

Birling Parish Council

Minutes of the MEETING of BIRLING PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday 11th January 2022 Birling Church at 8pm

Present: Councillors Mrs J Westwood (Chair)
Mr G Nevill
Mr S Hirst
Mr N Hewett
Mrs H Walker
Mr D Yates

Also in attendance: Clerk Ms J Miller, County Councillor Hohler

137. Apologies for absence

There were none. Borough Cllr Kemp gave apologies.

138. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

There were none.

139. Reports

Cllr Hohler reported that budget has been challenging and rather than the usual three year plan the council is looking at one year due to government funding not being confirmed. It The success of the Kent Together initiative was noted and there this continues through the pandemic and individuals feeling lonely or in need of support were encouraged to contact the helpline 03000 41 92 92. Cllr Hohler reported that the number of asylum seekers crossing the channel has tripled compared to last year and this is impacting Kent services. Cllr Hohler is participating in a cross party working group to improve country parks. Kent County Council run 12 parks in the county and they have seen an increased usage in the pandemic. Other updates were reported on Brexit checks in Ashford and the success of the waste recycling centre consultation. It was noted that being able to book a slot at the tip has resulted in an increase in recycling which equates to a saving of £1.3m. The Kent Minerals and Waste Plan was discussed and there were no concerns raised. A police report was circulated prior to the meeting and potential intruders were alerted to residents in December.

140. Approval and signing of minutes of meeting of 14th December 2021.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the signing of the minutes of 14th December 2021

141. Open Forum – Public Participation Session

There were none.

142. Matters arising and last month's circulation

(a) Ryarsh School

To receive update on COP 26 week.

Cllr Hirst reported that the parish council's video was played to the pupils of Ryarsh School and they then focused on researching ideas on all their climate change topics. A summit was held at the end of week, attended by Cllr Hirst and Cllr Westwood. It was noted that this was a very impressive and successful event and a letter will be sent to Mr Childs commending the school. Cllr Westwood had made notes that she will circulate. Cllr Nevill will inform Cllr Betts, Chair of TMBC Climate Change Forum, about the initiative. Cllr Westwood will circulate the screenshots of the KALC climate change website results to councillors.

(b) Culverts

To receive update on section 19 report.

Cllr Hirst will follow this up.

(c) Benches

Works to be planned for spring – noted.

(d) Village Hall access

To receive an update on availability of hall – there was no further changes.

(e) Verges update following report to KCC

It was noted that KCC are being chased.

143. Matters for Information circulated to councillors

08/12/2021 E Watch 1928
08/12/2021 The Rural Bulletin
08/12/2021 T&M Community Safety Newsletter
08/12/2021 KALC Ransomware attack
11/12/2021 Minutes of Snodland Asphalt Liaison Meeting
11/12/2021 Local Government Bulletin
11/12/2021 E Watch 1929
11/12/2021 KALC Climate Change workshop
11/12/2021 Local Government Bulletin
14/12/2021 Call for Sites Launched
14/12/2021 E Watch 1930
14/12/2021 The Rural Bulletin
15/12/2021 Local Government Bulletin
17/12/2021 Local Government Bulletin
17/12/2021 E Watch 1931
17/12/2021 K'CAS Threat (passed to IT provider)
17/12/2021 KALC News December 2021
17/12/2021 Local Government Bulletin
17/12/2021 Weekly waste update TMBC
17/12/2021 Gatwick in touch newsletter
17/12/2021 TMBC finance and general purposes committee
17/12/2021 KALC Carbon footprint calculator
03/01/2022 TMBC minutes for licencing and appeals committee
03/01/2022 Local Government Bulletin
03/01/2022 E Watch 1932
03/01/2022 The rural bulletin
03/01/2022 E bulletin scams
03/01/2022 E Watch 1933
03/01/2022 E Watch 1934
03/01/2022 E Watch 1935

144. Meetings

(a) Meetings attended on behalf of the parish council

There were none.

(b) Future meetings

27/01/22 Parish Partnership Panel
KALC T&M Area Committee

145. Parish Business for Decisions

(a) Highways Improvement Plan

- i. To receive update on plan

It was noted that the 40mph limit on Birling Road has been agreed by KCC. It was **RESOLVED** to fund the project up to a value of £2500 in order for this to proceed. The clerk will advise KCC of the intention to fund and ask for an update on the consultation on the HGV signs planned for installation at Paddlesworth towards Snodland.

