

**NETTLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**5<sup>th</sup> January 2017 7.45PM, NETTLESTEAD VILLAGE HALL, NETTLESTEAD**

**Members Present**

Cllr David Meredith (chairman)  
Cllr Anita Van Hensbergen (vice-chairman)  
Cllr David Baker  
Cllr Jackie Bennett  
Cllr Alan Hill  
Cllr Emily Salter

Also in attendance – the Clerk Mrs Michelle Rumble,

**1 Apologies for absence**

Cllr Avril Watson, PCSO Nicola Morris

**2. Declarations of Pecuniary interests on any item on the agenda.**

Where any councillor has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (as defined in the Members' Code of Conduct) in any matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council, a committee, sub-committee or joint committee, they must withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter unless a dispensation has been obtained from the Monitoring Officer.

Cllr Meredith declared an interest in All Seasons Grounds maintenance and will not take part in any such discussion.

**3. Confirmation of Minutes of December Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 December 2016 were approved and signed as a true and correct record, **RESOLVED** by all member's present.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes**

Community Warden

The Clerk had spoken with the Supervisor for the Community Wardens in this area and was advised that even though Dawn Riach-Brown is the Community Warden for Nettlestead the area she covers is extremely large and therefore it would not be possible for her to attend every meeting. The Clerk stated that she did not expect her to attend every meeting but the Parish Council felt that once in 5 years is not acceptable. The Clerk has updated the Parish Website with her details.

Football Goals

This will be discussed in the new Financial Year

The Clerk also confirmed that the new set of goal nets had been delivered

Dog bins

This will be discussed under Highways & Footpaths.

Flood Warden

This will be discussed under correspondence.

Noticeboard

This will be discussed under Highways & Footpaths

Lottery Application

This will be discussed under KGV Field.

Defibrillator

This will be discussed under correspondence.

Trees – Maidstone Road

This will be discussed under KGV Field.

5. **Neighbourhood Watch**

Cllr Hill gave his report and it was the same crimes as reported by the PCSO as below.

6. **Police Report**

PCSO Nicola Morris was not in attendance but a report had been circulated to all members prior to this meeting and the following crimes were reported.

Crimes since last meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> December – Bishops Close – Vehicle Interference – van broken into – window broken – nothing stolen

14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> December – Bryant Close – Theft from motor vehicle – window smashed on van – tools stolen

It was also noted that there was the possibility of an Equine Event. The Clerk will update the members once a time and date have been confirmed.

7. **Chatterbox**

Cllr Bennett stated that the Christmas Party had taken place and that this had been very well received and attended by residents.

8. **Parish Magazine**

Cllr Van Hensbergen gave her report. The Clerk asked if the Parish magazine could be emailed to her so that she may advertise this on the Parish Council website. It was **RESOLVED** by all members that the cost of advertising in the Parish magazine will remain the same this year.

£35 Quarter Page

£70 Half Page

£130 Full Page

9. **Village Hall**

Cllr Meredith reported that no meeting had taken place since the last Parish Council meeting. The Final figure for the Fashion show held at the Village Hall was £621.80.

10. **KGV Field**

Dog bins

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council will be receiving a comingle bin and this will replace the Parish Council owned bin in the KGV Field. It was felt that having two bins would then mean that the Parish Council would also have to empty a bin which would have dog waste in and this was a Health and Safety Risk. The Clerk was also asked if she could contact Maidstone Borough Council to ask if the bin could be emptied as it was now overflowing.

**ACTION CLERK.**

The Clerk updated members and stated that she had spoken with UK Power Networks and that they would only be prepared to cut the trees back by 1 metre, as this is the Legal Requirement for trees near Low Voltage Power Lines.

The members **RESOLVED** that they would allocate money in the Budget over a 2-year period towards having the trees cut down. In the meantime, the trees would be monitored by the Parish Council.

Lottery Application

The Clerk updated members that the Lottery Grant Application which had been submitted for the replacement of the play area surfacing had been successful and that they had been awarded the full amount. It was **RESOLVED** that a site meeting should take place before instructing the company to carry out the work. A possible date for this would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> February but this would be confirmed nearer the time.

**11. Highways & Footpaths**

Bishops Close road markings: Cllr Watson was not present at the meeting but had emailed the Clerk to say that she would contact KCC next week and report back to the members with any update she had.

The members all stated that the litter throughout the Village was awful, it had been reported by a resident but the Clerk will also report this to Maidstone Borough Council.

