

Teston Parish Council

19th July 2023

Teston Parish Councillors are summoned and members of the public and the press are invited to attend an extraordinary meeting of Teston Parish Council that will take place on Tuesday 25th July 2023 starting at 7.30 p.m. at Teston Village Hall.



Michelle Tatton - Clerk

In the interests of transparency, all Parish Councillors declare an interest in (a) Ash Tree Corner, Courtlands Verge and the Allotments, as the Parish Council owns the land; (b) the Village Green and Village Hall as Custodian Trustees; (c) Teston Land Conservation Trust Matters as they are Trustees; (d) Teston Village Stores CIC as they are Directors of the CIC; d) Cllr Douglass, Cllr Miss Page and Cllr Mrs Wheat have an interest as members of Teston Village Hall Management Committee; and Cllr Ms Burgon and Cllr Dawn Page have an interest as members of Barming with Teston PCC.

Your attention is drawn to the Parish Council's Standing Orders on the Photographing, Recording, Filming or Broadcasting of Teston Parish Council Meetings. The policy will be displayed at each Parish Council meeting. A copy of the policy is also available upon request from the Clerk using the contact details on the final page of the Agenda.

23/050	Declarations of Interest
23/051	To receive and agree Apologies for Absence
Meeting adjourned to receive comments and questions from members of the public	
Public session: for approximately 15 minutes the Chairman invites comments and questions from members of the public (which do not constitute a formal part of the meeting). Members of the public may not speak at any other time during the meeting, save with the express consent of the Chairman	
23/052	To agree Minutes of previous meetings: 30 th May and 27 th June 2023
23/053	Ratification of Decisions: to ratify decisions taken by the Clerk since the May meeting as set out at the end of this Agenda
23/054	Ordering of the Agenda: requests for items to be taken earlier in the meeting
	<u>Administration and Finance</u>
23/055	Statement of accounts: i) To consider receipts, approve bills for payment including ratification of payments made since the last meeting, and claims for refund of expenses ii) To note general position regarding the Parish Services Scheme and year end PSS Certificate
23/056	Annual Return for the Year ending 31st March 2023: to receive update
23/057	Grants to Village Organisations for 2023-24: to consider level of grants to the Pioneers for Hall Hire and Teston PCC for assistance with churchyard maintenance
23/058	Village Hall CCTV: to consider grant, and vat implications
23/059	Friends of Teston Church: to receive update from Chairman
23/060	Rural England Prosperity Fund - Village Hall Solar Panels and Associated Works: to receive update from Chairman
	Planning
23/061	a) New Decisions (to be reported via the Clerk's Report) b) Pending Decisions/New Applications
23/062	Maidstone Local Plan Review: to receive update from Chairman

23/063	Kent Minerals Plan – Possible Extension of Hermitage Quarry: to receive update from Chairman
	Environment
23/064	Teston Bridge Country Park: a) To receive update upon Environment Agency work b) Any other Country Park matters
23/065	Tree, Hedge Work and routine maintenance: a) TPO on Village Green Silver Birch: to receive update b) Update upon work to Hawthorns on the Village Green c) Update from Clerk upon work authorised under delegated authority
23/066	Allotments Report: to receive update from Cllr Douglass and Clerk upon any issues
23/067	War Memorial: to receive update upon War Memorial Cleaning
23/068	Train Horns: to receive any update from Network Rail
23/069	Teston Village Green: to formally record the Village Green boundary at the Village Hall end
23/070	Play Area: to receive report upon any issues, to note inspection rota, and note pending annual inspection
	Highways
23/071	Highway Improvement Plan and Highway Spreadsheet of Routine Items: to i) Update upon discussions with Kent Highways, including upon a Keep Clear box on The Street at Court Lodge Farm entrance, and to agree next steps ii) Review regular items and agree further action
	Other
23/072	Possible Film Club at Teston Village Hall: to receive update from Chairman and agree further action
23/073	Collaboration with Teston Village Hall Management Committee on repairing the roof leak above the shop and replacing the side gate with a “chicane”, including any funding: to receive update and agree action
23/074	D Day 80 – 24th June 2024
23/075	Church Christmas Fayre: to consider request to use Teston Village Green
23/076	KALC AGM Motions: to submit by 22 nd September
23/077	Consultations: to consider responses a) Community Governance Review: comments due 6 th August https://letstalkmaidstone.uk.engagementhq.com/community-governance-review b) Public Space Protection Order: comments due 6 th August https://letstalkmaidstone.uk.engagementhq.com/dog-control-pspo-2023-review c) Parish Charter Consultation: comments due 23 rd August d) MBC Budget Consultation: comments due 28 th August https://letstalkmaidstone.uk.engagementhq.com/budget-consultation-2023 e) KCC Local Transport Plan: comments due 18 th September https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/local-transport-plan-5 f) KCC Community Warden Consultation: comments due 3 rd October https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/community-warden-service?tool=survey_tool#tool_tab
23/078	Clerk’s Report for Noting
23/079	Exceptional Delegated Authority: to consider whether EDA should continue until the next meeting
Meeting Adjourned	

Teston Land Conservation Trust matters • Ripton Wood Permissive Access • Boathouse Meadow Grazing Teston Village Stores CIC matters • Shop Equipment	
	Confidential Items
23/080	To resolve that the press and public to be excluded from item 23/081 below on the basis that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted
23/081	Planning and Enforcement issues

Date of next meeting: 7.30pm on 26th September 2023 at Teston Village Hall

Decisions Taken by Clerk Since 30th May 2023
Under Scheme of Delegation
For ratification under Agenda item 23/053

Detail	Decision and Background	Date Taken
Wildflower verge A26 west of Teston Lane	It was reported by the Chairman that the verge was very overgrown and in need of a cut. This verge is on the Maintenance Schedule detailing works which the Clerk may action under delegated authority approved by the Council under Minute 22/153(b). The Clerk arranged for the verge to be strimmed for the agreed price of £120 plus vat.	08.06.2023
Removal of broken branch on Catalpa	In the days before the Village Fete it was reported that a branch had broken on the Catalpa on the Village Green. The Clerk authorised the removal of the branch which was undertaken by a local resident at no cost to the Council.	15.06.2023
War Memorial Cleaning	At the last meeting the Clerk was given authority to agree a price for this work. The Clerk subsequently agreed a price with the contractor of £650 plus vat i.e. within the defined budget. Work to be undertaken in time for Remembrance Sunday.	17.07.2023

End