

BEARSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at Madginford Hall, Egremont Road, Bearsted on Tuesday 9th June 2009 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs Walton (chairman), Ash, Cuming, Dyke, Ethridge, Hughes, Licence, Smith, Stark and Young, Mrs Cuming, Mrs Marshall MBE, Mrs Stevens, together with the Clerk, Mrs Rimmer, PCSO Stevens, Community Warden Riach-Brown and 7 members of the public.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC -This is a concessionary short session and will be limited to half an hour. Five minutes per person will be allowed initially and only if time permits will further comments be heard.

This is a for information session only and no action can be taken upon those items raised

Items raised during this session included objections to the planning application at Little Orchard and the letter regarding 8 Manor Rise which will be dealt with under correspondence.

1 Apologies for Absence - Messrs Hughes and Street

2 Declarations of Interest

All Councillors were warned of the necessity to disclose any interest they may have in any items to be discussed. Mr Ash and Mrs Marshall declared that she would not participate in any discussion concerning planning matters as she was a member of the Borough Council Planning Committee.

Mrs Cuming, Mr Ethridge, Mr Licence and Mr Smith stated that they were members of the Woodland Trust and would not participate in any discussions concerning this organisation.

Mrs Marshall and Messrs Ash and Ethridge stated that they were members of the Madginford Hall Management Committee and would not participate in any discussions concerning the Pre-School lease.

Mr Licence stated that he was a member of the Tennis Club and would not participate in any discussions concerning the drainage issue at 8 Manor Rise.

3 Minutes of Meeting held on 12th May 2009 were agreed and signed as a true record of proceedings.

6 Police Report (this item was moved up the agenda to allow both Police representatives to leave the meeting prior to Mr Watt's presentation)

PCSO Stevens

a) There have been a total of 5 crimes reported over the last month.

b) Speedwatch – a number of residents have been complaining speeding in the Parish. Many parishes are taking part in the Speedwatch campaign and it is something that PCSO wishes to introduce in the Parish. Warren Jarvis the PC in charge of the scheme is happy to meet with the Council to discuss.

Action: Passed to Transportation Committee for action

- c) Complaints received from residents around the Church Car Park of youths doing 'doughnuts'. Residents are asked to contact the Neighbourhood Policing Unit on 690690 should they witness this or any other anti-social event.
- d) Request for financial assistance from the Parish Council to purchase 'slap bands' to be handed out at Bearsted Fayre. The Clerk advised that there were a number of bands remaining in the office. It was proposed that the Clerk be given authority to approve the purchase of any additional bands required, up to £100. Agreed.

Community Warden Riach-Brown

- a) Maidstone NHW want to make Bearsted a 'No cold calling zone'. A member of the team would be happy to come to a Parish Council meeting to discuss the scheme. It was agreed to invite representative to the July meeting.
- b) Plans are well underway for the Sports and Activity Day – 28th August.
- c) The KCC Regional and County Football Tournament is to hold its regional heats at Maidstone on 11th July.
- d) Two youth singers have been booked for Music on the Green.

At this point the meeting was closed to listen to a presentation from Mr Mark Watts of Luther Pendragon the company commissioned by the JPG to represent them during the KIG Inquiry.

Mr Watts outlined his company's position in the process and how the inquiry process would be run.

Whilst the JPG has appointed Luther Pendragon the financing of this will be down to the parishes with each parish's contribution being based on households within the parish.

Upon the completion of Mr Watts presentation it was agreed that the Parish Council would discuss their standing within the campaign and the financial implications at an additional meeting. Mr Jacques from the JPG to be invited to that meeting.

The meeting was reconvened at this point.

4 Action Points from Previous Minutes:

4.1 Bowls Club lease – the signed copy of the lease has now been received from the solicitor.

4.2 Parish Plan – meeting held on 19th May to discuss the presentation at Bearsted and Thurnham Fayre. Further meeting to be held on 16th June.

5 Matters Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Play Area – Woodland Trust land

The order has been placed and the anticipated installation date is week beginning 29th June or 6th July. This will mean the equipment will be available for use over the school holidays.

5.2 Play Area – Bearsted Green

Quotation received for the remedial works identified in recent MBC Play Area Inspection. The cost of these repairs is £1300. The nature of the work required was questioned and it was agreed that following inspection of the site to satisfy these queries the work be approved to ensure that there are no further health and safety issues at the site.

Quotation also received for the replacement of the dog proof fencing and gate. Two further quotations to be obtained. Both this work and the repairs could be funded from S106 monies.

The question of the long term future of the play area was discussed. Whilst this is a popular area it was felt that improvements could be made.

Following the Clerk's attendance of a Play Safe seminar it was agreed that a visual inspection of the play area be carried out weekly by the Clerk.