(b) Bank Infringement

- i. To note update on legal advice

It was noted that the clerk will report an update at the next meeting due to a change in personnel

(c) Local Plan

- i. To note Local Plan update and call for sites launched - noted.

(d) Rural Broadband

- i. To note no further contact from Openreach, clerk chasing KCC for assistance – noted.

(e) Queens Platinum Jubilee 2022

- i. To note update on event plan and actions required.

It was noted that the village hall is booked, a marquee is being organised and the church is booked. Cllr Walker, Nevill and the clerk will conduct a site visit to plan music provided by a DJ throughout the decades, a band, bar and any other requirements. Cllr Hewett will share details of DJs. Cllr Nevill will share details of an 80s band.

The planting of the walnut trees in early winter was discussed and Cllr Nevill will check availability of trees, numbers, maintenance and spacing.

An updated plan will be circulated before the next meeting.

A memorial stone is also being investigated.

(f) Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30

- i. To consider response to full review

It was **RESOLVED** not to respond formally.

(g) Budget 2022-23

To consider final budget and precept for 2022-23

It was **RESOLVED** to approve a precept of £11,016 and a budget for 2022-23 of £11,176.

This is a 3.34% rise on last year £1.74 increase against a Band D property.

(h) Carbon Footprint for Birling

Solar panels and heat pumps were discussed. Tree planting to offset the parish carbon footprint was also discussed. Councillors will review their own properties for average energy use and share at the next meeting.

(i) Boundary Review Submission

It was noted that the submission was received.

(j) Resignation of Cllr Spooner – application process for replacement

It was noted that the vacancy has been advertised, if an election is not called within fourteen days applicants will be invited for co-option at the next meeting.

146. Parish Business for Noting

(a) Website update

- i. To note the following added to the website:-
 - Hollieguard
 - Ramblers walks
 - Scam advice
 - Strategic Plan update
 - Seasonal waste collections
 - Councillor vacancy

(b) Parochial Church Council

- i. To receive regular update
- There were no further updates.

(c) Whatsapp Group Matters

- i. To note any issues raised on the Birling Whatsapp Group
There were no major issues reported. It was agreed to remind residents about the location of the defib and how to use it. It was noted that residents could be invited to training in the summer months.

(d) TMBC Waste Collections

- i. To note weekly reports – noted.

147. Correspondence

There is none.

148. Finance & Accounts

(a) To approve Bank Reconciliation December 2021.

Net Bank Balances as at 31/12/2021 23,083.65

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation for December 2021.

(b) To note budget position year to date December 2021.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the budget position for December 2021.

(c) To approve PAYE record January 2022.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the PAYE record for January 2022.

(a) BACS to be approved and signed

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Payee	Budget	Amount Gross	Amount Net	VAT	Description
J Miller	Staff Costs	£371.49	N/A	N/A	Jan Salary
HMRC	Staff Costs	£87.80	N/A	N/A	Jan PAYE
J Miller	Expenses	£49.29	N/A	N/A	Reimbursement for printer ink
Birling Village Hall	Contingency	£50.19	N/A	N/A	Hall booking for Jubilee event 5 th June 2022.
Birling Village Hall	Contingency	£120.00	N/A	N/A	Refundable security deposit for 5 th June booking
Waveney IT	IT Costs	£45.60	£38.00	£7.00	Jan monthly mailbox cost

149. Roads

(a) To report any road issues.

There were none.

(b) To receive update on M20 motorway noise problem.

To note MP requesting a sound barrier from the CEO of National Highways.

(c) Road Closures – see website for details

To note temporary road closures affecting Birling – none.

150. Planning

(a) Applications to be considered

There are none.

(b) Decisions by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

There were none.

151. Matters for future meetings

The usual substantive items shall remain. The date and agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting will be considered at the next meeting and a review of the strategy will take place at the March meeting.

152. Date of next meeting: There will be a planning meeting Tuesday 25th January 2022 8pm to consider an application received after the agenda had been issued. Full Council will be held on Tuesday 8th February 2022 8pm

Meeting closed at 21:35pm

Signed..... Date.....