

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYDD TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Monday 9th January 2023 at 7pm in the Guild Hall Chamber

Present: Town Mayor, Cllr Martin Sweeney, Deputy Mayor R.S. Jones, Councillors, Maria Beach, Clive Goddard, Tony Hills, Mrs Kerry Manahan, Mrs Debbie McKenna, Mrs Jean Jones, Mrs Suzanne Piper, Mrs Kim Rye, Paul Rye, Graham Snell

Angela Alexander – Town Clerk

PRAYERS – Rev. Chris Maclean led the Council in prayers.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Trevor Allen (unwell), Cllr. Darren Chapman (family holiday), Cllr Mrs Ann Duncan (Covid)

Absent: Cllr Len Laws

2. MINUTES

a) **RESOLVED:** *To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th November 2022 to be signed by the Chairman as a true record*

Proposed by Cllr Snell and seconded by Cllr Mrs Piper

For: 8

Abstentions; 4 Cllrs Beach, Mrs Manahan Mrs McKenna and Mrs Kim Rye.

b) **RESOLVED:** *To receive and note the already approved minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 7th November 2022*

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Clive Goddard declared an interest in the agenda item regarding the Poppy Appeal and any matters relating to Folkestone and Hythe District Council.

Councillor Tony Hills declared an interest in any matters relating to Kent County Council and Folkestone and Hythe District Council.

4. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Questions from Martin Hooper

1. *As my question at the last meeting was not answered fully about the Holm Oak. Are you able to provide a receipt/invoice for the purchase of the trees.?*

It was explained that the total cost includes the price of the purchase of the trees plus the items included in planting such as guards, stakes and the posts protecting the trees and the cost to the contractor for planting.

2. *Is it illegal to sign off LTC minutes as a true record when they are not true? And who is responsible for this?*

The Mayor explained that the Minutes of a meeting are agreed by the majority of those Councillors present and voting. Should a councillor have a query it is itemised on the agenda that they need to raise this before 12 noon with the office.

The Chairman of the meeting is responsible for signing the minutes following the vote by Councillors. *There were no objections raised by Councillors to the minutes.*

3. *When was it an agenda item that LTC debated and voted on members of the public not allowed to stand at question time?*

The Mayor replied that this was an internal matter discussed to try to minimise the spread of infections where people gather at meetings, particularly where there are people with underlying health conditions who would be adversely affected. If members of the public wish to stand when speaking they may do so but not come forward from their seat.

5. ALLOTMENTS (Appendix A page 9 to 10)

Cllr Snell said that he would like to congratulate the Allotment Association Management Team for all they do and that they should be commended as the allotments are very well run.

Cllr Goddard said that he totally agreed with Cllr Snell and that they do an excellent job for what we pay them as when there was a Lydd Town Council groundsman carrying out this work he spent a lot of time at the Allotments. Cllr Goddard said that he was involved with the gardening club in 2003 and there were doubts at that time about self-management and it was hard getting the idea over the line but self-management is now in place and the Town Council should support them.

a) Review of charges for allotment plot rent and water.

A briefing note had been circulated to Councillors for consideration.

Cllr Mrs Piper said that we are extremely inexpensive with the rental charges compared to other places and that water costs are going up.

Cllr Goddard said that this year he would prefer to wait and not increase charges as everything is so difficult for people at the moment. The charges could then be reviewed next year by the new Council.

RESOLVED: Following the review of the charges for allotment plots including the water for rents falling due 1st October 2023 that there be no increase to the current charges for a 5 perch plot which is £20. Rents due on 1st October 2023 will be charged at £20 for a 5 perch plot.

Proposed by Cllr Snell and seconded by Cllr Goddard

For: 11

Against: 1 (Cllr Mrs Piper)

b) RESOLVED: Following the review of the annual Allotment Association Management Team allowance for the upkeep of the allotments in line with the self- management agreement that this be £1200 payable in January 2023.

Proposed by Cllr Snell and seconded by Cllr R.S. Jones

For: 11

Abstention: 1 Cllr Mrs Piper

c) RESOLVED: Following consideration of the annual project to be partly financed by Lydd Town Council at the Allotments land to re-felt the cabin roof and to upgrade the picnic area behind the cabin with more block paving and grass. The amount to be contributed by the Town Council is £1,701.15 and extra costs will be met by the association.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs McKenna and seconded by Cllr Mrs Kim Rye

For: 11

Abstention: 1 Cllr Mrs Piper

6. COUNCILLORS REPORTS (Appendix B page 11 to 14)

A written report from KCC Member for Romney Marsh, Cllr Tony Hills had been circulated to Councillors and made available for the public on the website.

Received and noted

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. BUDGET PAPERWORK 2023-24 (Appendix C page 15)

RESOLVED: To adopt the final approved budget as circulated to Councillors following consideration and agreement of the draft budget at the meeting of Lydd Town Council on 7th November 2022

Proposed to accept the Budget for 2023-24 by Cllr Snell who thanked the Town Clerk for the hard work on this document and seconded by Cllr Hills

Unanimous.

