

BIDDENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**UNAPPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on  
Tuesday 3 April 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr J Tydeman (Chair) Cllr A Lidgett  
Cllr D Boulding Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse  
Cllr E Cansdale  
  
Mrs A Swannick (Clerk)  
Borough Cllr N Bell, ABC

5 parishioners attended

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr T Bizley due to work commitments  
Cllr C Friend due to personal commitments  
Cllr Harris due to personal commitments

**2. Parishioners' Questions**

A parishioner raised the issue of planning permission granted for a bungalow in Benenden Road despite resident objections and the objection of the Parish Council. Cllr Bell stated that he would investigate the issue.

**3. Any declarations of interest in items on the Agenda**

None.

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

None.

**5. Approval of the unapproved minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2018**

There being no comments or amendments the minutes were deemed to be a true and proper record of the meeting. Proposed by: Cllr A Lidgett Seconded by: Cllr D Boulding.  
**Unanimous.**

**6. Note Unapproved minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18 April 2017**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting were noted but would be approved at the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 24 April.

**7. Any matters for information not on the agenda**

The Parish Council may now co-opt two new councillors.

Membership of the Working Group to look at the Parish Council Land and Agreements was discussed **It was agreed** that members of this group would be: Cllr Friend, Cllr Cansdale, Cllr Stevenson-Rouse; Cllr Lidgett.

## 8. Report by Borough Councillor, ABC

Ashford Borough Council has not yet given a decision on the Gladman application as they have requested further information. Gladman has lodged an appeal based on non-determination of the application. The application will still go to the Planning Committee. Any appeal is likely to take place in six months, judging against the Brabourne and Charing appeals.

There is a little duelling between Ashford and Chilmington. There is a question mark over funding, however this only affects the developer and not the five-year land supply.

A possible meeting with Lois Jarrett at ABC was discussed regarding the parish council's options concerning the Gladman application. It was **agreed** to speak to the Chairman and go back to Cllr Bell.

High Halden has a problem with a gypsy/traveller development. Work started on Good Friday and despite a Stop Notice and an Injunction to stop work being served, work has continued the site. The next stage is committal proceedings.

## 9. Ashford Borough Council Local Plan to 2030 - Site submissions for Biddenden

a) The examination of the ABC Local Plan begins at 9.30 am at the Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on 11<sup>th</sup> April. A copy of the letter is available on the parish website.

b) Land to the East of North Street. Nothing further to report.

## 10. WW1 celebrations

The Parish council has registered to light its beacon as part of The Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute on 11 November 2018. This does of course tie in with The Poppy Group activities. Cllr Lidgett reported that there were sixty volunteers knitting poppies. There will be a bagpipe play The Battle's Over on Sunday 11 November. A metal horse will be placed somewhere central in the village. Youngsters from the village will be dressing in WW1 uniform for the day and a troupe of storytellers/musicians will be going from premises to premises. There is a possibility that there will be WW1 food available. The church will arrange services around activities. ABC has made a generous donation and the group has applied to the parish Community Project Fund and are looking at a donation of £500.

## 11. Village Green

A meeting was held on 29 March with the Highways Engineers. The Chairman read out a report of the meeting. The Chairman closed the meeting to allow for questions from the floor. There was heated discussion and opposition to the plan from some of the parishioners attending the meeting and from the Borough Councillor. The Chairman re-opened the meeting. He stated that the next step was for there to be a consultation process and a technical drawing of the proposal would be produced and made available for the public consultation in May. Councillors were asked for their views. It was **unanimously agreed** that the council should proceed to the consultation stage.

## 12. Reports from Group Chairmen:

**PO, Car park and toilets:** The lines in the car park have now been repainted. PAT tests and emergency lighting tests are being carried out on the toilets. A disabled alarm is being investigated for the disabled toilet as currently there is no way of knowing if someone is having a problem in there and needs help.

