

## BIDDENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

### APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 4 September 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Biddenden

Present: Cllr J Tydeman (Chairman) Cllr G Latter  
Cllr D Boulding Cllr A Lidgett  
Cllr C Friend Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse  
Cllr P Harris  
Cllr R Hunt

Mrs A Swannick (Parish Clerk)  
Borough Cllr N Bell, ABC  
PCSO Kate Richards

6 parishioners attended.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that the PCSO Richards would make her report after agenda item 4.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Cllr A Lidgett – lateness due to NHW meeting  
Cllr T Bizley – due to work commitments  
Cllr E Cansdale due to personal commitments

#### 2. Parishioners' Questions

A parishioner stated that he was appalled by the amount of cigarettes discarded within the play area. *It was agreed that a no smoking sign should be put on the railings.*

A question was asked about the new location of the telecommunications mast. *It was stated that this issue would be discussed under agenda item 16. The new location would be the top left corner just behind the tennis courts. A picture was shown to parishioners.*

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

None.

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

None.

#### PCSO Richards' Report

PCSO Richards reported that PCSO Luke Jones would be the second PCSO joining her in her area. She covers nineteen parishes. Biddenden has a low crime rate, or at least that is what is reported. She urged people to report crimes by telephoning 101, 999 or reporting them online via the Kent Police website. If they are not reported the crimes will not be logged. The Police do not. Information on reported crimes can be found on the Police.UK website, but it should be noted that the crime information on there is approximately two months behind.

PCSO Richards stated that people see anything suspicious they should report it. The issue with mopeds is being dealt with. If the number plates keep coming to police attention a Section 59 can be issued. If it then

carries on the individuals concerned risk the confiscation of their vehicle. Section 59 is a friendly warning for issues such as driving without due care and attention or without due consideration to others, driving elsewhere other than the road and causing or likely to cause alarm, distress or annoyance to others. This system is working well in Ashford.

**5. Approval of the unapproved minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2018**

The minutes were deemed to be a true and proper record of the meeting. Proposed by: Cllr R Hunt  
Seconded by: Cllr G Latter. **Unanimous.**

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

The Council would like to congratulate the Tractorfest team for another excellent event and is extremely disappointed to learn of the vandalism to some of the marquees.

There have been some changes sent by NALC to the standing orders. **It was agreed** to incorporate the changes into Biddenden Standing ORDERS. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr R Hunt.  
**Unanimous**

**7. Report by Borough Councillor, ABC**

Cllr Bell stated that the turnout of Biddenden residents to the ABC Planning Committee for the Gladman planning application had been fantastic and showed the strength of feeling against it. There has been no statement from Gladman as to why they pulled out of the Brabourne, Charing and Biddenden appeals. The local plan appears to be holding and going through.

Cllr Bell stated that the information in an email sent to him that was put on Facebook about the village green was incorrect. However, he would like to be included in any meeting and updated regarding the issue.

**8. Ashford Borough Council Local Plan to 2030 - Site submissions for Biddenden**

Gladman has withdrawn from appeals in Brabourne, Charing and the forthcoming appeal in Biddenden. No reason has been given by them for their actions.

**9. Village Green**

A meeting took place with Cllr Hill on 31 August with Cllrs Friend and Lidgett in attendance. Cllr Friend read out the minutes of the meeting. Only 109 people replied and only 70 out of a parish population of over 2000 objected. Some of the objections had no relevance to the safety aspect. The possibility of a one-way system as detailed in the Community Led Plan was put forward and Cllr Hill stated that he would look into it. However, a meeting had been requested by Kent Highways to discuss the matter further and a date was to be organised. Cllr Bell asked to be included in the meeting and the Chairman agreed.

**10. Church Lychgate**

A letter had been received from the church regarding the lychgate. There were issues regarding giving money to the church and the legal notes on S137 and Church funding had been circulated to councillors. However, it was thought that funding was in place for the lychgate and that a meeting was being held. Therefore the issue was postponed until confirmation had been received from the church.

**11. Data Protection Policy**

The Satswana, the Data Protection Officer, has seen the policy and its only recommendation was to

reduce the amount of time to comply with a request for personal information down from 40 days to 30 days. This has been amended. The Chairman asked that it be stipulated that it should read 30 working days. On this basis **it was agreed** to adopt the policy. Proposed by: Cllr D Boulding  
Seconded by: Cllr P Harris. **Unanimous.**

#### **12. Biddenden Consolidated Charity re approval of trustees**

Councillors considered a letter from Biddenden Consolidated Charity asking if the parish council was happy to agree to the reappointment of its nominated trustees for a further. Proposed by: Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse Seconded by: Cllr R Hunt. **Unanimous.**

#### **13. Burial Ground**

The Church has written a letter stating that it is running out of space. The Clerk has replied as requested. However, the Chairman had a discussion with Rev Bienfait and reported that it was understood that the matter was to be raised with the PCC, but the church was moving towards the reburial basis. An update is awaited.

#### **14. Website**

Cllrs Harris and Boulding reported that quotations were being sought.

#### **15. GDPR**

Satswana (DPO) has now come back with comments on the council's Impact Assessment and these are being worked through.

