

Birling Parish Council
Minutes of the MEETING of BIRLING PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday 8th November
2022 Birling Church at 8pm

Present: Councillors Mrs J Westwood (Chair)
Mr N Hewett (Vice Chair)
Mr S Hirst
Mr G Nevill
Mrs H Walker
Ms H Wright

Also in attendance: Clerk Ms J Miller, two members of the public.

99. Apologies for Absence

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllr Yates with reasons. County Councillor Hohler, Borough Councillors Kemp and Montague had sent apologies.

100. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Cllr Hirst and Cllr Walker declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning application for the Willows.

101. Approval and signing of minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and approve the minutes of 11th and 25th October 2022.

It was **RESOLVED** to thank Cllr Walker and Cllr Hewett for their excellent contributions to the meeting of the 25th October.

102. Reports

(a) County Councillor Sarah Hohler

Cllr Hohler submitted a written report prior to the meeting.

It was noted that the bus 58 has been withdrawn. It was **AGREED** to advise the KALC T&M area committee and the MP to advise that the only bus service in Birling and rural corridor has been removed.

(b) Borough Councillors Piers Montague & Ann Kemp

No report received.

(c) Police update circulated prior to the meeting – no crimes noted for October.

It was noted that the new inspector is a previous PCSO of Birling and shall be invited to a future meeting.

103. Open Forum – Public Participation Session

A member of the public addressed the meeting to advise of their planning application for a garage at their property. The planning authority had advised that the roof should not be flat and should not be behind the building line. The new application addresses these concerns.

A member of the public addressed the meeting to raise concern about the materials used in the planning application. Roof slate not in keeping with the area, and most of the existing planting has been removed and disagreed with the statement that the building could not be seen from the road.

104. Matters arising and last month's circulation

05/10 E Watch 2014

05/10 Kent Police Crime Commissioners Website

11/10 Kent's Plan Bee summit
 11/10 E Watch 2016
 11/10 KALC agenda
 11/10 KALC News
 11/10 E Watch 2015
 11/10 KALC AGM
 11/10 Tonbridge and Malling traffic surveys
 17/10 E Watch 2017
 17/10 Firestoppers toolkit (to go on BPC website)
 17/10 Community Catalyst project
 17/10 NALC Chief Executive bulletin
 17/10 Kent's Plan Bee newsletter
 17/10 National Highways satisfaction survey
 17/10 Kent Highways forward works programme
 22/10 E Watch 2019
 22/10 Moveable barrier update
 22/10 Kent Rail Summit
 22/10 Centre for sustainable energy
 31/10 NALC chief executive bulletin
 31/10 Local Government bulletin
 31/10 NALC new publication Elections
 31/10 E Watch 2021
 31/10 Local Government bulletin
 31/10 Parish Partnership Panel 03/11
 31/10 The Rural Bulletin
 31/10 Heart of Kent Hospice newsletter
 31/10 Local Government bulletin
 31/10 NALC chief executive bulletin
 31/10 E Watch 2018

105. Matters for Information circulated to councillors

i. Ryarsh School

To receive any updates

It was noted that the fireworks event was a great success with very positive feedback. It was **RESOLVED** for Cllr Yates to explore how a hardship fund could be funded by the local parish councils. The powers for spending on education will be investigated, the council could adopt the General Power of Competence should the conditions be met in May 2023. It was **RESOLVED** to add the contact details of foodbanks to the website and social media.

ii. Defibrillator Training

To note training being organised

To note safety notice for previous pads actioned

iii. Village Hall access

To receive any updates on availability of hall – no further updates.

Christmas Community Event – 26th November 2022

It was **RESOLVED** to donate around £150 to the Christmas Community Event.

iv. Charity Trusts

To note clerk preparing a guide to the trusts.

v. Clerk Appraisal

To note review taking place 10th November.

106. Meetings

(a) Meetings attended on behalf of the parish council

- i. TMBC Parish Partnership Panel – 03/11/2022 (in person)

Cllr Westwood attended, the new Inspector updated parishes on police matters.

The Local Plan was also discussed.

