



BROOMFIELD AND KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood.
Monday 20th January 2014

Present:

Cllr Terry Baker (Chairman) Cllr Tina Clarke Cllr Mike Darling Cllr Mike Lovell
Cllr Mike O'Neill Cllr Peter Page Cllr Janet Tandy (7)

Mrs G Gosden – Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

There was one member of the public present.

Cllr Baker opened the meeting at 19.30pm

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Jenny Whittle – KCC - Other Commitments
Cllr Peter Parvin – MBC – Other Commitments
PCSO Kirby – Other Commitments

Min No		Action
209	<p>Councillors Declarations (Regarding Agenda Items)</p> <p>Nothing Declared</p>	
210	<p>Minutes of PC Meeting held 16th December 2013</p> <p>Councillors resolved to accept these minutes as a true record, signed by Cllr Baker</p>	
211	<p>Minutes of Planning Meeting held 16th December 2013</p> <p>Councillors resolved to accept these minutes as a true record, signed by Cllr Baker</p>	
212	<p>Minutes of Planning Meeting held 7th January 2014</p> <p>Councillors resolved to accept these minutes as a true record, signed by Cllr Baker</p>	
213	<p>Actions & Outcomes</p> <p>There were two actions that remain outstanding from last month</p>	Clerk
214	<p>Kent County Council - County Councillor, Jenny Whittle, Maidstone Rural East</p> <p>Apologies received. Cllr Whittle reported that a "pothole blitz" has commenced and Kent Highways will bring in small contractors to tackle the huge number of potholes that have emerged since the heavy rain during and since the festive period.</p> <p>Also Cllr Whittle is seeking an update from Andy Padgham about the application submitted for the B&K HGV signs.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Signed _____</p>	

215 **Maidstone Borough Council - Leeds Ward Councillor, Peter Parvin**

Apologies received. There was nothing to report

216 **Policing**

Crime figures and Police report - PCSO Kirby;
Kingswood - 14/01/14 -Theft, Lenham Road, 04/01/14 - Burglary Other Than Dwelling.

Langley - Criminal Damage 4, Theft 2, Burglary Other Than Dwelling 1; **Sutton Valence**- Theft 1, Criminal Damage 2, Arson 1; **Ulcombe** - Theft From Motor Vehicle 1, Criminal Damage 1 Theft 2.

Ann Barnes, Kent Police & Crime Commissioner has forwarded a draft refresh of her Police & Crime Plan requesting comments. Councillors felt that their response is that there was little to respond to as very little of the pledges made had been acted upon.

217 **Committee Membership Cllr Darling**

Cllr Darling agreed to become a member of the Finance & General Purposes, Planning & Sports Field Committees. Agreed by all councillors.

218 **Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillor Baker updated the meeting on the progress of the Neighbourhood plan and advised that the public consultation could not commence until such time as discussion with MBC were concluded.

219 **Finances**

219.1 Responsible Finance Officer’s report was read to Councillors, payments were agreed and the report was retained on file.

219.2 Bank reconciliation for December 2013 was agreed and signed by Cllr Baker

219.3 Precept 2014/15 – Councillors agreed unanimously to set the precept for 2014/15 at £55,500.

220 **Sports Field**

220.1 Sports Field Users – Councillors requested the Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Scout Group & Maidstone Mavericks

220.2 Peter Forster reports, as part of his weekly inspections, that the new waste bin is being used for dog waste which is a potential health hazard. Cllr Page agreed to chase up the contractor who had been asked to supply ‘No Dog Waste’ signs. In the meanwhile the Clerk would put up a laminated notice and look into having a lid for the waste bin as it was filling with water.

220.3 MBC are investing £1.75million in upgrading play areas over the next 18months. Parish Councils will be able to apply for up to £10,000 each of match funding to improve facilities. Councillors agreed to discuss further requirements at the next Sports Field meeting and requested the Clerk to make further enquiries at MBC.

220.4 Other

(i) There was concern regarding the condition of the verge outside the Sports Field due to lorries accessing the Stumps, the Clerk was asked to write to the property concerned.