#### **16. Telecommunications Mast**

Councillors are asked to consider the new drawings sent by Shared Access. The council's solicitor had confirmed that the area chosen is not covered by the covenant on the field. Scaled drawings and all information held had been circulated. An electronic version had also been circulated. It was understood that there were no longer any access issues. A vote was taken amongst councillors to agree on the project in principle, as Shared Access did not yet have planning permission and it was passed by a majority.

#### **17. Group Reports**

**PO, Car park and toilets:** The door strikes have been replaced and the invoice paid. Correspondence is taking place with the owner of the company whose van had a leak on the car park. They are happy to pay for the tarmac to be cleaned but cannot afford to replace the tarmac and are currently looking into what can be done.

The grounds maintenance company have been asked to cut the front hedge of the car park.

**Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow:** The notes from the meeting of the Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow Working Group held on 28 June were discussed. Attached are the notes from the last meeting held on 28 June. The notes and the proposals in it **were agreed.**

The possibility of opening up the Jubilee Meadows to the public was discussed and a proposal would be put forward at the next meeting.

**18. Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths:** A complaint has been made by a parishioner to Cllr Bell regarding deliveries being made to PK Produce at unsociable hours and a forklift truck beeping. This is occurring prior to 4 am and after 10pm.

Another parishioner has complained to Cllr Bell regarding parking by PK Produce employees in Cloth Hall Gardens and the state of the wall on the land at the top. The Clerk has emailed Cllr Bell to state that BPC have actioned both these points: the parking with PK Produce and the police, and nothing has really changed. **It was agreed** that Cllr Bell and the Chairman would attend a meeting with PK Produce to discuss the matters.

The ownership of the wall is still to be clarified. The Clerk had a meeting with a member of the Housing Department who was going to speak to the relevant people to establish ownership as it is their land. Despite chasing this up nothing has been done by ABC.

It was discussed two stiles on a footpath between Fosten Lane and Benenden Rd were dangerous. Peter Whitestone agreed to contact KCC.

The issue of school buses and the fact that some children seem to qualify for school transport to Cranbrook from Biddenden but others do not. The Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Hill.

**Gordon Jones Field and Play Area:** The report from the RoSpa inspection has been received. There are a few issues to address, but most seem to relate to the matting/flooring. A complaint has been registered regarding the amount of dog mess near the play area. **It was agreed** to put a notice up.

**Police Liaison:** Police UK shows 9 crimes reported in June 2018:

Anti-Social Behaviour	1
Criminal Damage & Arson	1
Public Order	2
Violence & Sexual Offences	5

**KALC and Parish Forum:** Cllr Lidgett will be attending the Ashford KALC meeting on 12 September as the Ashford Police Station Commander will be attending the meeting.

**Community Project Fund:** A notice is going into the parish magazine. The deadline will be 31 October.

**Allotments:** All allotments have been taken. However, the Biddenden Allotment Association has written asking the parish council to consider changing the wording in the tenancy agreements to allow partners to take over plots and have two names on the tenancy agreement. The parish council has previously discussed this issue and altered the wording accordingly. The Clerk will look at the National Allotment Society and find out what ABC do for their allotments.

**Village Hall Management Committee:** The VHSC is doing its Long Term Development and Improvement Plan. It's Chairman has asked to attend the October to outline plans and requirements. **It was agreed** that VHSC should be allowed 10 minutes including questions.

**Health and Safety:** The report had been circulated. Nothing to report.

**Working Groups:** Arrangements are being made for members of the Land Agreements working group to meet with the solicitor.

**John Mayne School:** The most recent newsletter was circulated.

**19. Finance**

- a) **Payment List.** Agreed. Proposed by Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse.  
**Unanimous**
- b) **Note accounts to 31 August 2018.** Noted
- c) **Annual Return.** Awaiting report from the external auditor

**20. Planning – to note decisions and any plans tabled**

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
<a href="#">18/01156/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Tree Tops, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BS</b> Erection of 2m high acoustic fence and gates at front	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">18/01166/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Tatu Barn, High Halden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JG</b> Intallation of flue to serve wood burner (retrospective)	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">18/01167/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Shortswood Cottage, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DW</b> Removal of Conditions 3 & 4 on planning permission 00/01384/AS to allow the dwelling to enjoy full and unencumbered residential occupation (retrospective)	<b>Object –</b> Retrospective and a holiday let into a permanent dwelling
<a href="#">18/01190/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Orchard House, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8EH</b> Replacement of external fascia panels and beams on the south elevation to tile hanging	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">18/01204/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Iraden, Hareplain Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8LH</b> Proposed barn for private stables and associated storage along with change of use of land to equestrian usage	<b>Object –</b> The mass of the stables is in excess of the house and the amount of land doesn't seem to match the structure size
<a href="#">18/01214/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Braceby, 62a North Street, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AS</b> Single storey flat roof rear extension, with pitched roof to front of garage	<b>Support</b>

Southern Housing has now pulled out of the purchase of Tapley Meadow. Biddenden Consolidated Charity will not put Tapley Field on the market.

Cllr Bell stated that ABC may bring in Village Envelopes for parishes

**21. Correspondence**

Noted.

**22. Items for future consideration**

Impact Assessment  
Budget

**23. Next meeting: Parish Council meeting, at on 2 October 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

The meeting closed at 20.15

Alison Swannick  
Parish Clerk