

BIDDENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8 November 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr C Friend (Chair) Cllr A Lidgett
Cllr D Boulding Cllr H Ruse
Cllr P Harris Cllr J Tydeman

3 parishioners attended.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Cansdale, Cllr Lupton and Borough Cllr Bell.

2. Parishioners' questions

There were no questions from parishioners present but an email was read out regarding the litter at the Cheeslands play area.

3. Any Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

Cllr D Boulding A prejudicial interest in the Southern IT invoice listed for approval regarding hosting the parish council's website. Cllr Boulding owns the company.

CCTV. A personal interest as both companies from whom quotations for CCTV were sought have done work for Southern IT. This interest was also noted in the documentation circulated on CCTV to councillors.

4. Any changes to the Register of Members Interests

There were no changes to the Register of Members Interests.

5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11 October 2011

The Clerk read out the list of amendments made. An additional amendment was made: page 284, item 9 b) two words "them aware" were duplicated and the original minutes were amended accordingly by crossing through prior to signature.

It was RESOLVED that the minutes were a true and proper record. Proposed by Cllr J Tydeman Seconded by Cllr A Lidgett. **It was agreed unanimously.**

6. To note the unapproved minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 18 October 2011

The Clerk read out the amendments made to the minutes. It was noted that Cllr Ruse also gave apologies.

7. Matters for information not on the agenda

It was noted that an application had been put in for Kent Village of the Year. Whilst Biddenden did not win, it was commended for: Social Action; Economy and Environment.

8. Report by Cllr Bell, Ashford Borough Council

No report was received.

9. CCTV

A paper had been circulated giving details of quotations and a recommendation. The quotations were discussed and it was noted that the lowest quotation came in under the budget set. Maintenance was discussed and the need for a formal CCTV procedure/policy.

It was RESOLVED to accept the lowest quotation. Proposed by Cllr A Lidgett Seconded by Cllr P Harris. **Agreed.** Cllr Boulding did not vote due to a personal interest.

10. Parish Plan

The note on the follow up to the Parish Plan meeting was noted. Four parishioners had come forward to be on the Steering Group and a further seven parishioners had offered help. A meeting of the Steering Group had been organised for 22 November. Parish Councillors joining the Steering Group would be Cllrs Harris, Lidgett and Lupton. Kathy Bugben from Action with Communities in Rural Kent would also be attending to give guidance.

11. High Street Southside Pavement

There was nothing new to report although it was noted that a group of council officials had been seen looking at the area.

An email had been received from a parishioner relating to water draining from the car park and it was read out. Cllr Friend agreed to meet the parishioner to discuss the matter further.

12. Review of Complaints Procedure

The procedure had been circulated and it was noted that this procedure was for discussion and comment. Councillors were invited to make comments on the procedure through the Clerk with a deadline of 22 November. The procedure would then be brought back to the full council for agreement.

13. Review of Data Protection Policy

It was RESOLVED to approve the Data Protection Policy subject to a further amendment being made regarding the displaying of CCTV signs. Proposed by Cllr A Lidgett Seconded by Cllr D Boulding.

14. Meeting dates 2012

It was RESOLVED to approve the meeting dates for 2012. Proposed by Cllr P Harris Seconded by Cllr H Ruse

15. Reports by Clerk, Group Chairmen and Parish Council representatives

Car Park, Toilets and Post Office: The locks have once again been broken and a locksmith called out to fix them. The gents toilet has also suffered a blockage and been left in a terrible state. The cleaner has had to have new trainers purchased.

Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow. Quotations for demolition of the duck house have been obtained. The Clerk was asked to check their insurance status and report back to the next meeting for approval.

Work has started on the agreed repair work on benches etc.

Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths. Kent Highways have agreed to remove the graffiti on the Sissinghurst Road. The salt bag will be delivered to Hugh Richards at Pullen Barn Farm for storage for the time being.

The salt bin stolen outside Dashmonden is to be replaced by KCC.

It was RESOLVED to purchase two new salt bins salt bins: 1 bin to be placed at the junction of the footpath where it crosses Glebelands and the other by the lengersman's hut. Proposed by Cllr C Friend Seconded by Cllr A Lidgett. **Unanimously agreed**

Forms have now been completed and sent off regarding a road sign for the Gordon Jones Playing field.

It was noted that the work to the footpaths had been completed by a parishioner and the Parish Council wished to record their thanks. A grant of £100 towards the cost of the work had previously been agreed and this was on the payment schedule for approval.

