



BEKESBOURNE-WITH-PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th November 2023 at 7:30pm at Bekesbourne Village Hall

Minutes to be formally agreed at the next meeting.

1. Those Present

Parish Cllr David Sladden (Chairman); Parish Cllr Mark Rhodes;
Parish Cllr Joanne Watt (Vice Chair); Parish Cllr Mary Evans;
Parish Cllr Christien Sladden; Parish Cllr Christien Ash;

Mrs N. Purcell (Clerk to the council)

There was 2 members of the public present.

2. Apologies for Absence

Parish Cllr Caroline Tuffey;
Parish Cllr Andrea Nicholson

3. Declarations of councillor interests relevant to this agenda

Cllr M. Rhodes – Allotment Tenant;
Cllr J. Watt- VHMC committee member (PC Representative)

4. To confirm minutes of the previous meeting (*held on 11th September 2023*)

Resolved: It was proposed by C.Sladden and seconded by M.Rhodes that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2023 are a true and accurate record.

Outcome: 4 votes in favour, 2 abstentions- motion carried.

5. To report any matters arising (*from the previous meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda*)

None

The meeting is suspended for up to 15 minutes to allow discussion with members of the electorate of the parish of Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne present at the meeting.

6. Public representation (*notified to the clerk in advance of the meeting, agenda items only*)

Gary Walters (CEO at Highland Court Farm):

- Expressed concerns regarding the PC's objection to the planning application.
- Explained that local PC's will be invited in due course to meet and discuss plans.

7. External Reports

7.1 County Councillor Reports

Received and circulated.

7.2 City Councillor Reports

Received and circulated.

Cllr Castle also updates the following:

- The budget is out for consultation, and Canterbury City council are encouraging people to engage.
- Car Park prices are being reviewed.
- There is a drive in the area to encourage residents to recycle correctly.

Parish Council meeting resumes

8. Any s101 Delegated Authority items to be noted by council. (if any)

8.1: Application No: ca/23/00484

Proposal: Outline planning application for up to 300 residential dwellings (including affordable housing and older person accommodation), a new community hub, introduction of structural planting and landscaping, informal public open space and children's play area and surface water flood mitigation and attenuation. All matters reserved except for access.

Location: Land At The Hill Bekesbourne Lane East Of Bekesbourne Hill
Bekesbourne Canterbury CT4 5EA

Outcome: 7 councillors responded objecting to this application. Therefore, an objection letter was submitted using s101 delegated authority.

8.2 Application No: CA/23/01859

Proposal: Extension of outbuilding for ancillary accommodation.

Location: Nicholls Barn, Station Road, Bekesbourne, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 5DD

Outcome: 1 councillor responded with no objection, 1 councillor responded with objections. No response given as need a minimum of 3 responses.

8.3 Application No: CA/23/01787

Proposal: Installation of Solar Panels to Southern Elevation.

Location: Hand Forth, School Lane, Bekesbourne, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 5ER

Outcome: 3 councillors responded in support of the proposal. Therefore this was submitted using s101 delegated authority.

9. Updates from representatives for external groups (if any)

9.1 Recreation Ground Management Committee

No update

9.2 Village Hall Management Committee

The completion certificate has been received for the refurbishment.

9.3 The River Group

No update

9.4 KALC

No Meeting yet, has been deferred until January 2024

9.5 A257 Traffic Management Group

No updates. Meeting Saturday.

10. Highways Matters

10.1 Any updates-

No updates

10.2 Speed watch

Ongoing. Awaiting date to meet with Kent Police.

10.3 Any new matters

None

10.4 Highways Improvement Plan

Council revisited their Highways Improvement plan, to prioritise things into achievable targets. Clerk to re-submit the Highways Improvement Plan and arrange a meeting with KCC Highways representatives discuss progressing the actions listed.

11. Finance Matters

11.1 To note Oct/Nov payment schedule & approve any new payments.

Payments Made in September/October as per financial regulations.

Month	Type	Payment	Amount
October	SO	Clerks Salary	As per salary sheet
November	FPO	C&D Construction	£6,104.82 (funded by VHMC)
November	FPO	CCC Election Expenses	£101.92
November 2023	FPO	ROSPA	£106.80

Payments Due for Approval:

Payment	Amount
Clerk Expenses: Website domain	£17.99
Clerk Expenses: phone bill April-Nov 2023	£40.00

Resolved: It was proposed by M. Evans and seconded by M. Rhodes to approve the payment schedule, as presented- to include the payments due for approval.

Outcome: all in favour, motion carried.

11. Quarter 2 Accounts (July- September 2023)

The accounts were circulated to councillors ahead of the meeting and unanimously approved.

11.3 To consider the external auditors report on the completion of the 2022-23 AGAR

The external audit has been completed by Mazars LLP; with their External Auditors Report and Certificate 2022/2023 stating the following:

“In undertaking the review of the 2022/23 Annual Governance and Accountability Return it came to our attention that in 2023 the Council has not met the requirements of the 2015 Accounts and Audit Regulations to provide electors with a period of 30 working days including the first 10 working days of July, to inspect the accounts. The Council should ensure that in 2023/24 they comply with the Regulations and respond no to the relevant assertion in its Annual Governance Statement as the assertion is retrospective and refers to compliance during the relevant financial year rather than in respect of it.

*Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:
Not applicable.”*

Resolved: Council noted the report. It was explained that that the notice period did take place but was miscalculated to be one day shorter than required, due to human error therefore was documented as not meeting the requirements.

11.4 Draft Budget 2024/25

This will be discussed at an extraordinary meeting of the council. Date to be arranged.

12. Planning

12.1 No New applications

12.2 No further updates. (discussed in item 8)

13. Allotments

To be inspected by Chair and Clerk,

14. Website update

Website almost complete with new provider ‘Hugo Fox’.

15. Staff Matters- Confidential to be held under the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960

Exclusion of the public under the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960

Resolved: Under the terms of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960, by virtue of the business to be transacted involving staff matters, it was proposed by C. Ash and seconded by M. Rhodes to move to a closed session for item 15.1

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

15.1 SLCC Salary Agreement 2022-23 back pay

Resolved: Council noted the amount due to the clerk following the SLCC salary agreement for 2022-23. Signatory approval to release the payment was received.

16. Next Meeting Date

15th January 2024

17. Items for Next Agenda

None

- **Meeting Closed 20:56** -

It was agreed that these minutes are a true and accurate record:

Signed: _____ (Chair)

Date: _____