B. PRECEPT SETTING

The draft budget considered at the 7th November 2022 meeting was agreed by Council without any amendments and the final version circulated with the agenda paperwork for the meeting on 9th January 2023 for formal adoption and for the precept setting.

Folkestone and Hythe District Council will require notification of your final 2023/24 precept amounts by 31 January 2023 at the latest. It is important to adhere to this timetable as our response forms part of the overall budget approval proposals presented to the subsequent full council meeting in February 2023.

Formal Council approval for the tax bases by FHDC is scheduled for 22 February 2023 and the draft tax base for Lydd is 2,165.45.

As agreed at the November Council meeting the budget amount to meet current committed expenditure for 2023-24 is £200,370. Expected receipts are £18,826 and the agreed virements to earmarked budget heads which have been approved to be made in April 2023 at the start of the new financial year is £22,321. This means that the balance required to be considered for the precept request is £159,233.

It was discussed that a precept request of £159,000 with a tax base of 2,165.45 would give a draft Band D of approximately £73.43

RESOLVED: To set the precept request to be made to Folkestone and Hythe District Council for 2023-24 in line with the agreed budget for the amount of £159,000

Proposed by Cllr R.S. Jones and seconded by Cllr Hills

Unanimous

C. DONATION FROM LYDD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES

RESOLVED: It was reported that the donation cheque of £5,000 from Lydd Municipal Charities was received by the Town Clerk on 1st December 2022 and it was noted as agreed at budget setting that this money is to be used for funding of small grant applications from local charity and voluntary groups for the total of £3,000 and also to fund the previously agreed donations to Lydd Club Day and Twinning of £1,000 each. The total amount to be allocated to the small grant applications is a maximum of £3,000 and donations to Lydd Club Day and Twinning of £2,000 and the final total is a maximum of £5,000

D. NOTIFICATION OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR APPOINTMENT FOR 2022-23

A briefing note detailing the notification of the external auditor appointment for the 2022-23 financial year for the 5-year period until 2023-27 and been circulated to Councillors as follows:

Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments (SAAA) is the independent, sector led organisation responsible for the appointment and contract management of external auditors to smaller authorities since the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 established new arrangements for the accountability and audit of local public bodies in England. Smaller authorities are those whose gross annual income or expenditure is less than £6.5 million.

Under the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, SAAA is responsible for appointing external auditors to all opted-in smaller authorities, for setting the terms of appointment for limited assurance reviews and for managing the contracts with the appointed audit firms.

The SAAA has appointed an external auditor to Lydd Town Council for the 5-year appointing period from 2022-23 until 2026-27, following a procurement exercise to appoint auditors to each contract area from 1 April 2022.

Our current appointed auditor will conclude any outstanding work on the 2021-22 Annual Governance and Accountability Returns and the new appointed auditor will be responsible for the arrangements in respect of the 2022-23 AGAR process onwards.

The audit firms all have previous experience of conducting limited assurance reviews for smaller authorities and have dedicated support personnel. SAAA will monitor the performance of the appointed firms in providing the audit services in terms of quality and compliance with their statutory terms of appointment.

If Lydd Town Council has any potential conflict of interest relating to the auditor appointment, for instance if a Councillor or close relation is employed by the appointed auditor then they should declare this interest at the meeting on 9th January 2023 and if not in attendance they should advise the Town Clerk so that this may be reported to SAAA immediately.

Auditor appointments for smaller authorities for the five financial years from 2022-23 to 2026-27

SAAA announced the conclusion of its procurement process and the award of limited assurance review contracts for five years to the successful external audit firms on 30 November 2021.

Responsibilities under the new contracts will relate to accounts for the financial year beginning on **1 April 2022**. The details of your specific appointment by contract (County) area are listed below.

Lydd Town Councils Authority's Audit Appointment for 2022-23 to 2026-2027 will be MAZARS LLP and Fees 2022-23 will be £420. The fee scales exclude Value Added Tax, which will be charged at the prevailing rate on all work undertaken.

RESOLVED: Received and noted – no conflicts of interest reported by Councillors.

8. GURKHA BAND CONCERT AND POPPY APPEAL

- a) Cllr Clive Goddard reported that it was standing room only in All Saints Church for the Christmas Band Concert performed by the Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas. He said he would like to thank the new Director of Music, Capt. Esther Hayes, Major Beven and the Town Clerk who started the ball rolling and organised the event and all the local businesses who supported the Town Council with this charitable community event and generously donated raffle prizes.

They are Action Watersports, Lydd £42 voucher, Spar, Lydd £40 voucher, The Pilot, Dungeness £25 voucher, Lydd Golf Club— 30-minute golf lesson, McColls, Lydd on Sea Usher Motors, Lyons Outfitters, Lydd, Lydd Vets, Morrisons, Lydd and M&M Richardson, Dungeness. Cllr Goddard said that he was pleased to see Mayors from Kent and East Sussex attending the Concert which included Hythe, Winchelsea, Faversham, Tenterden, Ashford, Swanley, Folkestone and Maidstone and the Chairman of KCC and Deputy Chair of FHDC and District Councillor Jenny Hollingsbee.

