

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Weaving Village Hall, Weaving Street, on Monday 4 March 2013 commencing at 7.36 pm.

Councillors present: Mr Ivor Davies (Chairman), Mrs P Brooks, Mr Vic Davies, Mr P Dengate, Mr T Harwood, Mr Bob Hinder, Mrs Wendy Hinder, Mr K Perry, Mr G Smith, Mr A Springate, Mr P Sullivan and Mrs M Waller together with the Assistant Clerk, Borough Councillor Butler, PCSO Hawthorn, two members of the press and three representatives from South East Water.

1. Apologies and absences.

Cllr Holmes (work), Cllr Macklin (unwell), Cllr Spain (unwell), County Cllr Carter (prior engagement).

2. Declaration of Interests or Lobbying.

There were none.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 28 January 2013.

The minutes of the meeting were **agreed** and **signed** as a correct record.

4. South East Water

Members **received** an informative presentation on the company's water meter installation programme. Starting in April 2013, 50 properties in Forstall will be converted. The 400 unmetered homes in Grove Green will have meters installed by 2015. This would be accompanied by leaflet drops, etc. In the short question and answer session that then followed, PCSO Hawthorn asked that the police be kept informed of progress to help with identifying bogus home-callers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.17pm to allow South East Water to leave and reconvened at 8.23pm.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

5.1 Minute 2506/4.1 Walderslade Woods Village Green: members **noted** the registration number VG266.

5.2 Minute 2506/4.3 Speedwatch: members **noted** that the training session had been rearranged for of Tuesday 19th March at 7pm in Beechen Hall. The Chairman invited anyone interested in attending to contact the parish office.

5.3 Minute 2507/8 Precept and budget: **noted** MBC will not make a contribution towards the WDJ Orchard as it maintains its own play areas within Grove Green.

5.4 Minute 2507/9 Cuckoo Wood: members **noted** that, as this land was disclaimed in 2007, it has now reverted to the Crown Estates, from whom the office is awaiting a reply.

6. Report from the PCSO and Police Issues.

Noted and received the crime statistics. PCSO Hawthorn reported that a meeting had taken place between the police, parish council and MBC to resolve the issue of quad-bikes in and around Timbertops play area in Lordswood. Cllr Smith again complained about how dangerous Westfield Sole Road had become with speeding cars. PCSO Hawthorne was sympathetic but reminded him that the speed limit there was 60mph. Cllr Vic Davies reported that a horse had been ridden in the WDJ Orchard. Cllr Waller thanked PCSO Hawthorne for his intervention at the vacant Yew Tree public house. He had contacted Shepherd and Neame who had promptly erected Heras fencing and installed an internal alarm. He is monitoring the site.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.40 p.m. to allow a member of the public to inform members that the Scouts' climbing wall framework is up. Currently highly visible, it will be finished with a wooden cladding. The meeting reconvened at 8.46 pm.

7. Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings.

Noted and Received:

- 7.1 Environment Committee: 28 January 2013.
- 7.2 Environment Committee: 29 January 2013.
- 7.3 Environment Committee: 11 February 2013. Cllr Springate pointed out that item 8 was incorrect as he had not resigned. **Action office.**
- 7.4 Estates Committee: 12 February 2013.

8. Finance.

Noted and Received:

- 8.1 Payments made out of meeting 29.01.13 – 5.02.13. Appendix A.
- 8.2 Receipts for the period 22.01.13 – 25.02.13. Appendix B.
- 8.3 Account balances as at 25.02.13. Appendix C.
- 8.4 Authorised payments of accounts. Appendix D.

9. Land at Sandy Lane, Boxley.

Because of the confidential nature of information received, the Chairman deferred this item to the end of the meeting to go into closed session. This item was taken at 9.17pm.

Members **received** and **noted** Cllr Bob Hinder's confidential report. His proposal for an item to appear on the April agenda to consider using the land for allotments was unanimously **agreed**. Action April Agenda

The suggestion for apportioning costs for the entrance area 70:30 in the event that the land is used for allotments, with BPC bearing the larger share and the second party the smaller, was **noted** without dissent.

10. Policies and Procedures Review

- 10.1 Equal Opportunities Statement. **Noted** and **agreed** no change necessary and that this should be in future reviewed as housekeeping.
- 10.2 Replacement Procedure (for project not managed by parish office). **Agreed** the revised text proposed by the Chairman.
- 10.3 Standing Orders. **Noted** that Standing Orders will be reviewed in April.

11. Matters for Decision.

- 11.1 The Chairman will check his diary and try to attend "A Global Airport for Kent?" Conference at County Hall, Maidstone on Friday 22 March 2013 commencing at 9.30am. **Action: Cllr Ivor Davies.**
- 11.2 School fetes – Cllrs Vic Davies and Sullivan **agreed** they would attend St John's School fete on Saturday 18 May 2013; and Cllr Dengate plus Cllrs Macklin or Ivor Davies at Tunbury on 22 June. As Cllr Macklin was not present contact will be made to ascertain her availability. **Action: office and Cllrs Ivor Davies, Vic Davies, Paul Dengate, Kaz Macklin and Pat Sullivan.**
- 11.3 KALC Planning Training – Cllr Paul Dengate **confirmed** he would attend. **Action: Assistant Clerk and Cllr Dengate.**

12. Reports from Borough and County Councillors.

Borough Councillor Butler reported that Boxley Parish Council's precept, even with its increase, is the third lowest in the borough. He also made reference to MBC's current re-thinking of its Core Strategy resulting from the increased number of new homes now required by central government and the impact this will have on Parishes. He informed members that he too had received reports of the quad-bike(s) in Lordswood.

Borough Councillor Wendy Hinder reported that vehicles were still parking on the new dropped kerbs in Boxley Road and that the PCSO is aware of the situation and that a nearby dead oak tree had been felled. Cllr Hinder voiced her displeasure at comments made at MBC's Planning Committee meeting on 21 February regarding a planning application to which the parish council had objected. This initiated a lively discussion that resulted in members instructing the Chairman to write to the chairman of the Planning Committee expressing the parish council's concerns.

13. Reports from Councillors/office.

The reports were **received**.

13.1 KALC Legal & Finance Conference 01/02/13, Cllr I Davies (Chairman).

13.2 KALC Maidstone 06/02/13 meeting, Cllr B Hinder.

13.3 MBC Parish Conference 9 February, Cllr P Brooks.

13.4 Cllr Wendy Hinder reported that she had contacted Geoff Miles, Maidstone Studios to arrange a meeting in March to talk about studio-audience parking issues at Grove Green. **Action Assistant Clerk.**

14. Matters for Information

Received and Noted

14.1 Celebrating Boxley Warren report.

14.2 Rural News 126.

14.3 School visit.

14.4 Dog watch posters.

14.5 Mid Kent Downs Steering Group meeting Thurs. 21 March 2013 at 10.30 am at Wormshill Village Hall. Cllr Smith to attend.

15. Next Meeting.

Monday 8 April 2013 at Tyland Barn, Sandling ME14 3BD. Councillor requests for agenda items are to be submitted no later than 30 March 2013.

Meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman.....Date.....