

BREDHURST PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at Bredhurst CE Primary School, on Wednesday 6th July 2016 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr Vanessa Jones (Chair), Cllr Nichola Carr (Vice-Chair), Cllr Steve Bowring, Cllr Louise Ferne, Cllr David Hales, Cllr Wendy Hinder (MBC), Bex Ratchford (Clerk)

Public: 9

38. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Borough and Parish Cllr Malcolm Greer (ill) and Borough Cllr Derek Butler.

39. Declarations of interests

Cllrs Jones and Bowring declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 46c due to having a personal and professional relationship with one of the affected landowners.

40. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2016

The minutes were **agreed** as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed and dated by the Chair.

41. Police briefing

PCSO Adlington was not present and no report was available.

42. Matters arising (for information only)

- a. AP1: newsletter has been produced, printed and delivered.
- b. AP2: Maidstone KALC and Boxley PC have been informed that Bredhurst PC will not participate in opposing the Local Plan.
- c. AP3: KALC questionnaire has been sent.

43. Newsletter

Cllr Ferne was thanked for her professional input into the newsletter and it was commented how good it looks. It was **agreed** to publish four newsletters a year, in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter, and to arrange dates around local events and Cllr Ferne's workload. Further development ideas include interviewing local businesses and residents. **Action 1: Cllrs to liaise over specific dates.**

44. Footpath resurfacing

The contractors have asked for the fence on the path adjacent to Kemsley Street to be removed to assist with access. The landowner is happy to do this but needs to wait until after the hay is done; this will be at the end of July or in August. The £200 contribution from the British Horse Society has been received but they accidentally made out the cheque to BWAG. BWAG will pass the funding on to BPC.

45. Complaints policy

It was **agreed** to adopt the draft complaints policy with slight amendments to make it a Compliments, Complaints and Comments Policy.

46. Planning

- a. 16/504641 – Land at Abbots Court Farm – outline application with access matters reserved for erection of two detached single storey dwellings with associated parking. Residents were invited to make comment and were not in favour of the application as it represents erosion into the countryside and will have a massive visual impact. It could also encourage more planning applications in the area. It was **agreed** to oppose the application on the grounds that it is building on a greenfield site, it is not designated planning land and it will have a detrimental impact on the street scene, particularly as Bredhurst is in the Kent Downs AONB.
- b. 16/505605 – St Peters Church – erection of a replacement storage shed – it was **agreed** to comment with no objections.
- c. Cllrs Jones and Bowring left the room for this item. Cllr Carr took the Chair. 16/504798 – Land at Forge Lane – construction of six detached dwellings and associated parking, access and landscape works alongside the conversion of the existing barn to provide a community use on the land at Forge Lane. Residents were invited to ask questions and make comment. Questions were asked regarding the access and some concerns were raised over the junction and increased traffic in the village but generally residents were in favour of the development as it is felt to be sympathetic and well screened. The intention to provide the barn for community use was noted – it would be on a 25 year lease with no rent and with the running costs also covered for a five year period. Concerns were raised with regard to the local amenities such as schooling and hospitals. It was felt that the barn needs to be preserved and the proposed houses are acceptable. It was **agreed** to comment in favour of the application.

Action 2: Clerk to make all planning comments.

47. Finance

- a. The financial statement and bank reconciliation were reviewed and accepted.

Account	Balance as of 30/06/16
Current Account	155.35
Reserve Account	22,396.44
Total	22,551.79

- b. The first invoice for the printing had not separated out the costs for the different users, but almost all usage had been for the newsletter. Next month's invoice will be separated correctly. It was **agreed** to pay the full invoice.
- c. Cllr Jones had bought paper for the newsletter. It was **agreed** to reimburse her for this and to consider using the council supplier in the future as this may be cheaper.
- d. Payments were **agreed** as follows:

Cheque	Payment	Amount
BACS	Bex Ratchford – wages and office rental	200.98
1383	David Buckett – internal audit	278.10
1384	Amenity Weed Care – weed killing on paths and kerbs	312.00
1385	Appointment Business Machines - printing	112.29
1386	Cllr Jones - stationery	29.96

48. Reports from parish councillors

Cllr Jones had attended a meeting organised by the Kent AONB Unit at which it was noted that there is funding available nationally to mitigate the visual impact of pylons on the countryside.

49. Reports from borough and county councillors (if present)

Cllr Hinder expressed concern regarding the lack of verge and hedge cutting and the lack of drainage. Junctions are becoming dangerous due to lack of visibility. It was noted that most verges in Bredhurst had been done as have some drains. KCC are behind in the scheduling so are concentrating on responsive work while the backlog is addressed. Cllr Hinder offered to take this forward with KCC.

The meeting adjourned for a short public session. One of the allotment holders is planning to hand back her allotment in October. There is one name on the waiting list and one person who was interested some time ago. A priority policy may need to be drawn up.

50. Correspondence

All correspondence was noted.

- a. Response from Mark Wall (DVSA) – the incident of an HGV using unsuitable lanes was a one-off occasion and will not be happening again.
- b. A resident had emailed regarding visibility at the junction of Dunn Street and Lidsing Road and this has already been reported to KCC.

51. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 7.46pm.

Please note that there is no meeting in August.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th September 2016 at 6.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....