

Meeting of the Council
Held in the Devonshire Rooms 7 January 1896
At 7pm

Mr Cornell presided and there were also present Messrs. Deacons, Brazier, Fowle, Hollands, Kemsley, Burke, Beadle, Hawks and Dr Gash.

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence

3 Letters from the Home Secretary.

1. Re Ministers Fees.
2. Acknowledging receipt of Rules regulations and Scales of fees.
3. Stating that he wished to approve of fees only and suggesting addition of words "or child not a month old" after words "still born child" in Rule 3.

Mr Deacons proposed and Mr Beadle seconded that the Scale of fees be sent back to the Home Office without the addition of the words to Rule 3.

Mr Burke moved all amendments that the Clerk ask the Home Secretary to define the meaning of his suggestion. Mr Fowle seconded Messrs Kemsley, Burke Fowle and Dr Gash voted for the amendment and Messrs Brazier, Beadle, Hawks, Deacon, Hollands against it and it was declared lost.

The original motion was thus dec[lare]d and carried. Messrs Kemsley and Burke alone voting against it.

Barrow on Soar

Post Card – to Barrow on Soar agreement the Clerk stated he had sent for 2 copies of Parish Council's journal which contained the whole text.

Waghorn Road

Four letters from property owners in Waghorn Road: re repairs.

Mr Hawks stated he was willing to bear his share of expense.

3 owners had now answered.

The matter was left in hands of chairman for an estimate of cost.

Mays Portrait

Letter from Mr Bateman. Stating that H Wood Esq of Chatham had a portrait of John May Esq., benefactor to Snodland. M Wood offered to present the portrait to the Parish Council.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the Clerk put himself in communication with Mr Wood and to convey the thanks of the Council to Mr Bateman. Carried.

Reports

Mr Deacon reported what had been done in reference to Great Coats. A letter had been received from the firm who has hitherto supplied the coats asking for instructions and this had been send on to Mr Roberts.

The Chairman made a statement respecting the work of Bridge Committee. An exhibition of the designs would be made in the room above on the 13th and 14th inst.

Deputation of Rector

Mr Deacons reported the result of the deputation to the Rector. The Rector was asked to forego all the fees, and accept an agreement on the lines of the Barrow on Soar agreement. He stated he was willing forego all the fees, accept the 2/6 fee for interments on the consecrated ground by whomsoever performed. He was willing to forego this fee in the case of a non conformist who may have a relative buried in the consecrated portion and whose friends wish to lay him or her in the same grave as, or near at hand to the grave of such relative. These concessions would have no binding force on his successor.

Mr Deacons suggested that an agreement be made on these conditions and steps at once taken to have the ground consecrated.

Mr Fowle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the arrangement be accepted as suggested so the Rector's letter carried.

Mr Deacon proposed that the Rector be asked at once to have the ground consecrated on the understanding that a legal document be drawn up and signed by the Council, Bishop and Rector. This was seconded by Mr Hawks, and carried Messrs Kemsley and Burke voting against and lost. Mr Hollands remaining neutral.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Brazier seconded that the drafting of the deed be left with the deputation Messrs Cornell, Deacon and Hodgkinson carried.

Messrs Kemsley and Burke voted against it and Messrs Deacon, Brazier, Fowle, Gash, Beadle, Hollands and Hawks for it.

Caretaker of Cemetery

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the whole Council form itself into Committee in order to discuss the appointment of Caretaker of the Cemetery.

Mr Deacon in voting a resolution said that during 5 months of summer he would find work enough in the cemetery 2 months he would find only partial employment and

nothing the five winter months. During this time he might be able to do the work on the Brook and other work the Council might wish done.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Brazier seconded that this Council engage a man to do all work required to be done at the cemetery and all work required to be done on the Brook and any other work the Council may require to be done in the Parish of Snodland.

That this Council offer 18/- per week wages house and water free.

That notice be posted on the Council's notice boards inviting applications for the situation. Applicants must reside in Snodland, Birling or Halling.

Applications must be made in own hand writing and left with the Clerk to the Council, with two testimonials on or before ..

Any candidate canvassing the members of the Parish Council will be disqualified.

Mr Fowle moved an amendment that when the caretaker is appointed his work shall be confined to the Cemetery and that the wage be £1 with house and water. This was seconded by Mr Kemsley.

After a good deal of discussion Mr Kemsley proposed that the meeting be adjourned till Wednesday the 15th next at 7pm.

This was seconded by Mr Hawks and carried only Messrs Beadle and Brazier voting against it.

Accounts

Mr Hodgkinson's for use of British School Room for meetings.

Mr Fowle proposed and Mr Kemsley seconded that a cheque for £2.12.0 be drawn to pay this account. Carried.

Mr Langridge's for work done in cemetery buildings.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Burke seconded that a cheque for £500 be drawn to pay the account. Carried.

Mr Milford's account for fence at Cemetery, balance of account.

Mr Kemsley proposed and Mr Holland's seconded that a cheque for £18 be drawn to pay this account. Carried.

The Gas a/c for quarter ended Xmas.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Brazier seconded that a cheque for £31-17-6 be drawn to pay this account. Carried.

Mr H Draycon's a/c repair for lamps.

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that a cheque for £2-6-11 be drawn to pay this account. Carried.

Draft of Agreement with Mr S Lilibourne

Mr Hollands read the draft agreement between the Snodland and Birling Councils and Mr Stephen Lilibourne – re Godden's Charity land at Ivychurch. The draft was approved, and the Clerk was instructed to send it on to Birling Council for their approval.

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Kemsley seconded and it was resolved that the best thanks of the Council be given to Mr Hollands for the trouble he had taken over the preparation of this deed.

A plan of the Cemetery with the grave spaces marked thereon was submitted to the Council.

The Chairman suggested that the outside spaces be included in Class A, the next two in Class B and all the rest in Class C, a space in each section being reserved for Childrens' grave spaces.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Kemsley seconded that a Committee of 5 be appointed to decide on the different Classes &c.. Carried.

Mr Hawks proposed and Mr Hollands seconded and it was resolved that Messrs Kemsley, Deacon, Fowle, Burke and Brazier form the Committee.

Signed Geo. Corney Jay 28 1896

Adjourned Committee Meeting
held in the Devonshire Rooms January 15th 1896

Mr Corney in the Chair, and there also present Messrs. Deacon, Hollands, Burke, Fowle, Hodgkinson, Archer, Brazier, Hawks, Gash and Beadle.

Mr Deacon withdrew his resolution and Mr Fowle his amendment to that resolution leaving the Councillors free to discuss the whole question.

After a long and exhaustive discussion Mr Burke proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that a Caretaker for the new Cemetery be appointed. Carried.

Duties. Salary etc.

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Fowle seconded that it shall be the duty of the Caretaker, when appointed, to dig the graves, do the planting, keep in good preservation all flowers, shrubs, plants, walks and pathways, and to perform any other duties connected therewith:- and further the Council or Board shall have the power to put him to any other employment over which they may have control; and for such work and duties he shall be provided with a house to live in, and shall receive as wages 24/- per week. And in the event of the caretaker wishing to resign, or that the Council or Board may wish him to resign, one month's notice shall be given in each case.

Mr Deacon moved an amendment that it shall be the duty of the Caretaker when appointed to dig and fill in graves, do the planting, keep in good preservation all flowers, shrubs, plants walks and footways and to perform any duties connected forthwith:- and further the Council or Board shall have power to put him to any other employment over which they may have control, and for such work and duties he shall be provided with a house and water free and shall be paid as wages 21/- per week providing always that such engagement be terminated by a month's notice on either side.

This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson and carried by 7 to 3.

On its becoming the substantive motion Mr Burke moved an amendment that the words "and further the Council or Board shall have the power to put him to any other employment over which they may have control" shall be taken from the resolution. This was seconded by Mr Fowle and lost by 7 to 3.

The substantive motion was then put and carried.

The Clerk was instructed to post a notice inviting applications for the office of Caretaker from the Parishioners of Snodland, Birling and Halling.

Geo Corney Jay 28 1896

Parish Council Meeting
held in the Devonshire Rooms
on Tuesday January 28th 1895 at 7pm

Mr G Corney presided and there were also present Councillors Hollands, Deacon, Brazier, Beadle, Burke, Fowle, Kemsley, Archer and Hawks.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting, and adjourned Committee meeting were read and confirmed.

