

Update from the Commons Registration Team

A report by the Head of Regulatory Services to Kent County Council's Regulation Committee on Tuesday 18th May 2013.

Recommendation:

I recommend that Members receive this report

Progress with Village Green applications

1. Members have requested that a summary of the current position of applications to register Town and Village Greens be provided at meetings of the Regulation Committee. A copy of the Schedule of Village Green applications is therefore attached at **Appendix A**.
2. So far this year, 11 such cases have been considered at four separate Regulation Committee Member Panel meetings held between January and March, which resulted in the registration of five new Village Green.
3. One case has been referred to the Planning Inspectorate for determination (due to the County Council's interest in the outcome of the application as both landowner and prospective developer) but it is not yet known how the Inspectorate intends to deal with this matter.
4. Five Public Inquiries are due to take place by the end of the year in relation to applications at Canterbury (details TBC), New Romney (commencing on 15th July 2013), Hythe (commencing on 23rd July 2013), Marden (details TBC) and Westgate (details TBC).
5. There are currently 19 applications awaiting determination, of which 16 are currently under investigation. A number of cases are ready to be referred to Member Panel for decision in the coming months and, given the greatly reduced backlog, Officers now aim to begin work on all applications received within three months from the date of receipt.

Recent legislative changes

6. Members will be aware that the Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013 has now received royal assent. The Act introduces a number of significant reforms to the current system of Village Green registration which are discussed in more detail in a separate report.

Recommendation

7. I RECOMMEND Members receive this report

Background documents:

Appendix A – Schedule of Village Green applications

Contact Officer:

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APPENDIX A:
Schedule of Village Green applications

**Applications resolved by the Regulation Committee (Member Panel)
since last report (22nd January 2013)**

Description	Parish	Member(s)	Outcome
Land at Woodland Road	Lyminge	Ms. S. Carey	ACCEPTED on 19/02/13 (registered as VG268)
Land at Mount Pleasant	Hildenborough	Mrs. V. Dagger	ACCEPTED on 19/02/13 (registered as VG267)
Grasmere Pastures at Whitstable	Whitstable	Mr. M. Harrison Mr. M. Dance	REJECTED on 26/02/13
Rammell Field	Cranbrook	Mr. S. Holden	REJECTED on 26/02/13

Forthcoming Public Inquiries

Description	Parish	Member(s)	Details
Chaucer Field (at the University of Kent campus)	Canterbury	Mr. G. Gibbens	Awaiting Inspector's report re: preliminary issue
Seaton Meadow	Wickhambreaux	Mr. M. Northey	Awaiting Inspector's report
Land at Cockreed Lane	New Romney	Mr. D. Baker	Commences 15 th July 2013 at Assembly Halls, NR
Land known as Fisherman's Beach	Hythe	Mr. M. Whybrow	Commences 23 rd July 2013 at Hythe Town Hall
The Cricket Field	Marden	Mrs. P. Stockell	Details TBC
Land at Ursuline Drive	Westgate	Mr. J. Elenor	Details TBC

Outstanding applications to be resolved

Description	Parish	Member(s)	Status
The Downs	Herne Bay	Mr. N. Bond Mr. B. MacDowall	Public Inquiry held and report received, now awaiting further legal advice
The Glebe Field	Goudhurst	Mr. A. King	Under investigation
Land at Bishop's Green	Great Chart	Mr. D. Smyth	Referred to the Planning Inspectorate for determination
Folkestone Racecourse	Stanford	Ms. S. Carey	Under investigation
Riverside Close	Kingsnorth	Mr. M. Angell	Under investigation
Land at Showfields	Tunbridge Wells	Mr. J. Scholes	Under investigation
Kingsmead Recreation Ground	Canterbury	Mr. G. Gibbens	Under investigation
Land at South View Road	Tunbridge Wells	Mr. P. Oakford	Under investigation
Land at Coldblow Woods	Ripple	Mr. S. Manion	Under investigation
Land at Grasmere Road	Ashford	Mr. J. Wedgbury	Under investigation
Land at Montefiore Woodland	Ramsgate	Mr. A. Terry Ms. Z. Wiltshire	Awaiting investigation
Land at The List	Littlebourne	Mr. M. Northey	Awaiting investigation
Land at Masefield Way	Tonbridge	Mr. R. Long Mr. C. Smith	Awaiting investigation