EIAb Land South of John Wilson Business Park, Chestfield Environmental Impact Assessment scoping opinion request in relation to a mixed use development comprising up to 350 dwellings, up to 3,500m ² of business floorspace, a new local centre (circa 1500m ²) and at least 5.8 hectares of public open space.	CCC's decision on weekly list published 16 December 2015 is "NO OBJECTION TO"
CA/15/02202/FUL 7 Chestfield Road Proposed removal of a chimney	Granted by CCC

Enforcement - Mobile home sited in field off Radfall Road

There is a field on Radfall Road hill, between Radfall Ride and Broomfield Gate. If travelling from Canterbury towards Chestfield Road, pass Broomfield Gate corner and travel downwards – the field is on the right hand side and quite large. The Clerk was advised that there is a mobile home sited on it, and contacted CCC's Enforcement team on 10 July 2015. They replied on 16 July 2015 that the development is unlawful, but have since invited the owner of the land to apply for planning permission, with the necessary documentation and fee. This was invited several times.

An update on 4 November 2015 advised that the planning officer had written to the land owner on several occasions and had recently chased a PCN (Planning Contravention Notice) which was sent to the land owner over a month ago.

The latest update obtained on 7 December 2015, stated that at the start of the investigation the owner implied that he had planning permission and that the static caravan was going to be used to store items. Since then it has transpired that there is no planning permission, the land hasn't been used for many years, and the owner is using the land to store a static caravan. The use of land to store a static caravan is NOT ancillary to agricultural enjoyment.

The enforcement officer is therefore now in the process of obtaining authority to serve Notice.