FRINDSBURY EXTRA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17th DECEMBER 2024 AT FRINDSBURY EXTRA MEMORIAL HALL, HOLLY ROAD, WAINSCOTT AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr Chris Sparks Chair
Cllr Vanessa Roach Vice-Chair

Cllr Tony Ashton
Cllr Gary Etheridge
Cllr Craig Liddell
Cllr Anne Roscow
Cllr Paul Martin
Cllr Andrew Millsom
Cllr Sheila Noise
Cllr Ope Onimole
Cllr John Williams

Emma Johnson Clerk

In attendance 1 Member of the public

Item

Minute 2024/25 Action point

Before the meeting began Richborough gave a presentation to the Parish Council on the proposed planning application they are seeking to submit to Medway Council.

1 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Cllr Martin was voted for by Councillors to join the Parish Council at the last meeting and all paperwork

was completed.

2 APOLOGIES

337 Apologises were received from:

Cllr Elizabeth Turpin – Unwell

It was proposed by Cllr Sparks, seconded by Cllr Roach and agreed these apologies be accepted.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

338 Cllr Gary Etheridge reported a conflict of interest in item 6a.

Cllr Roach reported a conflict in interest for planning application MC/24/2463 Cllr Roscow reported a conflict in interest in planning application MC/24/2517

4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

339 None

5 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

340 It was proposed by Cllr Roach, seconded by Cllr Roscow and agreed the minutes of the meeting held on

29th October be signed as a true record.

6 FOOTPATHS

341 Footpath Officer's Report

This month we have worked on RS122, removing ivy from some of the trees. There has been no need to work on any other footpath this month, as not much is growing.

We also enjoyed a Christmas lunch together at The Kings Arms and wholeheartedly thank the Parish

Council for paying for the meal. It was very much appreciated.

7 PLANNING

a Applications

i MC/24/2535 – Arethusa Venture Centre Upnor Road Upnor: Demolition of existing buildings and construction of two new buildings to provide 31 no. apartments (Use Class C3) including landscaping, parking, access and associated infrastructure.

Frindsbury Extra Parish Council expresses its deep regret at the potential loss of the Arethusa Venture Centre and the likelihood that the site will not be retained for community use. However, the Parish Council is prepared to accept the proposed application in principle.

Councillors and local residents have significant concerns regarding the impact of the development on local highways. Specifically, the primary access road to Upnor is predominantly a single-track road due to on-street parking, and there are worries about the additional traffic pressure the new development will create. There are also ongoing issues with reckless driving, including speeding, in the area. In light of this, the Parish Council strongly urges the consideration of additional traffic-calming measures as part of the application.

Furthermore, Councillors request clarification regarding the proposed green space at the front of the site. During a recent public consultation, it was suggested that this area would be accessible to the public. However, the submitted plans indicate the potential installation of a hedge around the area. Could this please be confirmed.

ii MC/24/2517 – 59 Lingley Drive Wainscott: Construction of a single storey rear extension - demolition of existing conservatory

No Objection

344 iii MC/24/2457 –Patmans Wharf Upnor Road Upnor - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate (proposed) for the historical use of the site from (B2) Storage / Distribution (B8) to General Industrial (B2) and Storage/Distribution (B8).

iv MC/24/2412 - 45 - 47 Cooling Road Strood: Details pursuant to condition 5 (Cycle Storage) on planning permission MC/23/1656 for construction of a single storey extension to facilitate the conversion of the property into two dwelling houses with associated private amenity space - demolition of conservatory to the rear

No Objection

346 b Decisions

The decisions as listed on Appendix A were noted.

347 c Appeals and Other Matters

Cllr Sparks reported the piles which were placed in the river bed at Lower Upnor along with the now removed houseboat should be removed by March, it was suggested we contact Medway Planning in February to ensure this work is completed.

348 d Neighbourhood Plan

Nothing to report.

8 FINANCE

349 a Bank Balances

The Bank balances at 31st November as listed on Appendix B were noted.

350 b Paid since last meeting

Payments made since the last meeting as listed on Appendix B were ratified.

351	c	Accounts for payment	
		It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Etheridge and agreed that the accounts for payment as listed on Appendix B be paid.	
9		GRANT APPLICATIONS	
352		None	
10	а	MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LAND AND PROPERTY Recreation Ground/Hall Garden/Playpark	
353		Nothing to report.	
	b	Wainscott Fields Open Space/Playpark	
354	С	Wainscott Fields Working Group	
		Nothing to report.	
	d	Coomber Green Open Space/Playpark	
355		Cllr Liddell reported that moss had formed on the ground and it needs to be jet washed.	IJ
	e	Schooner Walk Open Space/Playpark	
356		Nothing to report.	
357	f	Allotments	
		Nothing to report.	
358	g	Woodland	
		Complaint received from Brissenden Close in Upnor about trees behind the resident's property being overgrown and swaying in the wind. From photographs believe these to be on Taylor Wimpey land but the Clerk and Chair will visit to investigate.	F/CS
359	h	Notice Boards	
		Repairs could be conducted in the next financial year.	
360	i	Defibrillators	
		Cllr Williams and Cllr Ashton reported all In good order.	
11		UPNOR	
361		More criminal damage in car parks in Upnor had been reported but Cllr Onimole raised this issue at a recent police meeting and no reports of criminal damage had been received.	
12		FRINDSBURY EXTRA MEMORIAL HALL	
362		Cllr Sparks reported roof repairs were needed.	
13		SCHOOLS	
363		Nothing to report.	

14 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

364 a Medway Letter – Four Elms roundabout & Wainscott A289/B2000 junction

It was discussed that a letter had been sent to Medway Council to express the serious concerns of Councillors and residents regarding the escalating traffic congestion in the area.

15 RURAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

Cllr Millsom reported he attended a carbon credit meeting with Simon Curry's team. The next meeting would be in January.

16 KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS MEDWAY AREA COMMITTEE

366 a Representatives' Report

Cllr Sparks and Cllr Roach reported they both were in attendance of the KALC AGM and found it extremely insightful and hoped to make more use of the KALC resources in future. Cllr Roach suggested the creation of a community resilience plan.

17 POLICE MATTERS

365

367 a Police Liaison Committee Representative's Report

In Cllr Onimole reported he had attended a police meeting where it was raised that residents are not reporting crimes that are being reported to the Parish Council. Unless crimes are reported the Police cannot gather crime statistics to link patterns and organise resources.

368 b Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report.

18 COMMUNICATIONS

369 a Website/Social Media

Nothing to report.

19 Consultation

370 None.

20 Correspondence

371 None

21 Gift or Charitable Donation for Geoffrey Moore for long service on the Parish Council

372 Defer to January agenda.

MEDWAY COUNCILLORS' REPORT AND PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr Etheridge reported that Medway Council's finances were not in a good way but yet all staff got pay rises. The Council's plan is to take out a 20 year loan from the government. The safer streets scheme was discussed and how it was not working, its created issues for local bus routes who cannot get through and parents/carers are just turning up to the areas earlier and sitting in their cars with the engines on. Cllr Etheridge reported he attended a detailed meeting on the national planning framework and discussions on the local plan. The framework favours multiple purpose developments and these will likely get approved regardless of objections. The devolution of Kent County Council and its split into 4 areas was discussed.

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

22 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

373 It was proposed by Cllr Sparks, seconded by Cllr Roach and agreed the press and public be excluded from the following item on the grounds it is a HR matter.

23 PERSONNEL

374 a Assistant Clerk Update

The Clerk reported applications had been shortlisted to 5 people and interviews would be conducted on the 25th of January 2025.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 21:15				
Signed	. Chairman			