Reports of Committees

Fire Extinguishing

Mr Brazier read the report of "Fire extinguishing" Committee.

It recommended set of hydrants for the inhabited part of the Parish (22) with two set of hose. 7 hydrants were already down and the cost of 15 more would be included appliances £114-16-0.

The hose and other appliances to be kept in two sheds, one in High Street, near the Water Co's Office. And one at or near the Institute. They recommended the work to be carried out in two years: the first year 4 hydrants and all appliances to be provided at an estimated cost of £57-16-0 and the 11 hydrants in the second year.

Mr Brazier proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the report be adopted and recommended for the Parish meeting. Carried by 6 to 2 Messrs Kemsley and Burke voting against and Messrs Deacon, Brazier, Beadle, Archer, Hollands and Fowle for it.

Cemetery Committee

The Chairman reported that the Committee had decided to recommend that Class A shall extend along either side of the centre path one space deep. Class B to comprise the whole of the second space on either side of the centre path and the two outside spaces on either of the outside paths: 81 spaces in each section to be reserved for childrens' grave spaces and the rest of the spaces to form Class C as marked on the plan.

Mr Burke proposed that the report be adopted, and Mr Kemsley seconded and it was carried.

Correspondence

Letter from H Wood Esq., re John May's portrait. He promised to present the portrait to the Parish Council as soon as renovated.

Letter from Secretary of State acknowledging receipt of Scale of Fees and charges.

Letter from Mr Prosser re May's and Godden's Charity Trustees. The Clerk was instructed to send names of Trustees.

Letter from Messrs Peters Bros. Asking permission to lay a tramway from their property adjoining the churchyard to the Railway. The Clerk was instructed to state that the Council had no objection but suggested that as the road was private, application should be made to the property owners and the path being under the control of the District Council, application should be made to that body.

Lighting Account

The lighting account having been audited by Messrs Archer and Beadle was approved and adopted by the whole Council.

Jubilee Account

Mr Deacon stated that a balance of about £6 was left over from the Jubilee Fund in the hands of the Rev. J L Bingley. He gave notice that he would bring the matter on for discussion at the next meeting.

Committee to Open Applications for Caretaker

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hollands seconded that the whole Council resolve itself into Committee to discuss the applications for Caretaker to the Cemetery. Carried.

The public having retired the following applications were opened by the Chairman.

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|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Mr Wm Fletcher | Covey Hall Place, Snodland |
| 2. Wm J Holt | 2 Prospect Place, Snodland |
| 3. Jesse Tremaine | 5 Bramley Road, Birling |
| 4. James Knell | Brook Street, Snodland |
| 5. Harry Wallis | Ham Hill, Birling |
| 6. Kennett Gooding | Church Field, Snodland |
| 7. Thomas Hards | Birling Road, Snodland |

Mr Beadle proposed that three applications be invited to meet the Council and that the three names be balloted for. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

The ballot resulted in the return of Messrs. Fletcher, Knell and Gooding.

Mr Deacon proposed that Messrs. Fletcher, Knell and Gooding be invited to meet the Council on Tuesday next at 8pm and that this meeting be adjourned till Tuesday next at 7.30. This was seconded Mr Burke and carried unanimously.

Geo. Corney Feby 11 1896

Parish Council Meeting
held in The Devonshire Rooms
on Tuesday Feby 11th 1896 at 8 p.m

Mr Geo. Corney presided and there were also present Messrs. Brazier, Beadle, Deacon, Archer, Burke, Kemsley and Fowle and Hodgkinson.

Brook Report

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Brazier seconded and it was resolved to draw a cheque for £5 to pay the wages of the man working on the Brook.

Mr Deacon reported that there was a large hole on the Brook caused by the washing of the tide.

He proposed that some piles be drawn and the hole filled up with earth

Mr Brazier seconded and it was carried.

He also stated that a trunk had been damaged but suggested it be left over that the exact amount of damage might be estimated.

He reported also that he had been unable to obtain any further information with respect to the piece of land on Ham Hill Brook which is supposed to belong to the Parish of Snodland.

The ditch between the allotment and Ham Hill Brook required cleaning and to prevent cattle straying into the allotments.

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Kemsley seconded that the matter stand over to enable the Committee to ascertain the cost of a fence and the cleaning out of the ditch. Carried.

Part of the ditch by Andrews' allotment had been filled in, and if the land was to be held as a garden a fence must be put up. One of three things might be done. 1. Fence in garden only. 2. Include it in the Brook. 3. Fence in part of the Brook, south of the road question left over.

Report of Cemetery Committee

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Kemsley seconded that the 6 dead trees be not replaced till November next. Carried.

Mr Beadle proposed that the Caretaker be allowed to have a piece of land 4 yds wide at the west end of the appropriated portion of Cemetery as a garden partly for his own use and partly for the raising of flowers and shrubs to be used in the Cemetery. Mr Hodgkinson seconded and it was carried.

Mr Burke proposed that the Council purchase a one man roller – double cylinder. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Mr Hodgkinson proposed that a small portion of the Cemetery adjoining the house be fenced off for the private use of the Caretaker. This was seconded by Mr Beadle and carried.

Mr Deacon proposed that the road just inside the Cemetery, which Mr Bensted had arranged to be altered remain as it is, and that the Clerk be instructed to write to him, informing him of the Council's decision. This was seconded by Mr Archer and carried.

Mr Fowle proposed that an iron unclimbable fence be placed on the east side of the Cemetery between the Cemetery buildings and the end of the stake fence – about 73 yards. No seconder.

Mr Beadle proposed that the matter be left over till all the contract work had been completed, paid for and in the meantime, the Caretaker be instructed to borrow some hurdle gates to put along the space from Mr Champion. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Correspondence

Letter from Humphrey Wood Esq., presenting the portrait of John May Esq., to the Parish Council as representatives of the Parish of Snodland.

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Deacon seconded.

That this Council on behalf of the Parish of Snodland accept the gift of an oil portrait in massive gift frame of the late John May Esq., of Holborough, now formally presented by letter, by Humphrey Wood, Esq., with cordial appreciation; they beg to thank Mr Wood for the kind trouble he has taken to place this valuable portrait in the possession of the Parish of Snodland; they further resolve to place the picture in suitable custody and have inserted in the minutes of this meeting a record of the presentation together with the following extracts from Mr Wood's letter, viz:

"The painting belonged to the late Mr John Lewis Levy of Rochester and was sold by auction at his house in 1878 when the family left Rochester soon after his death and I purchased it off a dealer who bought it at the sale.

When I purchased it there was an old paper label on the back of the frame with the words on it "Mr May of Holborough" Carried unanimously.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Beadle seconded and it was resolved that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Misses Hook for permission to hang the portrait in the Council Room.

Letter from the Home Secretary read re Scale of Fees. The Clerk's answer to this letter was also read.

Letter from W B Prosser, Esq., Clerk to the County Council was read as also was an order of the Council re book containing a record of the distribution of Godden's and May's Charities – which book was now to pass into the hands of the Parish Council.

The draft deed re clerical fees, rights and privileges in the consecrated portion of the new Cemetery was read, assented and approved.

The draft agreement with the Caretaker was read and approved.

Permission was given to the Caretaker to select boards for graves, and wood for lattice work &c. from Mr Wilford.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hodgkinson seconded that a cheque for five guineas be drawn to pay Caretaker's wages. Carried.

Geo Corney
Feb 25 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday February 25th 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Deacon, Archer, Brazier, Fowle, Beadle, Hodgkinson, Kemsley and Hawks.

Report of Brook Committee

Mr Deacon gave a report of the Brook Committee.

He proposed that a new trunk be purchased and placed under the road where the cattle pass over. This was seconded by Mr Brazier and carried.

Mr Deacon also proposed and Mr Brazier seconded and it was resolved that Mr W Hawks be asked to make the trunk.

Allotments

Mr Beadle proposed that the rent of Brook allotments in future be 2d, 3d and 4d. This was seconded by Mr Fowle and carried.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Brazier seconded that whole of arrears be collected.

Mr Kemsley proposed amendment that the rent for last year be charged as now fixed. This was seconded by Mr Fowle.

For Mr Kemsley, Archer, Fowle: against Messrs. Brazier, Deacon. Beadle, Neutral. Declared carried.

