

Biddenden Parish Council

UNAPPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6 November 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Old Village Hall

Present: Cllr J Tydeman (Chair) Cllr P Harris
Cllr T Bizley Cllr R Hunt
Cllr D Boulding Cllr A Lidgett
Cllr E Cansdale Cllr G Latter
Cllr C Friend

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse due to personal commitments

2. Any declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr D Boulding re prejudicial interest regarding an IT payment on the Payment List
Cllr P Harris regarding proximity of her property to planning application 18/01483/AS
Cllr R Hunt re the LTIDP regarding the Bowls Club

3. Any alterations to Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

None.

4. Report by Borough Councillor Neil Bell, ABC, to Parish Councillors

Council Tax: Cllr Bell outlined the cost of a band D property and the way that the council tax is split between KCC, Police, Fire Service and ABC. The council tax charges in the Borough of Ashford remain the lowest in Kent.

Weavers: Cllr Bell is chasing up planning officers on a monthly basis and officers are chasing on a daily basis. The delay is due to design work to be done by Southern Water.

Village Envelope: Ashford is the only borough that doesn't have village envelopes. Having a Village Envelope does not absolutely protect the village as any net local plan land allocations will be outside the envelope. It is good for guidelines for infilling development but the National Development Framework is putting housebuilding first.

5. Parishioners' Questions

None.

6. Approval of the unapproved minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2018

There were no comments or alterations to the unapproved minutes. They were therefore deemed to be a true and proper record of the meeting. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend
Seconded by: Cllr A Lidgett. **Agreed.**

7. Any matters for information not on the agenda

The parish council has purchased a British Legion wreath to be laid at the Remembrance Service on 11/11 and Cllr Boulding will be laying it on behalf of the parish council.

The beacon will be lit as part of A Nation's Tribute & WW1 Beacon of Light. The Parish Council thanked Sue Boon and BEST for agreeing to light it.

The poppy displays are amazing and the parish council would like to thank the Poppy Group and all those involved in the WW1 remembrance organisation and, of course, those involved who have spent so much time knitting poppies. There had been over 160 people knitting and stitching, 20 people involved in draping just over 8,000 poppies, which had been knitted by not just Biddenden residents but people from all over the world. The Bald Explorer had been involved. There had been 8,600 views of the video featuring Cllr Bell, 28,000 Facebook likes on the Biddenden Poppy page. The village has been busy and people have visited just to take photographs of the Church, High Street and Lychgate.

Discussion took place regarding the BBC Children in Need Rickshaw Challenge,

8. ABC Local Plan to 2030 – Site Submissions for Biddenden

The consultation on the Local Plan closed on 26 October. The report will be available on the ABC website.

9. Traffic Issues

- Village Centre Road Junction

The Kent Highways report has been chased up. Cllr Hill will be attending a meeting with Kent Highways officers on 14 November to discuss the plans. His office will be in touch with the parish council after the meeting has taken place, and once the report is received it will be put on the BPC website. It is hoped to discuss at the next meeting if available.

- Cranbrook Road and Castletown Oak crossroads

An email was written to KCC regarding the parish council's concern about the junction. KCC will arrange for the current warning signage and road markings to be checked to ensure they are fit for purpose. They will continue to monitor the road safety record of the junction and if they believe the current road safety measures are not adequate KCC will make an informed decision on further road safety improvement works. KCC stated that it cannot undertake changes to road safety improvement schemes until they have all the facts in place as to why the current scheme is not working correctly.

- North Street development road junction with North Street

Following the last meeting an email has been sent to the planning department. Unfortunately, the planning officer who dealt with the Millwood development has left and so the email has had to be sent to Planning help. The Clerk will send copies of correspondence to Cllr Bell.

- Other traffic issues

In response to concerns expressed at the last meeting regarding PK Produce staff parking too close to the junction of Cloth Hall Gardens, the PCSO has been contacted and Highways has been contacted to ask if it is possible to put yellow lines at the junction.

The owner of PK Produce has contacted the Chairman to advise that members of staff who have parked legally at the top of Cloth Hall Gardens have had their cars vandalised. This has been reported to the police by PK Produce.

The parish council does not support the criminal behaviour detailed above.

10. Housing

None at time of writing. It should be noted that an objection has been lodged regarding the 12 dwelling development proposal at Townland Close.

11. Telecommunications Mast

A planning application has been lodged with ABC and this was previously notified to councillors, [18/01459/AS](#). The Wayleave agreement to put cabling under the playing field by UK Power Networks is with the solicitor and there are a couple of issues awaiting clarification such as depth of cable and ducting etc.

Consideration will need to be given to the fact that the football club may have matches booked at the time the work is due to take place.

Although the council was not a consultee on this, agreement for the planning application by majority.

12. Village Envelope

A letter has been received from ABC stating that the borough council will be conducting an exercise to look at the village confines across the borough. Draft village confines will be sent out shortly. If a village wishes to take an alternative approach it will have to be through a Neighbourhood Plan.

