

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held 9th December 2009 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. Herbert (chairman), Cllr's Ball, Bennett, Bullen, Edwards, Major and Nappey.

Clerk: Mrs S Crawford.

Ward Councillor Randall attended.

One member of the public attended.

1.0 Apologies: Cllr's Dewar-Whalley and Stowe.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a true record and signed accordingly.

3.0 Public Session:

Cllr Randall informed council he was trying to get his company to invest their carbon offset credits in issues in Britain and not abroad. Mr Freeman asked council again why the Rooks View development is not adopted and who will be responsible for the perimeter fencing. The clerk will request a copy of the Section 106 agreement to see if this sheds any light on matters. He also asked who is responsible for the fallen hedgerow along the A2 before Rooks View turning. The clerk is fairly sure it's Highways so she will report the mess in that area. The old Southern Water depot is up for auction soon and it will be interesting to see who makes bids.

4.0 Declarations of Interest:

None declared.

5.0 Chairman's Report and Matters Arising:

5.1 The clerk was thanked for the lovely Christmas 'do' provided on Friday 4th December. Council decided to pay for this themselves which works out at £4 per head. Payment direct to the clerk please.

5.2 The contractors working on the Japanese Knotweed are not doing a very good job. The clerk informed council she had been speaking to David Mounter and she will do this again to ensure this area is tidied up.

6.0 Clerks Report and Correspondence Received:

6.1 Budget- reminder that this will be discussed at our January meeting.

6.2 Lord Lieutenant of Kent's Civic service on 22nd April 2010 at All Saints Church Maidstone at 11am. Cllr Edwards wishes to attend and the clerk was asked to inform Cllr Dewar-Whalley if he wishes to attend.

6.3 Kent Fire & Rescue Integrated Risk Management Plan 2010/2013 received,

6.4 KCC- Land near Pigeon Farm – going to auction soon. KCC wishes to know if we are still trying to use this land. After discussion regarding the liabilities and uses for the land the clerk will reply.

6.5 Sue Sampson curate at Bobbing rang to inform us that there will be two services a month at Bobbing church. She hopes to attend a meeting to introduce herself but was unable to attend this one and next month.

6.6 KALC Survey- the clerk had received a survey regarding the clerk and councillors thoughts on training. This was completed. Cllr's Ball, Major and Nappey had attended the latest meeting and the survey was mentioned was spoken about. Also raised was the use of the parish clerk for raising funds, the possibility of creating clusters of parish councils who could work together which may save money and also Best Practice workshops. Better attendance at the Local Engagement Forums would be desirable but generally it was felt that there are so many committees its not sure who does what, for whom and when!

7.0 Councillors Reports:

Cllr Edwards: Reported rubbish along Parsonage Lane. Demelza House have also spoken to her as they were presented with a garden from the Chelsea Flower show which will be placed in the grounds. They would like to complete this with a bench and table and wondered if the council would like to donate this. This will be considered at the budget meeting next month.

Cllr Nappey: There have been many problems with the drains in Anatase Close which is really on-going and needs to be sorted. This blockage has been sorted for the present but householders need to know if they are responsible for this problem. Cllr Bennett advised them to write to NHBC to start a claim which will be looked into even if the 10 years has past. There is a lot of speeding on the estate which the clerk will report to the police although they are aware of problems in the past. There are litter problems on the estate, vandalism to the benches and fences and pot holes to be reported near the pub. At the recent PACT meeting Jack Fairbrother-Berriman is still the PCSO and is aware of the problems. There is also a Balfour Beatty van which is blocking an escape route. Cllr Nappey was advised to photograph the vehicle and report to the firm. At the meeting it was agreed that a representative from the police, either Insp Jones or a PCSO would attend and the clerk was asked to e-mail the dates to Insp Jones. The top 3 priorities are schoolchildren, Chalkwell coaches and Commuters.

Cllr Ball: Attended the Police Parish Briefing which was interesting. There were various initiatives in Swale going on but focus is at present in Sheerness. The PCSO was asked to attend our meetings but overall the confidence in the police is very low especially in rural areas. If we hear of anyone who feels this way someone from the force will visit to allay their fears. It is hoped they will publish a quarterly newsletter which they may require some help in delivering. Cllr Ball also asked the clerk to write to the owners of the buses in the lay-by to park considerately as the post box is hard to access. The clerk will contact Swale with a view to having yellow lines installed. Cllr Ball thought that the clerk's hours should be considered at the budget meeting.

Cllr Bullen: Reported that the drains need clearing along Coldharbour Lane. Also has concerns with the cars parked along Keycol Hill. These causes problems for residents trying to exit their driveways. The clerk will contact the police.

Cllr Major: Following on with the parking problems Cllr Dewar-Whalley spoke about the tightening up of parking offences especially pavement parking. He wondered what the progress was regarding this.

Cllr Bennett: Would like the speed limit along Rook Lane reviewed as it seems the national speed limit along these lanes is not suitable. Also the signage and priority at the junction needs amending as it promotes traffic queuing onto the A2. A mirror to assist residents with exiting Rooks View would be advantageous.

The clerk gave a report on the community engagement meeting at Hartlip with Keith Ferrin who did eventually arrive having forgotten about the meeting. The chair and clerk requested £1600 for new tables and chairs in the small hall together with a trolley to hold them. Also £100 for paint and materials to refurbish the village sign post. The next meeting will be 19th January 2010.

An update was given regarding the proposed hall at The Meads to which the clerk and Cllr's Nappey and Ball attended. Bobbing Parish Council is still involved at this stage.

8.0 Planning Applications and Notifications:

8.1 To consider new planning applications:

SW/09/0972 Case 07305 Change of use of land to use as a residential caravan site for one gypsy family with two caravans (including one static) erection of amenity block and laying of hardstanding at land adjacent to Upper Toes Sheppey Way Bobbing. Council wish to object to these plans on the grounds that the previous planning application was refused (SW/071243). It is also thought that the local plan does not encourage more stables between Sittingbourne and the Medway Towns. This was deleted from the agenda so should be on January's planning meeting.

SW/09/0873 Case 23864 First floor extension over existing double garage at 14 Balas Drive. No objections to be made by council.

SW/09/1206 Case 23873 Advertisement consent for shop front sign at 4 Quartz Way The Meads. No objections to be made by council.

- 8.2 Planning Notifications.
SW/09/0873 Case 23808 installation of ATM and security bollards at The One Stop Shop The Meads has been granted permission.

9.0 Finance:

- 9.1 To resolve to write cheques for the following:-

Bobbing Village Hall (hiring 6 months)	£200
Nicenstripy (grass cutting)	£295

10.0 Other Matters Arising:

Cllr Dewar-Whalley has still some of his allowance left to spend on community projects, forms available from him. He also wishes everyone a very Happy Christmas.

Meeting closed at 10.20 pm

The date of the next parish council meeting will be 6th January 2010 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm.

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

Signed: _____

Date: _____