Correspondence

1. Letter from Graham & Sons re new lamp column. Mr Kemsley proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that Mr H Draycon be instructed to put it up. Carried.
2. Letter from H Wood Esq., re John May's portrait.
3. Letter from the Misses Hook giving permission to the Council to hang the portrait in the Council room. Mr Deacon proposed it to be hung on the wall at the back of the Chairman Mr Brazier seconded and it was carried.
4. Letter from Mr Bensted, stating that he hoped to get the whole of the Cemetery work completed in a few days. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Langridge about the range in the cottage which was broken.
5. Letter from Home Secretary re fee – item 3 still insisting that the words “or child under a month old” be inserted. Mr Fowle proposed that the suggestion of the Home Secretary be accepted. This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson and carried.
6. Letter from Mr Lilibourne – re fencing.

7. Letter from Mr Knight to Rector – re Deed. Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded and it was resolved that the surrender of lease from Mr Dalison to Mr Roberts be obtained from the Treasurer.
8. Letter from Mr Knight re boundary marks to consecration portion. It was decided to place three stones as marks to define the boundary of the consecrated portion of the Cemetery.

Petition to the Bishop

The petition to the Bishop asking him to consecrate a portion of the Cemetery was read and signed by the Chairman and two members of the Council: Messrs. Corney, Deacon and Hodgkinson.

Fire Extinguishing Appliances, etc

Mr Deacon proposed that application be made to the District Council for permission to place four hydrants in the Parish for fire extinguishing purposes. This was seconded by Mr Brazier and carried.

Mr Deacon proposed that the Clerk be instructed to order the fire extinguishing appliances from the Mid Kent Water Coy. This was seconded by Mr Brazier and carried.

Mr Deacon proposed that the Clerk be instructed to ask Col. Holland for permission to plan a small shed near the Water Coy's office, and Mr Roberts for permission to place one near the Institute. Seconded by Mr Brazier.

Mr Kemsley moved an amendment that one shed be erected in or near the most central place in the Parish. This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson.

Messrs. Archer, Hodgkinson, Kemlsey, Hawks and Fowle voted for the amendment and Messrs. Deacon Burke and Brazier against it. Mr Beadle remained neutral. The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

Committee to Arrange for Consecration

Mr Hodgkinson proposed that a small Committee be appointed to approach Mr Jackson with a view of arranging the details of the consecration, and that the Committee consist of Messrs. Hodgkinson, Burke, Beadle, Brazier and Corney. This was seconded by Mr Burke and carried.

Printing Rules &c

It was decided to invite tenders for the printing of the Rules, Regulations, and Scale of Fees: 500 copies, and also for 200 copies of Notice of Interment, from Messrs Gay & Sprowson.

Mr Deacon's Notice of Motion re Jubilee Fund

Mr Deacon in accordance with previous Notice of Motion suggested that the Jubilee balance be expended in purchasing seating for the Cemetery. He proposed that this Council ask the sanction of the Jubilee Committee to purchase seats for use in the Cemetery with the balance left from the Jubilee Fund. Mr Hodgkinson seconded and it was carried.

Mr Corney in accordance with previous notice of motion proposed that this Council recommend the Parish meeting to take the necessary steps to obtain the annexation of Lower Birling with the Parish of Snodland seconded by Mr Burke.

Messrs. Archer, Hodgkinson, Burke, Brazier and Beadle voted for the resolution and Messrs. Deacon, Fowle, Kemsley and Hawks against it and accordingly it was declared carried.

Mr Norman's Account

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Brazier seconded that a cheque for £13 be drawn in settlement of this a/c: being balance of a/c for laying waterpipe to the Cemetery. Carried.

Lists of Voters

The Clerk was instructed to obtain two lists of voters.

Geo Corney
Mar 3rd 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday March 3rd 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Deacon, Hollands, Archer, Hodgkinson, Beadle, Brazier, and Hawks.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Reports of Committees

Fire Extinguishing Committee

Mr Brazier gave a report in reference to the position of the shed in which to store the appliances.

Five places were mentioned. 1. Bull Hotel, 2. Last end of Mr Tomlin's house, 3. Congregational Church, 4. Water works, 5. The Institute. It was decided to let the matter stand over till the appliances were purchased in order to see what room what be required.

Brook Report

Mr Deacon stated that Messrs. Gad & Sons had made an offer of £3 for 3 willow trees on the Brook allotments.

He proposed that his offer be accepted. This was seconded by Mr Brazier and carried.

Mr Deacon also suggested that the Brook allotments be planted with willow trees and stated that if this were done each tree in about 18 years would be worth £1. He gave notice of motion to bring this matter on at the next meeting.

Cemetery Report

Mr Hodgkinson stated that the Committee had decided to give public notice of the opening of the Cemetery and had issued bills to this effect.

After the consecration of a portion of the Cemetery by the Bishop, the Committee recommended a public opening of the Cemetery and suggested that Messrs. Jackson, Faraday and Archer. Drs Palmer, Freeland, Gash and Smith, the Church wardens and overseers and Messrs. W Dedrick Secretary of the New Church, J Mason member of burial board and Mr Robinson Clerk to the burial board be invited to attend. Mr Hodgkinson proposed that this be carried out: Mr Hawks seconded and carried.

Deed re Fees etc

The deed: renouncing fees and ancient rights by the Rector, was read and sealed and signed by the Chairman and Messrs Hodgkinson and Deacon.

The Rev. G H Jackson also attended and signed. The Chairman in a few gracious words thanked the Rector on behalf of the Council for his kindness in making the concessions contained in the Deed.

Correspondence

1. Letter from Home Secretary acknowledging receipt of letter.
2. Letter from Mr Bensted re accounts and grave spaces.
3. Form of notice from DC re hydrants. The Clerk was instructed to hand it over to the Water Company.
4. Mr Norman's account: £1-10-0 watering fees in Cemetery. Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Holland seconded that the a/c be paid. Carried.

Roller

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hodgkinson seconded that the roller, price 49/6 be ordered from Mr Moore. Carried.

Mats

The Clerk was instructed to inform him (Mr Moore) that the mats must be supplied by Friday morning.

Seats and Desks

The seats and desks in Chapel were referred to the Cemetery Committee.

Matting

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Hodgkinson seconded that matting be ordered for the Chapel 1½ yards wide @ 2/4 per yard. Carried.

Rollers on Bier

It was decided that the Clerk instruct Mr Langridge to place 3 rollers on the bier.

Gas Pipes for Stump

Mr Hollands proposed and Mr Archer seconded that 12 pieces of gas pipe 18ft long be ordered of Messrs CT Hook & Co for marking out grave spaces. Carried.

Hook and Lock to Gate

The Clerk was instructed to call the attention of Mr Langridge to this fact, that there was no hook and no lock to the gate. There is also no wicket gate which matter was referred to the Cemetery Committee.

Grass Seed

The Clerk was instructed to pay for 8lbs of grass seed which had been purchased by the Caretaker.

Fences

The Cemetery fence was referred to Committee.

Agreements

The agreement with the Caretaker and agreement with Mr Lilibourne, signed.

Insurance Policy

The Clerk submitted the Insurance Policy: issued by the Kent Fire Office for £700 on the Cemetery buildings.

Mr Norman's Account

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hawks seconded and it was resolved that a cheque be drawn for \$74-6-0 being the balance of Mr Norman's account for laying out Cemetery grounds.

Mr Langridge's Account for Fence

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hollands seconded and it was resolved that £21-10 be drawn in settlement of Mr Langridge's account for stake fence at Cemetery.

Langridge's Account to Buildings

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hollands seconded that Mr Langridge's account for Cemetery buildings stand over in order that the Clerk might write to Mr Bensted and enquire of the stake fence to be erected on the east side of Cemetery was not included in the contract. Carried.

Mr Bensted's Account

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hollands seconded and it was resolved that Mr Bensted's account stand over.

Printing Tenders for Rules etc

Mr Spowson's tender for 500 copies of rules, regulations and scale of fees:

on paper type a	£3-12-0
on paper type b	£3-16-0
200 notice forms	10/6

Mr Gay's tender for same

500 copies of rules, etc	£1-18-6
200 notice forms	7/6

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hodgkinson seconded and it was resolved that Mr Gay's tender be accepted.

Trees in Paddlesworth Road

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman interview Mr Luck in reference to the trees in Paddlesworth Road without delay. Carried.

Waghorn Road

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the Clerk ask Mr Wilford to apportion the cost of putting the road in a proper state of repair previous to the application to the District Council to take the road over. Carried.

