

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 4th February, 2015

Present: Cllr. R. Ball – Vice-Chair
Cllr. L. Major
Cllr. K. Johnson
Cllr. R. Bartlett

Lynda Fisher, Clerk
County Cllr. M. Baldock
Borough Cllr. G. Randall
PCSO Ian Henderson
12 Residents

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair formally welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Herbert, Paige, Richardson, Wright and Dewar-Whalley and Nick Mayatt Community Warden.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th January 2015, were agreed and signed as a true transcript, except for the following correction; the listed cheque number 0439, payable to Steve Wakeling for £100 was not written out or issued as prior to the meeting the Clerk was advised that there was no payment due for grass cutting in December owing to the wet ground conditions. This cheque number was therefore used in the February cheque run, see below 11.7.

3. Public Session

A resident mentioned the spate of burglaries in Norwood Walk and Hilton Drive; County Cllr. Baldock to get in touch with KCC to see if the street lights can be turned back on. Cllr. Baldock mentioned that KCC are installing LED lighting and because of this it will be a slow process in having the street lighting turned on. He added that the ‘pond’ that is developing to the front of the Gadby Road shops will be sorted out in the next couple of weeks.

The Vice-Chair asked the PCSO, Ian Henderson, about the recent of burglaries. Incidents are shown on the Kent Police website and in the newspaper; some have been within the last fourteen days. The PCSO replied that the Police are actively working on the Hilton Drive area and he asked if residents can report incidents direct to the Police rather than mentioning Facebook. Cllr. Johnson responded that often residents don’t wish to call 101 because it adds to the crime statistics, which then raises insurance. Cllr. Johnson suggested using the Kent Police Twitter Account but the PSCO stated that he cannot connect to this account.

The PCSO has also been looking at parking outside the School after receiving a number of complaints from residents regarding pavement parking; bollards would stop this practice and it was agreed that the Clerk write to Kent County Council asking for these to be installed. As regards parents using the hall car park it does not have public liability cover for people not using the hall. **Action: Clerk**

4. Declarations of Interest - None.

5. New Parish Councillor

Members welcomed Rebecca Bartlett to the Parish Council; she duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took up her post as Parish Councillor.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Last Month’s Meeting

- 1. Bobbing Hill – Travellers and Speeding** – Relating to Travellers, correspondence has been sent to various Directors at Kent County Council, Swale Borough Council and Gordon Henderson, M.P. A response has been received from David Hall, Deputy Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste

and as a result of this a meeting has been arranged for the 16th February to look at this issue. Back in 2007 it would appear that the process for a stop up order on the road was begun but we now know it was never validated; the Officers dealing with this at KCC have both left.

Cllr. Ball mentioned speeding in Bobbing Hill; Speed Watch cannot do anything in this road because this is a 60 mph area.

2. **Updates: Pedestrian Bridge, Simpsons Crossing** – A meeting organised by a resident took place with Network Rail on the 31st January; this was well attended. It is hoped that something will be done but at present there is no clear indication as to what this will be. A bridge will cost in the region of £500,000 and Public Rights of Way are not keen on closing the footpath, a process that could take approximately two years. One positive result that came out of this meeting is that Network Rail will remove the debris behind the garages in Norwood Drive; this should also help water problems associated with the garages. Parish Council to keep pursuing this with Network Rail. **Action: Clerk**

7. **Councillors' Report** - Cllrs. Ball, Major, Johnson and Bartlett – nothing further to report.

8. **Correspondence**

1. **Consultation on future delivery of Library, Registration and Archive services in Kent** – Agreed to bring this back to the March meeting; Clerk to re-circulate. **Action: Clerk**
2. **KALC - Lorry Parking** – Agreed to support Boxley Parish Council's proposal.

9. **Planning**

1. **4/505315/FULL** – Pheasants Farm House Sheppey Way Bobbing Kent ME9 8QX - Proposed workshop building with offices and staff room – no objections.
2. **14/506753/ADV** - The Jenny Wren Public House Quartz Way Sittingbourne ME10 5AB - Advertisement 1 x internally illuminated built up wall logo 1 x internally illuminated double sided pictorial logo – Agreed to object to the roadside illuminated sign; this will be unnecessary additional light pollution and the one on the building, which is in very close proximity, is sufficient and can be clearly seen from the highway. Also to object to the signs being illuminated 24 hours; they should only be lit during business hours.
3. **14/506167/OUT** - Floplast Ltd Howt Green Sheppey Way Bobbing Kent ME9 8QX - Outline application for the erection of 42 dwellings, with all matters reserved for future consideration – Agreed to object on traffic grounds - the entrance/exit to this development will be on a bend, which has poor visibility for oncoming traffic and could be hazardous. There are concerns over the density; Councillors feel that the housing number should be reduced to 30 and more parking spaces should be provided so that traffic does not spill over onto the Sheppey Way, particularly the corner. Households these days often have up to 4 cars because children stay at home longer when they reach adulthood due to difficulty getting on to the property ladder. Members are concerned that the traffic survey was only carried out on the North side; it was not done on the South side. This development was not included in the Local Plan.
4. **14/506850/FULL** - Minor Material Amendment to approved permission SW/13/1328 - Reserved Matters of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping relating to the proposed erection of 224 dwellings, together with access, parking, open space and landscaping. - Replacement of three Broadway plots 27, 28, and 29 with two Letchworths, together with frontage landscape area. Amendment to layout and house types on plots 111-134 & associated re-numbering of all plots from 29-224. Amendments to design and internal floor layout of Flat Block E to reflect a revised mix of affordable units. Provision of additional parking space for plot 180. Design amendments to bin stores serving Flat Block B, C, D, E together with provision of additional bin store for Flat Block E. The addition of Ginnels to terrace Broadway units across the site such as units 59-62 - Development Land Vellum Drive Sittingbourne Kent – no objections.
5. **14/505771/FULL** - Meads Community Centre - Land Adjacent To Emerald Crescent Quartz Way Sittingbourne Kent ME10 5JL – Agreed to respond as follows: there are huge parking issues in this area

