

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 4 September 2019

Present: Cllr. G. Herbert - Chair
Cllr. R. Ball – Vice-Chair
Cllr. A. Cavanagh
Cllr. P. England
Cllr. E. England
Cllr. G. Randall

Lynda Fisher, Clerk
Borough Cllr. M. Baldock
Borough Cllr. J. Hunt
Borough Cllr. R. Clark
Lee Fennell, PCSO
5 Parishioners

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair formally welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received from Parish Cllr. Major, County Cllr. M. Whiting, and Borough Cllr. Woodford.

2. Visitors/Public Time

- Residents** – A resident queried why the new 20 and 40 mph road speed signs were not in place; Clerk to query with County Cllr. Whiting. **Action: Clerk**
- County and Borough Councillors** –Written report from County Cllr. Whiting – report referred to proposed gas main repairs on the A2; the continued battle against fly-tipping and the desire to work with Parish Councils when creating a Highway Improvement Plan.

Borough Cllr. Hunt has been dealing with Aspire, who are having problems with their contractor parking; they are installing a temporary car park on site to alleviate this problem. Referring to the unadopted roads in The Meads, some are now owned by KCC and will be adopted once some work has been completed.

Borough Cllr. Baldock congratulated the Chair on speaking at Swale’s Planning Committee meeting. He referred to an area Committee and a Heritage Consultation, both will be sent out to Parishes. He had a meeting with Highways England about traffic impact on Junction 5, which according to them can now only take another 60 vehicles. Highways England have currently got a standing objection on further development in this area, only allowing some small developments of 20/15 homes to go through. There is still a 20 million funding shortfall for Junction 5 work. Cllr. P. England asked if Swale Borough Council could encourage coach companies to put on special services to run from Sittingbourne to the Detling Showground when events are on.

- Community Warden/PCSO** – No Community Warden at present. The PCSO reported as follows – nuisance vehicles on Keycol Hill – just one report. The Meads nuisance motorbikes, patrol attended but did not catch the vehicles. The stabbing in The Meads was an isolated incident. Incidents with children on push bikes in the Ballas Drive area, has spoken to a number of children and since then he has not taken any complaint calls. He advised Kirsty Linge now covers The Meads/Grove Park areas.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Cavanagh and seconded by Cllr. E. England, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 7 August 2019 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

- Declarations of Interest** – None.

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

1. **Sheppey Way (near Bobbing Apple) – Alterations to road layout and bollards** – Bring back to October meeting. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Parish Councillor Vacancies** – Clerk to liaise with Councillors to set a date for interviewing the four candidates. **Action: All Councillors/Clerk**
3. **Swale Landscape Sensitivity Assessment** – looking at areas that affect Bobbing, it was agreed to respond as follows:

Page 52: A429 should be A249.

Page 52 (area SE6): The view from Rook Lane looking West has some of the finest views over Sittingbourne and even as far as The Swale and Isle of Sheppey. This view would be lost if land between Rooks Lane and Bobbing Hill was developed. Why does it only have a Moderate rating?

Page 150: Last paragraph “converted to arable farmland” now being replanted as Apple orchards (Area SE7 Howt Green).

Page 233: Last paragraph “not impinge on the settlement gap”. This is already happening with development on the Eastern side of Newington and the Rooks Lane Demelza House development; creating ribbon development between Key Street and Newington.

Page 238: 2nd box on page, A429 should be A249. Last sentence “good access by PROW” consider adding. The PROW on the South East offers fine views along the Stockbury Valley and over Chestnut Street in area SE5. In the last twenty-five years much of this area has lost its hedgerows and consequently wildlife. The high ground of Keycol Hill in area NN2 can be seen from School Lane, Borden (area 5) and the PROW above Chestnut Street. Therefore, the South East side of area NN2 would be very sensitive to residential and employment development.

Generally:

- a. No reference to lost hedgerows affecting wildlife, or the creation of ‘prairies’.
- b. A2/A249 traffic pollution affecting vegetation and ill health.
- c. Most comments/opinions appear self-contained within own area. No comments are made looking further afield to neighbouring areas which they may affect.
- d. Lorries/HGVs impacting/damaging the landscape, particularly when visiting employment sites within the countryside.

