

## Birling Parish Council

### Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in Birling Village Hall at 8pm

**Present:** Councillors Mrs J Westwood (Chair)  
Mr N Hewett  
Mr S Houldsworth  
Mr G Nevill  
Mrs S Spooner  
Mrs H Walker

Clerk Ms Miller

Also in attendance: 0 members of the public, Kent County Councillor Mrs S Hohler.

#### **80. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and **APPROVED** from Cllr Hirst.

#### **81. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest**

Cllr Nevill declared an interest in the West Malling sandpit.

#### **82. Reports - County, Borough and Police**

Police Report September

No crimes of note, no anti-social behaviour or other incidents of note,. Hi vis patrol through the area, no concerns. No further calls in regards to nuisance youths.

Kent County Councillor Sarah Hohler addressed the meeting and confirmed that the application from the parish council for the Remembrance Day temporary road closure had been given to the officer concerned. It was reported that Cllr Roger Gough had been elected as leader of Kent County Council. Cllr Hohler had attended the Kent and Medway Fire Authority awards ceremony at Hadlow and discussed some examples of the impressive work of the Fire Authority. Cllr Hohler reported that despite the introduction of charges at waste sites fly-tipping figures were down and skip hire was up in Kent. Cllr Westwood requested the fly-tipping statistics to be forwarded to the council. Cllr Hohler noted that KCC have released a report regarding Brexit preparedness and KCC have been given and extra £20m to cope with the effects of Brexit. The additional funding for schools was noted and that this will be made available in a one year settlement in December.

It was noted that there will be a quieter surface applied to the M20 to mitigate traffic noise in Ryarsh and there is a meeting taking place with residents in Ryarsh affected by the installation of a large gantry in the tree gaps.

#### **83. Open Forum – Public Participation Session**

There were none.

#### **84. Approval and signing of minutes of September's meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of September's meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the chair.

#### **85. (a) Matters arising and last month's circulation**

##### **i. West Malling Sandpit**

It was noted that the hearing started this week.

**ii. Local Plan**

It was noted that a two stage approach has been suggested for the hearings but no date has been agreed.

**iii. Police Crime Commissioner Updates**

To note updates on outstanding items and response to PCC. It was **RESOLVED** to submit the agreed response to the PCC following Cllr Hewett's review.

**iv. Streetlights upgrade to LED**

It was noted that the lighting works are scheduled for October and the trees affecting the light on Ryarsh Road will be cut back in November.

**v. Community Walk**

Cllr Houldsworth reported that the weather was good and a number of residents took part. Cllr Houldsworth was thanked for arranging the walk. It was noted that a leaflet drop for the next walk would be useful.

**vi. NHS Consultations**

To note response not to be sent.

**(b) Matters for Information circulated to councillors**

06/09/2019 The rural bulletin  
06/09/2019 1692 E Watch  
06/09/2019 NALC policy consultation e briefing  
06/09/2019 Swale community led housing event  
06/09/2019 Chief executive's bulletin  
06/09/2019 M20 Smart Motorways Updates  
06/09/2019 Weekly trackers  
06/09/2019 Local Government Brexit Bulletin  
11/09/2019 JPCTCG meeting update  
14/09/2019 Southeastern 'Delay Replay 15'  
14/09/2019 TMBC community safety partnership news  
14/09/2019 Kent Police – rural task force report  
14/09/2019 Draft Kent and Medway housing strategy 2019-23  
14/09/2019 Notes on neighbourhood planning  
14/09/2019 Brexit preparedness update  
14/09/2019 E Watch 1694  
14/09/2019 Supplementary parking action plan  
14/09/2019 Local Government Brexit Bulletin  
14/09/2019 Every mind matters  
14/09/2019 M20 Smart Updates  
14/09/2019 NALC Conference 2019  
14/09/2019 Chief Executives Bulletin  
14/09/2019 Join the movement for a litter-free countryside  
14/09/2019 Parish Partnership Panel Minutes  
14/09/2019 KALC T&M area committee meeting 19/09/2019  
16/09/2019 Kent County Council Road Closure email notifications  
16/09/2019 Global Climate Strike  
20/09/2019 E Watch 1696  
20/09/2019 Scam Alert – security alarm and checks  
20/09/2019 Local Government Brexit Bulletin  
20/09/2019 Sevenoaks Town Council precept flyer\*  
20/09/2019 KALC autumn events  
20/09/2019 Saving the planet one cup at a time  
20/09/2019 The rural bulletin  
20/09/2019 E Watch 1695  
20/09/2019 M20 smart updates  
23/09/2019 Kent Resilience Forum Parish Partner Pack\*

23/09/2019 Invitation to discover Gatwick  
23/09/2019 Refuse collection dates  
23/09/2019 Southeastern 'highly commended'  
23/09/2019 NALC chief executives bulletin  
24/09/2019 Kent Police – rural task force report and rural matters  
24/09/2019 E Watch 1697  
26/09/2019 Ryarsh Protection Group\*  
27/09/2019 Ham Hill Quarry Snodland – liaison meeting postponed  
27/09/2019 M20 smart updates  
27/09/2019 E Watch 1698  
27/09/2019 Update for JPCTCG – air quality  
27/09/2019 TfSE Draft Transport Strategy Launch – Canterbury 22/10/2019

