

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 7th October, 2015

Present: Cllr. R. Ball – Vice-Chair
Cllr. M. Palmer
Cllr. P. England
Cllr. G. Randall
Cllr. D. Dewar-Whalley

Lynda Fisher, Clerk
Borough Cllr. J. Hunt
Borough Cllr. N. Hampshire
11 Members of the Public
Ian Henderson, PCSO

Bobbing in Bloom

Prior to the commencement of the meeting presentations took place for the Winners and Runners Up of the Annual Bobbing in Bloom Competition; prizes were handed out by former Parish Councillor Gill Edwards and fellow Judge Sue Crawford assisted.

Front Gardens: Winner: Mr & Mrs Elkin, 6 Allenby Walk
Runner up: Mr & Mrs Cass, 3 Nelson Walk

Hanging Baskets: Winner: Mr & Mrs Tilbee, Dunrovin Sheppey Way
Runner up: Mr L Major, Keycol Hill

Merit Award: Winner: Garden of England Crematorium
Runner up: Demelza House Tranquillity Garden – Also there was a special mention for their hanging baskets this year

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair formally welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Bartlett, Herbert and Major; the PCSO and the Community Warden.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. England and seconded by Cllr. Palmer, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd September, 2015, were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

3. Public Session

Sue Samson advised that the Church will be dedicating the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. They will also be having a Christmas Tree Festival in December.

The PCSO has not received many calls from the area in recent weeks; those that have come through were regarding Hilton Drive - the School and parking issues. Burglaries are 50% lower than in previous years.

The Community Warden's report had been circulated. During the past month Nick dealt with three incidents of roadside car sales in the layby near Key Street roundabout; walked with parents and children from Sonora Field Estate to Bobbing Primary School and supported the school crossing patrol person who informed that traffic has increased in recent weeks, especially lorries.

4. Declarations of Interest - None.

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

1. **Bobbing Hill – Travellers** – Delayed due to Engineer dealing with the Scheme being on compassionate leave; he has now returned to work and has taken this up again; KCC promise to contact once detailed costings are to hand. The Vice-Chair has spoken to the adjacent landowners and there are no objections.

2. **Parking in The Meads** – Borough Cllr. Hunt advised that he has chased up Marshgate about vehicles parking on the pavement on Quartz Way. The maintenance team will visit to look at installing extra bollards to stop this parking and they will also ask the parking company why they aren't ticketing cars. Marshgate did ask the parking company to visit more frequently. Marstons have no concerns over cars parking in the 'Jenny Wren' so no further restrictions are necessary, but the Parish Council will monitor the situation.
3. **Key Street roundabout – Rumble Strips/Accidents** – Cllr. Dewar-Whalley suggested the Clerk send the details received from KCC's Crash Data Scheme to Barbara Cooper at County. **Action: Clerk**
4. **Rooks Lane Junction** – In light of the e-mail from KCC explaining why many of the solutions put forward by the Parish Council were not feasible/financially possible it was proposed by Cllr. Randall and seconded by Cllr. Dewar-Whalley, agreed Members to push for improved signage at and before the junction. Clerk to write to KCC requesting that this goes ahead. **Action: Clerk**
5. **Parking on Pavements** – Cllr. England has been invited to attend the meeting of the Joint Transportation Board on the 7th December to raise this. **Action: Cllr. England**
6. **Parking on Keycol Hill** – Agreed to place on the November Agenda. **Action: Cllr. Randall/Clerk**
7. **Parking on Bobbing Hill** – Cllr. Dewar-Whalley has been in discussion with Borough Cllr. David Simmons regarding the possibility of parking permits. There needs to be a consultation with residents as there will be an annual cost to them. Clerk to contact Cllr. Simmons seeking assistance with a consultation template for Parking Permits. **Action: Clerk**

6. **Councillors' Report**

Cllrs Randall and Dewar-Whalley: nothing further to report.

Cllr. Palmer mentioned 30 mph speed limits and wondered about reducing down to 20 mph. He was advised that Kent Police will not enforce this.

Cllr. Ball advised that this afternoon he and the Clerk had met with a KCC Highways Officer to look at a scheme for improving safety to the front of the School. A problem has occurred in as much as the speed cannot be reduced from 40 mph down to 20 mph; it needs to be 40, then 30 down to 20 mph, which is doable. Included will be 'dog bones' to the front of each property's drive to stop inconsiderate parking. It is hoped that the scheme will be completed by Christmas. Cllr. Ball referred to the parking issues near to the Dancing Dog Saloon. The Clerk has written to the Landlord of the Saloon and has received a negative response from him; Cllr. Ball felt that the best way forward was to meet with the gentleman.

