



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 on Monday 24th April 2017

Present:

Clr Tina Clark (Chair) Clr Annette Friend Clr Tom Hoy
Clr Mike Lovell Clr Paul Milton Clr Peter Page (6)

Clr Gill Fort – Ward Councillors, MBC
PCSO John Boyd
Gail Gosden – Parish Clerk

There was one member of the public.

Apologies for Absence:

Clr Gareth Davies – Family commitments
Clr Janet Tandy – Other PC Business.

Clr Clark opened the meeting at 7.58pm.

Min No

Action

276

Councillors Declarations (Regarding Agenda Items)

- 276.1 Lobbying
 - 276.2 Personal Interest
 - 276.3 Prejudicial Interest (Councillor to leave meeting table whilst such item is under discussion)
- There were no declarations.

The Clerk informed Councillors and members of the public of the sad news of ex- Councillor Mike Evans death last week. Mike Evans had been a pillar of the local community having been a councillor for many years, co-ordinator of the Neighbourhood Watch, School Governor and taking on many and various other roles. He will be sadly missed and the condolences of the Parish Council are extended to his family.

Councillors resolved unanimously to make a donation to the families chosen charity in remembrance of Mike.

277

Election of Village Hall Representative

It was resolved to elect Clr Janet Tandy as the Parish Council representative and trustee on the Village Hall Committee.

278

Approval of Minutes

- 278.1 Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held 20th March 2017
- 278.2 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 20th March 2017

It was resolved unanimously to accept the above minutes as a true record and were signed by Clr Clark.

279

Actions & Outcomes

Signed _____

Items outstanding:- 231.11 - Write to Paul Carter re woodcuts appeal- appeal delayed until October 2017. Cllr Gill Fort advised councillors that MBC is considering not defending the appeal and that this decision was due to be made on 25th April. Councillors agreed to wait for the decision by MBC before writing to Paul Carter, KCC.

264 - Letter to MBC re outcome of NP. The Clerk advised councillors that the Headcorn NP had also failed at examination for very similar reasons the Clerk would speak to the Clerk at Headcorn before completing the letter.

280 Kent County Council - County Councillor - Maidstone Rural East - Jenny Whittle

No apologies or report has been received. The Clerk reminded councillors that Jenny Whittle was standing down as a county councillor at the election on the 4th May.

281 Maidstone Borough Council – Ward Councillor - Gill Fort

Cllr Fort advised that Planning Enforcement were waiting for two planning applications to be determined before enforcement actions would be taken at Oaklands.

Cllr Hoy left the meeting at 8.15 to join the Village Hall Committee meeting.

282 Policing

Crime figures and Police report - 20 March – 24 April 2017:-

March

29 - Gravelly Bottom Rd - Damage to fencing and hedge and theft of Wood Chipper machine

25 – Nisa, Charlesford Avenue - Theft of pedal cycle from outside shop

April

20 - Gravelly Bottom Rd - Attempted burglary – window of static caravan broken into, people were disturbed and patrols attended with dogs but the search proved negative.

04 - Gravelly Bottom Rd - Burglary of shed - damage to lock and theft of sit on lawn mower.

03/04 - Broomfield Rd - Burglary of shed – Damage to lock and fencing

During this period there were 14 calls to the police via 999 & 101 including the above crimes

Also there were :- 2 RTC's – Chegworth Rd

There have been issues with youths in the area which are being addressed

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator - Following the death of Mike Evans councillors requested the Clerk to advertise in the next Parish News for a new co-ordinator.

The Clerk advised that access had yet to be obtained to the scout hut to view the CCTV following an incident of harassment at the sports field recently. Clerk was requested to see if it would be possible to obtain a PC set of keys.

283 Finances

283.1 Responsible Finance Officer's report was circulated, payments were approved unanimously, the report is retained on file.

283.2 Bank reconciliation – March 2017- End of Year – was previously circulated. Councillors resolved to accept the bank reconciliation and this was signed by Cllr Clark

283.3 Savings Account. Councillors agreed that there were no accounts at this time that provided adequate value as a savings account. However the Clerk was requested to transfer funds to the No2 bank account to preserve the FSCS guarantee.

283.4 Signature required for Year End PSS Agreement - This was signed by Cllr Clark and the Clerk

Signed _____

Clerk

Clerk

283.5 Approval for membership to KALC 2017/18 – Councillors unanimously resolved to continue membership with KALC for 2017/18.

283.6 Approval of Annual Return 2016/17

(i) Approval of Annual Governance Statement 2016/17. The Clerk read the Annual Governance Statement to councillors, who agreed yes to all categories within, this was then signed by Cllr Clark and the Clerk/RFO.

