



Draft Minutes Ordinary Meeting Leysdown Parish Council
Thursday 11th January 2024 at Leysdown Village Hall 6pm Start

Present: Cllr Martin (chair), Cllr Partis, Cllr Brennan, Cllr Partis

Members of the Public: multiple

24/001 Apologies: Cllr Curtis

24/002 Declaration of Interests: None

24/003 Approval of Minutes for September meeting: Proposed Cllr Partis, 2nd Cllr Brennan, All agree.

24/004 Approval of Minutes for November meeting: Proposed Cllr Brennan, 2nd Cllr Partis, All agree

24/005 Matters Arising: Christmas Lights. Cllr Martin explained having to apply for a permit but system had changed so had to contact UK Power Network. Once all paperwork had been complete a new permit was granted, company came to put lights up but a majority of lights found to be broken. This couldn't have been tested without the permit. The few that did work are due to be taken down before 31/01/24. This year permit to be arranged further in advance.

24/013 Public Session (moved up agenda on public request)

*MOP suggested Xmas Lights competition next year for houses in Parish with a prize. Cllrs all agreed a great idea.

ACTION – add to next agenda

*MOP asks why no lights on bandstand. Cllr Martin explains no one has arranged the electricity for bandstand legally. (item 24/017)

*MOP asked about possibility of DDay celebration given its 80th anniversary on 6th June.
ACTION - Too add to future agenda to coincide with Parish funday.

*MOP asked about having more events in future over the summer. Another MOP suggested this could include use of the field next to graveyard and some fundraising events for the Parish.

ACTION - To be added to next moth agenda.

*MOP questioned why some invoices hadn't been paid yet and weren't on item 24/021. Cllr Martin explained item in question was 24/021 as cleaning solutions as that was on invoice received. This had been discussed with those in question and resolved.

*MOP questioned how you became a councillor and clerk. Cllr Martin explained the process for becoming a councillor and clerk. Councillors make decisions and clerk does the work. Multiple MOP weren't aware of co-option. Cllr Martin advised would return to subject in item 24/006.

* MOP feels more could be done to promote meetings, events etc other than notice boards and websites. Cllr Martin advised this is on agenda for next meeting, such as use of social media.
ACTION – Add social media onto next agenda

* MOP voiced concern overpaying towards village hall boiler when not on a previous agenda/meeting in August when cheque issued. Cllr Partis advised it was on previous meeting minutes and agreed.

N.B Clerk has checked previous meetings and was in June's agenda and minutes, item 23/118, when agreed. Invoice was issued in August when work completed.

*MOP noted on September minutes discussion about boat relocation, multiple MOP disagree with moving. One MOP offered to maintain boat and will provide contact details. Cllr Martin confirmed boat will not be moved.

*MOP asked about maintenance of plant pots around Parish. Another MOP offered to help maintain. MOP asked about relocating them.

ACTION – Add to next meeting agenda register of volunteers

*Various MOP not happy about Xmas party. Cllr Martin explained they tried something new and it didn't necessarily work.

*MOP objects to rejoining KALC was not worth it in the past as have not been supportive and SLCC should not be funded by Parish as act for clerk. Cllr Martin explains councillor's decision.

24/006 Co-option New Councillors: Cllr Martin explained how works and that 3 applications had been received. Given MOP saying weren't aware will defer to next meeting and readvertise.

Proposed Cllr Partis, 2nd Cllr Martin, All Agree.

ACTION – Advertise again and add next agenda

24/007 Planning: 23/505637/FULL Erection of conservatory to rear of property 13 Shurland Avenue: No Comments

24/008 Planning: 23/504955/FULL Erection of annexe in rear garden 10 Shurland Avenue: No comments

24/009: Rejoin Kalc: Proposed Cllr Martin, 2nd Cllr Partis. All Agree. Offer to rejoin now and pay remainder of year or wait until next financial year.

Cllr Partis – Join now, Cllr Martin – Join next financial year, Cllr Brennan – Join now, Cllr Probets – Join now

ACTION – Clerk to contact KALC and arrange re-join now.

24/010: Clerk to join SLCC: Previous clerk in room who advised how useful SLCC are. Proposed Cllr Martin, 2nd Cllr Partis, All Agree
ACTION – Clerk to arrange joining

24/011: Internal Auditor: Emails have been sent to approved auditors. No replies yet. Defer until replies received.

24/012 External Councillors Reports: Councillor M Whiting:

*Cones back on A249 – Kent Highways are looking into as layout different to what was communicated.

*Blackburn Lodge – repair work is thought to be in estimation of 6 figures, iron pipework all needs total replacement. Meeting shortly to decide future use. Cllr Whiting is in favour of remaining a care home.

*Oasis Academy- Two new trusts confirmed to take over Oasis sites. Leigh Academy will take over Minster site and EKC the Sheerness site. There will also be a “satellite” SEN school on Minster site that has obtained 2.5million investment.