Bursting of Sewers at Brook Gate

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Chairman of the District Council calling his attention to the bursting of the sewer near the Brook Gate and suggesting that a 9 inch pipe be laid in the outfall of the sewage tanks to take away the surface water.

This was proposed by Mr Deacon seconded by Mr Brazier and carried.

Geo Corney
Mar 17 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday March 17 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Hollands, Deacon, Archer, Fowle, Kemsley, Brazier, Hawks, Hodgkinson, Burke, and Beadle.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence

A letter from the Home Office stating that Scale of Fees as amended was approved and asking for a copy to be kept at the Home Office.

Letter from Mr Bensted, re rollers to coffin rest, gate stops, lock and water.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Kemsley seconded and it was resolved that the Clerk be instructed to write to Mr Bensted to ask if a certain reduction was not to be allowed in the estimate in consequence of the Council having laid the water up to the Cemetery.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hawks seconded that 4 rollers replaced on the coffin rest, that they be made of wood and that the whole matter be referred to the Cemetery Committee. Carried.

Letter from Mr Bensted re amended accounts. These were allowed to stand over till next meeting.

Brook Business

Mr Deacon suggested that cattle be turned on the Brook at once.

Mr Kemsley proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that cattle be turned on the Brook on the 25th of March carried.

Gate Keeper

Mr Deacon proposed that Mr Ed Wray be appointed Gate Keeper this year at the same salary viz £4-4-0. This was seconded by Mr Knowsley and carried.

Tickets

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Hodgkinson seconded that Mr Deacon be appointed to issue tickets for cattle to be turned on to the Brook: carried.

Cemetery Business

Some discussion took place on the necessity of some steps being taken to close the churchyard.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hodgkinson seconded that the matter be referred sine die. Carried.

Mr Hollands gave notice that he would bring the matter on at the next meeting as to the advisability of asking the Home Secretary to close the Churchyard.

Accounts

It was decided to let the whole of the accounts stand over till next meeting.

Precept on Overseers

Mr Hollands proposed and Mr Kemsley seconded and it was resolved that a precept for £20 be issued on the overseers, to be placed to the Burial Board a/c.

Planting Willow Trees on Brook

Mr Deacon in accordance with previous Notice of Motion, suggestion that the unlet Brook allotments be planted with willow trees. In the course of 20 yrs each tree would be worth £1.

He proposed that the Brook Committee be instructed to plant the unlet Brook allotments with willow. This was seconded by Mr Fowle and carried.

Clergyman's Fee

Mr Hollands proposed and Mr Deacon seconded and it was resolved that the Clerk be instructed to collect the Clergyman's Fee for services performed in the Cemetery.

The draft report of the proceedings for the Council for the year 1895-96 was read and amended.

Geo Corney
Mar 25 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Wednesday March 28 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Brazier, Hawks, Fowle, Burke, Hodgkinson, Archer and Deacon.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Place for Burial of Still Bones

Mr Deacon proposed that the West side of the border near the wooden fence on the South side of the Cemetery, be used to bury the still born children. Mr Hawks seconded and it was carried.

Correspondence

Letter from Mr Roberts respecting the trees in Paddlesworth Lane and enclosing a letter from Mr Luck stating that he objected to having the trees cut down on the ground of injury to one of the few pretty walks in Snodland.

The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Roberts and ask him to arrange a meeting on Saturday next at 9.30, of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mr Luck, to discuss the matter, - Mr Roberts to suggest place of meeting Mr Corney agreeing to drive over to the Hermitage at that hour if necessary.

Letter from Mr Bensted re charge for water used by Mr Langridge for building purposed at the Cemetery. In his opinion the contract allowed for this.

Letter from Mr Bensted stating he had send on unnumbered plan and would forward one mounted and varnished at a later date.

Seats in Cemetery

Mr Deacon proposed that patterns and prices for seat in Cemetery be applied for by the Clerk. This was seconded by Mr Brazier and carried.

Messrs Moore, Bolton, Repaul, Norwich, Brangwin, Victoria Park, Hayes Bros and Ellis to be asked.

Roller

The Clerk was instructed to see Mr Moore re roller.

Scraper

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Brazier seconded and it was resolved that the Clerk purchase a scraper, rake and pocket book for the use of the Caretaker of the Cemetery.

Seeds

The Caretaker was instructed to purchase flower seeds from Mr Ayers.

Boards and Steps

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Brazier seconded and it was resolved that Mr W Hawks be asked to supply boards, steps and 2 loads of gravel for the cemetery.

Fence on East Side

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Archer seconded that tenders be invited for the allocation of iron fence with dwarf wall on the east side of the Cemetery.

Messrs., Archer, Burke, Fowle and Hawks voted for the motion and Messrs., Deacon and Brazier against it. It was accordingly declared carried.

It was decided to ask Messrs Langridge, Normans and Wilford to tender for this work and the specification to be left in the hands of the Cemetery Committee.

Accounts

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Fowle seconded and it was resolved that cheques be drawn to pay the following accounts.

Mr Hilder Cemetery expenses	2-10-03
Mr Hilder Broom	2-0-11
Mr Gay – Notices Parish Meeting	3-06
Mr Clifford - Webbing	14-00
National School – Meetings	1-15-00
C T Hook & Co Ltd – Piping	1-09
Mr Hilder – Burial Board Books	6-18-06
Mr Gay – Printing Rules etc	1-18-06
Mr Gay – Application Forms	7-06
Mr Wilford – Cemetery	2-14-06
Mr Wilford – Brook	6-19-02
Mr Randall - Meetings	1-05-00
Mr R Langridge – Cemetery Buildings	358-09-05
Mr Bensted – Architects Commissions	61-10-03
Mr Hilder – ½ Stamp for Deed	2-06
Mr Hilder – Stamps and Stationery	2-05-00
Mr Hilder – Insurance	12-03
Mr Frost – Trees in Cemetery	3-00
Mr Morris Account - Tools etc	7-02-11
Mr Hawks Account Brook – Barrow	5-17-09

	£461-03-07
	=====
Mr Wildes – Renumeration Deed	2-12-00

	£460-15-07
	=====

Geo Corney
Apr 7 1896

Second Annual Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
April 15 1896 At 7pm

All the Councillors were present and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Chairman

Mr Roberts proposed and Mr Burke seconded that Mr Geo. Corney be re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year. Carried unanimously.

The Clerk then read the Memorandum from the Great Government Board respecting the holding of the Annual Meeting and the business to be transacted at such meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Overseers

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Beadle seconded that two Overseers be appointed from inside and two from outside the Council. Carried.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hollands seconded that the Overseers be elected by ballot. Carried.

Messrs E Brazier and W L H Roberts were chosen from inside the Council.

Mr Deacon proposed Mr Brazier as Overseer and Mr Hollands seconded. Carried.

Mr Beadle proposed Mr W L H Roberts as Overseer and Mr Deacon seconded. Carried.

Messrs J R Holman and J Kemsley were chosen from outside the Council.

Mr Deacon proposed Mr Holman as Overseer and Mr Hawks seconded. Carried.

Mr Burke proposed Mr Kemsley as Overseer and Mr Mason seconded. Carried.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hollands seconded and it was carried that the election of Vice Chairman be by ballot.

On Mr Roberts being selected, Mr Burke, proposed and Mr Hawks seconded that he be re-elected Vice Chairman. Carried unanimously.

Committee

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded and it was resolved that three Committees be formed. Brook Committee, Cemetery Committee and Lighting and Finance Committee as suggested by the Chairman.

Mr Roberts proposed and Mr Godfrey seconded and it was resolved and each committee consist of five Councillors.

Brook Committee

Mr Roberts proposed that Messrs Deacon, Brazier, Fowle, Mason and Godfrey form the Brook Committee this was seconded by Mr Hollands and carried.

Cemetery Committee

Mr Godfrey proposed that Messrs Fletcher, Burke, Fowle, Beadle and Hawks form the Cemetery Committee. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Lighting and Finance Committee

Mr Deacon proposed that Messrs Hodgkinson, Roberts, Hollands and Brazier form the Lighting and Finance Committee. This was seconded by Mr Fletcher and carried.

Election Expenses

The Clerk submitted the Returning Officer's bill for election expenses which amounted to £16-1-11

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Roberts seconded that a cheque be drawn for this amount to settle this account. Carried.

