

## BIDDENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

### APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 3 January 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Biddenden

**Present:** Cllr D Boulding (Chair)                      Cllr S Parks  
                 Cllr T Bizley                                      Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse  
                 Cllr A Lidgett

Mrs A Swannick (Clerk)

5 Parishioners attended

In the absence of Chairman, Cllr Friend, and the Vice Chairman, Cllr Tydeman, Cllr Boulding was elected chairman of the meeting. Proposed by: Cllr A Lidgett    Seconded by: Cllr S Parks. **Unanimous.**

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr C Friend due to personal commitments  
Cllr P Harris due to personal commitments  
Cllr E Cansdale due to personal commitments  
Cllr J Tydeman due to illness

**2. Parishioners' questions**

None.

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

Cllr T Bizley due to planning application 16/01719/AS  
Cllr A Lidgett due to the Biddenden Horticultural Society application to the Community Project Fund.

**4. Any changes to Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**

None.

**5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 December 2016**

There being no comments or amendments, the minutes were deemed to be a true and proper record of the meeting. Proposed by: Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse    Seconded by: Cllr A Lidgett.

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

None notified. Can be brought up at the meeting.

**7. Co-option**

The co-option was unavoidably postponed until the February meeting due to illness in the applicant's family.

**8. Report by Cllr Bell, ABC**

No report.

**9. Ashford Borough Council Local Plan to 2030 – Site submissions for Biddenden**

No further communications have been received from ABC.

**10. Telecommunications Mast**

As agreed at the last meeting, the Clerk sent an email to Shared Access and a multi-skills meeting is to be arranged. However, a pre-planning consultation document was received from another company regarding a proposed replacement of the existing mast behind PK Produce on North Street with a lattice mast and an extension for Telefonica/Vodafone. Discussion took place regarding size and design of the mast. **It was agreed** that a meeting should take place on site with the company to discuss the matter further and to explore available options as councillors were not keen on a lattice mast and expressed concern.

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

**Car Park, Toilets and Post Office:** Nothing to report.

**Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow:** The council has thanked Michael Palmer for the excellent work that he has done on the hedges in the Millennium Field, Jubilee Meadow and car park has been sent. The hedge cutting has been completed.

**Pedestrians and Footpaths:** The bin outside the village shop will be fitted shortly. The noticeboard on the High Street will be taken away for refurbishment.

**Gordon Jones Playing Field and Play Area:** Nothing to report.

**Planning and Local Housing:** Nothing to report

**S27 and S43 Working Group:** Nothing to report. No meetings have been held.

**Police Liaison and Neighbourhood Watch:** The Police UK site shows 6 crimes reported in November 2016.

Burglary	1
Criminal Damage & Arson	1
Other Theft	1
Vehicle Crime	1
Violence and Sexual Offences	2

**KALC:** Nothing to Report

**Parish & Urban Forum:** Nothing to report

**Community Project Fund:** A meeting was held on 19<sup>th</sup> December and the following recommendations made:

Biddenden Horticultural Society	£120 for purchase of winter/spring planting of box on the village green
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Biddenden Juniors £350 for transport of container subject to result of planning enquiry regarding the container and production of transport quotation.

Proposed by: Cllr S Parks      Seconded by: Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse. **Unanimous.**

**Village Hall Management Committee:** The next meeting will be 11 January 2017.

**Health and Safety:** A report had been circulated. The repair to the squash embankment gate and the fixing down of the metal plate on the viewing point will be fixed shortly.

**Allotments:** Nothing to report.

**John Mayne School:** The December newsletters had been circulated.

## 12. Finance

a) Approval of cheques for payment were **agreed.**

b) Note accounts to 30 December 2016 – the statements are currently not available from the bank but the reconciliations will be circulated as soon as possible.

Now that the council is able to do online banking, **it was agreed** that utility bills be paid this way and that a list should be drawn up of contractors that the council is happy to pay via this method. A list of payments to be made by cheque and those to be made online will still be presented for agreement.

The above items were **agreed.** Proposed by: Cllr A Lidgett      Seconded by: Cllr T Bizley.  
**Unanimous.**

## 13. Planning – to note decisions and any plans tabled

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
<a href="#">16/01805/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Barn at, Hare Plain Farm, Hareplain Road, Biddenden, Kent</b> Change of use of the land for keeping horses; erection of stable block	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">16/01811/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Barn at, Birchley House Farm, Fosten Lane, Biddenden, Kent</b> Prior approval for the change of use an existing agricultural building and land within its curtilage to a residential dwelling and associated operational development	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">16/01719/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>16 The Weavers, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AP</b> Rear extension, side shelter, new front porch	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">16/01863/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Birchdene, Benenden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DJ</b> Construction of a timber framed detached building to be used as a home office	<b>Support</b>
Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision

<a href="#">16/01849/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>18-20 High Street, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AN</b> Erection of single storey rear extension (revision to depth of extension on planning permission reference 16/01124/AS)	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">16/01850/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>18-20 High Street, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AN</b> Erection of single storey rear extension; erection of wall, blocking up of internal doorway and installation of external door to create utility; ground floor WC; creation of en-suite to first and second floor bedrooms, installation of wood burning stove, replacement front door (like for like), replacement ground floor rear window and replacement light fittings to front porch, replacement rooflights (revision to depth of extension approved under consent 16/01125/AS)	<b>Support</b>

#### 14. Correspondence

There were no comments upon the Correspondence List.

**It was agreed** that the next items be taken in closed session. Proposed by: Cllr S Parks  
Seconded by: Cllr A Lidgett. **Unanimous.**

All parishioners were asked to leave the meeting.

#### 15. Staffing

The ad hoc staffing committee will be convened shortly to discuss the pension arrangements for the clerk and provision currently made in her contract. The meeting was updated on the current position.

#### 16. Information items

The poor broadband provision in the village was discussed. The Clerk was asked to write to BT. The broadband speed received by residents not in the centre of the village were very poor.

#### 17. Items for future consideration

None.

#### 18. Date of Next Meeting: **Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 7 February 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.**