

## BIDDENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

### APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Biddenden

Present: Cllr C Friend (Chair) Cllr T Lupton  
Cllr E Cansdale Cllr S Parks  
Cllr P Harris Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse  
Cllr A Lidgett Cllr J Tydeman

Mrs A Swannick (Clerk)  
Cllr N Bell, ABC

1 parishioner attended.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr D Boulding due to personal commitments.

#### 2. Parishioners' questions

None.

#### 3. Any Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

#### 4. Any changes to the Register of Members Interests

There were no changes.

#### 5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 June 2014

There were no amendments or comments on the minutes and they were therefore declared a true and proper record of the meeting. Proposed by: Cllr P Harris  
Seconded by: Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse. **Unanimous.**

#### 6. Matters for information not on the agenda

The Chairman stated that there was an item of correspondence on the Correspondence List which may be taken in closed session.

#### 7. Report by Cllr Bell, ABC

Cllr Bell stated that a planning officer would be looking further into concerns regarding planning application 14/00781/AS. He hoped the PC would support the planning officer.

A new junction on the M20, 10A, is being created to support the building development around Ashford. The government has now upgraded it to a full junction. If this junction had

not gone ahead there would be even more demand for housing development around Biddenden.

It was noted that some older parishioners could not take their bins to the front of the properties. The refuse collection service would collect the bins from the front of the house but parishioners need to let ABC know so that arrangements can be made.

#### **8. Co-option**

It was reported that no applications for the co-opted vacancies had been received. **It was agreed** to put a notice in the September issue of the Parish Magazine.

#### **9. Ashford Borough Council Local Plan to 2013 - Site submissions for Biddenden**

An acknowledgement of receipt of the Council's letter has been received but a formal reply has not been received.

#### **10. Review and Implementation: Community Led Plan**

A report on the seating assessment by Ashford Access had been received and circulated to councillors. It was recommended that 6 additional seats were required as marked on the map. **It was agreed** to purchase 2 new benches per year for the next three years.

Discussion took place regarding a dropped kerb on North Street. **It was agreed** that this would be mentioned to Cllr Hill.

A list of issues had been sent to Cllr Hill and these will be discussed further at the next meeting with Cllr Hill which is likely to be next week.

The Friends of John Mayne School have agreed to make parents aware of the need for volunteers to set up a youth club.

Councillors went through the Community Led Plan updating where necessary (a separate document is being produced detailing updates.)

#### **11. Reports by Clerk, Group Chairmen and Parish Council Representatives**

**Car Park, Toilets and Post Office:** The owner of a car parked long-term in the PO car park has been contacted by the police.

The metal doors have been chased.

All is in order for the electricity supplier switch to Southern Electric. The first meter reading has been taken by them and recorded by both BPC and the Mrs Ashton.

News on the toilet grant from ABC is awaited.

A new soap dispenser has been ordered for the ladies' toilet.

**The Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow:** A tree branch in the Millennium Field wood has fallen down but has been removed by a parishioner.

A site has been chosen with Mrs Farris for a memorial tree for Eric Farris.

A contractor has been instructed to trim around the memorial trees with a diameter of 2m around each tree as agreed at the May meeting.

**It was agreed** that a tree specialist be contacted and asked to do an inspection of the Millennium Field and make recommendations for action where appropriate.

**It was agreed** that Tractorfest could use the Millennium Field car park as a pick up and return point for Tractorfest providing that it was properly marshalled.

**Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths:** Work on the Southside Pavement Phase 2 has started.

The surface treatment works between Sissinghurst Rd and High St, Biddenden will now take place on 1<sup>st</sup> July for one day.

A small amount of surplus bethersden marble is to be stored by Cllr Lidgett. The council thanked Cllr Lidgett.

The Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way has been received from KCC and has been taken for members of the working group to look at. Anyone else wishing to see them may do so, but they cannot be scanned due to the size of the maps.

**Gordon Jones Playing Field and Play Area:** The Chairman and Clerk attended a workshop for the Big Lottery Awards for All. It may be possible to apply to it for a maximum of £10,000 towards the cost of the play area. Consultation with local groups will need to take place prior to making any formal applications. The school has agreed to send out a questionnaire to parents on behalf of the PC. The toddler group and nursery will also be contacted.

**Police Liaison:** Report received as follows for June 2014:

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014 Theft from Motor vehicle.

19<sup>th</sup> June 2014 - Theft – Headcorn Road.

The new Chief Constable, Alan Pughsley, will be joining the second Police and Crime Commissioner events on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at Kings Hill Community Centre, 70 Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LG.

The final Police and Crime Commissioner event will take place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at Medway Council, (Meeting Room 9), Gun Wharf, Dock Road Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR. Deputy Chief Constable, Paul Brandon, will also be attending this event.