Cemetery Committee Report

Mr Hodgkinson read Cemetery Committee report. This Committee met on Saturday April 11th and drew up a specification of the work to be done, viz setting back pillar, unmoving wall and fence, at entrance, building wall 3ft 6in height with iron fence 3ft high on top, along the east side of cemetery, and had asked Messrs Wilford, Langridge and Norman to tender for same.

Mr Roberts proposed that this matter be referred back to the Cemetery Committee because the Council were unable to determine whether it would be better to build the wall in a drop level or according to the rake off the road. No seconder.

Mr Hollands proposed that the wall be built in drop level sections. This was seconded by Mr Haws and carried.

Mr Roberts proposed that the tenders be returned to the builders unopened and ask them to wait further instructions from the Council. This was seconded by Mr Hawks and seconded.

Mr Mason kindly promised to make a plan and specification of the work to be done and submit to the Council.

Brook

Mr Deacon suggested that some old wire rope be purchased and placed along the side of the Brook adjoining Birling Brook, about 910ft to prevent cattle straying from Birling Brook on to the allotments.

Mr Roberts promised to supply the old wire rope.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Roberts seconded that this work be done. Carried.

Mr Deacon also suggested that the Clerk be able to obtain the advice of 1 or 2 of the Cemetery Committee in cases of emergency.

Mr Deacon proposed that the Clerk in cases of emergency obtain the advice of not less than 3 members of the Cemetery Committee.

This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson and carried.

Interments in the Churchyard

Mr Corney reported that he had spoken to the Rector re interments in churchyard. The Rector stated that he was willing that all future interments should be made in Cemetery but he was not sure he had the power to refuse if persons insisted on being buried in churchyard.

Mr Fletcher recommended that the Clerk write to the County Council and call their attention to the bad state of the footpath in the Holboro Road.

Mr Burke gave notice of motion. That this Council do summon a Parish meeting for the purpose of considering the question of adopting the Baths and Washhouses Acts (1846).

Mr Fletcher recommended that the Clerk write to S E Ry Co and ask them to provide shelter accommodation on the down platform.

Geo Corney
May 5th 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday May 5th 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Deacon, Hollands, Fletcher, Brazier, Hodgkinson, Godfrey, Beadle, Roberts, Hawks, Fowle, Mason and Burke.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence

Post Card from Mr Jackson, Treasurer asking for signatures of Councillors.

Letter from SER Coy stating that the Directors would consider the question of shelter accommodation on the down platform later in the year.

Letter from the Clerk to Birling Parish Council stating that Birling Council would appoint the same number of Councillors as the Snodland Council appointed to act as a joint Committee to formulate a scheme for annexation of Lower Birling with Snodland.

Cemetery Report

The Cemetery Committee report was read by the Clerk.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Godfrey seconded that the plan and specification for the wall on the east side of the Cemetery as prepared by Mr Masons be accepted and tenders thereon invited from Messrs., Wilford, Langridge and Norman. Tenders to be returned not later than 6 o'clock on Tuesday the 12th inst. Carried.

Coal for Caretaker

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Hodgkinson seconded that the Caretaker be presented with ½ ton of coals to assist him in drying the house. Coals to be supplied by Mr Blunt. Carried.

Lawn Mower

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Roberts seconded that the question of the lawn mower be referred back to the Committee for further information as to price etc. Carried.

Notice Board

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the question of Notice Board and time indicator be referred back to the committee. Carried.

Annexation Committee

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Roberts seconded that a Committee of 5 Councillors including the Chairman be appointed to act with the Birling Committee on the formulation of a scheme for the annexation of Lower Birling with Snodland. Carried unanimously.

Mr Hollands proposed and Mr Burke seconded and it was resolved that Messrs Mason, Hodgkinson, Deacon and Godfrey together with the Chairman be appointed to act as the Committee.

Mr Deacon proposed that the old bridge Committee, Messrs., Corney, Brazier and Beadle be appointed. This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson and carried.

Geo Corney
May 12 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday May 12th 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Godfrey, Brazier, Beadle, Hodgkinson, Hawks, Mason, Fowle, Burke, Fletcher and Deacon.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Tenders for Cemetery Wall

The tenders for the Cemetery wall were opened.

They were as follows:

1. Mr R Langridge £107-00-0
2. Mr J Wilford £96-10-0
3. Mr E Norman £105-00-0

Mr Mason proposed and Mr Deacon seconded and it was resolved that Mr J Wilford's tender be accepted.

Mr Hawks proposed and Mr Fletcher seconded that Mr Mason be asked to superintend the work of building of the wall and alterations. Carried unanimously.

Mr Mason very kindly consented to do so.

Cemetery Committee Reports

The report of the Cemetery Committee was read.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Mason seconded that 200 Lookers indicators be purchased numbered 1 to 200 with letters SC stamped on them. Carried.

Notice Board

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Fowle seconded that the portion of report dealing with Notice Board be adopted. Carried.

Mr Mason proposed that yellow Pine be used for the board - crossed tongued joints – keyed and ledged back – 2 up-rights 3"x4" oak. The top of the board to be 8' high. This was seconded by Mr Fletcher and carried.

Messrs., Hawks, Wilford, Langridge and Norman to be asked to tender for the making writing and erection of the board.

Time Indicators

Mr Fletcher proposed and Mr Beadle seconded that time indicator be purchased and erected at Cemetery. Messrs., Beadle and Fletcher voted for and Messrs., Hodgkinson, Godfrey, Brazier, Deacon, Hawks., Fowle., Mason and Burke voted against and it was accordingly declared lost.

Marking Iron

It was decided to purchase from Mr Moore a marking iron with the letter SPC.

Lattice Work Fence

After a good deal of explanation and discussion Mr Hodgkinson proposed that Mr Wilford be asked to make good the whole of the work to the satisfaction of the Council, and he be asked also to meet the Cemetery Committee together with Mr Mason to arrange and decide how and what was to be done. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Lawn Mower

Mr Fowle proposed and Mr Burke seconded that a Shanks 14in lawn mower be purchased for use in cemetery and that Mr A Parris be asked to supply the same at the price named viz 95/-. Carried.

Grass in Cemetery

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Fletcher seconded that tenders be asked for the grass in the cemetery. Carried.

Bath and Wash Houses

Mr Burke asked permission to allow the question to stand over till next meeting.

Mr Hodgkinson proposed that a Committee of 5 be appointed to enquire into the matter with Mr Burke. This was seconded by Mr Beadle and carried.

Mr Brazier proposed and Mr Hawks seconded that Messrs., Deacon, Burke Hodgkinson, Godfrey and Beadle together with the Chairman form the Committee. Carried.

Clerks Salary

The question of the Clerks Salary was referred to the Finance Committee.

Accounts

Mr Hodgkinson proposed that cheques be drawn to pay the following accounts.

Hook C T & CO 19rs gas	£311-17-6
Graham & Sons 1 Col	£1-4-0
Hilder – Caretakers wagers etc	£12-10-2

Mr Brazier seconded and it was carried.

The Clerk presented cheque for £6-10-8 being balances of Jubilee fund received from Mr Bingley the late Rector.

Geo Corney
June 2 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday June 2nd 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Deacon, Hollands, Fletcher, Mason, Godfrey, Brazier, Hawks, Beadle and Hodgkinson.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Cemetery Committee Report

The report for the Cemetery Committee was read.

Its recommendations to the Council were:

1. Tenders for the Notice Boards.
2. Tenders for grass in Cemetery.
3. Letter and plans from Mr Bensted.
4. Water for the whole of the Cemetery at annual cost of one guinea.
5. To call attention of builder – Mr Langridge to state of floor and window in Caretaker's house.
6. Authority to Caretaker to purchase plants to the value of one pound.

Mr Hollands proposed that the report of the Cemetery Committee be adopted. This was seconded Mr Deacon and carried.

Brook Gate

Mr Deacon proposed that a catch for the Brook Gate be ordered or a Tong. This was seconded by Mr E Brazier and carried.

Fire Appliances Storage

Mr Deacon proposed that the shed for storing the fire appliances be erected on the side of the Congregational Chapel in the High Street and that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Deacon's for permission to do so. This was seconded by Mr Beadle and carried.

Volunteer Fire Brigade

Mr Deacon proposed that names be invited to form a volunteer fire brigade. This was seconded by Mr Brazier and carried.

Correspondence

Letter from C T Hook & Co Ltd stating that glass in lamps Nos. 19, 25 and one at New Church was broken.