For clarity, the letter gives a definition of Village Confines as follows:

“Traditionally, the village ‘confines’ for planning purposes has been defined by the following written definition in successive versions of the Local Plan:-

“the limits of continuous and contiguous development forming the existing built-up area of the settlement, excluding any curtilage beyond the built footprint of the buildings on the site (e.g. garden areas)”

The purpose of this exercise is to provide some additional clarity as to where the existing built confines of the village are, by expressing this on a map base.”

The parish council is not intending to go down the Neighbourhood Plan route. This has previously been agreed.

13. Website

Three quotations have been received. A meeting will be organised to discuss them. As Cllr Boulding's company is quoting for the work, he will not be included in the meeting.

14. KCC land in front of All Saints Church

A meeting was held with Julie Lupton, Cllr Tydeman and the Clerk on 16 October. The issue of the road in front of the lychgate was discussed. It was agreed that more information should be obtained from Kent Highways as to how they arrived at a cost of £20,000. The Clerk was asked to contact Kent Highways and also ask if they would agree to the council having drawings done and appointing a contractor if the project was agreed.

15. Reports from Group Chairmen (if necessary):

PO, Car park and toilets: The bins are being ordered but will take 5-6 weeks.

Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow: A meeting took place on Monday 22 October with a contractor, J Wheadon and Cllr Friend to look at the work required on the middle pond. A report has been received and the contractor instructed to carry out the work.

Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths: Reports have been made to Kent Highway of all the damaged kerb on the High Street.

It was reported that a Byway 80254 in High Halden was experiencing problems due to off road vehicles being driven on it.

Gordon Jones Field and Play Area: The contractor has confirmed that he will look at the sunken areas of matting around some of the equipment. The original playground equipment supplier has been contacted about the swing and the zip wire. A representative will be in the south-east the week of 26/11 and will visit the play area.

Police Liaison: There were 10 crimes reported in August 2018:

Anti-Social Behaviour	3
Burglary	3
Criminal Damage & Arson	2
Other Crime	1
Public Order	1

KALC and Parish Forum: KALC AGM takes place on 17 November at Ditton Community Centre. If any councillor wishes to attend, please inform the clerk.

Community Project Fund: The deadline was 31 October and two applications have been received.

Allotments: Nothing to report.

Village Hall Management Committee: Nothing to report.

Health and Safety: Report circulated.

Working Group Reports: The LTIDP Working Group had met and Cllr Harris gave a report. It was agreed to budget for £13.5k to be donated or provided via a loan. Proposed by: Cllr R Hunt Seconded by: Cllr E Cansdale. **Unanimous**

The application by the Bowls Club for £4k towards the cost of rebuilding the toilets was discussed. The amount requested was agreed in principle by way of a grant and was agreed on the basis of a recommendation from the working group. However it is also dependent upon confirmation of planning permission and a grant being awarded by ABC. The project must also form part of the VHSC LTIDP. This application will need to be approved at the December meeting subject to planning permission.

John Mayne School: Newsletter circulated.

16. Finance

a) **Payment List.** Presented and proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr T Bizley. **Agreed** (Cllr Boulding was unable to vote due to a prejudicial interest)

b) **Note accounts to 31 October 2018** – Noted.

17. Planning – to note decisions and any plans tabled

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decison
18/01453/AS	Biddenden	Ibornden Farm, Frittenden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8LG Conversion of a redundant agricultural building into a dwelling and change of use of land, together with new access and landscape/ecological enhancements	Support
18/01459/AS BPC not a consultee	Biddenden	Sports Pavilion, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BB Prior notification for the erection of 15m shrouded monopole to support 3no antennas for use by Vodafone and O2, which together with the installation of 2no. dishes and 2no ground based equipment cabinets will provide 2G, 3G and 4G mobile electronic communications services from the installation	
18/00880/CONA/AS No consultees	Biddenden	Red Barn, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BB Discharge of condition 1	
18/01483/AS No consultees	Biddenden	Orchard Farm, Cranbrook Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DY Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed - Single storey side extension and minor internal alterations.	
17/01119/CONA/AS BPC not a consultee	Biddenden	Agricultural Building at, Great Batchelors Lodge, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Kent Discharge of conditions, 5, 8, 9, 10	
17/01371/CONA/AS BPC not a consultee	Biddenden	Little Dane, Pook Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JT Discharge of conditions 6 & 7	
18/01513/AS	Biddenden	River Hall Barn, River Hall Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JE Proposed agricultural building for the storage of machinery, hay and livestock with associated hard standing and access track	Object – not a working farm
18/01523/AS	Biddenden	Rats Castle, Cranbrook Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DY The erection of 2no. holiday let accommodation units, following the demolition of the existing timber framed sports hall at Rats Castle, Cranbrook Road, Biddenden.'	Support
18/01584/AS	Biddenden	2 Church View, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8EB Single storey rear extension, loft conversion with rear dormer and new entrance porch	Support

Agreement was also given to ABC regarding the purchase of land by the owners of 35 Chulkhurst and the ABC questionnaire completed.

18. Correspondence

The Correspondence List was presented. There were no comments.

19. Items for future consideration

Budget
Impact Assessment
Precept

20. Next meeting: Parish Council meeting, at on 4 December 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

All Welcome