

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 2nd December, 2015

Present: Cllr. G. Herbert - Chair
Cllr. R. Ball – Vice-Chair
Cllr. L. Major
Cllr. P. Paige
Cllr. G. Randall
Cllr. D. Dewar-Whalley
Cllr. P. England

Cllr. M. Palmer
Lynda Fisher, Clerk
County Cllr. M. Baldock
Borough Cllr. J. Hunt
Borough Cllr. B. Stokes
4 Members of the Public

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair formally welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from the Community Warden.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Major and seconded by Cllr. Paige; the Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th November, 2015, were agreed and signed as a true transcript, but with an amendment to the time the meeting closed, the actual being 8.50 p.m.

3. Public Session

County Cllr. Baldock has been asked to join a KCC working group that is putting together the next Strategic Transport Plan. County is now pushing for safety rather than economic growth, e.g. safety of road users. It looks as though this won't come in until early 2017 but it is good to know that people are now looking at safety improvements and not basing this on fatalities.

Borough Cllr. Hunt reported on the damaged paving; the management company is pushing Abby Homes who are not replying to anyone. There are lots of issues with the adoption of roads. Diamond Close won't be adopted even though it had been done to adoptable standards.

Sue Samson mentioned the Queen's 90th Birthday; is the Parish council is looking to commemorate it?

A resident attended to advise of a serious accident on the Sheppey Way, close to the Church; he was concerned that speeding traffic on this road impacts on residents' safety. He has approached KCC requesting that extra street lights be installed but was informed that the cost of doing this was too much. The Chairman mentioned that the Parish Council has been trying for years to get something done on this stretch of road. Resident to send details to the Clerk, who will then forward them on to County Cllr. Baldock.

Community Warden – could not attend; he sent a report stating that he had checked outlying areas for fly tipping; checked the layby on Sheppey Way near Key Street roundabout for roadside car sales; reported an abandoned fridge freezer to Swale Borough Council; carried out predictive policing patrols around Keycol Hill and visited a number of addresses in Bobbing area in connection with KCC Trading Standards scammers operation.

4. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Randall declared an interest in Item 9.5.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Last Month's Meeting

- Bobbing Hill – Travellers** – Details of proposed scheme have now been received from KCC, the cost of which is £22,257; cheaper quotations obtained by a resident have now been forwarded to Andy Corcoran. Agreed Clerk to send a copy of these details to County Cllr. Baldock. **Action: Clerk**

2. **Key Street roundabout – Rumble Strips/Accidents** – A meeting took place on Monday 16th November, with County Cllr. Matthew Balfour and Highways Officer Tim Read to look at Key Street roundabout, signs and adjoining roads. It was agreed that the signs were incorrectly placed; give way road markings were missing on the approach/exit roads to the roundabout but that rumble strips would be inappropriate because of noise nuisance to nearby properties. Overall it was a very positive meeting with KCC promising action. Clerk to chase for a progress update. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Parking on Bobbing Hill** – Some vehicles have been removed which has improved the area. Clerk has received a response from the Fire Bridge offering to visit the area with a Fire Engine; she will advise them of the improvement and that at the present time the visit is not necessary. **Action: Clerk**
4. **Parking on Keycol Hill** – Agreed to take off the Agenda for the time being. **Action: Clerk**

6. **Councillors' Report**

Cllr. Ball advised that he met with the Landlord of the Dancing Dog Saloon. As a result of this Cllr. Ball is agreeable to acting as a go-between for the pub and neighbours regarding parking; the Landlord is prepared to install some posts to stop parking on verges. Cllr. Ball was also concerned at the speed of cars on this stretch of the Sheppey Way and wondered if the whole road, from Iwade to Bobbing, could be made 40 mph? Cllr. Ball reported on a meeting with the Planning Inspector for the Howt Green 16 Caravan application. Swale's Planning Officer has recommended not contesting the Appeal. However a site meeting took place and he and some residents attended. The Parish Council is concerned as to the reason for turning down the application, which was on visual impact; the Parish Council was more concerned about impact on the community. Presumably the outcome of the Appeal will be forwarded in due course.

Cllr. Paige advised that the KALC Area Committee is trying to improve attendance and a document is going out to all Parish Councils explaining what the Area Committee does.