## **86. Meetings**

### **(a) Meetings attended on behalf of the parish council**

- i. KALC Area committee 19/09/2019 – Cllr Westwood
- ii. JPCTCG – 23/09/2019 – Cllr Hirst
- iii. Joint Transportation Board – 23/09/2019
- iv. Ham Hill Quarry Liaison Group 03/10/2019 - postponed

### **(b) Future meetings**

- i. West Malling bus pilot – 16/10/2019 – Cllr Hewett to attend.
- ii. Ham Hill Quarry – to be confirmed

## **87. Parish Business for Decisions**

### **(a) Highways Improvement Plan**

- i. To note comments received and a meeting is being arranged with Ryarsh Parish Council and Kent County Council  
Table tops at the entrance to the village were discussed as a suitable alternative to allow the agricultural vehicles to enter the village.

### **(b) Letter to Member of Parliament**

- i. To receive response from Mr Tom Tugendhat  
It was **RESOLVED** to write to the MP to thank for the advice and to note the PSPO not possible at the parish hall.

### **(c) Parking issues**

- i. To receive land registry search and agree actions  
It was noted that a note could be put in Pilgrims explaining that the area outside the gate is for disabled access. It was **RESOLVED** for the clerk to investigate a wooden sign for 'disabled access'.

### **(d) Village Maintenance**

- i. To receive update on quotation for refurbishment of village sign  
It was **RESOLVED** to ask the contractor if he could repair and repaint the village sign.
- b. To note posts are to be painted week commencing 07/10 subject to weather conditions - noted
- i. To receive update on planting verges  
It was noted that this is delayed due to the weather. Cllr Walker and Cllr Westwood will investigate a future date. Cllr Hewett was thanked for providing the seeds.
- ii. To consider date for litter pick and joining the CPRE Green Clean campaign.

The risks of carrying out litter picks on the highway were discussed at length and it was **RESOLVED** for the clerk to contact Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for advice on litter picking on national speed limit lanes.

## 88. Parish Business for Noting

### (a) Website update

- i. To note the following added to the website:-
  - Road Closures
  - M20 Updates
  - Waste collection updates
  - Road Closure updates how to sign up to roadworks.org
  - Brexit updates

## 89. Correspondence

23/09/2019 Letter from Tom Tugendhat MP

## 90. Finance & Accounts

- (a) To approve Bank Reconciliation September 2019.  
Net Bank Balances as at 31/08/2019 £22,919.10
- (b) To note budget position year to date September 2019.
- (c) To approve additional signatories on Unity Trust bank account.  
It was **RESOLVED** to add Cllr Nevill and Cllr Houldsworth to the signatory list.
- (d) To approve PAYE record October 2019.
- (e) Cheques to be approved and signed:

Payee	Budget	Cheque No.	Amount Gross	Amount Net	VAT	Description
J Miller	Staff Costs	300001	£330.27	N/A	N/A	October salary
HMRC	Staff Costs	300002	£82.40	N/A	N/A	HMRC PAYE October
J Miller	Clerk Expenses	300003	£30.00	N/A	N/A	Land searches
Birling Village Hall	Grants and Donations	300004	£542.41	N/A	N/A	Donation towards Village Hall CCTV
Campaign to Protect Rural England	Subscriptions	300005	£36.00	N/A	N/A	Annual subscription

- (f) To note update on Unity Trust Bank internet banking forms – noted.
- (g) To note update on Secure Trust Bank signatory changes.  
It was noted that the letter had been signed for at Secure Trust.  
It was noted that the parish council could investigate higher returns.
- (h) To note precept budget to be considered at November's meeting.  
It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk will draft a newsletter concerning the precept for 2019/21.

**NOTE FOR Jm - Bring new DPI form for Guy**

## 91. Roads

### (a) To report any road issues

The pot holes were discussed and it was noted that roads affected are Bull Road/Birling Road that have been marked for repair and Snodland Road just before the entrance to the kennels. Public footpaths public risks identified included MR16 after church field due to vegetation overgrowth and footpath MR54 at Parsons Corner as the steps have been severely eroded due to the floods.

The clerk will report these issues to the appropriate authority.

### (b) M20 Smart Motorway Works

An update was noted.

**(c) Road Closures – see website for details**

- i. To note temporary road closures affecting Birling:  
Trottiscliffe, Snodland Road

**92. Planning**

**(a) Applications to be considered**

- i. TM/19/02233 Bank Cottage, Ryarsh Road, Birling  
T1 Willow tree – dead standing, dismantle to ground level, T2 Elm Tree dismantle to ground level.  
It was **RESOLVED** no objections.

**(b) Decisions by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council**

There were none.

**78. Matters for future meetings**

Clerks appraisal, other main agenda items will be carried forward, precept, planning application for walled garden, possible site visit.

**79. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 8pm**

**Meeting closed at 22:50pm**

**Signed.....**

**Date.....**