

Birling Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 13th October 2020 via Video Conference Call at 8pm

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

Clerk Ms J Miller

Also in attendance: County Councillor Hohler; Borough Councillor Montague; 0 members of the public

274. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Hirst

275. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

There were none.

276. Reports - County, Borough and Police

Cllr Hohler reported that school attendance is improving at 94%. The government have given Tonbridge and Malling Council and Kent Police £54,000 to share within the borough to spend on enforcing COVID rules. Cllr Hohler reported that the borough has the lowest rate of COVID infections.

Cllr Hohler advised that illegal immigrants remain an issue in Kent but it is hoped this will improve when the weather deteriorates.

Planning was discussed and it was noted that KCC has opposed the government white paper on planning with concerns about infrastructure. The proposals implied sharp increases in housing in Kent which KCC think are not logical.

It was noted that a HGV had been stuck on Snodland Road and the HGV company has agreed to trace the driver and advise all of their drivers.

Signs are being installed at the beginning of White horse Lane to prevent this issue re-occurring.

Cllr Spooner joined the meeting at 20:16pm

Cllr Montague addressed the meeting and advised that there is a debate taking place at TMBC on how to spend the government COVID19 enforcement funding.

Cllr Montague reported that the waste collection continues to be an issue however personnel changes are imminent at Urbaser which should help. It was noted that the new manager in charge is a local resident which should help in understanding the issues.

Cllr Montague advised that the brown bin collection payment renewal will be extended by two months to residents that have paid as means of compensation.

Cllr Montague gave an update on the Kent Dog Walkers site and agreed to give a further update later on this week.

277. Open Forum – Public Participation Session

There were none.

278. Approval and signing of minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following minutes:-

- (a) September 8th 2020
- (b) Extra-Ordinary Meeting September 14th 2020
- (c) Extra-Ordinary Meeting September 29th 2020

The minutes will be signed at the next face to face meeting.

279. Matters arising and last month's circulation

(a) Parking issues

Draft letter re pavement parking

It was noted that the letter won't be sent until the council has attended the meeting with the head teacher at Ryarsh school to ensure that the correct messages are being conveyed.

It was noted that the letter could refer back to the highways survey by the parish council and raise about bins being on the path and vegetation not being cut back.

(b) Meeting with Ryarsh School

To note contact from the Headmaster

The meeting with the head teacher at Ryarsh Primary School will take place week commencing 19th October.

(c) Culverts

Deferred due to Corona Virus.

(d) The bank verge infringement

To note land registry search showing private ownership

It was agreed to chase Kent County Council for a date to cut back the overgrowth on the pavement and to send the land owners a copy of the KCC response to see if they agree.

Cllr Walker will approach the landowner in the first instance and a co-operative solution will be sought.

(e) Waste Collection

To note update on bin collections

It was noted that there had been no issues in the parish.

Cllr Westwood asked about the flytipping. Cllr Nevill advised that it had been moved to allow cultivation of the fields and the council had since refused to remove it. Cllr Nevill will follow this up and the Clerk shall contact TMBC to ask for it to be removed.

(f) Reference books

To note new version of Arnold-Baker ordered and is due to arrive in December.

280. Matters for Information circulated to councillors

02/09/2020 Parish Partnership Panel

02/09/2020 E Watch 1796

04/09/2020 Parish Partnership Panel Kent County Council services update

07/09/2020 Kent Police – Rural 3 month report

07/09/2020 NALC Chief Executives bulletin

07/09/2020 SKC Local area meeting

07/09/2020 KALC Dynamic Councillor – 01/10/2020

07/09/2020 NALC National salary scale

07/09/2020 The Rural Bulletin

07/09/2020 KALC News August

09/09/2020 PCC Have your say on Policing and Safety

09/09/2020 E Watch 1798

09/09/2020 The Rural Bulletin

09/09/2020 Kent prepared newsletter Issue One
09/09/2020 COVID-19 Update
09/09/2020 Area Planning meeting cancelled 23/09/2020
10/09/2020 JPCTCG 24th September
14/09/2020 Sign the petition: don't deregulate planning
14/09/2020 KALC flyer of upcoming events
14/09/2020 Regulation 26 – adoption of the Kent Mineral Sites Plan and Early Partial Review of the KMWLP
14/09/2020 Weekly M20 Update
14/09/2020 Agenda for Joint Transportation Board 21/09/2020
14/09/2020 E Watch 1799
14/09/2020 Advance notice KALC Area Committee 1st October 2020
14/09/2020 Planning White Paper Summaries and Reports
16/09/2020 Tom Tugendhat Meeting 24/09/2020
21/09/2020 Three Southeastern stations compete to be crowned best station
21/09/2020 Weekly updates M20
21/09/2020 E Watch 1801
21/09/2020 TMBC ERS consultation
21/09/2020 NALC chief executives bulletin
21/09/2020 COVID-19 Update
22/09/2020 The Rural Bulletin
23/09/2020 KALC T&M Area Committee
28/09/2020 National CSSC Green Message
28/09/2020 Highways England Commonplace News SMP M20
28/09/2020 NHS Test and Trace – QR Codes
28/09/2020 COVID-19 Update
28/09/2020 KCC Trading Standards Update on group contact Track and Trace
28/09/2020 Kent Rail Strategy
28/09/2020 E Watch 1803
28/09/2020 Environment Agency Flood Warden Training
28/09/2020 Local Plan examination
28/09/2020 Local Government Bulletin
28/09/2020 NALC Chief Executive Bulletin
28/09/2020 E Watch 1804
28/09/2020 The Rural Bulletin
28/09/2020 COVID-19 Update

