

## BIDDENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

### APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held via Zoom at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 7 April 2020.

Present: Cllr J Tydeman (Chair)  
Cllr C Friend  
Cllr J Montgomery  
Cllr J Wright

ABC Cllr Neil Bell  
Mrs A Swannick (Clerk)

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr T Bizley due to technical difficulties  
Cllr D Boulding due to personal commitments  
Cllr E Cansdale due to illness  
Cllr M Clixby due to work commitments  
Cllr R Hunt due to personal commitments  
Cllr G Latter due to personal commitments

#### 2. Any Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

None.

#### 3. Any Alterations to Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

None.

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

Cllr Bell stated that there was a special section on the ABC website devoted to Covid-19 which holds a lot of information. There is a subsection for business. He recommended that parishioners visit the site.

On the business front, Government has asked Borough Councils to help distribute available funding to small businesses. There are retail grants available up to a value of £25,000 and small business grants available up to £10,000. Payments have already been made to the first 900 applicants to a total value of £11 million. The next 500 payments will be going out and more will be going out after Easter.

Refuse collections are currently running as normal. If the Biffa start to experience serious staff absence then the garden waste bins are likely to be stopped in the first instance.

People have been removing signs on the play areas across the borough. There ha been some delays in grounds maintenance work.  
ABC officers have risen to the occasion going above and beyond in order to continue as normal.

Cllr Bell confirmed that the recycling sites are closed.

ABC Planning Committee meetings are taking place using Microsoft Team Assembly and members of the public can join the meeting.

**5. Approval of the Unapproved Minutes of the BPC meeting held on 3 March 2020**

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 C Friend Seconded by: Cllr J Wright.  
**Unanimous.**

**6. Additional Powers to the Clerk**

**It was agreed** that for the next three months the Clerk be given permission to make relevant and appropriate payments on behalf of the parish council to the maximum of £500. Payments over £500 were to be agreed with either the Chairman or Vice Chairman. Proposed by: Cllr J Montgomery Seconded by: Cllr C Friend. **Unanimous.**

**7. Biddenden Support Update**

The Chairman updated councillors on the activities of the voluntary groups operating in the village. The Clerk was asked to send round the notes of a meeting held via Zoom.

## 8. Planning

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
<a href="#">20/00307/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Longhouse Farm, River Hall Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JE</b> Erection of a replacement 2 bedroom dwelling with integral garage; removal of mobile home, garage and shed.	<b>Object</b>
<a href="#">20/00394/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Worsenden Farm, Fosten Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8EL</b> Removal of condition 8 and variation of conditions 1 & 2 on planning permission 16/00110/AS (Variation of condition 3 on planning approval 13/00149/AS to allow no more than 12 weddings between May and September in any calendar year) to allow for weddings on 20 occasions rather than 12 to enable hosting of pre-booked and postponed weddings	<b>Object</b>  <b>May consider a temporary extension</b>
<a href="#">20/00396/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>3 Monks Hill Cottages, Monks Hill, Smarden, Ashford, TN27 8QJ</b> Replacement windows to the rear elevation	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">20/00373/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Weavers Barn, Cot Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JB</b> Erection of two and a half bay oak framed garage including solar panels and installation of solar panels on south elevation of Weavers Barn	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">19/01364/CONA/AS</a> <b>BPC NOT A CONSULTEE</b>	Biddenden	<b>Agricultural Building at, Great Batchelors Lodge, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Kent</b> Discharge of conditions: 6, 7, 11, 12, 13 & 16	
<a href="#">20/00430/AS</a> <a href="https://planning.ashford.gov.uk/Planning/SearchResults.aspx?new=true">https://planning.ashford.gov.uk/Planning/SearchResults.aspx?new=true</a>	Biddenden	<b>Ashenden Farm, Bell Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8LD</b> Demolition of existing agricultural buildings and erection of a detached dwelling	<b>Support</b>
<a href="#">20/00440/AS</a>	Biddenden	<b>Gorse Farm, Pook Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JJ</b> Part change of use of land from agricultural to residential and erection of pool-house	<b>Support conditional upon pool house remaining part of curtilage</b>

## 9. Finance – Payment Schedule

The Payment Schedule was presented. Proposed by: Cllr J Tydeman Seconded by: Cllr J Wright. **Unanimous.**

The issue of Castle Water charging water in advance and estimating usage. **It was agreed** to look at alternative suppliers.

## 10. Any Other Business

The tennis court southern fence was discussed due to its deterioration since the removal of the hedge. The problems were fully discussed and it had been requested that it be replaced as part of the multipurpose trail work. However, the trail had been agreed by ABC for \$106 funding and funds could not be used for alternative or additional work.

**It was agreed** that the tennis club would put some costs together and an application for funds would have to go through the LTIDP group and process.

A question was raised regarding when the reparation ground works would take place by Shared Access on the Gordon Jones Playing Field. The Clerk reported that photos to show the how dry the ground was had been taken and sent off. The Clerk would continue to liaise to find out when the work is likely to take place.

## 11. Close of Meeting

The meeting was closed at 20:31.

Alison Swannick  
Parish Clerk