The Clerk was instructed to get them repaired.

Letter from Dr Smith suggesting that some demonstration should be made to welcome the Messrs Hook – who were great benefactors to the Parish – back to health and home.

Mr Mason proposed that six gentlemen with power to add to that number be asked to join the Council on presenting the Messrs Hook with an address of congratulations on the restoration to health and home. This was seconded by Mr Godfrey and carried.

Mr Hollands proposed and Mr Godfrey seconded that the following gentlemen be invited to join the Council.

Rev. G Jackson, Rev. A Faraday, Drs. Palmer, Gash, Smith & Freeland & Messrs. Milford, Woodburn, Norman and Woodhouse, carried.

It was decided to meet at the Devonshire Rooms on Tuesday next June 9th at 8pm to make arrangements.

Annexation Birling

Letter from Birling Parish Council giving the names of the Councillors who were to act as joint Committee with the same number of the Snodland Councillors to formulate a scheme for the proposed annexation of Lower Birling with Snodland, and leaving with the Snodland Council the authority to convene the first meeting.

It was decided to call the first meeting on Tuesday June 23rd at 8pm in the Devonshire Rooms.

Mr Bensted Account and Plan

Letter from Mr Bensted stating he had forwarded a plan. Mr Langridge's account and his own account for making plans. These were reported to the Finance Committee.

Precepts on Overseers

Three precepts on the overseers were signed.

1	Lighting account	£130-0-0
2	Burial account	£75-0-0
3	General account	£20-0-0

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Hawks seconded and carried.

Agenda Forms

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Mason seconded and it was resolved that Mr G F Gay be asked to print 1000 Agenda Forms.

Watering Sheets

Mr Corney in accordance with previous notice of motion proposed:

"That the question of watering the shrub be referred to the Lighting and Finance Committee to report thereon at the next Council meeting". This was seconded by Mr Beadle and carried.

Mr Roberts in a letter to Mr Corney kindly offered to lend the Council the use of the water cart, providing those using the water pay the expense of watering.

Tenders for the Notice Boards

The following tenders for erection of Notice Boards at the Cemetery were opened:

1	Mr Wilford	£2---5-0
2	Mr Langridge	£1-18-0
3	Mr Norman	£2---0-0
4	Mr W Hawks	£2---4-0

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hodgkinson seconded and it was resolved that Mr Langridge's tender be accepted.

Tenders for Grass

The following tenders for the grass in the Cemetery were opened:

1	Mr Tilbrooks	£1-0-0	or 15/-
2	Mr W Hawks	£1-1-0	
3	Mr Cunningham	£1-10-0	

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Fletcher seconded and it was resolved that Mr Cunningham's tender be accepted.

Geo Corney
July 7 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms

Tuesday July 7th 1896

At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney occupied the chair and there were also present Messrs., Beadle, Brazier, Burke, Mason, Fletcher, Deacon, Hawks, Godfrey and Hodgkinson.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Finance Committee

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Brazier seconded and it was carried that the following accounts be paid.

1	A Parris for Lawn Mower	4-16-0
2	R Langridge Rollers for Bier	2-15-8
3	H Bensted Plans for grave spaces	10-10-0
4	N J Lancaster, repayment of loan	52-19-1
5	Benj. Looker & Co, Indicators	3-15-0
6	G F Gay Printing Agenda Forms	16-0
7	Poor & Lighting Rates	2-15-6
8	J Stone Flowers for Cemetery	1-0-0
9	W H Ayers Flower Seeds	6-0
10	Wm Bond Fence on Brook	1-18-2
11	J Blunt ½ ton coal Caretaker	10-6
12	2 Copies of Register of Voters	2-3
13	Clo Parish Meeting. Messengers	2-6
14	Audit Stamp	4-0-0
15	W Hawks Steps, Boards etc	<u>2-7-10</u>
		<u>88-13-6</u>
16	C T Hook & Co gauges	31-17-6

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that a cheque for ten guineas be drawn to pay Caretaker's wages carried unanimously.

Cemetery Committee Report

The Cemetery Committee's report was read by Mr Burke.

It recommended the Council to employ the Caretaker to break off the shoots on the willow trees planted on the "Brook" and also to purchase six or more garden seats for the Cemetery.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Godfrey seconded that 8 6ft seats, No. 15 in Boulton & Paul's list (16/-6 each) be purchased and placed in the Cemetery and paid for out of the "Jubilee Balance". Carried.

Correspondence

1. Statement of accounts from Rochester Bridge Wardens. Taken as read.

2. Letter from Kent County Council stating that the Bridges and Roads Committee had decided not to repair the kerb in the Holboro Road.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the Clerk be instructed to write and urge that attention be given to the state of the kerb in the Holboro Road. Carried.

Fire Brigade

The following names were submitted as volunteers to the Fire Brigade.

Messrs. Geo. Taylor, Albert Paddick, Thomas Banks, Charles Needew, Thomas Fletcher, Charles Corney, James Woodruff, Harry West, William Reynolds, Arthur Woodruff, William Stephens, Hubert J Penney, Thomas Batchelor and Joseph Woodford.

All were appointed and on the proposition of Mr Deacon seconded by Mr Brazier it was unanimously resolved that Mr H J Beadle be appointed Captain.

Brook

Mr Deacon called attention to boys and others riding horses and worrying cattle on the Brook whereby serious damage had ensued.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that 50 notices of warnings be printed and posted in the Parish. Seconded.

Mr Deacon gave a Notice of Motion re the position of the Notice Board at the Cemetery recently erected by Mr R Langridge of Ham Hill.

Geo Corney
Aug 18 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday August 18th 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Hodgkinson, Godfrey, Brazier, Hawks, Fletcher, Fowle, Hollands, Deacon, Beadle, Burke and Mason.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Brook

Mr Deacon reported that the Bridge on the Brook had been repaired as had also the planks at the commencement of the willow walk.

Mr Deacon stated that Col Holland by mistake or otherwise had enclosed a portion of the Common land and he proposed that the Clerk be instructed to write him calling his attention to same and requesting him to remove the fence to his own ground. Mr Hollands seconded and it was carried unanimously.

Fire Brigade

Mr Hodgkinson read the proposed rules for the management of the Fire Brigade. He also stated that Mr W Stevens had been appointed sub-captain, Mr J Woodford Lieutenant and Messrs H Penny and A Woodruff engineers and Mr Charles Corney Secretary of the Brigade.

Mr Hodgkinson proposed that the rules submitted be sanctioned by the Council. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Mr Beadle explained that the Fire appliances provided by the Mid Kent Water Coy., were not perfect and suggested that they be put in working order before paid for. He also stated that sufficient hose had not been provided.

Mr Deacon suggested that the Clerk report the position of the Lighting account at the next Meeting.

Cemetery Committee Report

Mr Burke read the report of the Cemetery Committee.

Its recommendations to the Council were:

1. To allow the seals to remain as placed by the Caretaker.
2. That the stays be provided for the poplar trees, also a ball of spun yarn.
3. To raise the road next the wall as suggested by the Caretaker.
4. To order 2 more load of free gravel from Mr W Hawks to complete the work.
5. That the attention of Mr Langridge be called to the state of the Caretaker's bedroom over the archway and request him to attend to it at once.
6. That protection stones be placed against the wall at the bend at the top of the road.
7. That the Caretaker continue to dig the graves in the order began.
8. That 3 casts of flower pots be purchased for the use of the Caretaker.
9. That a blower be provided for the use of the Caretaker.
10. That a stop cock be placed outside the house.

Mr Burke proposed the adoption of the Cemetery Committee's report, Mr Hodgkinson seconded and it was carried.

Grass in Cemetery

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Beadle seconded that Mr Hollands be asked to sell the grass in the Cemetery for the best price he can get. Carried.

Annexation Committee Report

Mr Godfrey read the report of the Annexation Joint Committee. The area of portion of Birling proposed to be annexed to Snodland is 65a 1r. 26p. It recommended the distribution of the Charities to remain as at present, and that the portion of the Brook to be annexed be decided by acreage, which would give Snodland 6a 1r 35p. Mr Godfrey proposed that the report of the Annexation Committee be adopted as read, and that the same be submitted to a Parish Meeting if the Birling Parish Council approve of it.

This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson and carried unanimously.

