

KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Minutes of the Maidstone Area Committee of the Kent Association of Local Councils held at Maidstone Town Hall, High Street, Maidstone at 7pm on Monday 28 November 2018.

Present: Councillors: Geraldine Brown (Chairman) Yalding, Cheryl Taylor Maggio (Vice Chairman) Langley, Helen Anderson (Secretary), Leon Date Boughton Monchelsea, Tina Clark Broomfield and Kingswood, Chris Webb Chart Sutton, David Goff Collier Street, Anne Marie Butler Downswood, John Wilson East Farleigh, Lyn Selby Headcorn, Bob China Leeds, Lesley Mannington and Kate Tippen Marden, Eve Poulter Sutton Valence, Chris Douglass Teston and Peter Titchener Ulcombe.

Apologies. Councillors: Fay Gooch and Bryan Vizzard, Andy Humphreys Boughton Monchelsea, Steve Bowering Bredhurst, Keith Woollven Coxheath, Roz Cheesman Downswood, Nigel Pyman Headcorn, Jill Williams Langley, Peter Coulling Teston, Sam Lain-Rose Staplehurst and Fiona Kenward Ulcombe Nick Thomson Yalding.

2. Presentation A short presentation was given by John Wilson in his role as Chairman of the Transport Advisory Committee (TAC) regarding putting Maidstone forward to pilot a project that would monitor, track and deter HGV's from using small rural roads and lanes which traverse across the Borough instead of using the larger A and B roads. It was agreed that a route would be defined by trying to tie in where existing traffic regulation orders (TRO) are already in place within a defined area of the Borough. This would then be submitted for consideration by the deadline of 6/1/2019.

3. Minutes. The minutes of the Meeting held on 24 September 2018 meeting were taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising. There were none reported.

5. Reports from Representatives:

5.1 Parish Liaison Group.

5.1.1 Parish/Maidstone Borough Council Liaison The minutes of a meeting held on 15 October are attached.

5.1.2 Joint Transportation Board Frustration was noted by Parish Council representatives on this committee as meetings are continually being cancelled due to officers not being able to provide reports or updates on progress of projects/resolutions. It has been agreed that Parish Council representatives are now able to submit agenda items for consideration and therefore if any Council has any issues they wish to raise they should submit these to the Chairman in good time.

6. KALC Executive Committee Report

6.1 Website- KALC has launched their new website which contains lots of new content and is easy to navigate and is available to access by all councillors.

6.2 Elections 2019 – there are posters and handouts for download from the website for those parishes with elections next year.

6.3 .Community Policing - the volunteer PCSO scheme is now being rolled out across Kent.

6.4 Learning & Development – the programme for 2019 is on the website.

7. Local Plan Review The Chairman gave a brief review of a meeting held with William Cornwall (WC), Director of MBC to discuss future housing number allocations. She explained that Government proposed to update the methodology for calculating housing numbers as contained in the adopted NPPF of July 2018. This would be announced around the New Year and MBC

are not prepared to announce any numbers until the method of calculation has been agreed. A future meeting is scheduled with WC to ensure that pressure is placed on MBC to raise legitimate challenges to housing numbers and also to ensure that they carry out their duty to co-operate with neighbouring borough councils especially Tonbridge and Malling.

8. Representative on the Audit Governance and Standards Committee, a position to be held until 2020. Cllr Peter Titchener of Ulcombe Parish Council was duly elected as the KALC nominee.

9. Any Other Business

1. When would Council Tax Base Figures be expected? The Chairman was to contact Mark Green at MBC.
2. Cllr Lyn Selby, Headcorn asked whether any further progress had been made about road nameplates carrying 'Borough of Maidstone' at the bottom. The Chairman reported that this had been raised at the Parish Liaison Group and it was being handled by Jennifer Shepherd who had informed that the signage was universal across the Borough. Cllr Selby agreed to send the Chairman a photograph of the signage that was causing an issue within her Parish.

10. Time and date of the next meeting This will be held on Monday 11 February 2019 at the Town Hall, Maidstone starting at 7pm.

Meeting Closed at 8:15pm

Helen Anderson
Secretary
KALC Maidstone Area Committee