Total takings were £2,223.52 but unfortunately this year we had to pay for the transport for the band and a 7.5-ton kit van. These are costs we have avoided twice before and we also paid the Church for heating and refreshments which came to just under £1,800 in total. We had £1000 in the budget for transport which leaves just under £1430 which will be donated to the Gurkha Welfare Trust.

Myself and the Town Clerk, Angela have already begun negotiations for next year's concert and we will be meeting in late Spring with the band master to discuss future arrangements. Cllr Goddard said that it was an excellent event and very well supported and goes to prove that these events can be arranged without a committee or a large team of people involved to deliver.

Cllr. Hills said that he would like to congratulate Cllr Goddard on the amount of work that he had put in and was pleased to see the Chairman of Kent County Council attending. It was superb and gets better each year and it is not an easy job to organise something of that scale. Cllr Snell said that he had heard very good reports from people who had attended and proposed that the Town Council should put some money from the budget towards the donation. Cllr Mrs Piper said that in addition to Cllr Goddard she would like to thank the Town Clerk. Cllr Mrs Piper said that she is a long-term supporter of the Gurkha Welfare Trust. The Mayor suggested rounding up the donation to the Gurkha Welfare Trust to £1,500.

RESOLVED: That the donation to the Gurkha Welfare Trust should be rounded up to the sum of £1,500. Proposed by Cllr Snell and seconded by Cllr Hills Unanimous.

b) Poppy Appeal 2022

Councillor Goddard said that around 30 collecting tins were distributed in shops, pubs and our two primary schools in Lydd. After the 2022 Appeal ended the monies were counted by volunteers and a grand total of £2,771.91 was raised. Cllr Clive Goddard, said “the community young & old always give so generously to this excellent cause, they all deserve a massive thank you. What a fantastic way to celebrate the 101st anniversary of the British Legion with our great total raised” Cllr Goddard went on to say “A special mention must go to Lydd & Greatstone school pupils, staff and parents as Lydd School raised £284.32 and Greatstone School a whopping £344.58. The scouts did street collections in Lydd town and raised a brilliant £157.22 in just two weekends and in appalling weather conditions” I must thank all the volunteers and Angela the Lydd Town Clerk for their assistance in counting the money along with the hospitality and Rita (my mum) for all her help.

Received and noted.

9. TREE INSPECTION SURVEY (Appendix D page 16 to 19)

- a) The annual independent Arboricultural inspection has been carried out and the condition reports for The Rype, The Banks and the Memorial Garden had been circulated to Councillors for information and the Mayor advised that work will be carried out by Gibbs & Son in accordance with the instructions in the reports.

Cllr Mrs McKenna asked if the Memorial Garden Hedge would be cut back and the Mayor said No this would not be done and referred Cllr Mrs McKenna to the advice in the report which is to avoid any hard pruning of the hedge.

- b) The plan detailing the 18 positions for the planting of Memorial tree plots available to the community in accordance with the Memorial Tree scheme had been circulated to Councillors and is available on the website. These are located either side of Paine Avenue and that the species specified on recommendation by the expert can be either Holm Oak or Corsican/Black pine. The trees will form an Avenue once all the plots have been taken. So far one holm oak has been planted as a Memorial Tree under this scheme.

Cllr Mrs McKenna asked if flowering trees could be planted. Cllr Beach said that she had looked at trees for the type of ground on the Rype on the internet. The Mayor advised that the trees specified are those advised to us by the expert. He said if Cllr Mrs McKenna were talking about another project, then that would need to be looked into but that it is no good putting trees which are not suitable as then we get problems.

The Mayor said that there are trees to be removed from the Rype and felt that every time we have to take a tree out then these should be replaced and it is important that we ask for the right expert advice.

Cllr Mrs Piper said that we need to ask for the correct advice before we do anything.

RESOLVED: Items a and b received and noted.

10. D- DAY 80

Councillors were asked to note that we have been advised by the Pageantmaster that Beacons will be lit on 6th June 2024 as the principal leading event in celebration/commemoration/tribute to D-Day 80, the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy.

Received and noted

11. CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS

To note the civic engagements at which the Town Council has been represented.