*Pot Holes – A grant has been approved to fix potholes but the holes need to keep being reported. Cllr Whiting advised best way to do this is online at KCC website – report a fault.

*Bayview – weeds being done after payment done – Cllr Whiting advised happy with work.

*Childrens Centre- Discussion was called in by KCC which led to a delay – the final decision should be available soon.

19:12 Cllr Whiting Left

24/014 Police Reports: This report will not give the circumstances of domestic violence reports so that vulnerable victims are not identified.

*1x report nuisance youths on Grove Ave regarding a traffic cone put in road

*2x reports nuisance vehicle on Leysdown Road – Quad bike

*1x report nuisance vehicle on Shellness – 2 x Quad bikes

Cllr Martin emphasised importance of keep reporting as without reporting nothing can be done.

24/015 Individual Email addresses for councillors: Will be GDPR compliant and mean own email address not used. With turnaround of councillors if anyone contacted a former Cllr it would bounce back so no GDPR breach. Clerk will be copied in to emails. Email policy will need updating. Quote obtained. Proposed Cllr Martin, 2nd Cllr Probets, All Agreed.

ACTION- Clerk to contact and arrange

24/016 Employing Handyman: Idea was to employ handyman for basic repairs and maintenance that doesn't need signing off. Graveyard maintenance was to originally be included but after hearing extent of job will need to remain separate. Cllr Brennan proposed to get quotes for a handyman and contact KALC for advice of how to go about it and the implications. Proposed Cllr Martin, 2nd Cllr Partis. Cllr Brennan agrees. Cllr Probets abstained.

24/017 Bandstand Repairs, electricity & Registering with Land Registry: Previous repair quotes have expired so new quotes needed for repair brickwork. Need to research land registry due to length of lease and electrics. Original plans had bandstand in slightly different position.
ACTION – Clerk to contact Graham Tuft and Paul Day as previously had contact about bandstand. Once registration and documentation sorted to obtain new quotes.

24/018 Office Equipment: Key safe – Cllr Martin proposes £11.99 key safe, 2nd Cllr Partis, All Agree. Safe, Filling Cabinet and door lock – defer for future meeting once advice obtained from KALC on recommendations and need to be GDPR compliant.
Printer – Cllr Martin proposes Epsom Ink Tank on 23/219 at £180.16, 2nd Cllr Partis, All Agree.
ACTION – Order key safe and printer.

19:55 Meeting Suspended For Comfort Break

19:59 Meeting Commences

24/019 Precept: Figures and quotes for next year finances discussed. Proposed precept £38,606. Cllr Partis proposes go with this figure, 2nd Cllr Brennan, All Agree.
ACTION – Precept to be submitted by 18th January.

24/020 Bank Mandate: Still ongoing. Cllr Partis has completed request from Natwest, await previous Cllr (Paul Day) to complete.

24/021 Finance Cheques for approval:

BT 23/11/2023	£59.20	Direct Debit
Unpaid September Clerk Wages Reimbursement for Cllr Martin	£407.25	
Clerk's wages for Dec	£402.93	
SBC – recovery costs – May 2023 election	£159.07	
Mazars –AGAR year end 31/03/2023	£378.00	
KCC Festive lighting Reimbursement for Cllr Martin	£127.00	
Christmas Party - Evelyn	£1925.00	
Donation to Curly's Legacy Carol Service	£500.00	
Cleaning Solutions - Churchyard	£3200.00	
Bank Charges	£6.15	Direct Debit
BT 23/12/2023	£61.72	Direct Debit

Cllr Martin, Cllr Partis and Cllr Brennan agree on all.

Cllr Probets abstain from Curly's Legacy

24/022 Second Public Session (limited to 5 minutes):

*MOP would like objection noted to Parish council holding children's events

*MOP questioned why a previous grant was given to Warden Playgroup. Cllr Martin explained the criteria for this particular grant and how Warden Playgroup fulfilled it and children of Leysdown Parish attend playgroup.

*MOP asked if local residents could have a say in where money is donated. Cllr Martin voiced this was a good idea and asked for nominations. To add to next agenda how this could work.

ACTION – Add to next agenda

*MOP requests games along seafront be redone in memory of Pauline Wenham

ACTION - On next agenda

*MOP complained about fly tipping. Cllr Martin advised this needs to be reported to SBC.

*MOP questions why Christmas complaint is closed session. Cllr Martin explains complaint was about a particular person so is a closed session.

*MOP would like role of councillors explained if they also work. Cllr Martin advised is to represent and advocate for local community.

24/023 Any Other Business: None

24/024 Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 8th February at 6pm Leysdown Village Hall

20:45 MOP and Cllr Brennan Leave

24/025 Closed Item: Formal Job Offer to Clerk: Proposed Cllr Martin, 2nd Cllr Partis, All Agree.

24/026 Closed Item: Complaint re Christmas Party: Complaint discussed, closed session as about a individual, complainant will be informed accordingly.

24/027 Close of meeting Ends 21:26

Signed: