

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 24 September 2018.

Present: Councillors: Geraldine Brown (Chairman) Yalding, Cheryl Taylor Maggio (Vice Chairman) Langley, Helen Anderson (Secretary), Pat Marshall and Richard Ash Bearsted, Robert Turner and Ron Galton Boughton Malherbe, Leon Date and Andy Humphryes Boughton Monchelsea, Ivor Davies Boxley, Tina Clark Broomfield and Kingswood, Keith Woollven Coxheath, John Clayton Detling, Anne Marie Butler Downswood, Fred Stanley Harrietsham, Lyn Selby Headcorn, Kin Chaplin Langley, Bob China Leeds, Bernard Cresswell Linton, Kim Owen Loose, Lesley Mannington and Kate Tippen Marden, Robin Gardner Otham, Rory Silkin Staplehurst, Eve Poulter and Lorraine Cook Sutton Valence, Peter Coulling Teston and Peter Titchener Ulcombe.

Apologies. Councillors: Roz Cheeseman Downswood (late arrival), John Wilson East Farleigh, Nigel Pyman Headcorn, Jill Williams Langley, Chris Douglass Teston Sam Lain-Rose Staplehurst and Fiona Kenward Ulcombe.

2. Presentation A short presentation was give by Mark Green of Maidstone Borough Council outlining the Maidstone Strategic Plan 2019-2024. Two consultations are to be held with Parish Councils on Tuesday 23 October at Yalding Village Hall and Thursday 25 October at Lenham Village Hall at 7.30pm. An invitation will be sent to each individual Council with further details. A resident's survey is also due to go live shortly and this will require advertising at Parish level using websites, newsletters and noticeboards.

3. Minutes. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11 June 2018 meeting were taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman following an amendment to 5.1.4(4) which should have read as only 'Support required to tackle anti-social behaviour in parishes'

4. Matters Arising. There were none reported.

5. Reports from Representatives:

5.1 Parish Liaison Group.

5.1.1 Parish/Maidstone Borough Council Liaison A meeting on 9 July. The following topics were raised:-

- The bulky refuse freighter will not be re-instated by the Borough from Alison Broom MBC to the Chairman). A discussion was had on whether Parish Councils could fund the freighter, however, it was felt that the cost would be prohibitive to most. It was agreed to no longer pursue this matter.
- Parishes have been provided with measurements to determine their open spaces for the Parish Services Scheme. Councils were asked to ensure that these calculations are correct.
- Alison Broom asked for support from KALC to help to challenge a possible 40% increase in housing within the South East area following government proposals for better off areas to build more homes.
- Ancient Woodland/Licensing of events to be carried forward.

5.1.2 Police Liaison Report A date for a meeting will be circulated shortly.

6. Local Plan Review The co-ordinating team were given full backing of the committee members to continue with this and to lobby on future housing numbers.

7. Medway Council Parking Hotline This scheme whereby parking violations can be phoned or emailed in was highlighted by Boxley Parish Council and wondered whether something similar could be run by Maidstone Borough Council. It was felt in principal that this was a good idea for the town environment as parking enforcement officers may be closer to hand to issue penalty notices, however, this idea may become unstuck in a rural environment as vehicles would most probably have moved on before any enforcement officer arrived.

8. Any Other Business

1. Any ideas for speakers for these meetings should be sent to the Chairman or Secretary.
2. Peter Coulling reported that up to 10 additional air quality diffusion tubes will be sited around the Borough following take up from Parish Councils. Any councils still interested in this scheme should contact the secretary in the first instance. Cost per annum £261.
3. Lenham Parish Council announced that their Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 had gone out for consultation. Documents can be viewed at <https://lenhamparish.org.uk/>
4. Bearsted and Yalding gave a brief overview on how they tackled the issue of not requiring a street traders licence for every stall for their fairs/markets held on the Green.

9. Time and date of the next meeting This will be held on Monday 26 November 2018 at the Town Hall, Maidstone starting at 7pm.

Meeting Closed at 8:40pm

Helen Anderson
Secretary
KALC Maidstone Area Committee