of The Meads and the Community Centre, which only has 10 parking spaces, will add to this unless some action is taken to increase the size of the car park and allocated spaces. As a result of recent investigations it has been ascertained that the road to the front of the shopping area is private and maintained by a Management company, who could clamp or stop vehicles from using this access. The Jenny Wren Car Park is not a public car park and is for use by their customers only; the small shoppers' car park is restricted to two hours and often full and the new medical centre's 17 spaces are for staff; we have been advised that they will be issuing permits to staff to stop patients from using the spaces. Customers visiting this area already have to park in adjoining roads; once the Medical Centre is up and running this will add to the existing congestion. Another concern is access by Emergency vehicles as the roads are often full with parked cars reducing the highway width. The whole problem is down to insufficient parking being provided in this and the surrounding area.

Several residents have complained that when purchasing their properties and land searches have been carried out the Community Centre has not been brought to their attention; for some reason it has not shown up?

The Parish Council would urge Swale Borough Council's Members and Planners to seriously look at the proposal and ensure more than adequate parking is provided so as not to add to what already is a badly congested area.

10. **Parking in the Meads**

Cllr. Ball referred to the issue with parking in The Meads in the area of the shops. It was always believed that the Jenny Wren's car park was for public use, but not according to the Jenny Wren who stated it's for their customer use only. Parking outside the One Stop is restricted to 2 hours; people working in the shops were believed to have an allocated parking permit, but this appears not to be correct. It has now been confirmed that the new Medical Centre will be utilising their 17 spaces for staff; if this goes ahead there will be very limited parking for patients in the area. When this was planned Swale Borough Council thought that people should walk to the Medical Centre, but often patients are too unwell to do so. The land outside the shops and health centre still belongs to the developers and will not be adopted and that could stop people parking there. Parking in this area is already bad; with many of the roads already congested the Watermark housing development and the Meads Community Centre will only add to the problem.

11. **Finance**

1. **Quotes for installation of Bollards – A249 Viaduct** – Cllr. Johnson has received a provisional quote, he now needs to ascertain what utilities are under the area; agreed to place on the March Agenda. **Action: Cllr. Johnson/Clerk**
2. **Quotes for WW1 Church memorial** – Proposed by Cllr. Johnson and seconded by Cllr. Major; agreed to accept the quote from 'Set in Stone' for the sum of £2274, which includes V.A.T. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Dog Fouling Signs** – Agreed to purchase 4 signs, at a cost of £10, from Iwade Parish Council. One sign to be located on Bobbing Hill; other locations to be agreed. **Action: Clerk**
4. **Clerks & Councils Direct Subscription Renewal** – Agreed to renew at a cost of £48. **Action: Clerk**
5. **KALC Planning Conference – Cllr. Paige** – Agreed Cllr. Paige to attend at a cost of £30, the reduction due to this being shared with Borden Parish Council. **Action: Cllr. Paige/Clerk**
6. **NALC Salary Award for Clerks 2014** - Members agreed to increase the Clerk's salary as per the national pay award of 2%.
7. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** - The accounts to the 31st January 2015, were agreed and the following cheques were agreed and signed -

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
04.02.15	0439	L. Fisher	Expenses – Tele, Office use, Refreshments, Jan	£11.83p

04.02.15	0440	H.M. Revenue & Custom	Tax due Jan 2015	£44.00p
Two Cheques in total				

Payment by Standing Order: Wages - £176.27p - salary January 2015

12. Any Other Matters Arising

Cllr. Ball referred to the lack of a noticeboard in the Grove shopping area (the original one was vandalized). One of the shops is happy to display a small noticeboard and Cllr. Dewar-Whalley has offered £100 from the Localism Funds.

13. Next Meeting(s)

The next monthly Meeting will take place on Wednesday 4th March, 2015, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in Bobbing Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

These minutes are certified to be a true and just record.

Signed: _____ Date: _____