November 2022

4 th	Winchelsea Spanish Evening	TS
13 th	Remembrance Sunday CIVIC SERVICE	TS
21 st	New Romney International Men's Day (Mayor and guest)	
21 st	New Romney International Women's Day (Mayoress and guest)	
3 rd	Lydd's Snowflake Community Event	TS

December 2022

8 th	Marsh Academy Prize Giving	
9 th	Lydd Gurkha Band Concert	TS
16 th	New Romney – Mayor Christmas Reception	TS
19 th	Lydd in Lights	TS

12. PRESS AND PUBLIC EXCLUDED

RESOLVED: *that the public and press be excluded from the following agenda items which are commercially sensitive and exempt as defined in Schedule 12 of the Local Gov Act 1972.*

Proposed by Cllr R.S. Jones and seconded by Cllr Mrs Piper

For: 8

Abstentions; 4 Cllrs Beach, Mrs Manahan, Mrs McKenna and Mrs Kim Rye

13. RYPE PLAY PROJECT

The Town Clerk brought Councillors attention to the Terms of the Quotation they would be considering as part of this agenda item which are as follows:

Freedom of Information

Non-disclosure of commercially sensitive documents under Freedom of Information Act

HAGS-SMP Ltd. consider our proposal return documentation to be commercially sensitive information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We request it is not disclosed on the grounds that its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person holding it without upholding any public interest. Commercially sensitive extends to, but is not limited to: pricing, company structure and resources, method statements for the delivery of the works and services and descriptions of our products or bespoke environment designs. Release of this information would give commercial competitors an unfair advantage against HAGS-SMP Ltd. on any future proposal submissions.

However, our 3D visual design drawings may be reviewed and released under a FOI Act request as this is generally available within the public domain or may have been displayed at a public event.

A) To receive an update on Phase 1 of the Rype play project

The Town Clerk explained that the installation of phase 1 will start in January and that the swings would be left in place for as close to the start date as possible and then removed. A pre-start site meeting will be held this week for final arrangements to be made.

B) Phase 2 of the Rype play project (Appendix E page 20 to 2)

The final quotation for Phase 2 of the project which is programmed for the forthcoming financial year and money has been included in the budget for 2023-24 to pay for this phase was circulated for Councillors to consider.

The Clerk explained that this is broken down into two parts. Firstly the equipment supply and install and the surfacing and secondly an additional quote for the installation of low level bow top green metal fencing around the under 5s play area.

The Mayor emphasised that with the fencing brings the opportunity to display prominent No Dogs signage on the entry points to the under 5s play area. Cllr Beach asked if fencing is allowed. The Town Clerk advised that FHDC planning dept. have advised that it is permissible to install fencing around the play area and RoSPA have made this recommendation in the report which was considered and adopted at the November 2022 Council meeting. The Council may wish to separate the quotation out and consider the two parts separately if they wish.

Cllr Mrs Manahan said that dog walkers are a problem and that is a lack of signage and a lot of anti-social behaviour on the Rype with dogs which should be policed. Cllr Tony Hills said if dogs are running off the lead he will contact the dog warden to do spot checks. Cllr Mrs Manahan said the problems are at 7.30 to 8.30 am and when the children come out of school.

Cllr Snell said that he did not wish to split the project and proposed the Council accepts the quote in its entirety and that all the project is agreed to. This was seconded by Cllr Hills.

RESOLVED: To approve the quotation in full for HACS phase 2 of the Rype play project which is to include the fencing around the Under 5s play area to be paid from the 2023-24 budget allocation.

Unanimous.

14. TENNIS COURT PROJECT UPDATE RYPE PLAY PROJECT

A request from ETC had been circulated for consideration to Councillors for additional costs on the project. Cllr R.S. Jones said that all the fencing is now up and the second gate which the company had ordered opening the wrong way has been re-ordered and we are awaiting delivery. Cllr Jones said that the gentleman running the job has now asked for extra money. Cllr Mrs Manahan said that if the company has tendered for the work they would have a contingency plan and that the Council should not pay any extra for the work.

RESOLVED: That ETC are advised that the Council has entered into a fixed price contract and are not in a position to pay over and above the sum already agreed.

Proposed by Cllr R.S. Jones and seconded by Cllr Mrs Manahan

Unanimous

15. CCTV FEASIBILITY

The Town Clerk updated Councillors and advised that under delegated authority as agreed by Council had met with an independent adviser and not a company selling CCTV and that an initial visit had taken place which had include a visit to all Council properties and a drive around the whole parish.

Received and noted

The meeting closed at 8.22pm

Chairman _____

Date _____

LYDD TOWN COUNCIL

JANUARY 2023

BRIEFING NOTE ALLOTMENTS

Lydd Town Council reviews the rent and water charges for the allotment plots annually. The decision on the charges made at the January 2023 Council meeting will be implemented for the rent and water charges falling due for payment by the plot holders on 1st October 2023.

At the present time the rent and water charges for 1 plot which is 5 perch is £20 and the expected income to the end of the financial year is approx. £3,200.

The charges for water have increased this year with the period from 1st April until 30th September 2022 being billed at £650.08 and the period from 1st October 2022 until 31st March 2023 will be billed at £711.18 – the total of £1361.26 for the financial year.

The insurance for the tractor was £245.04 – the cost of which is shared with the Allotment Association who paid £122.52.

The payment to the Lydd Allotment Association Management team under the self-management agreement is currently £1200 and this is paid in January.

Lydd Town Council supports the Self-Management agreement with the Lydd Allotment Association Management team by covering the cost of a project to improve the assets at the Allotments on an annual basis. This year the project is to re-felt the cabin roof due to weather damage and upgrade the picnic area behind the cabin with block paving and grass. The cost of the project is £1,701.15.