6. Councillors' Report

Cllr. Ball referred to the new KCC anti-litter signs, ironically someone has dumped rubbish around one. Residents are not happy with the state of Sittingbourne, hedges not cut, footpaths and gutters full of weeds. The guardrails in the vicinity of Key Street Roundabout are badly damaged and have been in this state for a long time. Vegetation is taking over the footpath from Key Street Roundabout up Keycol Hill (right-hand side) – Clerk to report to KCC. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr. Cavanagh has yet to contact Network Rail about the fencing; has not had a response from the contractor regarding the proposed pond. In the Community Woodland Tree guard removal will take place on the 13 September, between 12.00 and 1400 hours

Cllr. P. England mentioned weeds; Cllr. Hunt advised that Biffa will be clearing these and undertaking a deep clean in the Meads area. He asked if a bench could be installed for the elderly, perhaps in Quartz Way near to the bus stop?

Cllrs. E. England and Randall – nothing to report.

7. Correspondence

1. **Draft Kent and Medway Housing Strategy 2019-23** – Agreed to respond that the over capacity of the existing infrastructure should be addressed, and any new infrastructure needs to be in place before any new housing.
2. **KCC Draft Drainage and Planning Policy Statement** – Statement noted. Cllr. P. England delegated to send notes to the Clerk, in order that she can form a response. **Action: Cllr. P. England/Clerk**

8. Planning Applications

1. **19/504065/FULL**: Raise ridge to side extension, replacement of rear porch, new chimney stack and alterations to roof to the rear of the property including installation of three dormer windows: Pigeon Farm Cottage Cold Harbour Lane Bobbing Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8NN – no comments.
2. **19/504138/FULL**: Erection of rear conservatory: 19 Quadrille Avenue Sittingbourne Kent ME10 5BY – no comments.
3. **19/503974/HYBRID**: Hybrid application comprising of - Outline application (all matter reserved except for access) for up to 466 dwellings and a community hall. Full planning application for access from Grovehurst Road and The Street and for a country park: Land East Of Iwade Iwade Kent ME9 8ST – Agreed to respond that Bobbing Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds of concerns over the traffic impact on the Grovehurst Interchange, Key Street Roundabout and the A249; these roads are at full capacity.
4. Proposed application by Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. for a Development Consent order for the Wheelabrator Kemsley (K3) and Wheelabrator Kemsley North (WKN) Waste-to-Energy Facilities, Sittingbourne, Kent. Consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 – Agreed to respond - Bobbing Parish Council is concerned at the impact this development will have on:
 - The Grovehurst Interchange and the A249, which are already at full capacity; how much extra traffic will this development bring on to the A249, there is no mention of figures in any details.
 - The environmental impact on the nearby SSSI/Ramsar Site, to lessen we would urge you to consider moving materials via the River or by Rail

9. Finance

1. **Scrolls** – Still awaiting a response from KCC. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Model Financial Regulations 2019** – Clerk to modify to Bobbing specifications and then circulate in readiness for bringing back to the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Microsoft 365** – Proposed by Cllr. Ball and seconded by Cllr. P. England, agreed the installation of Microsoft 365 software, on an annual contract but paying monthly (half of which will be reimbursed by Iwade Parish Council); the total cost of the work undertaken by Invicta It Solutions now being £775.32p (includes VAT reclaimable); the monthly payments (for 10 mailboxes and 365) being £52.32p.
4. **Accounts and Cheques Raised** – Proposed by Cllr. Cavanagh and seconded by Cllr. P. England, agreed accounts to the 31 August 2019 and the following Cheques were agreed and signed:

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
04.09.19	0676	L. Fisher	Expenses: Telephone, Office Use, Refreshments (incs. Jar Coffee) - August	£22.33p
04.09.19	0677	H.M. Revenue & Custom	Tax due for August	£85.40p
04.09.19	0678	PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit 2018/19	£240.00p
Three Cheques in total				

Paid Out:

Wages - salary August

£341.98p

Paid by Standing Order

10. **Any Other Matters Arising**

Cllr. Randall attended Swale Borough Council's extraordinary Planning Committee meeting regarding Wisles lane development to reinforce objections.

11. **Next Meeting(s)**

Wednesday 2 October 2019, 7.30 p.m. in Bobbing Parish Hall's small Committee Room.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

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

Signed: _____

Date: _____