

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at St Johns School, Provender Way, Grove Green, ME14 5TZ on Monday 7 October 2019 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Mr B Hinder (Chairman), Mrs A Brindle, Mr J Constable, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr V Davies,, Mrs W Hinder, Mrs K Macklin, Mr P Sullivan, Mrs L Clarke, Mr P Dengate, Mr G Hayday, Mrs P Huntingford, Cllr Hollands, Mr T Harwood and Mr J Willmott together with the Clerk Mrs D Baylis and four members of the public/press.

1. Apologies and absences

None

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

Cllr Hinder – item 25, lobbied on item 13

Cllr V Davies – item 25, lobbied on item 13

Cllr P Huntingford – lobbied on item 13

3. Chairman's Announcements

None

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 2 September 2019

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

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Minute 3263/5.2 Weaving Heath, Wents and Five Acre Woods and Grove Green Wood Village Green Status. The Chairman reported that this is scheduled to go to Committee in December. It is presumed to be the Communities, Housing and Environment Committee. He will confirm when he has more details. **Action: Cllr B Hinder**

6. Any other matters arising from the minutes which are not on the agenda.

7. Crime Report and Police Issues

Crime report September 2019. **Received** and **noted**

Cllr Hinder expressed concern at the lack of visits the PCSO made to the Parish Office. The Clerk reported that there had been no visits to the office for at least 3 months. Cllr Hinder proposed sending a letter to the PCSO requesting regular visits. This was agreed. **Action: Clerk**

Adjournment to enable members of the public to address the meeting.

8. Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings

8.1 Environment Committee 2 September 2019. **Received** and **noted**.

8.2 Environment Committee 9 September 2019. **Received** and **noted**

8.2 Finance and General Purposes Committee 16 September 2019. **Received** and **noted**

9. Finance

9.1 Payments made out of meeting 27.08.19 – 27.09.19. **Received** and **noted**

9.2 Receipts for the period 27.08.19 – 27.09.19. **Received** and **noted**

9.3 Account balances. **Received** and **noted**

10. To adopt the amended Financial Regulations

Cllr Dengate had asked for 'Card Payments' to be added to the Financial Regulations. As there were still issues with getting a card system that did what was needed it was proposed and agreed that an addition to the Financial Regulation be made that referred to the new Financial Transactions Policy. This amendment would be presented at the next meeting. **Action Clerk**

11. Walderslade Woodlands

13.1 Sale of Wildfell Close Land

Whitehead Monkton had been appointed as the Parish Council solicitors for the transaction. The Walderslade Woodlands Group had met and a draft constitution was being drafted. Cllr V Davies offered to attend the next meeting as he had helped set up the Vinters Valley constitution. KCC's fees were not known at this stage.

12.Speed Reduction Walderslade Woods/Grange Lane, Sandling

A meeting had been arranged for the 5 November with Jennie Watson from KCC to discuss current highways issues in the Parish. Cllr B Hinder thanked Cllr Dengate for the suggestions he had sent into the office.

13.Traffic Calming measures – Provender Way

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should look into how to get the part of the road near the school made into a designated 20mph zone and street signs with flashing speed indicators. Cllr B Hinder asked members to send any further ideas to the Clerk for discussion at the meeting with Jennie Watson. Cllr Brindle proposed that the Clerk should contact the headteacher and ask the school to get involved. This was agreed.

Action: Clerk

14.Litter Bin – New Cut Road

This was deferred to the Environment Committee meeting on the 14 October 2019.

15.Franklin Drive Play Area

This was deferred to the Environment Committee meeting on the 14 October 2019

16.Policies and Procedures

16.1 Grievance Policy & Procedure

It was agreed to adopt this policy

16.2 Disciplinary Policy & Procedure

It was agreed to adopt this policy

16.3 Financial Transactions Policy

It was agreed to adopt this policy with the amendments to remove card payments until an appropriate system is installed.

17.Reports from Councilors/Office

Cllr I Daves reported on the latest KALC meeting which mainly concentrated on the Local Plan Review. The KALC Co-Ordinator had met with William Cornwall who reported that the population was not growing as fast as predicted.

Cllr Hinder reported that he had had a meeting with Andrew Williams, Parks and Open Spaces Manger of MBC, Cllr W Hnder and the Clerk to discuss current issues regarding open spaces. New large scale maps have been provided which make it very clear which areas are owned and maintained by MBC.

18.Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Cllr W Hinder reported that planning applications had been her main focus this month with so many large applications needing comment. Cllr Brindle reported that planning briefings and responses had been her main activity this month.

19.Matters for Decision

None.

20.Correspondence

A letter had been received and circulated to members regarding the easement on Weaving Heath.

21.Matters for Information

None

22.Items for Next Agenda

To be received by the Clerk on or before the 25th October 2019

23.Next Meeting

4 November 2019 at The European School of Osteopathy, Styles Lane, Boxley, ME14 3DZ. **Noted**

24.Personnel Issues

Following the resignation of the current Clerical Officer an advert had been circulated. It was agreed that the recruitment panel would be Cllrs, I Davies, L Clarke and W Hinder, with Cllr V Davies as a reserve. Shortlisting would be carried out on the 18th October with interviews the following week.

25.Grant Request from Vinters Valley Nature Reserve

It was proposed by Cllr Macklin, seconded by Cllr Hollands that a grant be made to Vinters Valley Trust. A vote was taken with 11 votes for and 4 abstentions.

26.Poisoned Tree and vegetation in Wildfell Close

A request had been received from a resident for a letter to be sent to residents of Wildfell Close regarding the poisoning of a tree and other vegetation in Wildfell Close. It was agreed that the Clerk should draft a letter to be approved by the Environment Committee on the 14 October Meeting. **Action: Clerk**

27.New Union Jack Flag for Beechen Hall Flagpole

It was proposed by Cllr I Davies and all agreed that a new handsewn flag be purchased. The flag to come from the company that used to be based in the Dockyard if possible, to support local business but if this is no longer operating then the cheapest of the 3 quotations provided should be used.

28.Cygnets Mental Health Facility

This was an agenda item requested by a member of the public. In the absence of any further information regarding what issues they would like to raise, this item was dismissed by the Chairman.

Meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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