At this meeting Councillors are required to consider and agree the following matters:

- a) To set the rental charges for plots from October 2023
- b) To set and agree the AAMT self-management payment to be paid January 2023 (currently £1,200)
- c) To consider the project (details provided to Councillors) and agree the amount to be awarded.

LYDD ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

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roger.hooper1954@googlemail.com

CHAIRMAN: Roger Hooper



Lydd Allotments Association
Allotments
Dungeness Road
Lydd
Romney Marsh
Kent
TN29 9EW

The project this year is to re-felt the cabin roof as we have had to undertake some temporary repairs during the bad weather .

The roof repairs will be carried out by a contractor using materials supplied by the association.

The other part of the project is to upgrade the picnic area behind the cabin with more block paving and grass.

This part will be done by members of the association.

The total cost will be **£1,701.15**

Any extra costs will be met by the association

Many Thanks

Roger Hopper
Chairman

KCC Member for Romney Marsh Report
06.12.2022

Here is my latest report for Lydd TC.



Some interesting news.

Rare Elizabethan ship discovered at quarry 300 metres from the coast In April 2022, a team from CEMEX unexpectedly uncovered the remains of a rare Elizabethan-era ship, while dredging for aggregates at a quarry on the Dungeness headland, in Kent. Found some 300 metres from the coast, the discovery stumped the quarry team, who contacted archaeologists from Wessex Archaeology to study the remains. Recognising the significance of this extraordinary discovery, Kent County Council enlisted specialist support and emergency funding from Historic England. The story of this rare Elizabethan ship will feature on Digging for Britain on BBC2 at 8pm on 1 January 2023. Digging for Britain presenter, Alice Roberts, in the studio with Wessex Archaeology Marine Archaeologist, Andrea Hamel, and Antony Firth, Head of Marine Heritage Strategy at Historic England. Professor Alice Roberts, said: "This was one of those completely unexpected finds. Who expects to find a historic shipwreck in a quarry?! Luckily the workers recognised they'd stumbled on something quite extraordinary and called in the experts from Wessex Archaeology. This large piece of a hull is so well preserved, it's giving us precious insights into Elizabethan shipbuilding.

Over 100 timbers from the ship's hull were recovered, with dendrochronological analysis, funded by Historic England, dating the timbers that built the ship to between 1558 and 1580 and confirming it was made of English oak. This places the ship at a transitional period in Northern European ship construction. When ships are believed to have moved from a traditional clinker construction (as seen in Viking vessels) to frame-first-built ships (as recorded here), where the internal framing is built first and flush-laid planking is later added to the frames to create a smooth outer hull. This technique is similar to what was used on the Mary Rose, built between 1509 and 1511, and the ships that would explore and settle along the Atlantic coastlines of the New World. Andrea Hamel, Marine Archaeologist at Wessex Archaeology, said: "To find a late 16th-century ship preserved in the sediment of a quarry was an unexpected but very welcome find indeed. The ship has the potential to tell us so much about a period where we have little surviving evidence of shipbuilding but yet was such a great period of change in ship construction and seafaring." Although uncovered 300 metres from the sea in what is today a quarry, experts believe the site would have once been on the coastline, and that the ship either wrecked on the shingle headland or was discarded at the end of its useful life. Its discovery presents a fascinating opportunity to understand the development of the coast, ports and shipping of this stretch of the Kent coast. Antony Firth, Head of Marine Heritage Strategy at Historic England, said: "The remains of this ship are really significant, helping us to understand not only the

vessel itself but the wider landscape of shipbuilding and trade in this dynamic period. CEMEX staff deserve our thanks for recognising that this unexpected discovery is something special and for seeking archaeological assistance. Historic England has been very pleased to support the emergency work by Kent County Council and Wessex Archaeology, and to see the results shared in the new season of Digging for Britain.

Once their work is complete the timbers will be reburied in the quarry lake where they were uncovered so that the silt can continue to preserve the remains.



Sea Defences

The good work down at Lydd ranges continues, I'm hoping to get another site visit in the spring to see how Van Oord are getting on. Hopefully we will commence work on the Rother Tidal Walls this year. This will protect the greater Romney Marsh from flooding via the 'back door'. During a tidal surge following heavy rain this could

cause greater pressure on the river Rother banks as water levels rise. The banks on the east side require urgent repair at Guildford Levels. The reptile fencing has been in place all winter, once any reptiles have been relocated so that work can begin.

As you can see from the revealing of a Tudor wreck at the Kerton Road cemex quarry how the beach has changed over the last three hundred and fifty years, accreted over three hundred metres in that stretch of the west bay. My guess the material to grow this foreshore has come from the west bay via longshore drift as well as erosion from the east bay frontage.

