

Birling Parish Council

Minutes of the MEETING of BIRLING PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday 9th April 2024

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

Also in attendance: Clerk Ms J Miller

185. Apologies for absence

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr Yates, Cllr Hewett and Cllr Wright. Apologies were received from Mrs Hohler, Cllr Boxall and Cllr Banks.

186. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Cllr Hirst declared an interest in the planning item.

187. Approval and signing of minutes of meeting of 12th March 2024.

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and approve the minutes of the meeting of 12th March 2024.

188. Reports

- (a) County Council – Sarah Hohler
Mrs Hohler had sent apologies, and a report was received.
- (b) Borough Councillors – Paul Boxall and Bill Banks
Apologies were received and a report was received.
- (c) Kent Police – There was no report.

189. Open Forum – Public Participation Session

There were none.

190. Matters arising and last month's circulation.

- i. **Ryarsh School**
To receive any update.
- ii. **Village Hall**
To receive any updates on availability of hall – ongoing maintenance continues.

191. Matters for Information circulated to councillors.

10/03 Spring Budget 2024
10/03 Local Green Space information
10/03 TMBC Carbon Literacy Training Grant
10/03 KALC Training Bulletin
10/03 E Watch 2163
10/03 Chief Executives Bulletin
10/03 NALC Newsletter
12/03 E Watch 2164
12/03 Easter activities
12/03 E Watch 2162
27/03 58&70 Buses
27/03 Climate Change Forum
27/03 Get Tonbridge & Malling
27/03 E Watch 2165
27/03 E Watch 2167
27/03 E Watch 2166
27/03 Free women and girls safety workshop

192. Meetings

(a) Meetings attended on behalf of the parish council

There were none.

(a) Future meetings

- i. Snodland Asphalt Meeting 18/04/2024
- ii. KALC T&M Area Committee 18/04/2023 (in person)
- iii. KALC T&M Area Committee 11/07/2024 (Teams)
- iv. Parish Partnership Panel 30/05/2024
- v. Parish Partnership Panel 29/08/2024
- vi. KALC T&M Area Committee 03/10/2024 – AGM in person
- vii. KALC T&M Area Committee 12/12/2024 (Teams)

193. Parish Business for Decisions

(a) Highways

- i. To receive update from Cllr Hirst on Highways Improvement Plan.
It was noted that Cllr Hirst is drafting a response.
- ii. To receive update on bank infringement.
The council is awaiting the inspection report.

(b) Local Plan

- i. To note update – it was noted that the consultation has been delayed.

(c) Community Transport Grant / Bus Services

- i. To receive update on KALC T&M parish council initiatives
It was reported that the Community Grant Fund had been approved by Kent County Council and this is good news for the 58 and 70 services.

(d) Jubilee and Coronation

- i. To receive update on visit to Gallaghers to choose stone – the clerk is liaising with Gallaghers for an appointment.
- ii. To receive update from Cllr Nevill on tree planting – this will take place next year. Cllr Nevill is meeting with Kent County Council.

(e) Village Maintenance, Waste and Litter

- i. To note litter pick held on 24th March 2024.
It was noted that there was a very good turnout and a successful pick.
Thanks were recorded to Cllr Hirst and the Clerk.

(f) Climate Action

- i. To review and update the Climate Action Plan.
The flooding was discussed and possible solutions.
- ii. To note minutes from TMBC Climate Change meeting – noted.

(g) Strategic Plan Update

- i. To review updated strategic plan.
Cllr Westwood circulated suggested changes for comment and an updated plan will be sent to councillors before the next meeting.

Cllr Walker entered the meeting at 20:29pm

(h) Annual Parish Meeting

- i. To consider format for meeting 14/05/2024

It was agreed to set up a petition for residents to sign for a 20mph limit in the Village and refreshments to be provided.

Print outs of the Draft Strategic Plan will be displayed on the boards with Post it notes for ideas to be captured on. The previous plan will be printed and produced as a poster for the display boards.

(i) Community Resilience Plan

i. To review draft plan from Cllr Westwood

The draft was presented and will be circulated for review at the meeting in June

(j) Infrastructure Statement

i. To review statement

An adults sports facility was added to the list.

194. Parish Business for Noting

(a) Website/Social Media platforms updates

To note the following added to online platforms:

Road Closures.

(b) Parochial Church Council

i. To receive regular update.

It was noted that the faculty had been received for the tree works.

On Saturday 27April a Spring clean/tidy will take place in the Churchyard.

Refreshments will be provided. The grass will be strimmed at the weekend.

(c) Resident Matters

i. To note any recent local issues raised.

It was noted that pot holes are being reported by residents.

195. Correspondence

There were none.

196. Finance & Accounts

(a) To approve Bank Reconciliation March 2024

Net Bank Balances as at 31/3/2024 £16.860.31

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Bank Reconciliation for March 2024.

(b) To note budget position year to date March 2024

The budget position as at March 2024 was noted.

(c) To approve PAYE record April 2024.

The PAYE record was approved.

(d) BACS and DD to be approved and signed for April 2024

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

Payee	Budget	Amount Gross	Amount Net	VAT	Description
Various	Staff Costs	£527.84			April staff costs
LASER	Streetlighting	£29.82	£28.33	£1.49	Streetlight energy costs
Waveney IT	IT Costs	£62.73	£52.27	£10.46	Monthly Mailbox Costs
HugoFox	IT Costs	£11.99	£9.99	£2.00	Monthly website costs

197. Road

(a) To report any road issues

It was noted that the salt bag had not been delivered and will be chased.

(b) To note update on Stangate Road pothole

It was noted that there are two large pot holes on Bull Road.

It was noted that the drain at the bottom of Stangate Road is full of silt and ditch needs re-ditching.

(c) Road Closures – see website for details.

- i. To note temporary road closures affecting Birling

Cllr Hirst left the meeting at 21:17pm

Cllr Nevill declared an interest in this item.

198. Planning

(a) Applications to be considered – there were none.

- i. 24/00423/PA Ashbudd Oast, 19 Snodland Road
Demolition of existing side lobby and replacement with single storey extension.
It was **RESOLVED** no comment.

(b) Decisions by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council - there were none.

199. Matters for future meetings.

The usual substantive items will be on the agenda.

200. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 14th May 2024

Future Dates – 11th June meeting has been changed to 18th June.

Meeting closed at 21:19pm

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