

BREDHURST PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at St Peter's Church, on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr Vanessa Jones (Chair), Cllr Nichola Carr (Vice-Chair), Cllr Steve Bowring, Cllr John Merrick (from item 161) Cllr Miriam Noble, Bex Ratchford (Clerk)

Public: 7

154. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Sharp, Cllr Till, Cllr Bob Hinder (MBC) and Cllr Wendy Hinder (MBC). Apologies were also received from Cllr Merrick who was running a little late.

155. Declarations of interests

Cllr Carr declared an interest in agenda item 167a as a close neighbour. Cllr Jones declared an interest in agenda item 167c as an employee of a close neighbour.

156. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2019

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

157. Police briefing

PCSO Adlington was not present but the crime figures had been checked via the E-watch website. There have been no crimes reported in Bredhurst in the last month. An email had been received about the level of police presence required at meetings. It was **agreed** that a police presence was not always necessary and should be requested as and when beneficial. **Action 1: Clerk to respond.** The Rural Team Report had been received and was felt to be very informative.

The meeting adjourned for a short public session but there were no matters raised.

167. Planning

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

- a. 19/500793 – Stockins Meadow, Blind Lane – erection of a replacement dwelling with swimming pool and annexe, detached garage and associated planting and landscaping. Cllr Carr left the room for this item. The applicant was present and was invited to speak about the application. The dwelling and ancillary buildings have already been approved; this application just brings the annexe closer to the main building and joins the two with a glass canopy. It was **agreed** to comment in favour of the application. **Action 2: Clerk to make planning comment.**
- b. 19/501131 – 9 Fir Tree Grove – erection of part first floor, part two storey side extension and single storey rear and front extension. The applicant was present and was invited to speak. The application is similar to alterations done to other houses in the same road. It was **agreed** to comment in favour of the application. **Action 3: Clerk to make planning comment.**
- c. 19/500682 – Green Court, The Street – erection of a 3 bedroom 2 storey chalet bungalow, in addition to development at Forge Lane approved under application 18/502929. Cllr Jones left the room for this item. A neighbour was present and was invited to speak.

Although the neighbour had concerns initially about loss of privacy, a meeting with the developer and an agreement to plant mature trees between the two properties allayed these concerns and the neighbour now has no objection. Due to the provision of the community barn as part of the same development, BPC might be seen to have a prejudicial interest, and it was therefore **agreed** not to comment on this application.

- d. 19/501320 – 8 Kemsley Street Road – demolition of existing rear flat roof extension and erection of a single storey extension to rear with low pitched roof. It was **agreed** to comment in favour of the application. **Action 4: Clerk to make planning comment.**
- e. 18/505079 – Glebe Cottage, Dunn Street Road – redevelopment of site to accommodate 2 x 4 bed dwelling houses, with associated parking and landscaping – refused. An appeal has been lodged.

158. Matters arising (for information only)

- a. AP1: Tidy Up Day has been publicised on Facebook, the website and by emailing the residents' mailing list. Signs can be borrowed from KCC if necessary.
- b. AP2: agenda item 162.
- c. AP3: agenda item 163.
- d. AP4: the fence has been removed but the allotment holder has handed the plot back. It was **agreed** to advertise as per the policy. **Action 5: Clerk to advertise.**
- e. AP5: planning comment made.
- f. AP6: agenda item 159.
- g. AP7: agenda item 159.
- h. AP8: funding from Calor is available if only part of the village is off-grid. Registration is not currently working on the website. **Action 6: Clerk to progress if possible.**

159. Gibraltar Farm

The public information event was held at the school. 98 leaflets were given out to adults collecting children in the afternoon and 80 people attended in the evening. Thanks were expressed to Louise Hall from Project Ink for the advertising banner her company designed and printed and to Cllr Merrick's company, United Living, for printing several A0 size maps. All three MPs have now objected to the application and there are 962 objections on the Medway Council planning portal. Cllr Jones met with Simon Jones (KCC Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste) and Brendan Wright (KCC Principal Transport and Development Planner) and took them on a tour of the area.

160. Tidy Up Day

The Tidy Up Day is booked for 7th April and has been publicised. MBC will collect the rubbish afterwards. It is planned to do the top end of the village on 9th April, during the road closure, although permission is needed from Southern Water for this. MBC will also collect this waste. **Action 7: Clerk to thank MBC.** Cllr Merrick arrived at 7.06pm.

161. AONB sign

The AONB sign in Forge Lane has suffered extensive damage. Some weeks ago, graffiti appeared on the sign and it appears an attempt has been made to clean it which has in fact caused more damage. Enquiries have been made of KCC but the graffiti was not reported to them and they are not responsible for the damage. Two quotes had been received to restore it. It was **agreed** to accept the lower quote from Croft Castings and to claim on the insurance. **Action 8: Clerk to progress insurance claim, Cllrs Bowring and Merrick to remove the sign and Cllr Jones to arrange collection.**

162. Playground

The zip wire and stumps are being removed and the waste picked up by MBC on the same day to minimise risk. **Action 9: Cllr Carr to ensure contractor provides risk assessments.** The installation of the new zip wire is due to take place in the week commencing 22nd April. It should take two days for installation, plus extra time for the surfacing to be laid.

163. Village maintenance

Cllr Carr gave a report on the ongoing KCC work required: the white lining is still awaited; the barrier at the school should be done during the Easter holidays; the painting of the bollards and railings on the motorway bridge is being chased, the drains will be chased, a missing road sign has been reported. The annual tree inspection is due to take place shortly.

Permission to mark trees has been requested. It was **agreed** that this could be done and to clarify that trees overhanging the farmers' fields are not to be included in the assessment.

Action 10: Clerk to inform contractor.

164. Village improvements

It was **agreed** to investigate the installation of either wooden or metal bollards at the village green. **Action 11: Cllr Jones to get quotes.** It was **agreed** to plant daffodil, snowdrop and/or crocus bulbs in the village later in the year, as well as to replant the troughs in the centre, up to a cost of £200 in total. **Action 12: Cllr Jones to plant troughs.**

165. Village Show

Due to the difficulty in forming a committee, the Village Show will not take place this year, but is hoped to be reinstated in 2020. Subject to approval from the auditor, and checking of the accounts, it was **agreed** that BPC would hold the balance of £570.19 (ring-fenced for the Village Show) until required. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Carr and other volunteers for all their hard work. **Action 13: Clerk to speak to auditor and check Village Show accounts.**

166. KALC membership

It was **agreed** to renew membership of KALC at a cost of £167.30 plus VAT.

168. Finance

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

Account	Balance as of 31/03/19
Current Account	561.73
Reserve Account	19,753.53
Total	20,315.26

b. The allotments water bill has been received and will be reclaimed from allotment holders.

c. It was **agreed** to pay £52 for membership of ACRK.

d. The payment to KCS could not be made as the delivery address needs to be updated.

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

Cheque	Payment	Amount	VAT*	Total
BACS	Clerk – wages and office rental (for info only)			
1493	Bredhurst School – meeting hire	64.50	-	64.50
1494	Cllr Jones – paper (printing leaflets)	26.49	-	26.49

1495	KALC - membership	167.30	33.46	200.76
1496	ACRK - membership	52.00	-	52.00

* VAT to be reclaimed.

169. Reports from parish councillors

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report.

171. Correspondence

All correspondence was noted.

- a. An email had been received from a resident regarding a recent accident in the village.
- b. An email had been received from the Village Hall Committee regarding the recent installation of a defibrillator. This will be for public use as required, although it will require a code to access it. The Village Hall Committee were thanked for the provision of the device.

The meeting adjourned for a short public session but there were no matters raised.

172. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 7.59pm.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st May 2019 at 6.30pm.
This will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting.**

Signed.....

Date.....