WICKHAMBREAUX PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JULY 2013

Present: Parish Cllr Anthony O'Sullivan (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Martin Twyman
Parish Cllr Christine Le Jeune
Parish Cllr Angela Hamilton
Parish Cllr John Joice
Parish Cllr Faith Wright
Miss Chenice Sparkes, Clerk to the Council

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Cllr O'Sullivan welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Parish Cllr Linda Lodge and County Councillor Michael Northey.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
There were no declarations of interest.

3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JUNE 2013**
Cllr Twyman proposed and Cllr Hamilton seconded that the Minutes were accepted and signed as a true record of the meeting.

4. **INFORMATION FROM MATTERS ARISING**
Cllr O'Sullivan reported that he has carried out a survey of all the fire hydrants in the Parish and found a severe lack of identification with no significant signposting or marking to indicate their locations. He has contacted Kent Fire and Rescue with his findings.
7. Cllr O'Sullivan reported that due to the lack of time given to respond to the new proposed requirements and validation of planning documents, he sent a response on behalf of the Parish Council.
10(i) Cllr Twyman reported that the pot holes from Cophall to Sandpit Cottages have still not been repaired. The Clerk was asked to chase.
10(ii) Cllr Hamilton and Cllr Wright reported they had attended the meeting in Wickhambreaux Village Hall on Saturday 13 July 2013 regarding the proposed Richborough Connection project and it appeared well attended by residents. They reported there were plenty of displays showing the proposals and experts on hand to ask questions. Cllr O'Sullivan agreed to formulate a response on behalf of the Parish Council expressing their wish to have the cables buried or to use the T-pylons which are smaller than the conventional pylons. Concern would also be expressed over possible health risks to anybody living too close to the pylons/cables.
10(iv) Cllr O'Sullivan reported that the uneven pavement at the entrance of Mill Close and Spicers Place has still not been repaired. The Clerk was asked to chase.
12. Cllr O'Sullivan reported that he had initiated proceedings for the flowering Cherry on the Little Green in Stodmarsh to be felled.
15(ii) The Clerk was asked to chase BT to carry out some maintenance on the telephone box at the corner of Grove Road and Mill Close.

5. **PLANNING**

CA//13/00997/FUL and CA//13/01002/LB Newnham Barn, Grove Road – The Parish Council have no objections to the retention of all alterations to the barn.

Tree Works:
Wickhambreaux Village Hall, The Street – The Parish Council had no objections to the removal of a small brittle variegated Maple.

Pilgrims Way, Stodmarsh Road – The Parish Council had no objections to the removal of a dying Cherry tree in the front garden.

Dyke House, The Street – The Parish Council had no objections to the felling of a dead Silver Birch located in the garden.

Oast House, The Green – The Parish Council had no objections to the felling of a dead tree next to the greenhouse.

Stodmarsh Green, Stodmarsh Road – The Parish Council had no objections to the removal of a flowering Cherry tree, located 3-4 metres from the front door of Ivy House.

CA//13/00731/FUL Otters Quest, Seaton Road – Canterbury City Council have granted the application of a proposed conservatory to the rear of the dwelling.

KCC/CA/0177/2013 Replacement and re-orientated non-ferrous metal building granted consent under CA/13/18 dated 15/4/13 – The applicant has withdrawn the application to avoid further delay in its build programme and will revert back to the non-ferrous building already permitted under earlier planning permissions with some minor design amendments.

6. **SEATON MEADOW VILLAGE GREEN APPLICATION**
Cllr Le Jeune reported that the report with the decision on the Village Green Application will hopefully be made in about a month.

7. **DECISION NOTICE FROM INFORMATION COMMISSIONER**
The Information Commissioner has asked the Parish Council to reconsider Mr Perkins's request under the Environmental Information Regulations. Councillors continued to take professional legal advice. The Parish Council agreed to write a letter to Mr Perkins asking him to assist them by formulating his request more narrowly due to the wide scope of his original request. In the interim period between meetings the Parish Council agreed that Cllr Le Jeune and any other Councillors who have had dealings with the application shall have to the power to make any important and time-restricted decisions on behalf of the Parish Council.

8. **PEAR ORCHARD**
At the request of Mr Kelsey an informal meeting was held between him and the Parish Council regarding the possibility of a new application to develop the Pear Orchard. It was agreed to postpone taking a view on the possible application until after Cllr Wright and Cllr Le Jeune have met with planning officials at Canterbury City Council.

9. **PARISH CHARTER**
Cllr O'Sullivan reported that he will be attending a meeting at the Spring Lane Neighbourhood Centre on Saturday 20 July 2013 regarding the Parish Charter. The Clerk was asked to put the Parish Charter on next meeting's agenda where Cllr O'Sullivan will present a report.

10. **CANTERBURY DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN**
Copies of the Local Plan were circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and all comments were collated by Cllr O'Sullivan who formulated a draft response. This response was presented at the meeting and Councillors were encouraged to check the response in the next few days and highlight any changes they wish to make by the end of August.

11. **SOUTHERN WATER'S CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**
The Clerk reported she had received a letter from Southern Water regarding the Water Resource Management consultation which ends 12 August 2013. It sets out their proposals to secure water supplies and reduce the likelihood of water restrictions in the future. A DVD was

sent featuring a short introduction to the Water Resources Management Plan, outlining their approach and challenges they face which was passed onto Cllr O'Sullivan to look over.