281. Meetings

(a) Meetings attended on behalf of the parish council

24/09/2020 JPCTCG

24/09/2020 Clerk's conference

01/10/2020 KALC meeting – cyclists speeding, parking of pavements and travellers were the main issues discussed. Solar Together was noted.

(b) Future meetings

28/11/2020 KALC Annual General Meeting – Clerk to register Cllr Westwood in attendance.

29/10/2020 Tarmac Liaison Meeting

282. Parish Business for Decisions

(a) Highways Improvement Plan – all noted.

- i. To note website updated with latest news on Highways project
- ii. To note Ian Grigor correspondence referred to Cllr Hohler
- iii. To note Ryarsh PC corresponded with regarding s106 funds.

- (b) **Local Plan**
i. To note examination statements – noted.
- (c) **BART Community Support**
i. To note community support efforts update.
Remembrance Sunday was discussed and it was noted that the government restrictions will severely hamper the efforts of a service. A live broadcast from the Church was suggested. However, it was advised that the technology to enable this was not available. Therefore, the council concluded that this year the service could not be held safely at the war memorial site and should take place inside the Church. The chairman shall lay a wreath on the day.
- (d) **Fly Tipping**
i. To note information on CCTV cameras.
It was **RESOLVED** not to proceed with the cameras as it will most likely just move the problem on.
ii. To receive update on any flytipping incidents in the parish.
Cllr Yates will circulate the statistics on flytipping that he has been looking at. The Clerk will speak with Ryarsh PC to investigate how they are dealing with flytipping in Ryarsh parish.
It was noted again that the app Country Eye can be used to report fly tipping.
- (e) **Village Maintenance**
i. To note work on refurbishment on village sign and replacement of pole being investigated with sign company.
It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the sign refurbishment at a cost of £150.
Cllr Hewett shall pass on a post card to Clerk which shows the original colours of the sign.
- (f) **Great British September Spring Clean**
i. To note COVIDsafe litter pick event 19/09/2020.
It was noted that this was an excellent effort and the volunteers were thanked. Cllr Hirst and the Clerk were thanked for organising the event.
- (g) **Environment Agency Flood Warden Training**
i. To consider volunteer.
It was **RESOLVED** not to proceed with this initiative.

283. Parish Business for Noting

(a) Website update

- i. To note the following added to the website:-
- Road Closures and M20 Updates
 - Corona Updates
 - Highways Project updates

284. Correspondence

- (a) 12/09/2020 Resident complaint about HGVs in Stangate Road
Matter being pursued by KCC through Cllr Hohler

285. Finance & Accounts

(a To approve Bank Reconciliation September 2020.

Net Bank Balances as at 30/09/20 £25,361.51

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation for September 2020.

(b) To note budget position year to date September 2020.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget position to date September 2020.

(c) To approve PAYE record October 2020.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the PAYE record for October 2020.

(d) To note VAT return submitted for 2019-20

(e) BACS to be approved and signed (in person at next face to face meeting):

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the BACS payments for October.

J Miller	Staff Costs	£252.51	N/A	N/A	October Salary
HMRC	Staff Costs	£167.60	N/A	N/A	HMRC PAYE October

286. Roads

(a) To report any road issues

There were no issues to report.

(b) To report any updates on M20 Smart Motorway Works – noted.

(c) Road Closures – see website for details

i. To note temporary road closures affecting Birling:

Snodland Road; Ford Lane (Trottiscliffe); Birling Hill; Bull Road; Woodgate Road (Ryarsh); Legge Lane; Addington Lane & Trottiscliffe Road; School Lane (Trottiscliffe);

287. Planning

(a) Applications to be considered

There are none.

(b) Agricultural Notification

TM/20/02097/AGN

Walnut Tree Farm Stangate Road Birling West Malling Kent ME19 5JL

Prior Agricultural Notification: erection of an agricultural storage building

It was **RESOLVED** to comment no objection.

(c) Decisions by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

There are none.

288. Matters for future meetings

The standing items shall be added to the agenda. The budget for 2021-22 will be considered at the next meeting. Flytipping; No Parking Sign; Village Hall shall all be added to the agenda.

289. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10th November 2020.

Meeting closed at 21:55 pm

Signed.....

Date.....