(ii) Clerk to obtain estimates of the cost of repainting the Portacabin

Clerk

Cllr Page & Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

221 **Joint Parishes Group**

The JPG has had a meeting with Chris Garland, MBC to discuss the emerging Local Development Plan with the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. As a result of the meeting the JPG have compiled a response to the draft consultation document which has been forwarded for Councillors consideration. Councillors agreed unanimously to support the JPG stance and wished to support the vote of ‘No Confidence’.

222 **MBC Planning Changes**

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MBC have announced their intentions to make changes to the Planning Department. It is their intention to manage the entire planning process electronically.

Councillors expressed concern at the limited facilities of the parish council to manage such a system and requested the Clerk to inform MBC of the problems that could be anticipated.

Clerk

223 Annual Parish Meeting 2014

Councillors discussed a different approach to the 2014 APM. It was decided that if possible it would take place on a Saturday morning in May. All the clubs and societies would be invited to attend and have a 'stall' to advertise their organisation. A Parish Magazine with Parish Council annual news will be published prior to the APM and circulated.

Clerk

224 Welcome Pack for new residents

Councillors agreed unanimously that they would like to have a welcome pack available for new residents as they move into the village. This would include a letter of welcome and the most recent Village News. The Clerk was requested to format a welcome letter for approval.

Clerk

225 Highways

225.1 Road Signs/Traffic Calming, - Cllrs Baker, Lovell & O'Neill recently walked around the village to determine the needs of the parish and recommended that the interactive signs in Lenham Road would not be value for money. They also made recommendation for visual improvements that could be maintained if a Handy man was contracted. Councillors agreed unanimously to recruit a handy man for next year 2014/15 as no objections had been raised after the subject was raised in the last Village News and no comments had been received.

225.2 Road Management complaints – The Clerk advised that she had received many emails and phone calls about the recent issues with the roads around the parish.

226 Maidstone Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

Cllr Lovell reported to Councillors the contents of the MGBIS, which was a 90 page document. He concluded that whilst the aspirations seemed laudable there appears to be no effective parallel to the upcoming Local Development Plan. See item 221

227 Consultation on the Draft of the Kent Minerals & Waste Local Plan

Councillors noted the plan but had no comments to make at this time.

228 Reports

228.1 See item 225.1

229 Items for next Meeting's Agenda

- (i) APM
- (ii) Handyman
- (iii) Parking in Peter Pease Close
- (iv) Hedges around the parish
- (v) Pensioners Outing 2014

230 Councillor representation at Coffee Shop

After discussion Councillors agreed that they would prefer to attend the Coffee Shop on an 'ad hoc' basis, that members of the public were always welcome to attend the Parish Council meetings as they are a public event.

231 Any Other Information

231.1 Sutton Valence Post Office – There is a public consultation in progress regarding the proposal to move

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the post office to new premises at the Haven Farm Shop, North Street, Sutton Valence.

231.2 Mr Keith Bennett has expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Council

231.3 The Data Protection registry renewal confirmation has been received

231.4 The Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Viscount De L'Isle, has extended an invitation to the Chairman or his representative to attend his annual Civic Service at Canterbury Cathedral on Tuesday 11th March 2014.

231.5 An application for a 'Grant of Street Trading Consent' has been received by MBC for a mobile pizza van in the car park at the front of the Costcutter shop on Saturdays between 4 – 9pm. Councillors expressed concern that the location proposed was inappropriate due to parking and noise issues.

231.6 A letter of resignation from the parish council has been received from Justin West, The Monitoring Officer, MBC has been notified and the advert for the vacancy has been put up in the noticeboards.

231.7 MBC have announced today that despite reports over the weekend that Yalding was being considered as a "garden city" by the government, they have had no contact with government in this regard and MBC have never had any such plans .

231.8 The latest update from Kent Highways regarding the road repairs in Leeds village indicate that there is no dateline expected when the repairs will be complete due to continuing discoveries of ecological issues.

Clerk

232

Parish Council Meetings

The next full Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 17th February 2014 at The Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood at 7:30pm.

There was no further business, Councillor Baker closed the meeting at 10.30pm

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