

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Early Bird, Grovewood Drive North on Monday 3 December 2018 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Mr B Hinder (Chairman), Mrs A Brindle, Ms L Clarke, Mr J Constable (at item 5), Mr Ivor Davies, Mr V Davies, Mr P Dengate, Mr T Harwood, Mrs W Hinder, Mr D Hollands, Mrs K Macklin, Mr P Sullivan and Mr J Willmott together with the Clerk Mrs P Bowdery, Assistant Clerk Mrs M Fooks and 33 members of the public/press and visitors.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the presentation team, residents and visiting members of Bearsted Parish Council.

1. Apologies and absences

Apologies: Cllr Hayday. Cllr Constable sent apologies as he would be a little late in arriving.
PCSO Adlington.

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

Members declared that they had been lobbied on the proposed development on land adjacent to Popes Wood.

Item 5 was taken at this point in the meeting.

Cllr Harwood notified the meeting that as he was a member of the Maidstone Planning Committee he would listen but not take part in any discussions etc.

3. Chairman's Announcements

There were none.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 5 November 2018

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

5. Presentation from DHA on the 2 schools proposed for land adjacent to Popes Wood.

The meeting received a comprehensive presentation from the applicant's team covering: history of Leigh Academies Trust, highway and traffic issues, proposed entrance, on site car parking facilities, design, capacity, landscaping etc. The two proposed schools Bearsted Primary (420 pupils when full) and Snowfields Academy SEN school (140 pupils when full). Councillors and members of the public were invited to ask questions and whilst the facilities being provided were considered impressive, and the need for new schools was acknowledged there were grave concerns expressed concerning traffic and highway issues. The danger of walking children to school using the existing footways was highlighted as was congestion, speed and the majority view of the public was that the additional traffic and location of the entrance was unacceptable. The agent stated that access from the KMC was unavailable.

The Chairman thanked the presentation team and members of the public for attending.

6. Grove Green Traffic

6.1 Cllr Bob Hinder's report on the meeting with County Councillor Paul Carter. **Received and noted.**

6.2 Grove Green Informal Working Group update. Cllr Hayday's report was **received and noted.** Cllr Hayday's recommendations were considered and members **agreed in principle** to the setting up of a Working Group and draft Terms of Reference are to be sent to Parish Councillors, out of meeting, to allow them to comment. **Action Clerk.** It was also **agreed** that the Chairman would write, after the Terms of Reference are agreed, to Chairpersons of adjacent Parish Councils to invite them to participate in a joint working group. **Action Chairman.** The Chairman specified that the Working Group would be non-political. Members **agreed in principle** that prior to the setting up of a Working Group Helen Whately MP and County Councillor Paul Carter would be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss traffic concerns. **Action Office.**

7. **Matters Arising From the Minutes**

- 7.1 Minute 3174/6.1 Franklin Drive Play Area. Cllr Wendy Hinder notified members that MBC expected the draft Lease Agreement would be with the Parish Council this week.
- 7.2 Minute 317.4/6.3 Weaving Heath, Wents and Five Acre Woods and Grove Green Wood Village Green Status. Sites have been put forward for Local Nature Reserve Status and will be submitted for local green space status in the upcoming review of the MBC Local Plan. A site meeting was being arranged with MBC and Friends of Weaving Heath and Woodlands to discuss task days etc. **Noted. Action: Office.**
- 7.3 Minute 3175/11.1 OneDrive Training. It is suggested that training should be programmed for the New Year. **Noted. Action office.**
- 7.4 Any other matters arising from the minutes which are not on the agenda. None.

8 **Crime Report and Police Issues**

Crime report 13 October– 26 November 2018 and PCSO Adlington's report **received** and **noted**.

9. **Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings**

- 9.1 Environment Committee 5 November 2018. **Received** and **noted**.
- 9.2 Environment Committee 12 November 2018. **Received** and **noted**.
- 9.3 F&GP Committee 13 November 2018. **Received** and **noted**.
- 9.4 F&GP Committee 20 November 2018. **Received** and **noted**.

10. **Finance**

- 10.1 Payments made out of meeting 30.10.18 – 26.10.18. **Received** and **noted**.
- 10.2 Receipts for the period 30.10.18 – 26.10.18. **Received** and **noted**.
- 10.3 Account balances report. **Received** and **noted**.

11 **Draft Budget 2019/20**

Councillors were asked to submit any projects that they wished to be considered. **Noted**.

12. **Policies and Procedures**

- 12.1 Vision and Business Plan (review). Deferred until the next meeting. **Action office.**

13. **GDPR**

The Clerk's update was **received** and **noted**.

14. **Community Infrastructure Levy**

Cllr Ivor Davies proposed Cllr Dengate seconded that the F&GPC's recommendation that **"Boxley Parish Council approaches Maidstone Borough Council to sign up to receive the Community Infrastructure Levy."** is adopted. **Unanimously agreed.**

15. **Reports from councillors/office**

Maidstone Committee KentALC. Cllr Ivor Davies submitted a written report for circulation to members and he asked that when the draft minutes were submitted that they be circulated to councillors. **Action Office.**
 KentALC AGM. Cllrs Wendy Hinder and Brindle gave a verbal report on their attendance. Cllr Willmott informed members that he had met with a resident of Boxley Village to discuss the proposed engineering works to stop flooding. The meeting with KCC officers is on 4 December.

16. **Reports from Borough and County Councillors**

Cllr Wendy Hinder's written report covering a recent meeting with County Councillor Paul Carter on traffic issues at Grove Green and attendance at the Parish's Remembrance events, was **received** and **noted**.

Cllr Bob Hinder notified members that he had been undertaking planning training including site visits to developments in Essex to show both good and bad designs. **Received** and **noted**.

17. **Matters for Decision**

- 17.1 Parish Councillor Internal Audit. It was suggested that if available Cllr Hayday might want to undertake the next audit. Cllr Huntingford expressed interest in undertaking the audit. **Action Clerk.**
- 17.2 Walderslade Woodlands Working Group. This group will be referred to, in future documents, with the abbreviation to 3WG. **Noted.**
- 17.3 Long Term Investment Working Group Terms of Reference were **agreed.**
- 17.4 NALC/KALC Model Standing Orders. **Agreed** the Clerk's recommendation that these be reordered to reflect the Model Standing Orders issued by KentALC. Deferred to next meeting. **Action Clerk.**

18. **Correspondence**

- 18.1 Poppy Appeal. Thank you letter Royal British Legion.
- 18.2 Old Chalk New Downs pond for Boxley Warren. Cllr Harwood notified members that the pond will be excavated before Christmas and lined in January, all at no cost to the parish council. He hoped that this will alleviate the flooding issue on Pilgrims Way and that amphibians will stock the pond in Spring. The Chairman thanked Cllr Harwood for his work.

19. **Matters for Information**

- 19.1 Councillors wishing to submit projects for consideration for 2019/2020 must do so before 10 December. **Noted.**
- 19.2 Christmas closedown for Parish Office. 24th – 31st December (inclusive). **Noted.**

20. **Items for Next Agenda**

Councillors' reports and requests for items to be included on the agenda to be submitted no later than 21 January 2018. **Noted.**

21. **Next Meeting**

28 January 2019 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade ME5 9RU.

Meeting closed at 9.17 p.m.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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