

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7 June 2021. This meeting was held remotely by Teams due to the Covid-19 Global Pandemic at 7.30 pm

Present: Mr C Sheppard - Chairman, Mr V Davies, Mr M Beckwith, Ms A Brindle, Mr Ivor Davies (from Item 3), Mr P Dengate, Mr B Hinder, Mr D Hollands, Mrs P Huntingford, Ms K Macklin, Mr J Wilmott, L Clarke, H Monk and Mr P Sullivan, together with the Clerk Mrs D Baylis.

1. Apologies and absences

Cllr W Salter

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 17 May 2021

The minutes of the meeting were **agreed** and would be **signed** when circumstances allow.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 any other matters arising from the minutes. **None**

5. Crime Report and Police Issues

Noted. It was queried why only half of a vehicle number plate had been listed and whether this breached GDPR.

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

No members of the public had joined the meeting.

7. Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings

Received and **Noted** the following draft minutes.

7.1 Environment Committee Meetings 4 and 17 May 2021.

7.2 Finance and General Purposes Committee 24 May 2021.

8 Finance

8.1 Payments made out of meeting 28.4.21 – 31.5.21. **Noted**

8.2 Receipts for the period. 26.2.21 – 31-5.2021. **Noted**

8.3 Account balances report **Noted**

8.4 End of year Income and Expenditure by budget heading 2020-21 **Noted**

8.5 BPC Accounting statements as at 31 March 2021

It was proposed by Cllr D Hollands, seconded by Cllr V Davies and all agreed that the Accounting Statements be accepted.

8.6 To note the Annual Internal Audit Report by the Internal Auditor

The Annual Internal Audit Report was noted.

8.7 To approve the signing of the Annual Governance Statement by the Chairman and the Clerk.

It was proposed by Cllr V Davies, seconded by Cllr P Dengate and all agreed that the Annual Governance Statement be signed by the Chairman.

8.8 To approve the signing of the Accounting Statements by the RFO and Chairman.

It was proposed by Cllr V Davies, seconded by Cllr P Huntingford and all agreed that Accounting Statements on the Annual Return be signed by the Chairman.

8.9 To consider the External Auditors Report from 2019/20.

The External Auditors Report was considered.

9 Policies and Procedures

9.1 Finance and General Purposes Committee Terms of Reference

It was proposed by Cllr L Clarke, seconded by Cllr P Dengate and all agreed that the amended F&GP Terms of Reference be accepted.

It was then proposed by Cllr V Davies, seconded by Cllr P Dengate and all agreed

that Cllr L Clarke be added to the Committee membership.

9.2 Code of Conduct

The Clerk reported that a new Code of Conduct has just been released by NALC. This is very different to the current one dated 2012. The Clerk has asked MBC if they are going to adopt the new code and a timescale for this. If they are not going to adopt the new code then members will need to decide if they wish to stick to the old version or adopt the new NALC version. Cllr I Davies reported that KALC are also looking at the new code and it was thought it would be helpful if all member councils adopted the same basic text as on previous occasions.

9.3 Code of Conduct Complaints

It was proposed by Cllr A Brindle, seconded by Cllr C Sheppard and all agreed that the Code of Conduct Complaints Policy be adopted.

9.4 Acceptable Reasons for Absence

It was proposed by Cllr P Huntingford, seconded by Cllr P Dengate and all agreed that the Acceptable Reasons for Absence Policy be adopted.

9.5 Lobbying and Predetermination

It was proposed by Cllr P Huntingford, seconded by Cllr C Sheppard and all agreed that the Lobbying and Predetermination Policy be adopted.

10 **Reports from Councillors/Office**

Cllr I Davies had attended the recent KALC meeting concurrently with the BPC meeting on the same night and said that there was nothing of substance to report. Cllr Brindle said that she had sent apologies but these had not been recorded in the minutes.

11 **Reports from Borough and County Councillors**

Cllr Brindle reported that the May meeting had been held at Detling and MBC now had a Conservative majority. Major changes were in the pipeline.

12 **Grant Applications**

12.1 Bearsted Parish Council – Summer Play Scheme

It was proposed by Cllr V Davies, seconded by Cllr P Dengate and all agreed that the Grant request of £500 be paid subject to receipt of a copy of their accounts.

13 **Sale of Wildfell Close**

Noted.

14 **Covid-19 update**

The report was noted. Cllr Dengate asked that marketing adverts be placed on local Facebook forums. The Clerk reported that there was a problem with the Beechen Hall Facebook account. Cllr Dengate said to report the problem to Facebook admin.

15 **Cluster Meetings**

Cllr Hinder reported that these had been set up by MBC. Wards had been allocated into clusters to liaise with each other, Community Support, Police and other local organisations to deal with anti-social behavior issues. He asked members for items to take to the first meeting.

Cllr Brindle asked for anti-social behavior in Boxley Warren.

Cllr Hinder suggested the problems experienced in Grove Green around Halloween and fireworks night. It would be a good idea to put plans in place to prevent the problems and be proactive rather than reactive.

Motorbikes, Quad bikes and e-scooters off Gleamingwood Drive into the woodland.

Cllr Sheppard asked that Fly tipping be raised at the meeting with Pilgrims Way and the Stockbury Road to Bredhurst being particularly bad. It was agreed that reporting fly tipping to MBC was very easy and that they were very good at clearing it but not very good at prevention and more needed to be done on this.

16 **Matters for Decision**

16.1 Letter of Support for Kent Wildlife Trust

KWT had asked for a letter of support to help them with a funding application. It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr V Davies and all agreed that a letter of support be sent from BPC. The Clerk would draft a letter and send it out to members for comment.

17 **Correspondence**

A letter of thanks had been received from St Mary and All Saints Church for the grant given to repair the clock.

18 **Matters for Information**

None

19 **Items for Next Agenda**

To be received by the Clerk on or before the 25th June 2021. **Noted.**

20 **Next Meeting**

5 July 2021

Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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