

Birling Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 9 February 2016 in Birling Village Hall at 8pm

Present: Councillors Mrs Jacquie Westwood (Chair) Mr Ron Nudd (Vice Chair)
 Mr Colin Grimmett Ms Deborah Harrington
 Mrs Sylvia Spooner Mrs Helen Walker

Mrs Grimmett (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

1 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from County Cllr Matthew Balfour, Borough Cllr Ann Kemp, Cllr Guy Nevill and PCSO Boyd

2 Reports

Borough & County None

Crime PCSO Boyd's application to become a PC had been successful wef 18/2/16

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 12 January 2016 be **APPROVED** and they were **SIGNED** by the Chair.

5 Matters arising and last month's circulation

(a) Actions from January's Meeting

All completed with the following exceptions:

Registration with Secure Trust	HW
Details of Funding for Landscape PCSO	GN
Contact re parked HGVs	JG
Draft Emergency Plan (Presentation arranged for APA 8/3/16)	JW/JG

Letter re speed enforcement Mr Tugendhat will write to Chief Constable

(b) Street Lights

Clerk still waiting for information re possible savings.

(c) Transparency Fund for Smaller Councils

Payment of £1005.08 had been received.

(d) Any other matters arising

Nothing was raised under this heading.

6 Parish Business for Decision

(a) Appointment of Auditor

It was **AGREED** that Kevin Funnell be appointed as auditor.

ACTION: Clerk to write

(b) Queens 90 Birthday Celebrations – Beacon

It was **DECIDED** to ask Cllr Nevill if he and the Village Hall committee would be interested in arranging for the Holly Hill beacon to be lit.

ACTION: Clerk to discuss with Cllr Nevill

(c) Street Light at Birling Park/Bull Road junction

The bulb had blown and TMBC maintenance had advised that this type of light has been phased out by an EU Directive and, once PSR Lighting's current stock has gone, they

can't be replaced.

(d) Date of APA

It was **AGREED** that the APA be held on 8 March with Rob Wiles from Kent Fire & Rescue giving a presentation on Emergency Planning.

(e) Any other matters to be Decided

Nothing was raised under this heading.

7 Correspondence (already circulated)

KCC Tonbridge Gateway Consultation on transfer of services from the Gateway to Tonbridge Library & Adult Education site www.kent.gov.uk/tonbridgegateway

KCC Consultation on Restructuring of Mobile Library Service www.kent.gov.uk/mobilelibraries
Tonbridge Library & Adult Education site www.kent.gov.uk/tonbridgegateway (clerk had completed this)

Highways England Lower Thames Crossing Route Consultation

www.gov.uk/consultations/lower-thames-crossing-route-options

Tom Tugendhat Letter re the above consultation encouraging local residents to complete the consultation as any new crossing will have a major impact on traffic flow on the M20. Mr Tugendhat welcomes views on any matters from his constituents, preferably by email to tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk

KALC Planning Conference 7 March – no Councillors are able to attend

KALC Electoral Review of Kent: Final Recommendation The recommendation is that Birling will remain in Malling North with Addington, Leybourne, Ryarsh, Snodland and Trosley www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-east/kent/kent-county-council

Heart of Kent Hospice – in the bag

Letter from resident re pot holes in Birling Road

ACTION: Clerk to report to Kent Highways

TMBC Clean for the Queen - Cllrs thought this would be a good project but had concerns re safety, risk assessment etc..

ACTION: Clerk to check with TMBC what equipment available, risk assessment, safety etc

Letter from ex-resident with old photos of the village

ACTION: Cllr Westwood to see if some could be posted on the website and Clerk to offer to Mrs Ivell.

8 Financial Matters

(a) Monthly accounts, statements & PAYE records to be signed

Monthly reconciliation sheet, bank statements and PAYE forms were signed.

NatWest balances as at 31 January 2016: Current: £13281.77 Reserve £100.41

Secure Trust Bank: £16899.46.

(b) Cheques

The following cheques were signed:

			Net	VAT	Gross
1420	Mrs Grimmett	February salary & reimbursements			£359.93
1421	KALC	Chairman's Conference	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00
1422	Mrs Spooner	Reimbursement	£20.00		£20.00

(c) Any other financial business

The Agreement with CS Laser for electricity for street lights was signed and nothing further was raised.

9 **Roads**

(a) JPCTCG

Minutes of the meeting on 18 January had been circulated but no-one had been available to attend. The next meeting is on 7 April.

(b) Any other roads business

Cllr Walker said that the posts by the stream in Bull Road and the village gateway need repainting to make them more obvious to drivers.

ACTION: Clerk to report to Kent Highways

10 **Planning**

New:

TM/16/00176/FL

TQ 567834 160234

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Cheeseman

Location: The Cottage, 30 Masters Lane, Birling ME19 5JP

Proposal: Demolition of lean to utility room. Extension to form glazed entrance link and new kitchen, breakfast, utility and boot room.

BPC: No objections

The Clerk advised that the following application was available online and the hard copy would be circulated when received.

Cllr Walker declared a pecuniary interest as owner of a neighbouring property

TM/16/00065/OA

Location: Timberley, Masters Lane, Birling ME19

Proposal: Demolition of existing property and replace with 3 x 4 bedroom detached houses and garaging

11 **Any Other Business**

Cllr Nudd had been asked by Aylesford cubs if BPC would consider making a donation towards archery equipment.

ACTION: Cllr Nudd to find out how many boys from Birling attend the troop

Cllr Westwood reported that there will not be a flower festival this year. Instead, on 11 June All Saints' PCC will be holding a Heritage event which will include a number of flower arrangements.

ACTION: Cllr Westwood to make further enquiries to enable a decision to be made at March's meeting.

Cllrs were reminded that the Old Chalk New Downs Workshop was on 26 February.

Nothing further was raised under this heading.

Good Councillors Guide – Clerk to order 4

12 **Date of next meeting**

As previously agreed the **Annual Parish Assembly** will be held at **7.30pm on Tuesday 8 March 2016** followed by the **Parish Council meeting**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.