Gordon Jones Playing Field and Play Area. Biddenden Juniors FC have confirmed that they will not be using the football pitches on 9 and 10 June and therefore Tenterden Tigers will be able to use them for their tournament.

Copies of the RoSPA report have been sent out for quotations. Responses are awaited.

Squash Court Embankment. Papers were circulated prior to the meeting. It was RESOLVED to form a working group charged with looking at the options and costings and asked to report back to the next full Council meeting. **Agreed.** Councillors Ruse, Friend and Boulding volunteered to be on the group and a meeting was fixed for 10 am on Saturday 12 November.

Police Liaison. The email circulated regarding future policing arrangements was read out.

KALC and Parish Forum. The KALC AGM is to be held on 12 November. The Parish Forum meeting was held on 2 November.

Planning and Local Housing. Nothing to report.

Recycling. Information regarding the access has been sent to ABC.

Jubilee Celebrations. An update to be given at the meeting.

Village Hall Management Committee. Nothing to report

16. Finance

Cllr Boulding left the meeting due to a prejudicial interest.

The schedule of payments for approval was presented and agreed. Proposed by Cllr J Tydeman Seconded by Cllr H Ruse. **Unanimously agreed.**

Cllr Boulding returned to the meeting.

2012/13 Budget. The budget process is about to commence and councillors are reminded that any committee/working group chairman requiring money for their particular responsibility must let the Clerk have any figures so that they can be put into the budget ASAP. A Finance Committee meeting has been booked for 6 December in the New Hall at 7.30 pm.

17. Planning

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
<u>11/01197/AS</u>	Biddenden	Bloomsburys Biddenden, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DQ Construction of outbuilding to extend existing garden centre, alteration & addition of on site lighting. Construction of poly tunnel for growing area. Retrospective application for the erection of sheds for storage and poultry housing.	Support
<u>11/01239/AS</u>	Biddenden	Birchwood House, Cranbrook Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DY Conversion of integral garage to kitchen and erection of new 3-bay garage	Support
<u>11/00642/AS</u>	Biddenden	Plot adjacent to, Pell Wall House, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Kent Change of use of land for the keeping of horses, erection of building to incorporate x3 stables, hay/feed store and tool store/tack room and the erection of a riding ménage	Support

18. Correspondence

The Correspondence list was presented and the following discussed for action.

- a) An application has been received for one of the councillor vacancies. An advert is to be placed in the Parish Magazine advertising the vacancies again and selection will take place at the Parish Council meeting on 13 December.
- b) An email has been received from a 16 yr old parishioner who has been living in the village for 5 years. He is a trampolinist and is training at international level and looking for funding. **Action:** No financial support to be given but moral support in terms of a notice on the website.
- c) An email has been received from the Weald North Borough Councillor regarding the parliamentary boundary changes. It is proposed that Smarden and Egerton are moved to Tonbridge. It is felt that an MP who could well live to the west of Tonbridge would not be as well placed to represent these parishes as one who lives locally. The journey to Tonbridge is not easy. She would like to present the villages of Pluckley, Biddenden, Egerton, Charing, Bethersden and Smarden as an entity geographically and historically. Cllr Bell is happy to support the “No” campaign and they are looking for Biddenden’s support. Please note that Biddenden is not currently affected by any changes. **Action:** No action required.
- d) Email from Red Cross looking to train volunteers to provide a British Red Cross Community Emergency Response team. They wonder if the project is something Biddenden would like to participate in. The current Response team led by Mark Clixby is not the same thing. **Action:** Clerk to obtain further information.
- e) Email from Biddenden Junior FC wishing to discuss a venture by Biddenden Juniors. They are looking at possible funding for some floodlighting or all weather surface to allow them to train during the winter months and are keen for the PC to support them should they decide to pursue the matter further. It is suggested that a meeting of the Gordon Jones Playing Field and Play Area Working group meet. Cllrs on that working group are: Cllr D Boulding, Cllr E Cansdale Cllr C Friend. **Action:** Meeting to be arranged.

19. Items for future consideration.

There were none.

20. Date and time of next meeting: Finance Committee meeting, 6 December at 7.30 pm in the New Hall
Parish Council meeting, 13 December at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.
All Welcome

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Note: A parishioner approached councillors just after the meeting had closed to state that the parishioners present believed that no quotation had been accepted for CCTV. It was explained that the lowest quotation was being discussed and that it had been accepted. However, in order to clarify this all councillors were gathered straight after the meeting and clarification sought. It was agreed that the lowest quotation had been accepted during the meeting.

Please note: that this clarification will be ratified at the December meeting so that it is done publicly.

Alison Swannick
Parish Clerk

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