Cllr O'Sullivan reported that he had formulated a response to the questionnaire based on Councillors comments on the plans circulated before the meeting. His draft response was presented to the meeting where the Parish Council agreed on the content.

12. **POSSIBLE BUS SHELTER**

Cllr Wright reported she had received a request from a resident asking if it is possible to have a bus shelter installed in the village to protect residents against the elements while waiting for a bus, proposing a possible location behind the village noticeboard on The Green. The Parish Council discussed the proposal and Cllr Wright agreed to make enquiries. The Clerk was asked to put this item on next meeting's agenda.

13. **ELECTORAL REVIEW OF CANTERBURY**

City Councillor Staley voiced his concerns that there will be less representation for the local people with the proposed reduction in Councillors from 50 to 38 at Canterbury City Council which will result in the remaining 38 having to cover a larger area. He also feels the concentration of power into the hands of fewer people is very worrying and less democratic. Cllr O'Sullivan agreed to send a response on behalf of the Parish Council expressing their objections to the plans to a less democratic system and to voice their regret at Canterbury City Council being given the opportunity to return to the former Committee Style system of management but instead opting to keep more power under the Executive Model.

14. **TRUSTEES FOR THE SLOYDEN CHARITY**

Cllr O'Sullivan asked Cllr Le Jeune and Cllr Hamilton if they wished to stand again for the position of trustees and to invite Reverend Chris Wilkinson to join as previous incumbents have in past years.

15. **HIGHWAYS**

Nothing to report.

16. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND CITY COUNCILLORS**

City Cllr Brian Staley reported that Canterbury City Council are being put under pressure to meet targets set by the National Government for the number of houses built over the next five years. The current Conservative Council has proposed 800 a year to meet the targets whereas the Liberal Democrats propose 500 houses instead. He is very worried by the statistic that the population in Canterbury will have tripled in a lifetime if the new proposed housing goes ahead. 4000 new houses are proposed in South Canterbury under the Local Plan.

He also reported that the sale of the Howe Barracks site may result in a possibility of an eastern bypass which is currently undergoing discussions. He is also shocked by the amount of sewage in the Nailbourne near Patrixbourne near the pumping stations, commenting on how lucky Wickhambreaux has been not to be effected.

County Cllr Northey sent a brief report to be read in his absence. He reported that he was one of four judges on Saturday 13 July 2013 in County Hall at the Model Railway Competition, which this year was won by St Mary's C of E School, Dover, The Standard was very high again which confirms the huge success of Wickhambreaux school last year. He apologised for not being able to attend the school for the Blue Peter garden event at the school on Tuesday 9 July 2013.

17. **CLLRS' REPORTS**

Tree Warden – Cllr Wright reported that the tree work to be carried out on the lime tree on the Green should be carried out this week. She also reported that a horse chestnut tree on the Little Green looks very sickly. She agreed to speak to Jon Lambourne and Julia Manning at Canterbury City Council to get them to assess the tree.

Cllr Wright also reported that an elder causing obstruction on the pavement outside 2 Grove Road will be felled and the stump ground out in a month's time by the Vegetation Team at Kent County Council followed by the pavement being repaired. The stump in Mill Close will also be ground out in the Autumn.

Police Liaison – Cllr Lodge reported she will be attending a meeting on Wednesday 31 July 2013 at Hawkinge to meet the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes.

KALC – Cllr Lodge reported that she had attended last week's meeting where Ray Evison was re-elected as Chairman but Peter Topley has had to stand down as Vice Chairman after Sturry Parish Council would not remain in KALC following losing a legal case and being fined £88,000.
KALC is to protest about planning issues being fast tracked straight to an inspector as they believe this is undemocratic.

Village Greens – Cllr Twyman and Cllr Joice reported that following their meeting with the owners of the Rose Inn, the owners were very apologetic regarding their amending of the agreement, putting this down to a misunderstanding and acknowledged they should have sent a letter apologising. They have agreed to move the two tables around the Green to minimise wear and tear of the new turf and will re-seed in the Autumn again if necessary. In the event of the current owners leaving, it was acknowledged that the current agreement would become void and a new agreement would have to be signed by the new owners.

18. **FINANCE**

The expenditure totalling £321.93 was authorised made up of:

- Chenice Sparkes – Clerk Salary July 2013 - £181.53
- HMRC – Employee and PAYE for July 2013 - £35.40
- Cllr O'Sullivan – Producing a copy of the Local Plan for Councillors - £35.00
- Stripy Lawns – Mowing of the recreation ground for May and June - £70.00

19. **CLERK REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

(i) The Clerk reported she had received more correspondence regarding the Richbourgh Connection proposals.
(ii) The Clerk reported she had received two posters to go onto the Village Noticeboard, one regarding the Local Plan and the other for the Electoral Review.
(iii) The Clerk reported she had received more correspondence regarding the Electoral Review which she passed to Cllr O'Sullivan.

20. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

(i) Cllr Wright and Cllr O'Sullivan reported that they were unable to open the online Sustainability Appraisal so were unable to make any comments.
(ii) The Parish Council decided that, in the interim period before then next meeting, any executive decisions that have to be made will be decided by Cllr O'Sullivan, Cllr Twyman and Cllr Le Jeune.

The meeting closed at 9:58 p.m.

Signed……..... (Chairman) Date…….....