

Biddenden Parish Council

APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 5 March 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Old Village Hall, Biddenden

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

16 Parishioners attended.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr E Stevenson-Rouse due to personal commitments
Cllr T Bizley due to work commitments

2. Any declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr Lidgett stated that he had an interest in the building works relating to the toilets as he contacted one of the prospective contractors.

3. Any alterations to Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

None.

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

- a) Cllr Bell reported that the ABC Local Plan had been finalised.
- b) Despite an increase on the ABC part of the council tax, Ashford's council tax was still lower than other authorities in Kent.
- c) Ashford's recycling rate is the highest in Kent.

5. Parishioners' Questions

- a) A parishioner thanked Cllr Bell and BPC for their help regarding a planning application relating to Greenacres.
- b) The Bowls Club asked BPC about their third quotation for the toilet and asked for flexibility on the process regarding the rebuilding of toilets at the bowls club. *Both the Chairman and the Clerk explained that the "third quote" was no more than a ballpark figure and that it stated it wasn't a quote at the beginning of the document. There could be no flexibility as there was a set process to be followed. The issue involved public money and therefore it was important that the steps outlined were complied with.* If this did not happen there would be no money forthcoming or agreement from BPC to commence works on its land.
- c) A parishioner asked if the council's website was being updated. *The Chairman confirmed that work was taking place and a contractor appointed.*
- d) A parishioner asked if work was going to be done to the Millennium Field car park as it was dangerous. *The Chairman confirmed that quotations were being sought and the work would be carried out as a health and safety issue as soon as possible.*
- e) A question was asked about the telecoms mast. *The parishioner was informed that the matter would be covered later in the meeting.*

6. Approval of the unapproved minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2019

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

7. Any matters for information not on the agenda

The Clerk attended an Election briefing at Ashford Borough Council on 27 February. An election pack has been received and nomination forms would be handed out to councillors after the meeting. Any parishioners who wished to stand in the parish council elections on 2 May should contact the Clerk or ABC for information and nomination forms.

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

The ABC Local Plan has now been finalised.

9. Traffic Issues

The Village Confines map was sent back. A request for the 30mph limit to be extended up to Bloomsburys is a Highways matter. This would be taken up with Cllr Hill.

Village Centre Road Junction: The three options drawn up and circulated to councillors prior to the last meeting were forwarded to Kent Highways as reported at the last meeting. Kent Highways are currently looking at the plans to see if any of them are feasible.

North Street development road junction with North Street: Following the parish council's objection to the planning application and the failure of the developer to provide required documents in time for the last parish council meeting, the parish council requested a meeting on site to discuss traffic issues. An email had been received from ABC stating that once KCC and the developer had agreed something between them, the council would be informed, and the planning application resubmitted.

10. Housing

Nothing to report.

11. Telecommunications Mast

The issue with the VHSC and Tennis Club leases is still with the solicitor but a meeting between VHSC and Cllrs Tydeman and Friend is being arranged as soon as a final comment is received from the council's solicitor. An email had been received from Shared Access giving details of the dates. The Secretary of VHSC offered to distribute the information to all clubs on the council's behalf and it was agreed that the Clerk would forward them.

Concern was expressed about the lack of vehicular access whilst work was being done to the entrance and the lack of parking. It was agreed that the school would be approached regarding using their parking during the works as it was school holidays.

12. High Street – work caused by fire

Cllr Friend has been in touch with Kent Highways over the scaffolding in the High Street. This is being chased as a matter of urgency as the council believes it to be unsafe and splitting the village in two. A meeting was held at 10.30 am on 1st March between Kent Highways and the builders, insurers, residents, Cllr Friend, Cllr Tydeman and the Clerk.

BPC stated that the pathway on the southside of the road was unsuitable for anyone with a disability, buggy or motability scooter and at night was a trip hazard. It put forward that perhaps a walkway through part of the scaffolding might be possible, but this was rejected. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Hill.

13. Business Continuity Plan

The document was approved subject to changes being made. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr G Latter. **Unanimous.**

14. Risk Assessment

The document was approved. Proposed by: Cllr D Boulding Seconded by Cllr E Cansdale. **Unanimous.**

15. Model Publication Scheme

The document was approved. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr D Boulding. **Unanimous.**

16. VHSC LTIDP Working Group

Nothing to report.

17. Reports from Group Chairmen (if necessary):

PO, Car park and toilets: Cllr Friend is organising for a quotation for new doors. Quotations to replace the rotting internal walls of the toilets had been received. An update will be given on the Post Office. It was **agreed** that this item would be taken in closed session at the end of the meeting.

Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow: A meeting of the MF and JM working group will take place shortly. The parishioners requesting memorial trees have been contacted.

Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths: Litter signs have now been put up where individuals have given permission.

There are some issues regarding the council's street lamps ie one is going on and off, another seems to have been capped by ABC etc. These issues are being looked into.

Gordon Jones Field and Play Area: The request for the play area hedge to be cut has been made. There were some issues reported relating to the safety of a piece of equipment. This has been made safe until the contractor can come and replace the panels broken.

A quotation of approximately £500 has been received to fix equipment and this was agreed. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr A Lidgett.

Police Liaison: The Police UK site is showing that in December 2018 there were 0 crimes reported. At the time of writing, this remains the same as reported at the parish council meeting on 5 February and appears not to have been updated.

Apologies have been sent by PCSO Luke Jones as he is unable to attend the parish council meeting, but he sent a report (circulated)

A meeting is to be held by the PCSOs at Tenterden Town Hall on 22 March. Cllr Lidgett and the Clerk will attend.

Cllr Lidgett attended a seminar at ABC on knife crime and drugs. An amnesty on knives held in Ashford netted 150 weapons ranging from machetes to penknives.

KALC: Nothing to report.

Tenterden Forum: Nothing to report.

Community Project Fund: The deadline for the next round of applications is the end of April. Notices will go out shortly.

Allotments: The vacancy has been filled and tenancy renewal letters are going out shortly.

Village Hall Management Committee: The next meeting is 19th March.

Health and Safety: A report was circulated. The MF car park was added to the list of issues to be dealt with.

Working Group Reports: Nothing to report.

John Mayne School: No new newsletter

18. Finance

- a) **Payment List:** The list was approved. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr R Hunt.
Unanimous.
- b) **Note accounts to 1 March 2019:** Noted.

19. Planning – to note decisions and any plans tabled

NEW APPLICATIONS TO ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY 5 March 2019

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
19/00121/AS BPC not consultee	Biddenden, Tenterden	Boundary Farm, Cranbrook Road, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6UR Removal of agricultural occupancy condition on permission WE/3/48/22(a) (retrospective)	N/A
19/00134/AS	Biddenden	Building east of, Weavers Cot, 14 Cot Lane, Biddenden, Kent Proposed conversion and extension of barn/store building to form single residential dwelling.	Support
19/00137/AS	Biddenden	Middle Barn at, Castweazle Farm, Fosten Lane, Biddenden, Kent Prior notification for the proposed change of use of an agricultural building and land within its curtilage to one residential dwelling	Support
19/00101/AS BPC not consultee	Biddenden	Pot Kiln Cottage, High Halden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3HR Lawful Development Certificate - existing - use of static caravan as garden shed	N/A
19/00157/AS	Biddenden	Oast, Washenden Manor, High Halden Road, Biddenden, Kent, TN27 8DA Change of use of Oast from holiday use to independent dwelling	Support
19/00173/AS	Biddenden	Land between Worsenden Lodge and 1 Worsenden, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Kent Reserved matters application for details of layout, access, scale, landscaping and appearance for the erection of one residential dwelling pursuant to outline planning permission granted under 17/00219/AS	Support
19/00186/AS	Biddenden	Dashmonden Farm, High Halden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BZ Conversion of redundant rural building to a single dwelling (previously approved under a Class Q application reference 18/00121/AS) and a new garage	Support
19/00187/AS	Biddenden	Dashmonden Farm, High Halden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BZ Amendments to the previously approved planning application for the conversion of a redundant rural building to a single dwelling (under reference 17/01542/AS), to include extension, alterations and a single-storey rear extension and a new garage	Support
19/00188/AS BPC not consultee	Biddenden	1 Frogs Hole Cottage, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8HB Lawful development certificate - proposed - to use home office as an annexe and ancillary to the main house	
17/00258/CO NF/AS BPC not a consultee. Conditions relate to landscaping, sewerage and lighting	Biddenden	Land rear of Rose Cottage Farm, North Street, Biddenden, Kent Discharge of conditions 15, 23 & part discharge of condition 12	N/A

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
18.01287/AS (DEL)	Biddenden	32 High Street, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AH Internal alterations to include partition walls, replacement staircase and adjustment to existing stud wall. Alteration to ground floor window on west elevation; conservation rooflights on west elevation.	Support

20. Correspondence

The Correspondence List was presented. There were no comments or requests for copies.

21. Items for future consideration

Annual Return

Item 17: PO, Toilets and Car Park taken in Closed Session

An update on the current situation with the Post Office was given and the notice period was agreed.

The quotations for the work to the internal walls in the toilet were considered and a contractor agreed.

22. Next meeting: Parish Council meeting, on 2 April 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annual Parish meeting, on 23 April 2019 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall

All Welcome

Alison Swannick 07783 223450
Parish Clerk