7. **Correspondence**

1. **Operation Stack** – Agreed to respond that there is a problem with the signposting at Stockbury; there is a need for clear signposts facing traffic coming up to the Stockbury roundabout from the south, because that roundabout has a counter-intuitive layout; that is you turn off west to go east, unlike most other junctions. So there is lots of scope for Lorries to not realise and end up going round the roundabout confused or even end up in Medway. Looking at Google Street-view it appears that:
 - The sign indicating "Canterbury, Ramsgate, Dover, 'M2' doesn't appear until the very last moment when it's almost too late to take the slip-road. (the slip road from the south taking the first turning off to head toward Canterbury);
 - The previous sign to that doesn't actually mention where the slip-road leads at all, so Lorries won't be informed! (This sign is opposite Oad Street.)

When there is an accident on the M2/M20 or A249 traffic through the main roads into and surrounding Sittingbourne become completely blocked; the proposals will add to this if Lorries are then trying to detour through the area. What route will the vehicles take when the M2 Motorway is closed due to an

accident? A suggestion was put forward that Companies who use the crossing should register with the police and the police can email them to advise of problems, that is if such a system exists or is possible

2. **Kent County Council Consultations Street Lighting** – Agreed to individually respond.
Action: All Councillors
3. **The Commonwealth Flag Day** – Cllr. Ball is happy to purchase a Commonwealth Flag and when required display it on his own flagpole.
4. NALC Survey - National Improvement Strategy – Proposed by Cllr. Dewar-Whalley and seconded by Cllr. England; agreed Cllr Ball and Clerk to respond on behalf of the Parish Council.
5. **OP Futures public consultation** – Noted.
6. **Boundary Commission - Kent Further Draft Recommendation – Sevenoaks** – Delay noted.
7. **Home Office Consultation - Reforming the powers of Police Staff and volunteers** – Noted.

8. Planning Applications

1. **15/506844/FULL:** Erection of a two storey side extension, front porch with pitched roof, double garage to the rear and gravel drive: 18 Keycol Hill Bobbing Kent ME9 8ND – agreed to object to this application on the grounds of the impact the building will have on a heritage asset. The adjacent building, 16 Keycol Hill, is a Grade 2 Listed Building and when built back in the 1400s it was built with no foundations; Members are concerned that the close proximity of the proposal will cause structural damage to this historical building.
2. **15/507683/FULL:** Telecommunication Mast, Layby Key Street Sittingbourne Kent: The removal of the existing 9.7 metre high Phase 3 monopole, the installation of an upgraded 10 metre high phase 5 monopole and Pogona cabinet, measuring 1230 x 400 x 1032 mm, located at ground level, and associated development – no comments.

9. Finance

1. **PCSO** – Cllr. Palmer attended a KALC Seminar when a discussion took place on the reduction of the Police budget and the powers of the PCSOs. By 2020 they need to lose £62 million from the budget; PCSOs are guaranteed for twelve months but after that they will probably be the first in line to go. It was queried whether Parish Councils could fund PCSOs – at a yearly costs of g approximately £30,000. Agreed to look at this if/when this scenario arises when there will be a clearer indication of costs.
2. **Dog Fouling Signs** – Agreed to purchase a 3 signs from Borden Parish Council at a cost of £30. One sign to be placed in Allenby Walk, another in Bobbing Hill and one in Hilton Drive. *Action: Clerk*
3. **External Audit – Annual Return 2014/15** – The Annual Return has now been received; it has been signed off by the External Auditor with no issues being raised. The Clerk will now display the Notice of Conclusion of audit and Annual Return. *Action: Clerk*
4. **2015/16 Precept and Lighting Grant – 2nd Instalment** – Clerk reported that the second instalment of these two payments has been received and it was noted that due to boundary changes an additional precept of £2000 had been credited.
5. **Accounts and Cheques Raised** – It was proposed by Cllr. England and seconded by Cllr. Palmer, the accounts to the 30th September, 2015, were agreed and the following cheques were agreed and signed:

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
07.10.15	0477	L. Fisher	Expenses September – Telephone, Use of Office, Refreshments, 12 x 1 st and 12 x 2 nd class stamps.	£29.31p
07.10.15	0478	H.M. Revenue & Custom	Tax due October 2015	£46.40p
07.10.15	0479	L. Fisher	Error on August Cheque No. 465 should have been written out for £42.53p, was made out for £12.53,	£30.00p

			diff. of £30; see supporting paperwork..	
07.10.15	0480	William Giles	Quarterly Payroll preparation	£54.00p
Four Cheques in total				

Payment:

Wages - £186.08p - salary October 2015 Paid by Standing Order

Paid in:

Swale Borough Council - £8937.50p Credited by Direct Debit

10. **Any Other Matters Arising**

Cllr. Dewar-Whalley advised that the S.106 money has been received from Redrow. The sum allocated to Bobbing Village Hall now stands at £52000; the increase of £2000 is due to interest.

Cllr. Ball referred to the Chairman's e-mail reporting back on the Swale West Parishes Meeting run by County Cllr. Baldock; it was agreed that Members e-mail any comments on this direct to the Clerk.

Action: All Councillors

11. **Next Meeting(s)**

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

The meeting closed at 10.20 p.m.

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

Signed: _____

Date: _____