- ii. KALC Area Meeting – 13/10/2022 (in person)
The notes were circulated.

(b) Future meetings

- i. KALC Annual General Meeting 19/11/2022 (in person)
- ii. JPCTCG – 23/11/2022

107. Parish Business for Decisions

(a) Highways Improvement Plan

- i. To receive any updates from Cllr Hirst.
This is ongoing.

(b) Bank Infringement

- i. To note new director of Kent Highways invited to review the bank infringement – it was noted that this has been done and a response is awaited.

(c) Local Plan

- i. To note response to Regulation 18 submitted – noted.

(d) Jubilee

- i. To receive update on visit to Gallaghers to choose stone
- ii. To receive update from Cllr Nevill on treeplanting.

(e) Remembrance Sunday 13th November 2022

- i. To note road closure order and consider arrangements for marshals.
- ii. To note clock service taking place 9th November.

(f) Waste and Litter

- i. To note any updates.
It was noted that there had been a fly tip directly in the road and thanks were recorded to resident Craig for making the area safe.
The photos will be sent to Cllr Montague.
- ii. To consider response to Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan.
It was **RESOLVED** that the parish council had no comment.

108. Parish Business for Noting

(a) Website update

To note the following added to online platforms:

- Road closures
- KCC initiative
- Bus Update
- Remembrance details

(b) Parochial Church Council

- i. To receive regular update and to consider interactive prayer station
It was noted that the advert is out for new vicar with a plan to appoint by Easter.
It was **RESOLVED** to support the prayer station to be set up for two weeks for residents to tie ribbons to the railings of the war memorial.

(c) Whatsapp Group Matters

i. To note any issues raised on the Birling Whatsapp Group
There were reports of a mobile home transportation being stuck in the village and th
fly tipping incident.

109. Correspondence – all noted.

Ryarsh Parish Council – M20 tree planting.

110. Finance & Accounts

a) To consider budget and precept for 2023-24

The budget and precept first draft was considered. A precept of £11,708 and £11,868 budget were suggested. Once the tax base has been received in December the council will consider this matter further.

b) To approve Bank Reconciliation October 2022

Net Bank Balances as at 31/10/2022 £19,477.83

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation for October 2022.

c) To note budget position year to date October 2022 – noted

d) To approve PAYE record November 2022.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the November 2022 PAYE record.

e) BACS to be approved and signed:

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and approve the following payments

| Payee | Budget | Amount Gross | Amount Net | VAT | Description |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|------------|--------|--|
| Waveney IT | IT Costs | £57.53 | £57.53 | £9.59 | Monthly mailbox charges |
| Various | Staff Costs | £466.71 | | | October staff costs |
| Laser | Streetlighting | £8.32 | £7.93 | £0.39 | Streetlighting energy costs Sept 4.88+3.44 |
| CPRE | Subscriptions | £36.00 | | | Annual Subscription |
| Streetlights | Streetlighting | £178.80 | £149.00 | £29.80 | Half yearly maintenance contract |
| Poppy Appeal | Wreath s137 | £50.00 | | | Donation for Poppy Wreath |

111. Roads

(a) To report any road issues

It was noted that the streetlight at The Willows is out of order – this will be reported.

(b) Road Closures – see website for details

i. To note temporary road closures affecting Birling:

A228 Castle Way; A228 Ashton Way; Stangate Road; Birling Road

(c) Bus Services – to receive any updates – this was covered earlier in the meeting.

112. Planning

(a) Applications to be considered

i. TM/22/02353/FL The Willows 81 Ryarsh Road Birling West Malling Kent ME19 5JR

Erection of double garage located at the Eastern boundary of property

It was **RESOLVED** to comment that the parish council has no objections subject to the previously agreed landscape plan being adhered to and materials used being in keeping with the local area.

(b) Decisions by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

There are none.

113. Matters for future meetings

The usual substantive items will be on the agenda and the budget and precept for 2023/24 will be confirmed for consultation. Bus services will be reviewed. An update on the Christmas community event.

Date of next meeting: 13th December 2022

Meeting closed at 21:49pm

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