

BIDDENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 5 June at 7.00 pm in the old Village Hall, Biddenden**

Present: Cllr J Tydeman (Chair) Cllr C Friend
Cllr T Bizley Cllr A Lidgett
Cllr D Boulding

Mrs A Swannick (Clerk)
Borough Cllr N Bell

9 Parishioners attended from 7.30 pm

A vote was taken and agreed to take item 1 in closed session.

1. 7.00 pm Co-options

Two applications for co-options were received. Both candidates addressed councillors and answered questions. They then left the room so that councillors could consider their applications. It was **agreed** to co-opt Gillian Latter and Roland Hunt as councillors.

The meeting re-opened at 7.30 pm to members of the public.

2. 7.30 pm Apologies for absence

Cllr P Harris due to work commitments
Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse due to personal commitments
Cllr E Cansdale due to personal reasons.

3. Parishioners' Questions

A parishioner asked if the telecommunications mast would be covered later, and it was confirmed that it would be but only part of it as the other section would be taken in closed session as it involved financial matters relating to a third party. This was the reason why the item was also taken in closed session at the previous meeting.

A parishioner raised the issue of updating the website. It was **agreed** that it would be looked at.

4. Any declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

None.

5. Any alterations to Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

None.

6. Approval of the unapproved minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2018

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

7. Any matters for information not on the agenda

Councillors had asked for details of the parish council nominees to the John Mayne Trust. These were provided and the nominations agreed.

Grounds Maintenance: Mr Oakeley has stated that the verges need cutting more regularly at the moment, every 2 weeks. They cost in total £90 per month and he is suggesting cutting perhaps 2 weekly which would be an additional £90 per month. Generally the invoice is £360 pm. This month it is £720 due to the playing field being mowed weekly during May. **Agreed.**

It was reported that a request had been made to scatter ashes on the Millennium Field. It was felt that more information was required before any decision could be made. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

8. Report by Borough Councillor, ABC

CLlr Bell reported that the Local Plan was going as expected. It is expected that the Inspector will come back in September.

ABC has secured a photographic exhibition relating to the Fields of Remembrance. There are thirty items and the exhibition is situated in the Memorial Gardens at the top of Tannery Lane.

Chilmington Green was discussed. It had been part of the planning permission that the developer had to fund the dualling of the A28. KCC will not proceed with the dualling without a bond to say that funding is coming. This will not take place until 400 houses have been built. It was a S106 condition of the planning application.

Junction 10A: ABC has secured funding for it.

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

a) Update. The Biddenden Heritage Project document has been amended and sent to ABC. Estimated values were put against a shelter, signs and shelves for the Heritage Centre. The actual trail would have to be paid for through grants.

b) Gladman Appeal – A meeting took place on 8 May with Lois Jarrett at ABC with CLlr Bell. A letter has been sent to the Planning Inspectorate and is attached. Copies of meeting notes and the letter had been circulated.

Both Charing and Brabourne have been contacted regarding their respective appeals and costs. Their comments had been circulated.

The CPRE have been approached and asked to represent the parish council. Nothing has yet been heard from them since the initial emails and this has been chased. The Parish Council has become a member of CPRE.

Discussion took place regarding the forthcoming Gladman Appeal. It was noted that Brabourne had ensured that there were always 4-5 parishioners at their appeal and organised shifts. A parishioner asked if the Biddenden appeal could take place in the village hall rather than at the Civic Centre in Ashford. CLlr Bell agreed to ask.

Councillors considered what to do and whether to release funds for a barrister if CPRE says it will not represent BPC. Despite being chased no reply has been received. The Chairman stated that the feeling in the village was to fight Gladman. ABC would be paying for barristers to fight the appeal regardless of what Biddenden decided to do. If BPC decided to take Rule 6 Status they would be able

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to have a barrister represent them and ask questions. The parish council currently has £40,000 in a business savings account and this money could be used to fund the legal fees.

After much discussion it was proposed that Biddenden take Rule 6 status as the Gladman appeal. It was also proposed that as the funds in the business savings account were about to be put into a new savings account, £10,000 should be drawn down to pay any initial costs and the remainder put into a business instant access account. Proposed by: Cllr A Lidgett Seconded by: Cllr C Friend. **Unanimous.**

The Clerk was asked to make the financial arrangements and inform ABC and the Planning Inspector. The Clerk was also asked to instruct the council's solicitors to contact the barrister on its behalf.

10. Village Green

KCC will be holding a consultation in the Village Hall from 3pm – 7.30 pm on 12 June 2018. The suggestion of holding an additional consultation day was made as instructed at the last parish council meeting. Notices are up and it was agreed to put another on Facebook.

11. New Model Standing Orders

A new set of Model Standing Orders has been sent out by KALC. These have been adapted for Biddenden and had been circulated. However, it was agreed to take more time to look at them and postpone discussion until the July meeting.

12. Data Protection Policy

This item remains on the agenda. However, there is still a lot of work to be done on this and it is felt councillors need more time to look at them. Therefore, this item will be brought back in July.

13. Records Management Policy

This item remains on the agenda. However, there is still a lot of work to be done on this and it is felt councillors need more time to look at them. Therefore, this item will be brought back in July.

14. Privacy Policy

A privacy policy had been circulated but it was agreed to look at it in July.

15. Website

Some changes will be made to the website to aid mobile viewing and a quote for further work provided.