Correspondence

1. Letter from Mr Porter, Secretary of Snodland Congregational Church re shed for storing fire appliances. Referred to Lighting Committee.
2. Letter from Mr Wagon, Clerk to the Burham Parish Council, stating that the Rev. A E Bourne and Messrs. W F Mills and A Neale had been appointed to act on the Bridge Committees. Referred to Bridge Committee.
3. Letter from Mr Prosser, Clerk to the County Council, stating that matter which have been considered dealt with by the Bridges Committee cannot be again brought forward till after the lapse of twelve months. Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Hollands seconded and it was resolved that the Clerk be instructed to write again concerning the matter of the kerb in the Holborough Road.
4. Letter from the Misses Hook thanking the Council and Committee for the thoroughness with which everything connected with "Welcome home" had been carried out. Mr Godfrey proposed and Mr Burke seconded and it was resolved that the letter be copied into the minutes, and the Clerk was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter stating same. Copy of letter from Misses Hook:

"To The Chairman of the Parish Council

Dear Sir

At the risk of taking up your time we cannot let this opportunity pass without again thanking the members of the Parish Council and through them the Committee, for the thoroughness with which everything connected with our "Welcome Home" was carried out. The completeness excites our admiration for truly nothing was wanting and the enthusiasm of the meeting which gathered all phases of Parish village life together in such sweet harmony. Crowned by your touching words, will never be forgotten.

We treasure every tribute of attachment to our dear ones and feel heart stirring to find that time only deepens their memories with all who knew them. A fear of "breaking down" alone prevented us from giving more response that evening to the mention of those loved names.

One cannot live long in the same Parish without having many mutual interests with our fellow Parishioners and a sense of attachment to those around. But equally gratifying though varied as all the remarks from different speakers were your words in presenting the address sounded like a blessing upon the past and future. The spirit of friendliness which pervaded the meeting made it a time to be long remembered, and we now have had time to examine the exquisite taste, colouring and workmanship of the splendid illumination and its handsome frame, as well as the happily chosen words of the address, while it is quite a treat to handle the choice and solid binding of the much prized album.

Yours truly and cordially

Maude M Hook

Agnes A Hook”

5. Letter from the Misses Hook in reference to the use of the Soup Kitchen for storing the Fire Extinguishing apparatus. This was referred to the Lighting Committee.

Agreement re Alms Houses

Mr Hodgkinson read the agreements relating to the Almshouses and their occupants, and proposed that the Clerk be instructed to write the Misses Hook thanking them for the loan of the “Book of Agreements” and also for the copy of the Agreements to be placed with the Parish documents. Mr Hollands seconded and it was carried.

Accounts

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Mason seconded and it was resolved that cheques be drawn for the settlement of the following accounts.

Mr Hilder – Sundry account	£1-4-9
Mr Hilder – Caretaker’s wages	£6-6-0
Mr J Wilford – Wall and fence	£97-2-6

Grant of Rights

Mr Burke proposed and Mr Mason seconded that the Grant of Rights to Miss Mary Gorham of No. 11 grave space be signed. Carried.

Mr Deacon’s Motion to Notice Board

Mr Deacon in accordance with previous Notice of Motion proposed that the Notice Board at the Cemetery be turned half way round so that the Public outside the Cemetery could read the notice. Mr Hollands seconded.

Mr Burke proposed an amendment that the matter be referred to the Cemetery Committee. Mr J Fowle seconded and it was carried. Messrs Deacon & Hollands alone voting against it.

On being put as the substantive motion it was carried unanimously.

U. J. C Letter

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Fletcher seconded that a letter in the form of a testimonial be sent to J C Mullard expressing general satisfaction of the way in which he had carried out his duties during the seven years he had been stationed at Snodland. Carried. Mr Fowle remained neutral.

Gassons

Mr Deacon stated that the "Gassons" Estate could not be identified. He suggested that steps should be taken to determine the situation and when found, have it marked on the Ordnance map to be purchased. He gave notice of motion re map.

Geo Corney
Oct 6th 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday October 6th 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Hodgkinson, Godfrey, Brazier, Hawks, Fletcher, Fowle, Hollands, Deacon, Beadle, Burke and Mason.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Report of Finance

Mr Hodgkinson presented the Finance Committee Report.

1. Mr Brazier proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the following accounts be paid. Carried.

Tithe Rent Charge	1-6-3
Stationery and Stamps – Mr Hilsen	1-9-3
1 yrs gas a/c – Hook C T & Co	31-17-6
Caretaker's wages	6-6-0
Flower pots – J R Holeman	7-6
String and Wire Netting	17-3
Work at Cemetery	7-1-6
Fire Appliances (paid Kent Water Co)	<u>56-16-6</u>
	<u>106-6-9</u>

Storage of Fire Appliances

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Deacon seconded and it was resolved that the Council accept the offer of the Misses Hook to allow the use of the Soup Kitchen for storage of the fire extinguishing apparatus and also for the meetings of the Fire Brigade at an annual charge of one guinea – and that the Clerk be instructed to gratefully state their acceptance by letter to the Misses Hook and to reply to the Congregational Trustees, thanking them for their kind offer to find a place of storage.

Funding of Extra Hose

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Brazier seconded and it was resolved "That finding the present supply of Fire Hose Pipe is quite insufficient two additional lengths of 100ft shall be purchased and that the Council instruct the Captain of the Fire Brigade to order the printing of 50 copies of the Rules approved by the Council and purchase a supply of 1 ½ dozen copies of the Manual Guide for the use of Fire Brigade Members."

Clerk's Salary

Mr Mason proposed and Mr Fowle seconded that considering the additional duties imposed as Clerk to the Council the salary, including payment for all services as Assistant Overseer and Clerk to the Council now standing at £60 per annum should at the beginning of the next financial year be raised. Carried.

Mr Beadle proposed that Minute Books be supplied to each Committee. This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson and carried.

Willow Trees

Mr Deacon suggested that the Caretaker be instructed to break off twigs of the willows trees on the Brook.

Cemetery Committee Report

Mr Beadle read the Cemetery Committee Report.

Mr Beadle proposed that the stop cock to the Caretakers house be placed outside the gate. The work to be done at once by the Water Coy. This was seconded by Mr Mason and carried.

Mr Fletcher proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that the Caretaker be allowed to purchase bulbs up to the value of one guinea for planting in the Cemetery. Carried.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Fowle seconded and it was resolved that the Caretaker's room be attended to at once and an iron bar be replaced on the sill of the lower rooms.

Mr Fowle proposed and Mr Fletcher seconded that the Caretaker have power to purchase manure for the Cemetery not exceeding 8 loads. Carried.

Mr Fowle proposed and Mr Beadle seconded and it was resolved that the Notice Board remain as it is at present.

Mr Fowle proposed that the seats at the Cemetery be placed in the Chapel during the winter months. This was seconded by Mr Deacon. Carried.

Mr Beadle proposed that the sharpening and repair of tools be undertaken by Mr Hinds. This was seconded by Mr Fowle and carried.

Mr Hawks proposed and Mr Beadle seconded that the bier be reduced in height by 2". Carried.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Deacon seconded that offer of Mr Roberts to supply about ½ dozen sacks of cement which had set, to be used as spur stones, be accepted, and the Clerk be instructed to convey to Mr Roberts the best thanks of the Council for the gift. The Clerk was also instructed to arrange for the transference of the stones from the "Works" to the Cemetery. Carried.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Fletcher seconded that a greenhouse and tool shed be erected on the piece of ground next the fence on the South side of the Cemetery – the size of green house to be 16 x 10 and the tool shed 8 x 10. Carried.

Mr Beadle proposed and Mr Hollands seconded that the matter be referred back to the Committee in order to obtain plans and specification. Carried.

Mr Hollands reported that he had sold the grass at the Cemetery to Mr W Cunningham for 5/-.

Correspondence.

1. Letter from Col. Holland re Brookland.

Mr Deacon proposed that the Chairman and Clerk be instructed to wait on Col. Holland and request to see the Title Deeds, and satisfy themselves that the boundary is in accordance with the plan, and if so to let the matter rest. This was seconded by Mr Hollands and carried unanimously.

2. Letter from Sergeant Mullard.

3. Letter from Birling Parish Council re annexation scheme.

4. Letter from Inland Revenue Office stating the Claim would be allowed.

Mr Deacon read a letter from the Charity Commissioners in reference to £2-2-0 mentioned in John May's will and also to the distribution of Great Coats to persons in receipt of Parish Relief. Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Beadle seconded that the letter be copied in the Minutes. Carried.