**It was agreed** that the information available on [www.police.uk/kent](http://www.police.uk/kent) should be used.

**Planning and Local Housing:** A site visit was made to a parishioner's home to inspect possible planning breaches of a property being built behind it. An email was subsequently written to Cllr Bell asking what action had been taken to-date relating to the alleged planning breaches.

**KALC:** Nothing to report.

**Parish Forum:** The next Parish Forum meeting is Wednesday 23 July 2014.

**Recycling:** An invitation for applications to the fund will go out in the September issue of the Parish Magazine.

**Village Hall Management Committee:** Next meeting 11 September 2014.

**Health and Safety:** An email has been received from the Squash Club stating that the squash club embankment needed clearing as the boiler engineer felt it unsafe to go down. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would arrange for the work to be done. However, the Council was disappointed that the club had come to the council regarding maintenance work.

**Allotments:** Nothing to report.

**John Mayne School:** Nothing to report.

## 12. Finance

**a) Approval of cheques for payment:** Proposed by: Cllr J Tydeman Seconded by: Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse

**b) Accounts to 30 June 2014:** The accounts circulated were noted.

It was reported that Cllr Tydeman had looked at the quarterly accounts, April – June 2014 and had signed them as being correct.

## 13. Planning

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
<a href="#">14/00616/AS (DEL)</a> <a href="#">Amended consultation</a>	Biddenden	<b>Tanner House, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8EX</b> Replacement of 2 windows to south elevation with double glazed windows to include the reduction in height of first floor window and replacement of 3 windows with double glazed windows to west elevation	Support
<a href="#">14/00696/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Field Cottage, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BB</b> Removal of partitions to ground floor cloakroom and insertion of new oak framed partition and new door, removal of existing partition between utility room and kitchen and insertion of new partition, new enlarged openings to form a new window and french casement doors to south wall, insertion of new secondary staircase, new conservation type roof light to rear roof slope,	Support

		new external french casement doors to study area and new screeded floors with under floor heating to kitchen and utility area.	
Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
<a href="#">14/00753/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Wynmere, Mockbeggar Lane, Benenden, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 4BD</b> Two storey rear extension	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">14/00754/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>22 High Street, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AH</b> Erection of an oak frame two bay detached garage (revised scheme to previous approval 14/00171/AS)	<b>Site visit Carried out Support</b>
<a href="#">14/00775/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Windmill Cottage, 3A Old Mill Court, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DD</b> Erection of a porch to front elevation	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">14/00784/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>The Delph, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DW</b> Change in materials used on garage approved under application 11/00698/AS	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">14/00608/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Priory Farm, Smarden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, TN27 8QJ</b> Proposed agricultural building for the use of livestock, livestock feed and storage of agricultural equipment	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">14/00781/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Dove Cottage, 7 North Street, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AG</b> Adjust position of roof light on East facing elevation and additional roof light on North facing elevation	<b>Object.</b> Concerns expressed to Borough Cllr. Should this application be approved would ask it is taken to Planning Cttee.
<a href="#">14/00791/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Standen Farm, Smarden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, TN27 8JT</b> Repair 5 windows on principal elevation	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">14/00804/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Midwood, Benenden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BY</b> Proposed dormer window to facilitate loft conversion and installation of a first floor window on the two side elevations	<b>Support</b>

## NEW TREE APPLICATIONS

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
<a href="#">14/00140/TC</a>	Biddenden	<p><b>Field Cottage, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BB</b></p> <p>1 x Whitebeam - section fell, 1 x Parrotia multi stemmed ornamental tree - remove, 1 x Multi stemmed ornamental 'acer type' shrub/tree - remove, 1 x Lime - section fell and grind stump, 1 x Multi stemmed damson - fell and grind stump, 1 x Hawthorn (phoenix tree) - remove and grind stump, 1 x Elder tree - remove, 5 x Ash stems - section fell and grind stumps, 1 x Goat willow - remove and poison stump, Reduce hawthorn height to line of hedge, Fell and poison short row of immature ash stems, 2 x Ash trees - remove large diameter of dead wood, 1 x Poplar - fell and 1 x White poplar - fell</p>	<b>Support</b>

Cllr Harris left the meeting.

### 14. Correspondence

Councillors were asked if they were in agreement that this agenda item should be taken in closed session due to the confidential nature of the item of correspondence under 'Action'. A vote was taken. **Unanimous.**

The meeting was closed to the public.

An email had been received from the Post Office dated 1 July. Discussion took place regarding papers circulated to councillors. **It was agreed** to set up a Post Office Working Group consisting of Cllr C Friend, Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse, Cllr J Tydeman and Cllr E Cansdale. This working group's role was to meet with the tenant and interested third party and to obtain facts. Members were reminded that working groups are not able to make any decisions or enter into any negotiations. The working group will report back to the full council where consideration and any decision-making on this issue will take place.

### 15. Items for future consideration

There were none.

**16. Date of Next meeting: Parish Council Meeting:** Tuesday 9 September at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall