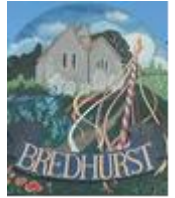


BREDHURST PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at Bredhurst CE Primary School, on Wednesday 1st February 2017 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr Vanessa Jones (Chair), Cllr Nichola Carr (Vice-Chair), Cllr Steve Bowring, Cllr Malcolm Greer, Cllr David Hales, Cllr Derek Butler (MBC), Bex Ratchford (Clerk)

Public: 11

121. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Louise Ferne due to illness and Cllr Wendy Hinder (MBC) due to prior commitments.

122. Declarations of interests

Cllr Jones declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 134a due to having a professional relationship with a neighbouring landowner.

123. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2016

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

124. Police briefing

There have been some changes to PCSO cover and PCSO Adlington now covers Boxley ward, Detling, Thurnham and Bearsted. There has been one crime in Bredhurst in January where an outbuilding was broken into. There have also been a number of nuisance vehicle calls. Regarding residents' concerns over the amount of crime in the area, it was noted that generally crime does rise in December but then dies down again.

The meeting adjourned for a short public session. Although PCSO Adlington's focus is on his own areas, he can be called elsewhere. There are travellers in the area and this is being monitored but actually falls within Medway. Calls to 101 cost a flat rate of 15p per call at any time of the day and for any length of time. PCSO Adlington will check on the progress with the recent spate of burglaries.

134. Planning

This item was brought forward at the Chair's discretion.

- a. Cllr Jones left the room for this item. 16/508604 – Land at Forge Lane – demolition of the former coach house building and the construction of two pairs of semi-detached residential properties alongside associated parking, access and landscaping works. It was noted that the first application for six houses was at the appeal stage. It was felt that the site was acceptable and there was no reason to refuse the application. However, cllrs were concerned about the loss of the barn as a potential village amenity. Sustainability was felt to be important as was the limitation of vehicular access to the site via the entrance at Forge Lane only, and ensuring no access was possible from the back of the site. Residents were invited to comment and concerns raised included the greater visual impact on the street scene, the lack of parking, the loss of the barn, the potential for

access at the back and the impact on the health service. It was **agreed** to comment in favour of the application with conditions to include a different surface for the driveway, a good BREEAM rating, protection for the trees, and no access from the back of the site. It was also **agreed** to state a preference for the original application as the current one has a greater impact on the street scene and results in the loss of the barn. **Action 1: Clerk to comment in favour with conditions.**

- b. 16/507872 – Bredhurst Village Hall – single storey extension with internal boiler and external chimney – approved – noted.
- c. 16/506195 – Forge Lodge – outline application for residential development (access only being sought) – refused – noted.

125. Matters arising (for information only)

- a. AP1: the hedge cutting contract has been formulated and agreed and work has started.
- b. AP2: agenda item 126.
- c. AP3: agenda item 127.
- d. AP4: agenda item 127.
- e. AP5: the trees on KH49 were cut presumably by the landowner shortly after the last meeting. It was **agreed** to send a letter of thanks. **Action 2: Clerk to write.**
- f. AP6: cllrs have responded as desired.
- g. AP7: planning comment made.
- h. AP8: planning comment made.
- i. AP9: email sent to PCSO Adlington.
- j. AP10: agenda item 135.
- k. AP11: response to survey sent.
- l. AP12: agenda item 131.

126. Playing field

Savills have made little progress and concerns they originally raised regarding access to the field, the church shop, and the boundaries they have yet to provide answers to. It is not possible to make a decision on the lease until more information is available. Questions were raised over what would happen to the field if the parish council gave up the lease. It was **agreed** to write to Savills expressing concerns about the slow progress and asking for all issues to be resolved as soon as possible. **Action 3: Clerk to write.**

127. Drain maintenance

The resident has agreed to clear the culvert in The Street and then road cleaning needs to follow. **Action 4: Cllr Greer to get a date for the work.**

128. Waste bins

All new bins have been installed. The parish has gone from having 11 to having 7. One comment was received from a resident but it was felt that the bins retained are the right ones. Thanks were given to Cllr Carr for all her work on this and it was **agreed** to write and thank MBC also. **Action 5: Clerk to write.**

129. Damaged AONB gateway sign

The sign is damaged, possibly beyond repair. If it is repairable, it will be specialist work. It was **agreed** to get prices. **Action 6: Cllr Jones to get prices.**

130. Village Tidy Up

Cllr Carr provided a proposal for organised litter picks and sign cleaning to be carried out over the weekend of the 4th and 5th March which coincides with the Great British Clean Up, a national campaign. It is also anticipated that County Cllr Paul Carter will provide additional funding to help with the campaign which will enable work to be carried out including painting of railings and hopefully renewal of some road markings. It was **agreed** to proceed with the proposal and, as we will be litter picking some areas which come under Boxley PC, to inform their parish clerk. **Action 7: Clerk to inform Boxley PC.**

131. New website

Comments were given about the new website and the need to ensure all information is up to date and relevant. The clerk expressed concerns over the look of the website and the difficulty in using it. It was **agreed** that a training session was needed. **Action 8: Cllr Carr to arrange updates and training.**

132. Medway Local Plan Consultation

It was **agreed** that Cllr Jones and the clerk, with input from Cllr Greer would submit comments on behalf of the council. **Action 9: Cllr Jones, Cllr Greer and Clerk to submit comments.**

133. Freight Action Plan for Kent Consultation

It was **agreed** to submit comments in favour of the steps being taken. **Action 10: Clerk to submit comments.**

135. Finance

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

Account	Balance as of 31/01/17
Current Account	1428.49
Reserve Account	16100.89
Total	17529.38

b. The proposed budget was **agreed** and it was **agreed** to set the precept at £10,000. Thanks were expressed to the Chair of Maidstone KALC who had secured an additional £450 PSS funding. **Action 11: Clerk to return precept form and write in thanks.**

c. Payments were **agreed** as follows:

Cheque	Payment	Amount
BACS	Clerk – wages and office rental	435.46
1398	Clerk – expenses (mileage, stamps, stationery)	25.60
1399	KCC – archiving charge	17.12
1400	Landscape Service – second half yearly cut	154.32

136. Reports from parish councillors

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report.

138. Correspondence

All correspondence was noted.

- a. The Vice-Chair of Friends of Bredhurst School has asked for the zebra crossing to be repainted and for additional lights and signage. It is hoped this will be done by KCC.
- b. A resident has provided photos of a van which blocked the footpath and damaged the railings over the motorway bridge in Forge Lane. Information will be passed to KCC.
- c. Volunteers have been requested for the Annual Village Show Committee. Anyone interested should contact Pam Pearson via the parish clerk.

139. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 8.19pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st March 2017 at 6.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....