**ACTION CLERK**

Cllr Bennett asked if the Clerk could contact KCC Highways regarding the footpath from Nettlestead Green along the Maidstone Road. This footpath was almost impassable in places and even worse if you are in a wheelchair.

**ACTION CLERK**

Noticeboard

The Clerk had prior to the meeting circulated an update on the Noticeboard and reported that neither Insurance Company would accept Liability for this. The Parish Council could go to the Small Claims Court, and the Clerk will investigate the cost of this. Alternatively the Parish Council could just replace the Noticeboard themselves. Cllr Bennett suggested that a possible location for a Noticeboard in Nettlestead Green could be the Hop Pole Public House. Cllr Bennett will speak with the Landlord regarding this.

**ACTION CLERK/CLLR BENNETT**

**12. Correspondence**

Defibrillator

The Clerk had been in touch with the Marden History Society regarding their Defibrillator and put the questions the Parish Council had to them with the following replies.

- Do all residents have the access code to the Defibrillator – Only 4 – 5 residents, all trained volunteers, have the code and access to the Defibrillator.
- What are the ongoing maintenance costs of the Defibrillator - It is checked every week by volunteers? I'm not aware of any maintenance costs.
- Has it ever been vandalised - No it has not been vandalised.
- Does there have to be someone in the village that would be called for the code if it was needed in an emergency and what if they were out, this is a concern to our Parish Council as to who takes responsibility of this. - It would be necessary to dial 999 for the emergency services. The code to access the box would be given to the caller and they would then be able to use the defibrillator and wait for the ambulance service to arrive. Instructions on how to use it are provided.

The Clerk was asked to also speak with Wateringbury Parish Council as there is a Defibrillator on the outside of the Village Hall.

**ACTION CLERK**

JPFG

Cllr Meredith stated that no meeting had taken place since our last Parish Council meeting.

All other correspondence received was noted by the Parish Council.

**13. Planning**

*None*

**Outcome of Previous Applications**

None

**Enforcement**

None.

**14. Financial Reports**

a. To make payments.

NETTLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL				Cheque List	5th January 2017
Cheque No	Gross	VAT	Nett	Supplier	Details
001868	£72.34	£1.33	£71.01	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Clerks expenses - January
001869	£469.82	nil	£469.82	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Clerk's salary - January
001870	£125.16	£20.86	£104.30	KCC	Stationery, goal nets
001871	£113.25	£5.39	£107.89	Eon	Street lighting energy - November
001872	£132.04	£22.00	£110.04	SSE Contracting	Street lighting maintenance - November & December
001873	£275.00	nil	£275.00	Came & Company	Liability Insurance
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,187.61</b>	<b>£49.58</b>	<b>£1,138.06</b>		

b. Budget monitoring report at 05/01/17  
Noted by all members as correct.

c. To sign bank reconciliations to date

Cllr Meredith and the Clerk as the Responsible Financial Officer signed these. Cllr Meredith suggested that £10,000 is transferred from the Current Account to the Deposit Account. The Clerk will put together a letter for this and bring it to the next meeting for signature and approval.

d. Budget 2017/18

Cllr Meredith had circulated prior to the meeting an amended Budget. Cllr Meredith suggested a 5% increase but an increase of 10% was also put forward, this would allow for any removal of the LCTS (Local Council Tax Support Grant) or Parish Services Scheme, this was proposed by Cllr Meredith, seconded by Cllr Bennett and **RESOLVED** by all members present to increase the precept by 10% from £14939.58 to £16433.54.

**ACTION CLERK**

e. Bank Mandate

This was signed and changes to add both Cllr Emily Salter and Cllr Van Hensbergen as signatories and to remove previous councillors Mr Rodd Nelson-Gracie and Mr Warwick Edene and to also update Santander with the Clerks new address for all correspondence. This mandate was **RESOLVED** by all members present and signed by Cllr Meredith and Cllr Bennett.

f. Internal Auditor

The Clerk stated that the existing Internal Auditor had now retired. The Clerk had spoken with a Mr Lionel Robbins who was recommended by Kevin Funnel and would charge the Parish Council the same hourly rate. It was **RESOLVED** by all members present to appoint Mr Lionel Robbins as their Internal Auditor.

***ACTION CLERK***

**15. Future agenda items**

Notice board – Insurance claim  
Parking update – Bishops Close/Bryant Close  
Footpaths/Highways  
Dog bins  
Hedges/Verges  
Defibrillator  
Lottery Application

**16. Date of next meeting**

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017, 7.45pm Nettlestead Village Hall

There being be no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.