7 Correspondence

- a) Email: Classic Cars on the Green – inclusion of Jazz Band at event at cost to the Parish of £200 approx – it was proposed that this addition be declined for 2009 as no provision had been made within the budget. If an additional source of funding could be found then the Parish Council had no objection to the inclusion. Agreed.
- b) Letter: Kent Air Ambulance Trust – Textile Bank initiative – it was agreed that a trial of the new textile bank be carried out for a 3 month period at the Church Lane Car Park.
- c) Letter: KCC Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Adoption of Scheme
- d) Email: Community Responder – Price List re Garments. It was agreed 12:1 that the purchase of these garments be approved. Mr Kettle to be invited to December meeting to give a further talk regarding the scheme.
- e) Letter: Kent BTCV – Tree Warden Scheme – it was proposed that the sum of £100 be paid to the BTCV in support of the scheme.
- f) Letter: John Lawson – request for circus 22nd March 2010 – It was agreed that the circus could visit on the requested dates subject to the receipt of the monies owing for the electricity and water used during 2009.
- g) Letter: Jacobs A20 Speed Limit Review – no change to speed limits along the Ashford Road.
- h) Letter: Dr Hallewell requesting permission to join drainage from 8 Manor Rise to the drainage used by the Tennis Club and all other buildings along Church Landway, along with details of covenant that would be placed on the property regarding the maintenance of the drainage. In principle the Parish Council support the request but further advice is required regarding the financial implications of any repairs required to the system.

Action: Advice to be sought regarding the size of the pipe with regards to the proposed usage etc.

- i) Letter: Clive Palferman – thank you letter in response to leaving gift and gratuity.

8 Planning

8.1 Minutes of Planning Committee meeting held on 3rd June 2009

Terms of Reference – these need to be amended to include provision that any decision made by the committee should be ratified by full council. If there is a time constraint regarding reporting to the Borough Council then the emergency powers procedure will need to come into effect.

8.2 Applications Received

MA/09/0032 The Kentish Yeoman – retrospective application for the change of use of part of the building from public house to hot food takeaway and ancillary restaurant – amended plans.

MA/09/0690 Goodwin Cottage, 4 Mote Villas, The Green – Erection of single storey rear extension – response amended to read *materials being used and style or proposal are out of keeping*.

MA/09/0743 Clerys, St Faiths Lane – Erection of single bungalow

MA/09/0760 Little Orchard, Church Lane – Erection of 5 no dwellings with garaging and parking provision and new driveway (resubmission 08/1666). Objection letter approved for submission to MBC

MA/09/0771 177 Ashford Road – Erection of first floor roof extension to include raised ridge heights and removal of flat roof dormers

MA/09/0787 6 Yeoman Way – Loft conversion consisting of pitched roof and dormers on both side elevations.

MA/09/0809 65 Fauchons Lane – Erection of single storey rear extension

MA/09/0820 64 Roseacre Lane – Erection of single storey side and rear extension

Following amendment to 4 Mote Villas all recommendations from the Planning Committee were agreed.

8.3 It was reported that the applications for 124 Ashford Road and 3 Egremont Road were to be heard by the MBC planning committee on 11th June. Mr Ethridge would speak against 3 Egremont Road but felt that the officers case for approval of 124 Ashford Road should be agreed and the objection removed.

8.4 25 The Landway

An application for the erection of 5 dwellings has been received for this site. Site meeting to be held for planning committee on 15th June. Planning Committee to hold additional meeting.

9 Matters of Report

9.1 Finance

- (i) List of Cheques to be signed – Proposed by Mr Stark, seconded Mr Dyke that the schedule of cheques for payment be approved.
- (ii) Report from the Internal Auditor – circulated to councillors.
- (iii) Petty Cash – the sum held will be reduced to remain at £100. Agreed.

9.2 Open Spaces Report

- (i) Date of next meeting 25th June 2009

9.3 Youth Report

(i) Minutes of meeting held on 1st June 2009

Meeting to be set up with Assistant Youth Services Officer to discuss provision of a Youth facility in the parish.

(ii) It was proposed that Community Warden Riach-Brown be co-opted on to the Youth Committee in view of her work within the parish. Agreed.

9.4 Communications Report

(i) Minutes of meeting held on 21st May 2009

a) Noticeboard at Cross Keys – a proposal has been made regarding the relocation of this board from the bus stop to the steps opposite Mallings Lane. It was agreed that the board should remain in its current location.

b) Newsletter – it was agreed that this be published three times a year, for a year, to gauge public opinion – Agreed.

9.5 Transportation/ Lighting Report

(i) Minutes of meeting held on 21st May 2009

a) Amendment to 7b to read the Transportation Committee opposes any plans for traffic calming in Yeoman Lane but encourages speed reduction measures.

b) A leaflet to be handed out to rail users has been drawn up identifying the proposed cuts to the service.

Action: to be emailed to Councillors for approval

9.6 Entertainment Report

Request that Music on the Green advert appear again in the July edition of Downs Mail.

9.7 Quality Parish Council Application Committee

(i) Minutes of meeting held on 18th May 2009

It was agreed that a 'dongle' be purchased to allow for remote access to the internet to promote the Parish Council website.

9.8 Chairman's Report

Nothing to report

9.9 Clerk's Report

(i) Training report – the Clerk reported on the Clerks Information Day, Power of Well Being and Play Safe training courses attended.

(ii) Funding Workshop – meeting held with various funders in the area. Funding identified for a number of projects under consideration. Details circulated.

9.10 KALC Report

Nothing to report

9.11 Written Reports from County Councillor and Borough Councillors

Mrs Marshall reported that she remained all the same committees as last year.

9.12 Reports from Councillors who sit as representatives on local organisations

King George V Memorial Hall – the hearing loop is now functioning. The AGM of the hall is 21st July.

10 Matters for next Agenda
Proposed Elderly Forum

11 Date of Next meeting – 14th July King George V Memorial Hall, Manor Rise

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11 p.m.