A plasterboard wall in the men's toilet is being replaced with waterproof board as it has rotted. A light is to be repaired in there too. In the ladies' toilet there is mould on the ceiling and a contractor has been asked to look at it. The Chairman asked the Clerk to provide a figure for the maintenance of the toilets at the next meeting.

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**Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow:** The go ahead has been given for tree work to take place at the bottom pond and in the Millennium Wood.

The Squash Club has asked for a gap to be cut in the hedge in the Millennium Field car park, put in a gate and a set of steps down to the boiler room. This is so that the engineer can get to the boiler as it isn't possible to carry equipment round the bottom and there are no steps to get down there. **It was agreed** to allow this so long as this is at the Squash Club's expense and it complies with relevant planning rules.

**Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths:** A letter is to be written to Kent Highways about the deep and numerous potholes on the Cranbrook Road.

**Gordon Jones Field and Play Area:** The go ahead has been given for work to commence on the trees within the squash club embankment.

Cllr Boulding has spoken to the Squash Club regarding access to CCTV. This is ongoing.

**Police Liaison:** Seven crimes were committed in January 2018:

Anti-social behaviour	1
Burglary	2
Public Order	1
Violence & Sexual Offences	3

**KALC:** Nothing to report.

**Tenterden Forum:** The next meeting will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

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

**Community Project Fund:** The deadline was 31 March. A meeting will shortly be held to discuss applications.

**Allotments:** Renewal letters have gone out to tenants

**Village Hall Management Committee:** The Long-term Development plan is progressing.

**Health and Safety:** A report had been circulated. There was nothing further to report.

**John Mayne CE Primary School:** The most recent newsletter had been

### 13. Finance

- a) Payment of cheques – The payment list was noted. Proposed by: Cllr D Boulding  
Seconded by: Cllr A Lidgett. **Unanimous.**
- b) Note accounts to 31 March 2018. Noted.

The accounts are being prepared for an internal audit and work on the Annual Return is

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underway.

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

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
<a href="#">17/01915/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Garden land rear of 37, North Street, Biddenden, Kent</b> Outline application for the erection of 3No. dwellings	<b>Object:</b> Over development
<a href="#">18/00458/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Hill View, Bell Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8LD</b> Proposed 2 storey extension to the West Elevation. Proposed single storey extension and re-instatement of a chimney stack to the North Elevation.	<b>Support</b>
18/00354/AS & 18/00355/AS	Biddenden	<b>Iraden, Hareplain road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8LH</b> 1. Proposed driveway and new access to highway; Proposed rear extension; Increase to chimney height; Dormer windows to rear extension. 2. Demolition of side extension and erection of rear extension. Removal of existing internal masonry internal wall between dining and living room and replaced with oak studding. Removal of existing external inner wall lining to reinstate existing panels between studwork (eastern end of dwelling as indicated upon plans). Increase height of existing chimney stack to rear of property and install flue liner Cill height to existing ground floor dining room (North elevation) to be adjusted to match adjacent window. Existing external door opening to be exposed and re-used (North elevation). Proposed internal timber stud work to form bathroom at first floor level. Proposed installation of external cast iron SVP to East elevation. Proposed creation of window opening to North elevation at first floor level. Existing window over stair to be blocked up. Existing windows to proposed first lobby and bathroom to be adjusted and resized. Proposed staircase and galleried landing to attic room. Proposed alterations to form bedroom and ensuite within existing attic room (including installation of pitch roof dormer and insulating of existing roof). Installation of hidden SVP tile vent.	<b>Support</b>

## 15. Correspondence

The Correspondence List had been circulated. There were no comments.

## 16. Items for future consideration

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A vote was taken to go into closed session.

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**17. Staffing**

The Clerk's salary review took place.

- 18. Next meeting:** **Annual Parish Meeting**, 24 April 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall  
**Parish Council Meeting (Annual Statutory Meeting)**, 1 May 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 21.05

Alison Swannick  
Parish Clerk

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