(ii) Approval of the Accounting Statement 2016/17. Councillors unanimously resolved to approve the Annual Accounting Statement 2016/17. This was then signed by Cllr Clark and the Clerk/RFO.

283.7 The Internal audit report has been received and there were no issues or concerns noted.

Cllr Hoy re-joined the meeting at 8.45pm.

The meeting was closed for a refreshments break at 8.45 and was re-opened at 8.55pm

284

Kent Highway Services

284.1 Arrangement for meeting with KCC Highways re emergency closures of neighbouring roads – Susan Laporte is proposing a date after 23rd May and prior to 9th June and has requested the local traffic manager to attend.

284.2 Gravelly Bottom Road (GBR) - KCC has received a request from a resident in GBR to pursue the clearance of trees, hedges and verges to enable HGV access.

Councillors discussed and agreed that GBR is a very narrow single track road which is entirely unsuitable for HGV access generally. It is normally accepted that should significant sized deliveries be needed to such rural roads the carriers would be advised accordingly of the need to use smaller vehicles. Enquiries of long term residents indicated that there have been no expectations to remove/reduce trees and hedgerows in the past and that large HGV's were a very rare occurrence. Councillors agreed that they did not wish to see the road de-forested, local planning policy requires the retention of existing trees, woodlands and hedgerows and removal of such would harm the character and appearance of the countryside along the length of GBR. Therefore Councillors unanimously agreed they would not support the clearance/removal or reduction of the trees and hedgerows along GBR.

Clerk

285

Heritage Open Days

To determine whether to participate in MBC Heritage Open Days 7-10 September 2017. Councillors concluded unanimously to not participate in this event.

286

Parish Handyman

Paul Beaney has provided the appropriate insurance cover and has already started working on the list of tasks that need attention.

287

M20 Resurfacing

Information now received from Hollingbourne PC to the effect that there is an extensive schedule of resurfacing of the M20 at every point apart from between J 8 & 9. There is no petition in place to lobby the Highways Authority to re-surface this part of the M20, however MP Helen Whately did pledge as part of her election manifesto of 2015 to pursue this matter.

Councillors confirmed their request for the Clerk to write to Helen Whately asking for an update of any action she has taken and whether consideration of additional sound mitigation measures could be taken.

Clerk

Cllr Lovell left the meeting at 9.28

288

Peter Pease Close (PPC)

Signed _____

Cllr
Davies

The Clerk has had an initial look at the S106 agreement regarding the requirement for a local connection for potential residents at PPC. It appears there is very little opportunity for inclusion of the Parish Council in any part of the ongoing processes. Councillors requested that Cllr Davies be asked to look at the document before any further action is progressed.

289 **Sports Field**

289.1 To agree quote for tree works following annual review- councillors resolved unanimously to accept the quote for all tree works required following the safety review.

Clerk

289.2 To agree repairs to car park surface – Councillors resolved unanimously to accept the quote for the repairs from Wilson Tarmac and also resolved that additional quotes were not required due to the limited value of the work to be carried out and the proven best provider during a previous tender process.

Clerk

289.3 Agreement to continue arrangements with Roseacre Rovers Junior Football Club for 2017/18 – Councillors resolved unanimously to permit RR to continue with the current arrangements for the use of the sports field.

Clerk

289.4 Party request for Thurs 1st June 11-1pm. This was agreed by all.

Clerk

290 **Village Hall**

290.1 Village Hall Summer Fete – Councillors agreed to participate in the summer fete, arrangements to be confirmed nearer the time.

290.2 Parish Council Office facility – Cllr Hoy reported that following a meeting with the Village Hall Committee they had agreed to the principle of an extension to the village hall, this would be in the anticipation of the Pre-school group being able to offer more hours in line with government policy and to enable the parish council to have an office facility. Cllr Hoy would arrange a meeting with the pre-school to discuss their precise requirements. The Clerk was requested to write and confirm this agreement in principle to pursue further enquiries.

Cllr
Hoy

Clerk

291 **Reports**

291.1 Village Hall Committee – Cllr Tandy – report will be circulated and retained on file.

292 **Any Other Information**

292.1 The Dynamic Councillor - KALC training - 18 May 2017, Harrietsham Village Hall. No-one available to attend, review consideration for session at Kingwood in October/November

292.2 Clerks Conference 7 June 2017

292.3 Civic & Freedom Parade – 20th May

293 **Items for next Meeting's Agenda**

Nothing at this time

294 **Parish Council Meetings**

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Monday 15th May 2017 at The Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood from 7.30pm followed by the Annual Parish Council and Parish Council meetings.

There was no further business, Cllr Clark closed the meeting at 10.10pm