Cllr. Palmer advised Gemstone Court is still having problems with bins being emptied. Borough Cllr. Hunt suggested chasing the Management Company to clean up the area and perhaps check with Swale's Environment Officers regarding this. He mentioned Westlands pupils have been playing around in Staplehurst Road and nearly causing an accident; Clerk to write to the Headteacher regarding this.

Action: Clerk

Cllr. Major mentioned development in Swale and queried why not in Faversham?

Cllr. England will be addressing the JTB next month and will speak on parking within the Borough. He has received complaints from residents in Spinnel Close and Pearl Walk regarding weeds and complaints about street lighting on the Meads. He referred to the walk around the Meads with KCC, when an Officer commented that yellow lines would be installed – County Cllr. Baldock to look into this.

Cllrs. Randall and Dewar-Whalley – nothing to report.

7. **Correspondence**

1. **KCC A2 Keycol Hill Road/Rooks Lane improved Layout** – The scheme for proposed signing and lining alterations was noted. Agreed to bring this back once it has been installed and at that time to perhaps consider contacting Newington regarding the speed limit. **Action: Clerk**
2. **KALC Community Awards Scheme 2016** – Person nominated and Members to forward details to the Clerk on the nominee's service to the community; Clerk to also check with Sue Crawford, the previous Clerk, as regards details. **Action: Councillors/Clerk**
3. **Swale Borough Council - Feedback sought on draft Indoor Sports Facility Strategy 2015 – 2025** – Noted.
4. **Planting Commemorative Future Heritage Trees in Swale** – Noted, no action.
5. **KALC/Kent Fire & Rescue Service Information Update** – Noted.

6. **Sector Led Body - Introduction Letter and Factsheet form NALC/SLCC/Association of Drainage Authorities – The Way ahead for External Audits from 2017** – Noted.
7. **Kent Fire & Rescue Service Consultation: Safety and Wellbeing Plan 2016-2018** – Bring back to the January meeting. Action: Clerk

8. **Planning Applications**

1. **15/509180/FULL:** Retrospective application for the stationing of a mobile class room to be used for a Children's Kids Club and Nursery: Grove Park County Primary School Hilton Drive Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1PT – no comments.
2. **15/508927/FULL:** Retrospective erection of single storey side and rear extension with increase in flat roof pitch and roof lights – 8 Rooks View, Bobbing, ME9 8GB – To respond that the Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that it has not been built as to the previously agreed specifications and would ask the Planning Department to take note of the residents who have raised objections.

9. **Finance**

1. **Tree Festival – Bobbing Church** – Proposed by Cllr Ball and seconded by Cllr. Paige, agreed to donate the sum of £15.
2. **FOI Registration and Members' E-mails** – Agreed the annual fee of £35.
3. **Clerk hours and Salary** – Proposed by Cllr Paige and seconded by Cllr. Ball, all agreed to increase the Clerk's weekly hours from 4.5 to 5.5 per week and for her to progress to Spinal Point 27 (top of Scale), £12.317p per hour, with effect from the 1st January, 2016.
4. **Review of Existing Financial Regulations** - With no proposed amendments, Members agreed to accept the existing regulations.
5. **Donation to Sittingbourne Christmas Lights Association** – Cllr. Randall to ascertain charitable status and to bring this item back to the January meeting. Action: Cllr. Randall/Clerk
6. **Accounts and Cheques Raised** – the accounts to the 30th November, 2015, were agreed and the following cheques were agreed and signed:

| Date | Cheque | Details | | Amount |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|---|----------|
| 02.12.15 | 0488 | L. Fisher | Expenses November – Telephone, Use of Office, Refreshments Nov and Dec meetings, 3 boxes A4 Paper, 9 Ink Cartridges | £46.47p |
| 02.12.15 | 0489 | H.M. Revenue & Custom | Tax due December 2015 | £46.60p |
| 02.12.15 | 0490 | Steve Wakeling | Grass cutting – 6 th Cut | £100.00p |
| 02.12.15 | 0491 | Bobbing Parish Church | Donation – S.137 | £15.00p |
| Four Cheques in total | | | | |

Payment:

Wages - £186.08p - salary December 2015

Paid by Standing Order

10. **Any Other Matters Arising**

Cllr. Ball advised that he has been informed that the Church is not interested in supporting the Belfry so the £1500 put aside for repairs to the bells is no longer required.

11. **Next Meeting(s)**

The next monthly Meeting will take place on Wednesday 6th January, 2016, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in the small meeting room at Bobbing Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 09.55 p.m.

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

Signed: _____ Date: _____