Copy of letter from Charities Commissioners to the Rev. G H Jackson dated Sept. 21st 96.

Rev. Sir

In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant I am to state as follows –

1. The annual sum of £2-2-0 granted by this donor was to be applied towards the expenses of the annual meeting of the acting magistrates of the division by whom the donor desired that the accounts of the Charity should be audited. Regard being had to the fact that the accounts are not audited by the Magistrates and that the payment in question has never been made, it is not advisable that any steps should be taken with the view to enforcing payment but it is open to the Trustees to ask the present owner of the land charged whether he would be willing to make the payment of £2-2-0 in the future as an augmentation of the rent charge of £20 a year for Charitable purposes.
2. It is a principle of the law of charitable trusts that funds subject to those trusts should not be applied for the benefit of those who are in receipt of parochial relief, and who are then entitled as of right to an adequate maintenance. Following the practice of the Chancery Division of the Supreme Court, the Commissioners would not entertain an application for authority to extend the benefits of this Charity to persons receiving poor law relief, I may add that in the present case the donor expressly directed that such people should not be beneficiaries of this Charity.

I am Rev. Sir

Your obedient servant

G Holford

Map of Parish

Mr Deacon in accordance with his Notice of Motion stated that he would like the purchase of the map to be deferred till the estate called "Gassons" could be identified or until every effort had been exhausted in endeavouring to establish the identity.

Train Service

Mr Hollands proposed that an application be made to the Chairman of the South Eastern Railway Coy., asking him to allow the 10.10 down train to stop at Snodland Station. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Trees and Shrubs Cemetery

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Hollands seconded and it was resolved that the Caretaker be empowered to purchase trees and shrubs up to the value of thirty shillings.

Geo Corney

Oct. 27 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday October 27th 1896
At 7pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Deacon, Fletcher, Fowle, Hawks, Beadle, Brazier and Hodgkinson.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Report of the Cemetery Committee

Mr Burke read the report of the Cemetery Committee.

It recommended that the whole of the greenhouse and tool shed should be covered with glass, a door at each end and a door in the partition, that there be 3ft of brickwork above the ground, that the Clerk be instructed to write to Messenger & Co., and ask them to recommend suitable heating apparatus and that the Clerk give a letter of introduction for the Caretaker to purchase bulbs, trees and shrubs upto the value of £2-11-0.

The plan and specification for green house were submitted and a letter from Messenger & Co recommending suitable heating apparatus was read.

Mr Burke proposed that the Cemetery Committee's report be adopted as read and that tenders for the erection of the green house be invited. This was seconded by Mr Fowle and carried.

Mr Burke proposed that Messrs Wilford, Norman, Langridge, Draycon and W Hawks be invited to tender and that the tender be returned not later than Thursday Nov. 5 6pm. This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson and carried.

The work to be completed in a month from the date of the acceptance of tender

Correspondence

Two letters were read from the SE Ry Coy., stating that alterations in the train services would be made next month to suit the public convenience.

Hose for Fire Extinguishing

It was decided to allow the purchase of additional hose to stand over that the Committee might again report therein.

Stop Cock at Cemetery

The Clerk was instructed to see the manager of the Water Coy., and order the stop cock to be placed inside the Cemetery near the house.

Cheque for Gate Keepers

Mr Hodgkinson proposed that a cheque for four guineas be drawn to pay the salary of the gate keepers of the Brook. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Geo Corney
Nov 3rd 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Thursday November 5th 1896
At 8pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Mason, Brazier, Fowle, Fletcher, Beadle and Deacon.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Hose for Fire Brigade

Mr Mason proposed that the Council purchase 4, 50 ft lengths of hose in the place of the two 100 ft lengths, if the funds would allow; and if not that 3, 50 ft lengths be purchased. This was seconded by Mr Fletcher and carried.

Tenders for Greenhouse

The following tenders for the erection of a greenhouse at the Cemetery were opened by the Chairman:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------|
| 1. Mr Rd Langridge: | £53-0-0 |
| 2. Mr Ed Norman: | £54-0-0 |
| 3. Mr H Draycon: | £53-9-0 |

Mr Deacon proposed that Mr Langridge's tender be accepted. This was seconded by Mr Fowle and carried.

Correspondence

1. Letter from the County Council stating that a Committee had been formed to inspect the kerb in the Holborough Road.
2. Letter from the S. E. Ry. Coy. stating that they could not see their way to stop the 8.45 am down train at Snodland Station.
3. Letter from the S. E. Ry. Coy. stating that they could not carry out the suggestion of the Council in reference to the stopping of certain other trains at Snodland Station.

Mr Mason proposed that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Manager of the S.E. Ry. Coy., and again ask them to stop the 10.10 am down train at Snodland Station. This was seconded by Mr Fowle and carried.

Geo Corney
Dec 8th 1896

Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Devonshire Rooms
Tuesday December 8th 1896
At 7.30 pm

Mr Geo Corney presided and there were also present Messrs., Deacon, Burke, Godfrey, Fowle, Hodgkinson, Brazier, Beadle and Mason.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Report of the Brook Committee

Mr Deacon read the report of the Brook Committee.

Its recommendations to the Council were:

1. That the steps and rails in the willow walk be repaired.
2. That all the dead tree trunks be removed from the willow walk.
3. That the ditches beside the willow walk and the ditch round the allotments be cleaned out and that James Hogben be employed to do the work.

Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Fletcher seconded and it was resolved that poor people be allowed to remove the dead tree trunks to use as firewood.

Report of the Cemetery Committee

Mr Burke proposed that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Undertakers and ask them to give the exact size of the coffin when applying for an order for a funeral. This was seconded by Mr Hodgkinson and carried.

Mr Burke proposed, and Mr Godfrey seconded, and it was resolved that 1 chaldron of coke and $\frac{1}{4}$ ton of fine coal be ordered for Mr Tomlin for use at the Cemetery, and that a wire sieve be purchased for the Caretaker's use, at Mr Moore's and that a few alterations be allowed in building greenhouse.

Report of the Fire Brigade Committee

Mr Beadle proposed that the Messrs. Hook's offer of the cottage behind the Water Works Office in the High Street, for a store for the fire extinguishing apparatus, at a rental of £5 per annum on a seven years lease with option of renewal be accepted with best thanks. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Correspondence

Two letters from the South Eastern Railway Company respecting the stopping of the down 10.10 am train were read.

Mr Beadle proposed that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Manager thanking him for his promise to consider the question at the commencement of the New Year and urging the very great importance to the public of a decision in favour of the stopping of the down 10.10 train at Snodland Station. This was seconded by Mr Godfey and carried.

Letter from Mr Wd Johnson was read asking to be allowed to make a road across the Brook to the Saltings for the use of which he was prepared to pay a nominal rent. Mr Deacon proposed and Mr Brazier seconded and it was resolved that the Clerk be instructed to inform Mr Wd Johnson that the Council were unable to give the required permission to make a roadway across the Brook.

Finance Committee Report Receipt on Overseers

Mr Hodgkinson proposed that a precept for £120 be issued on the Overseers for meeting the expenses connected with the Cemetery.

This was seconded by Mr Burke and carried.

Accounts

Mr Hodgkinson proposed and Mr Godfrey seconded and it was resolved that the following cheques be drawn and signed.

W J Lancaster	Repayment of loan	£52-19-3
T Hilder	Caretaker's Wages	£10-10-0
T Hilder	Small accounts:	
	Carriage of Blocks to Cemetery	1-6
	Trees & bulbs, Wakefield	£2-11-0
	Caretaker's fare to Maidstone	1-0
	Poor Rate	3-6-0
	Tape Measure to Moore	14-9
		<hr/>
		£70-3-6

Path from British Schools to Cemetery

Mr Fletcher proposed and Mr Burke seconded and it was resolved that the District Council be asked to repair the path leading from the British Schools to the Cemetery. Mr Deacon proposed that the District Council be asked to take over and keep in repair the willow walk. This was seconded by Mr Brazier and carried.

Lamp in Holborough Road

Mr Mason proposed that the Clerk be instructed to write to Messrs C T Hook & Co Ltd., and ask why the lamp opposite Mr W Hawks' shop had not been lighted for the last fortnight. This was seconded by Mr Deacon and carried.

Notice of Motion

Mr Fletcher gave Notice of Motion "re remunerating the Caretaker for overtime and assistance".

Geo Corney
Jany 19th 1897