Dungeness

I continue to explore ways we can develop nuclear energy at Dungeness. It is still all to play for going forward. I have a meeting mid-January with Rolls Royce to explore how the nuclear site can be best utilized. I consider this is important for Romney Marsh. Having two nuclear power stations at Dungeness, the first since the 1960's these have been great friends to Romney Marsh, and I believe they are one of the major reasons why we have been so successful in acquiring sea defences to protect the Romney Marsh from flooding.

Highways matters.

As I write this KCC is still waiting to hear about various government support in these difficult times as I said last month, funding for highways repairs could well be reduced given the hard choices that the council will have to make,

KCC highways has been experimenting with innovative materials to improve how and the life of road repairs. We face more severe weather causing more highways more damage. As we face even worse problems with inflation, we will get less work for more money.

As I say every month, here is the link to report 'potholes' online.

<https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.KHSFaultsGIS.Web.Sites.Public/ReportAFault.aspx>

Climate Change

I'm expecting a update on climate change from the Met Office at my Kent

Flood Risk Management Committee in March. We have all seen how variable the weather has been this winter already. Following the summer drought, then the very cold snap at the beginning of winter. Lots of rain in the last few weeks to refill our aquifers with very warm temperatures, what next.

Tony Hills Kent County Member for Romney Marsh

LYDD TOWN COUNCIL

BUDGET 2023-24

APPROVED 7TH November 2022

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	DETAILS OF ITEM OF RECEIPT OR PAYMENT	Year 2021-22	Year 2022-23	Year 2022-23	Year 2022-23	Year 2023-24		Notes
		Audited Actual	Agreed Budget	Actual Receipts	Forecast to 31.03.23	DRAFT Budget		
		£	£	£	£	£		
5	RECEIPTS:							
6	Allotments Plots Rent (incl. water)	3,913.86	3,900.00	1,927.52	3,900.00	4,000.00		1
7	Ambulance Service Rent	5,200.00	5,200.00	0.00	5,200.00	5,200.00		
8	Band Concert	0.00	0.00	0.00				2
9	Bank Interest	7.64	20.00	11.66	23.00	25.00		
10	Donations from Lydd Municipal and other Charities	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00		3
11	Manor Road Pavilion Hire	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
12	Masts and Easements	77.79	1,580.00	0.00	1,676.00	1,600.00		
13	Sales	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
14	Other Receipts	1,377.09	1.00	5,001.00	7,401.00	3,001.00		4
15	Virements from Earmarked reserves to be made April 2023					22,320.52		
16	PRECEPT REQUEST FOR 2023-24	125,000.00	130,000.00	130,000.00	130,000.00	159,223.48		
17	TOTAL RECEIPTS	140,586.38	146,100.00	136,940.18	153,200.00	200,370.00		
18								
19		Year 2022-23	Year 2022-23	Year 2022-23	Year 2022-23	Year 2023-24		
20		Audited Actual	Agreed Budget	To 21.09.22	Forecast to	DRAFT Budget		
21		EXC VAT	Budget	Actual Payments	31.03.23			
22		£	£	£	£	£		
23	PAYMENTS:							
24	Adverts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		5
25	Allotments	6,683.88	0.00	713.25	3,200.00	3,200.00		6
26	Audit	760.00	600.00	490.00	700.00	700.00		
27	Band Concert	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	500.00		7
28	Bank Charges	339.04	300.00	128.27	340.00	340.00		
29	Banks Dennes Lane	3,050.00	100.00	7,626.76	8,000.00	3,000.00		8
30	Bin Emptying	0.00	665.00	0.00	665.00	665.00		
31	CCTV feasibility study	0.00		0.00	500.00	500.00		9
32	Christmas Tree & Lighting	856.88	1,000.00	118.65	1,000.00	200.00		
33	Civic Expenses	452.20	160.00	190.35	800.00	200.00		
34	Donation to Club Day and Twinning	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00		10
35	Election Costs	8,865.19	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00		11
36	Electrical PEAT testing	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00		
37	Friends of Lydd	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00		
38	Ground Maintenance	7,234.72	8,000.00	2,495.00	5,000.00	5,000.00		12
39	Groundsman Materials and Equipment	567.40	400.00	263.23	400.00	400.00		
40	Guild Hall maintenance	2,133.07	1,800.00	2,114.83	2,200.00	2,500.00		
41	Guildhall Running Costs	8,507.25	9,000.00	5,030.73	9,000.00	9,000.00		
42	Hon. Freeman			1,626.45	1,626.45	0.00		
43	Insurance	3,856.61	4,000.00	4,077.87	4,500.00	4,500.00		
44	Lade Bench Licences	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00		
45	Legal & Professional Fees	771.00	500.00	420.00	700.00	700.00		
46	Lydd in Bloom	603.31	500.00	552.14	552.14	550.00		
47	Lydd in Lights	491.03	500.00		500.00	550.00		
48	Manor Road Pavilion Maintenance	90.00	750.00	316.45	500.00	1,000.00		
49	Manor Road Pavilion Running Costs	508.13	500.00	1,237.37	1,500.00	600.00		
50	Mayoral Allowance	1,053.08	3,000.00	1,096.00	2,000.00	3,000.00		
51	Office Consumables	1,878.47	2,000.00	730.11	1,500.00	1,500.00		
52	Office Equipment and Printing	1,396.20	600.00	759.08	900.00	1,000.00		
53	Office IT	4,521.52	3,700.00	1,948.18	4,000.00	4,000.00		
54	Queen's Platinum Jubilee	0.00	0.00	9,126.00	9,126.00	0.00		
55	Recreational Projects (Tennis courts)	0.00	46,000.00	4,200.00	46,000.00	0.00		
56	Remembrance Sunday S137	270.00	250.00	156.30	286.00	290.00		
57	Rype play project phase 1	0.00	40,000.00	0.00	50,000.00	0.00		13
58	Rype play project phase 2				0.00	30,000.00		14
59	Small Grants awarded from Municipal Charities donation	5,000.00	0.00		3,000.00	3,000.00		15
60	Staff Costs	74,111.42	90,000.00	42,036.62	85,000.00	94,500.00		16
61	Staff Pensions	14,892.47	13,000.00	8,484.91	16,000.00	16,000.00		
62	Stair Lift Maintenance & Defib	690.57	500.00	568.00	600.00	600.00		17
63	Stair Lift Replacement	0.00	0.00	2,601.75	3,649.00	0.00		
64	Staff and Councillors' Training	1,040.00	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		
65	Subscriptions	2,006.00	2,100.00	1,711.00	2,000.00	2,100.00		
66	Survey and schedule of work for buildings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,100.00		
67	Website	2,688.00	500.00		500.00	500.00		
68	Cononation of King Charles III	478.33	0.00		0.00	3,000.00		18
69		508.58	0.00		0.00			
70								
71	TOTAL PAYMENTS	158,329.35	232,100.00	100,844.30	271,419.59	200,370.00		