16. GDPR

The Parish Council continues to work on its GDPR responsibilities. Google analytics has been removed from the website, and the only cookie that now exists is a session cookie which is functional and does not gather any data.

17. Reports from Group Chairmen (if necessary):

PO, Car park and toilets: A quotation has been obtained to rectify the damage to the car park. The driver has now been found. Councillors **agreed** that the driver should be written to.

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The lifting of the white lines has been mentioned to the contractor. They are keeping an eye on it as it had been noticed and what they do is dependent upon what the council wishes to do with the car park as the lines could be redone/repaired at the same time as work is done.

Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow: A meeting of the working group will shortly take place. The tree work on the field has been completed. Some tidying up work needs to take place on the sun dial as it is a bit overgrown.

Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths: Nothing to report at this point. It was noted that the footpath down the side of Bloomsburys was overgrown and that Bloomsbury's fence was leaning.

Discussion took place regarding the bi-way from Woolpack Corner. It was being used for motor vehicles which was causing damage.

Gordon Jones Field and Play Area: The play area contractor is being contacted regarding work to be done in the play area. It was noted that water was pooling in part of the play area.

The Chairman stated that part of the next item would be taken in closed session due to financial information affecting a third party being discussed. **Agreed.**

Telecommunications mast: Shared Access has been back in touch regarding a new position for the telecommunications mast. All correspondence regarding this new proposal is attached together with a copy of the drawing had been circulated. They will be putting in a revised planning application, which may well get permission as it resolves planning objections. Councillors stated that there was not enough information ie height of the mast or proper drawings.

Shared Access would like to visit the site with their designer on 7th June at 11 am. Councillors agreed.

Police Liaison: In March 2018 Police.UK reports 13 crimes taking place in Biddenden:

Burglary	3
Criminal Damage & Arson	1
Other Theft	2
Public Order	1
Violence & Sexual Offences	6

It was again reiterated that parishioners should report crimes to the police and through the proper channels otherwise crimes will not be recorded or investigated.

KALC: Nothing to report

Tenterden Forum: A meeting took place on 2nd May. A range of subjects were discussed such as poor internet, unaccompanied asylum seeking children, buses, highways and potholes, speed limits etc.

Community Project Fund: A meeting was held on 24 May 2018. Suggestions for donations from the fund were presented.. Councillors **agreed** to the proposed donations.

Allotments: All allotments are now allocated.

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Village Hall Management Committee: The AGM will be taking place next week.

Health and Safety: Report circulated.

Working Group Reports: A date is awaited for the Land Agreements Working Group to meet.

John Mayne School: Newsletter circulated.

18. Finance

- a) **Payment of cheques** – Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr D Boulding. **Unanimous.**
- b) **Accounts to 31 May 2018** – Noted.
- c) **Annual Return** – Councillors read through the Annual Return and went through all questions. The document was completed and agreed and the Chairman and Clerk were permitted to sign off on it. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr D Boulding. **Unanimous.**

19. Planning – to note decisions and any plans tabled

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
18/00552/AS	Biddenden	Derby Cottage, Benenden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DJ Demolition of existing bungalow and replacement with chalet bungalow, new drive access off road, parking & garage (revision to planning permission 17/00990/AS).	Support
18/00636/AS	Biddenden	Orchard Farm, Cranbrook Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DY Lawful Development Certificate - Existing - Use of building as an independent single dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) with ancillary double garage	Support
18/00653/AS	Biddenden	Agricultural buildings at New House Farm, Gribble Bridge Lane, Biddenden, Kent Lawful development certificate - proposed - take up existing concrete floor; plasticity test; internal improvements	Support
18/00585/AS	Biddenden	River Hall Oast, River Hall Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JE Proposed construction of garage and stable building and change of use of land to residential curtilage (revision to the provision of a dormer window in the garage approved under 17/01200/AS)	Support
18/00657/AS	Biddenden	Hemsted House, Mockbeggar Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8ES Erection of a two storey rear (west) extension, porch added to the side (south) elevation (amendment to design approved under 16/00840/AS)	Support

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Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
18/00658/AS	Biddenden	Hemsted House, Mockbeggar Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8ES Erection of a two storey rear (west) extension, porch added to the side (south) elevation, changes to fenestration detailing on the side (north & south) elevations and removal of internal walls of existing dwelling (amendment to design approved under 16/00841/AS).	Support
18/00697/AS	Biddenden	2 Buckhurst Cottages, Ongley Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8HF Erection of rear conservatory, first floor and single storey side extensions and detached garage	Support
18/00704/AS	Biddenden	Summer Hill Barn, Cranbrook Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8ER Proposed conversion of garage to annexe for barn	Support
17/00258/CO NA/AS No Neighbourhood consultees	Biddenden	Land rear of Rose Cottage Farm, North Street, Biddenden, Kent Discharge conditions 2 part, 9, 11 & 13	

20. Correspondence

No comments or request for information.

21. Items for future consideration

Data Protection Policy

Records Management Policy

New Model Standing Orders

Privacy Policy

Members of the public were asked to leave as the council went into Closed Session to discuss item 17 Telecommunications mast.

Telecommunications Mast: Councillors discussed the financial details put to them. The council agreed in principle to the financial details but further information as detailed above was required before any formal decision could be taken. They also asked the Clerk to remind Shared Access of the covenant on the playing field.

22. Next meeting: Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 3 July 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Please

All Welcome

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

Alison Swannick 07783 223450

Parish Clerk

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