

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, ME5 9RU on Monday 27 January 2020 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Mr V Davies - Chair, Mrs A Brindle (arrived at item), Mr Ivor Davies, Mr P Dengate, Mr G Hayday, Mr D Hollands, Mr P Sullivan, Ms L Clarke (from item 4) and Mr J Willmott together with the Clerk Mrs D Baylis and two members of the public/press.

1. Apologies and absences

Cllrs B Hinder, W Hinder, P Huntingford, T Harwood and Mrs K Macklin

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None

3. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman had received a letter of thanks from Vinters Valley Trust for the tractor grant.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 2 December 2019

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

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Minute 3325/5.1 Weaving Heath, Wents and Five Acre Woods and Grove Green Wood Village Green Status. At the meeting of the MBC Policy and Resources Committee in January 2020, MBC agreed to grant the Heath Village Green Status and would progress the application.

5.2 Minute 3325/7.1 Residents request for a meeting regarding antisocial behaviour in Weaving/Grove Green. The meeting has been arranged for 13 February at 7pm at Grove Green Community Hall. Various organisations and groups have been invited and it is hoped that a range of ages will attend so that resolutions can be found.

5.3 Minute 3326/Item 13 Franklin Drive Play Area. The lease has now been signed and the lease is being added to the Land Registry. The office is arranging for the new play equipment and signs to be installed.

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

None

7. Crime Report and Police Issues

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

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

8. Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings – previously circulated

Noted. Members asked that in future all circulated minutes be listed. **Action office.**

9. Finance

9.1 Payments made out of meeting 23.11.19 – 17.01.20. **Received** and **noted.**

9.2 Receipts for the period 23.11.19 – 17.01.20. **Received** and **noted.**

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

9.4 To agree the budget for 2020/21 proposed by the Finance and General Purposes Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Vic Davies, seconded by Cllr Anne Brindle and all agreed that the proposed budget be accepted.

9.5 To set the Precept for 2020/21

It was proposed by Cllr Vic Davies, seconded by Cllr Anne Brindle and all agreed that the Precept be set at £153,002 for 2020/21.

10. Policies and Procedures

None

11. Report from Joint Traffic Working Group

It was intended that the report written by the Group be taken to the Joint Traffic Board at MBC for action. Cllr Bob Hinder had agreed to take it through as it could only be put on the Agenda by a member. The January meeting had been cancelled due to lack of business and it was not clear when the next one would be. Cllr Brindle said that she had a meeting next week with Helen Whatley to discuss issues within her ward and that she would take a copy of the report and bring up Junction 3 and report back

12. Walderslade Woodland

The Clerk had been to a meeting with the Solicitor to clarify some questions she had. There had been no further news.

13. Reports from Councillors/Office

Cllr Lynn Clarke had been to an event run by Croner on handling staff absences, sickness and mental health. This had been a very useful and informative event, mainly aimed at selling their services.

Cllr Dennis Hollands said that he and Cllr Wendy Hinder had been to Sandling Village Hall and that it was a very well used and maintained and very well run.

14. Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Cllr Anne Brindle had attended a briefing on the Making Maidstone Active Survey. Most activity is concentrated around Mote Park Leisure Centre and most users live within one mile of the Centre. They are looking at ways to encourage people to be more active, with initiatives to reduce costs. They plan to have meetings with up to 20 residents in each area to see what activities they participate in and what can be done to make them more active.

15. Matters for Decision

None

16. Correspondence

A thank you letter had been received from Vinters Valley Trust.

17. Matters for Information

None.

18. Items for Next Agenda

To be received by the Clerk on or before the 21 February 2020. **Noted**

19. Next Meeting

2 March 2020 at Weaving Village Hall, ME14 5JP. **Noted**

Motion to exclude members of the Press and Public on the Grounds that the following item contains a named member of staff.

20. Appointment of New Clerk

20.1 It was proposed Cllr Vic Davies and all agreed that following the successful completion of her probation, Mrs Daniela Baylis is appointed Clerk and RFO for Boxley Parish Council.

20.2 Beechen Hall Caretakers

An update on the current situation regarding the caretakers was given verbally. Cllr Vic Davies proposed vote of thanks to Assistant Clerk, Mel Fooks for all the additional hours and hard work she had put in over the past few weeks.

Meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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