Visual Tree Assessment.Location: The RypeName: Mr. D. Sephton.Date: 9th November 2022Client: Lydd Town Council

Tree No	Species	Height	Age Class	Condition	Recommendations	Work Priority	Cost
1	Sycamore	8	Mature	Twist-stem tree with cavity measuring 300mm x 250mm and ingressing by 100mm at base of tree on eastern side. Minor decay evident.	None – Re-inspect in twelve months from the date of this report.	4	
2	Cupressus spp	4	Mature	The tree is predominantly dead and has split through its base. Decay is evident within the main stem	Fell to ground level.	2	
3	Cupressus spp	4	Mature	The tree is dead.	Fell to ground level.	2	
4	Sycamore	6	Mature	A pocket of decay measuring 125mm x 300mm is evident at the base of the tree on the north side. No change in condition from previous inspection in 2021.	None – Re-inspect in twelve months from the date of this report.	4	
5	Sycamore	9	Mature	A cavity is evident at the base of the tree on the eastern side measuring 300mm x 100mm and extending inwards by 150mm with minor decay evident. Good wound wood response around cavity.	None – Re-inspect in twelve months from the date of this report.	4	

Work Priority: 1= Urgent (within 24 hours). 2= High Priority (within three months). 3= Medium Priority (within six months). 4= Low Priority (within twelve months).

Report on trees at The Rype for Lydd Town Council.
 Invia Arboiculture Ref: IA22/701 – 9th November 2022

Visual Tree Assessment.**Location:** Lydd Cricket Ground**Name:** Mr D. Sephton.**Date:** 9th November 2022**Client:** Lydd Town Council

Tree No	Species	Height	Age Class	Condition	Recommendations	Work Priority	Cost
1	Hawthorn	5	Mature	A split is evident within the main stem that extends upwards horizontally from ground level to a height of one metre in a north easterly direction where it forks to form two co-dominant stems, one that extends vertically and the other (split one) horizontally towards but not over the adjacent highway.	Remove the horizontal north east facing stem.	3	
<u>Work Priority: 1= Urgent (within 24 hours). 2= High Priority (within three months). 3= Medium Priority (within six months).</u>							

