

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6 December 2021, at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade, ME5 9RU at 7.30 pm

Present: Mr C Sheppard - Chairman, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr B Hinder (from Item 12), Mrs A Brindle (from item 12), Mrs P Huntingford, Mr P Dengate, Mrs K Macklin, D Hollands, M Beckwith and Mr P Sullivan, together with the Clerk Mrs D Baylis

1. Apologies and absences

Cllr P Dengate, Cllr V Davies

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 1 November 2021

The minutes of the meeting were agreed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Any other matters arising from the minutes.

Cllr Hollands asked if there had been any update from the member of the public who had attended the last meeting with regard to the traffic issues around the STEM school. He had been advised to contact MP Helen Whately. The Clerk had not heard anything or been copied into any correspondence.

5. Recruitment of 3 new Councillors

It was agreed that there would be a recruitment drive in January once the Legal Notices had expired. Information about the vacancies had been placed in the Noticeboards, Website and sent out on Community Alert.

6. Crime Report and Police Issues

Noted. PCSO Matt Addlington has resigned and his replacement will be PCSO Caroline Honeysett. The Clerk was asked to invite her to a Parish Council meeting.

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

No members of the public were present.

8. Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings

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

7.1 Environment Committee Meetings 1 and 8 November 2021.

7.2 Finance and General Purposes Committee 15 November 2021.

9. Finance

8.1 Payments made out of meeting 01.11.21 – 29.11.21. **Noted**

8.2 Receipts for the period. 01.11.21 – 29.11.21. **Noted**

8.3 Account balances report **Noted**.

10. Policies and Procedures

None on this Agenda

11. Monthly Website update

Noted.

12. Reports from Councillors/Office

Cllr I Davies had attended a KALC Meeting. The Parish Services scheme payment was expected to have a 2% increase. C Whitehead was leaving. KCC was criticized for its lack of consultation with parishes on highways issues.

Cllr Sheppard had attended an 'Against Lidsing Development' meeting. The Clerk was asked to send a letter asking for an extension to the Consultation period.

13. Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Cllr Hinder reported that at a recent Conservative group meeting regarding Regulation

19, The Lidsing Garden Development he asked for clarification of several items raised by Medway Councillor Alan Jarrett. Clarification was sought on the ownership of the land on which the proposed school and industrial units were to be sited which Cllr Jarrett had said was owned by Medway Council who would not sell. No answer was given so this information is assumed to be correct. Questions were also raised over the use of the AONB for the motorway link road. No answer given. Clarification was sought as to whether Highways were in agreement with the plans – again no answer was given.

A planned meeting with Phil Coyne who is leading the consultation had been postponed.

14. Grant Applications

None on this Agenda.

15. Walderslade Woodlands

The Parish Council representatives on the Walderslade Woodlands Trust Management Committee would be Cllr K Macklin and Cllr C Sheppard.

The Clerk was asked to circulate the Constitution approved by the Charities Commission.

The Clerk was asked to send a follow up letter to the Chief Executive of Kent Wildlife Trust regarding having a member of the Trust on the Management Committee.

16. Investment of Walderslade Woodlands Enabling Fund

The Clerk had had an initial meeting with Mark Davies from CCLA and was setting up a Teams meeting with those Councillors that were interested in attending. The Clerk had also spoken to George Stanley and once their proposal had been received would circulate it to members. Cllr Macklin said that she would send the Clerk a list of local financial advisors to contact.

17. Cluster Meetings

The only issue raised was fly tipping.

18. Matters for Decision

18.1 It was proposed by Cllr J Willmott, seconded by Cllr I Davies and all agreed that BPC pay for a third of the cost for a professional Ecology report of the Lidsing development site. The other two thirds being paid for by Bredhurst Parish Council and Bredhurst Woodlands Action Group.

19. Correspondence

None.

20. Matters for Information

Noted.

Cllr Sheppard has invited Colin Shorter from KCC Highways to a PC meeting.

21. Items for Next Agenda

To be received by the Clerk on or before the 14 January 2022.

Noted.

22. Next Meeting

24 January 2022.

The Chairman to move that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be considered the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

23. Personnel Matters

It was proposed by Cllr A Brindle, seconded by Cllr D Hollands and all agreed that a laptop be purchased for the new caretaker.

24. Acquisition of a Verge to create a public footpath

It was proposed by Cllr B Hinder, seconded by Cllr C Sheppard and agreed with one abstention that BPC try to buy the identified verge and reinstate the footpath with a border hedge.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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

DRAFT