

Birling Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 12 July 2016 in Birling Village Hall at 8pm

Present: Councillors Mrs Westwood (Chair) Mr Grimmett (Vice Chair)
 Ms Harrington Mrs Spooner
 Mrs Walker

Mrs Grimmett (Clerk) and Mr Neil Hewett

1 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Cllr Nevill and Cllr Westwood declared a pecuniary interest in Item **10 TM/16/01213/PDVOR**

2 Reports

No reports had been received.

3 Open Forum

Nothing was raised under this heading.

4 Approval and Signing of Minutes of Previous Month's Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 June 2016 be **APPROVED** and they were **SIGNED** by the Chair.

5 Matters arising and last month's circulation

(a) Actions from June's meeting:

Local Plan – Parish Councils' Briefing

Cllrs Westwood and Nevill had attended the meeting which was very informative but at this stage there was nothing to directly affect Birling as none of the sites put forward in the village had been deemed viable. Mr Hewett said that there had been a meeting of TMBC's advisory board last week to discuss what will be the basis of the consultation starting in September.

TMBC Fairer Charging

A meeting with Sharon Shelting, Director of Finance at TMBC, on 2 August has been arranged to discuss options and clarity regarding impact on payments for the Church and churchyard.

Action: Clerk to ask KALC's opinion as to whether there's an obligation to continue payments for open churchyards.

TryAngle Awards Notice on noticeboard

Hedge Blocking Footpath Cllr Westwood had spoken with the home owner and the hedge has been cut back but it was noted that vegetation was now almost covering the whole width of the footpath by Ryarsh Farm Stables.

Action: Clerk to write to Mr Amlani

(b) Bollards in Birling Road

These had been erected the day after June's meeting

(c) EiS Website

Following pressure from KALC KCC are now going continue to fund this service. There had been no update on training for new format website due to be in place by the end of July.

(d) Traffic Through the Village

(1) The "Unsuitable for HGVS" sign will be replaced but, as it is not a standard size, may take some time. Councillors were pleased to learn that, following June's meeting and an email from a parent with a child at Ryarsh School complaining about increased volumes of traffic between Snodland and Ryarsh, Cllr Hohler has contacted Kent

Highways. Plans are being made for temporary signage to be put up to try and stop drivers using Snodland / Birling / Ryarsh as a rat run to avoid delays during the J4 roadworks. Cllr Hohler has also asked for the vegetation growing over the footpath alongside Ryarsh Farm Stables, now covering the whole width of the pavement in places, to be cut back.

(2) Tom Hugendhat had responded to the letter sent to him by forwarding it to the Planning Inspectorate. A reply had been received explaining that, they are unable to reconsider the decision. As the decision constitutes a legal document it could only have been reconsidered following a successful challenge in the High Court on a point of law and the 6 week period for such action to take place had expired.

Actions: Clerk to thank Cllr Hohler for her prompt action and ask if the footpath Along The Bank could also be cut back and to thank Mr Hugendhat for his help and say that, once the development is operational, BPC will monitor vehicle movements as the feeling is more vehicles will come through Birling due to its proximity to the M20.

(e) Old Chalk New Downs Project

The Parish Action Plan had been received and Cllrs Walker, Grimmett and Spooner agreed that all points they'd asked for were included.

Action: Clerk to advise the Project Development Officer that all OK.

(f) Tonbridge & Malling Local Plan

Already discussed

(g) Any other matters arising

The Clerk advised that CPRE membership had been confirmed.

Nothing further was raised under this heading.

6 Parish Business and Decisions

(a) Any other business to be decided

Mr Hewett advised that he would be pleased to join the council and it was **AGREED** to co-opt Mr Hewett to the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to make necessary arrangements during the summer recess.

Nothing further was raised under this heading.

7 Correspondence

See Matters Arising (d) (2)

8 Financial Matters

(a) The quarterly reconciliation sheet, bank statements & PAYE records were signed.

NatWest balances as at 30 June 2016:

Current £18035.33 (£222 cheques not yet cashed) Reserve £100.43

Secure Trust Bank: £17153.88 (£84.68 interest received).

(b) Cheques to be signed

The following cheque was signed:

			Net	VAT	Gross
1501	Mrs Grimmett	July salary & reimbursements	£335.43		£335.43

(c) Any other financial business

There was no other financial business.

9 Roads

(a) JPCTCG

Minutes of 27 June meeting had been circulated. The September meeting will focus on Speedwatch.

(b) Any other roads business

Nothing was raised under this heading.

- 10 **Planning**
New:
TM/16/01465/FL
Applicant: RSPCA 199 Castle Way, Leybourne, West Malling ME195HW
Proposal: Upgrading of an existing dog path to all weather path and the addition of a ditch linking 2 existing ditches to prevent flooding.
BPC: No objections
Decisions:
TM/16/01213/PDVOR Applicant: BJF Connections Snodland Road
Proposal: Changing an existing office building into a 5 bedroom house by means of stud walls and redecoration.
TMBC: No objections
BPC: no objections
- 11 **Any Other Business**
(a) Printer
The Clerk advised that the colour head for the printer has “gone” and is unrepairable. The unused colour ink cartridges recently purchased have been returned to the supplier and a credit note will be issued.
Action: A new printer to be sourced before the September meeting.
- 12 **Date of next meeting**
As previously agreed the next meeting will be held at **8pm on Tuesday 13 September 2016**. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.17pm.