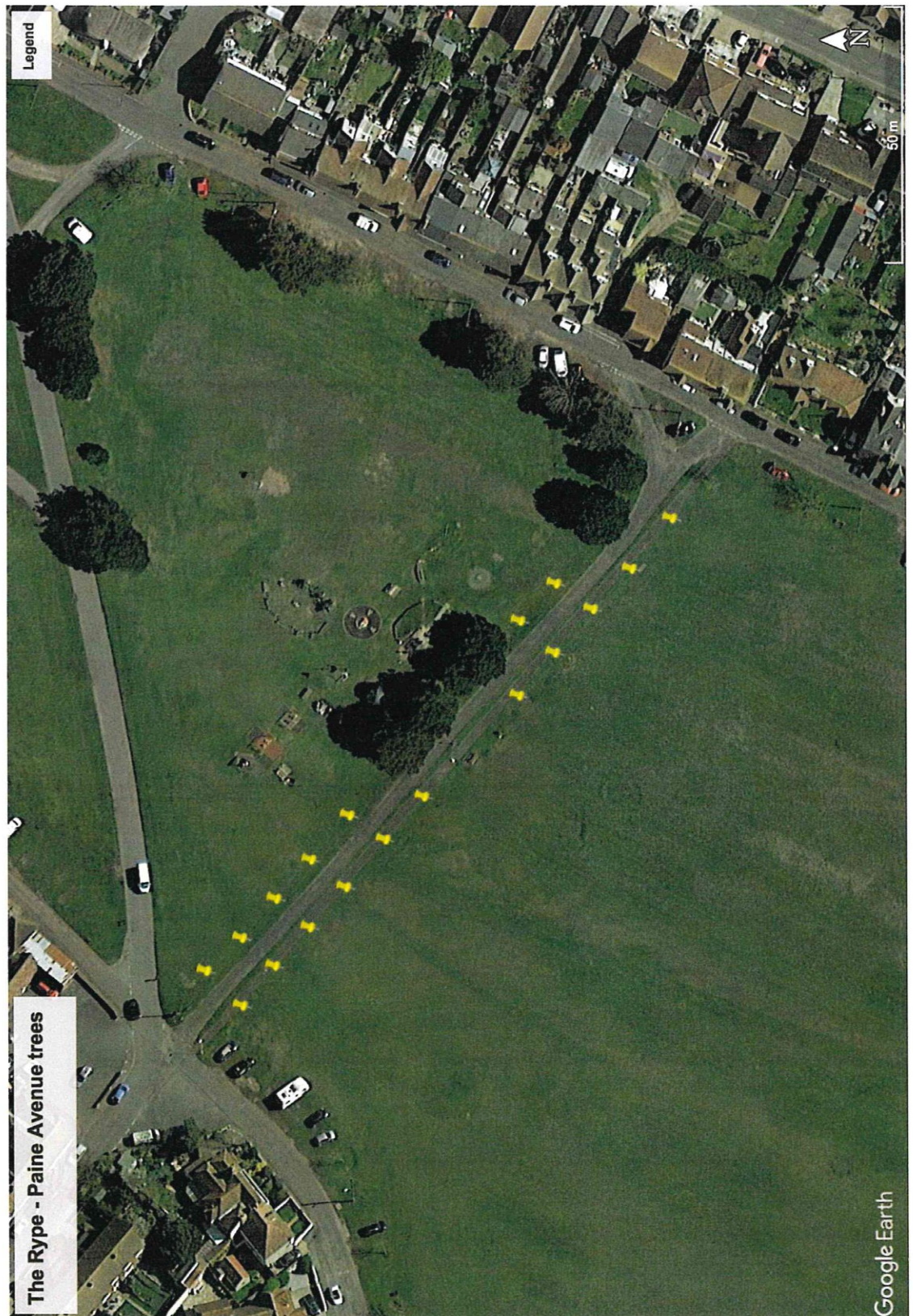
Report on trees at The Cricket Ground for Lydd Town Council.
 Invia Arboriculture Ref: IA22/701 – 9th November 2022

Visual Tree Assessment.**Location:** Memorial Garden**Name:** Mr D. Sephton.**Date:** 9th November 2022**Client:** Lydd Town Council

Tree No	Species	Height	Age Class	Condition	Recommendations	Work Priority	Cost
H1	Yew hedge	1.2	Mature	The Yew hedges around the perimeter of the Memorial Garden display good form and vitality with no dieback or disease evident. They are regularly close clipped and are of formal appearance in accordance with good horticultural practice, be that rectangular or otherwise. In any case, adequate light is able to reach all sides of the hedges allowing them to thrive. Ivy is beginning to colonise the hedge in places.	Remove all Ivy growth from within the hedge.	4	
G2	Lime x21	5	Mature	Maintenance of the hedges should continue as per the current specification in order to prevent them from encroaching any further across the adjacent footpaths. Hard pruning of the hedges is to be avoided. There is currently adequate space between the hedges and adjacent highway kerb edge for the passage of pedestrians, pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters. Ivy is beginning to colonise the main stems and lower canopies of the twenty-one Lime trees.	Sever and remove all Ivy from the trees at the same time as they are next pollarded (2023).	4	

Work Priority: 1= Urgent (within 24 hours). 2= High Priority (within three months). 3= Medium Priority (within six months). 4 Low Priority (within twelve months).

Report on trees at the Memorial Garden for Lydd Town Council.
Invidia Arboriculture Ref: IA22/701 – 9th November 2022





Ancillary Items	
Maintenance Finding	
Description	<div>Risk level: <div>Medium</div></div> <div>Risk score: <div>8</div></div>
Additional comments are noted below.	
Tasks	
Read the notes for further action.	
Note	
As discussed, the Inspector recommends enforcing a dog ban and installing appropriate fencing. Metal fencing tends to be a more cost efficient solution in the long term. Ensure that head entrapment points are not present between any crenellations.	
Finding Photos	