

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 October 2021, at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade, ME5 9RU at 7.30 pm

Present: Mr C Sheppard - Chairman, Ms L Clarke, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr V Davies, , Ms A Brindle, Mr B Hinder, Mrs P Huntingford, Mr P Dengate, Mrs K Macklin, Mr W Salter and Mr P Sullivan, together with the Assistant Clerk Mrs M Fooks

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking all those who attended the protest against the Lidsing Development being included in the Regulation 19 of the Local Plan Review on both Monday 4 and Wednesday 6 October.

He also thanked everyone who attended the work day at the Allotments on Saturday 9 October for the repairs to the entrance road and cutting back of excess vegetation around the site. He concluded it was a very productive day. He mentioned a special thanks to Pat Sullivan's son who provided the machinery to carry out the road repairs. Cllr Brindle conveyed Bob and Ann Spain's thanks for the repairs too.

1. Apologies and absences

Cllrs M Beckwith – Apology accepted
D Hollands – Apology accepted
H Monk – Absent.
J Willmott – Apology accepted

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 6 September 2021

The minutes of the meeting were **agreed** and duly signed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

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

5. Crime Report and Police Issues

Noted.

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

As there were no members of the public present the meeting was not adjourned.

7. Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings

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

- 7.1 Environment Committee Meetings 6 and 13 September 2021.
- 7.2 Finance and General Purposes Committee 20 September 2021.

8. Finance

- 8.1 Payments made out of meeting 01.9.21 – 30.9.21. **Noted**
- 8.2 Receipts for the period. 01.9.21 – 30.9.21. **Noted**
- 8.3 Account balances report **Noted**

9. Policies and Procedures

- 9.1 **Pandemic Policy**
Unanimously agreed for adoption.
- 9.2 **Health and Safety Policy**
Unanimously agreed for adoption with minor amendments.
- 9.3 **Grants Policy**
Unanimously agreed for adoption.
- 9.4 **Grants Application Form**
Unanimously agreed for adoption subject to an addition to the form regarding previous grants from BPC.

**10. Monthly Website update
Noted.**

11. Reports from Councillors/Office

No reports were given.

12. Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Regulation 19, The Local Plan Review. Cllr Hinder stated that he had received many emails congratulating him and the other Boxley Ward Borough Councillors for their part in opposing the Lidsing Development at both the SPI Meeting and Full Council meetings held on the 4 and 6 October. He stated that they would be meeting up on Tuesday 12 October to put their thoughts down on paper for the next step and would be meeting with MP Helen Whateley on Friday 15 October to go through those ideas. Cllr Hinder also explained that at Wednesday's full council meeting no decisions were made only an agreement to send Regulation 19, of the Local Plan Review to the next consultation whereby all responses will go to the Planning Inspector for decision.

Cllr Brindle confirmed that when the consultation begins people should submit constructive responses as these will be directed to the Planning Inspector.

Cllr Dengate suggested the Environment Committee start looking at Section 106/CIL projects that can be put forward if this development were to be approved

13. Grant Applications

None on this Agenda

14. Walderslade Woodlands

Cllrs Huntingford, Sheppard and Sullivan attended the Tree Inspection Course held at Beechen Hall on Friday along with members of the Walderslade Woodlands Group. Cllr Sheppard confirmed that it was an informative course which involved inspecting trees within the Woodland that has recently been transferred from KCC. Cllr Sheppard raised his concerns at the scale of work required to maintain the woodlands whether or not a professional company/contractor should be employed. Cllr Macklin suggested bringing on board organisations such as KWT to project manage some of the work. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the Clerk had sent out an invitation to KWT to join as a member of the management committee but have not received a response.

15. Investment of Walderslade Woodland Enabling Fund

Cllr Sheppard thanked Cllr Macklin for the list of potential investment advisors and confirmed a report would be generated. Cllr Vic Davies suggested that consideration should be given to investing some of the funds into a property for rental. Cllr Sheppard responded by saying that the PC should keep a broad mind until we have received professional advice.

16. Cluster Meetings

Cllr Hinder confirmed that the recent redeployment of PCSO's by the police had been a wasted exercise and should have gone out to consultation with parishes in the first instance. The next cluster meeting will be held via Microsoft Teams on 9 November 2021 at 10am.

17. Matters for Decision

17.1 The recruitment of a Parish Caretaker.

- Cllr Macklin proposed, seconded by Vic Davies with all in favour to recruit a Parish Caretaker for 35 hours per week on a Salary of £21,500pa.

It was also **agreed**

- casual hires (Adult Parties) on Saturday evenings and Sundays are suspended until all staff are recruited.

- Issue alarm fobs and external keys to regular hirers to lock and alarm the premises until the parish caretaker has been appointed.

The Chair thanked the working group who worked on this project.

17.2 New Road Name for the development off Wildfell Close.

After an initial discussion Cllr Sheppard proposed Wendy Hinder Close, seconded by Cllr Dengate with 8 in favour and 3 abstentions.

18. Correspondence

None

19. Matters for Information

19.1 St Mary & All Saints Remembrance Service Sunday 14 November at 9am. Cllr Sheppard agreed to attend and Cllr Vic Davies agreed to lay a wreath at the Grove Green memorial.

19.2 Gibraltar Farm Public Enquiry – Tuesday 19 October 2021 – MC/19/0336. Cllr Bob Hinder confirmed that this application has had approval and they are only seeking an amendment regarding access. The inquiry can be viewed by livestream.

20. The Queens Green Canopy

Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report and after a short discussion it was **agreed** to wait to see what the Lord Lieutenant of Kent is looking to do before making any decisions.

21. Items for Next Agenda

To be received by the Clerk on or before the 22 October 2021. **Noted.**

22. Next Meeting

1 November 2021

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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