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Established 1934

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Minutes of the meeting of **Borough Green Parish Council** held in Borough Green Village Hall on **Monday 9th January 2023** starting at 1930. The meeting was recorded to ensure the accuracy of the minutes
Present: Cllrs Taylor (Chairman), Shaw, Millener, Butterfill, Wray, Ramsden, Rawsthorne, Rothwell, Ms Bartlett & the Clerk
Cllr Rayner (KCC) & Cllr Palmer (TMBC) were present from 2000, but no Members of the Public.

170. Apologies for Absence Cllrs Reading and Simpson

171. Declarations of Interest- None

172. Minutes of the meeting 5th December 2022 - AGREED

173. Matters Arising -None

174. Resignation of a Councillor - Noted

Co-option of any Applicants .

The Vacancy had been formally posted on 13th December, and we received one applicant, Ms Emma Bartlett. The Council voted unanimously to co-opt and Cllr Bartlett signed the Declaration of Acceptance. Chairman noted her exemplary work at Crowhill, and she agreed to extend that remit to all our wild land.

175 Submissions by County and Borough Members

Cllrs Shaw and Palmer reported on Waste and Planning issues, and mould in Clarion properties
Cllr Rayner reported on ongoing cuts, and the efforts by himself and Cllrs Taylor & Palmer on Buses.
Chairman moved Item 183 (i) He reported on multiple meeting during the Christmas period with Parishes, Parish Chairs and bus operators to try and establish a Parish Alliance funded 1 day per week replacement for the 58 and 70 buses. Cost would be £125 per bus per day shared amongst the Parishes, and Cllr Rayner advised there was a start-up grant available. BG would take the lead, because we benefit from both routes, and would provide a ring fenced account for grants and contributions. This experiment could be extended to the 222 and 306/308 routes. Nu Venture have agreed to maintain the service after subsidy ends until the new scheme is in place. Chair to write to the Parishes and submit a grant application. Cllr Wray reported on the Go-Coach call bus in Sevenoaks, and will monitor to see if it could fit our local needs

176 Planning Matters to hand

- (i) To note Planning Notices as circulated
- (ii) Current applications and responses circulated

TM/22/02779/FL Cranleigh Cottage 8 Maidstone Rd Demolition summer house new garage **NO OBS**

TM/22/02557/LDP 8 Normanhurst Road LDC Proposed: Dropping kerb and new drive **NO OBS**

TM/22/02563/FL Lenwyk 15 Wrotham Road Demolition of existing dwelling, erection of a detached 2 bed house and a terrace of three, 1 bed starter homes with parking and landscaping. **OBJECT - WITHDRAWN?**

TM/22/02732/RD The Mount 65 Crouch Lane Details of conditions 5 (floor levels) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/20/02949/FL **NO OBS**

TM/82/1138/R(ii)AB& (KCC/TM/0162/2022) Proposed reprofiling of Stangate West Landfill Site **NOTED**

177 Potters Mede

- (i) Container - awaiting quotes
- (ii) Cllr Millener reports immersion leak (plumber engaged) and water/moss on rear fire escape - groundsman to power wash and improve drainage

178 Recreation Ground

- (i) ASB, CCTV, Policing update . Clerk noted ongoing discussions with Police, and with Bowls Club re CCTV extension. CCTV images will be made available to the Police when the public report a crime, but not direct to the Public (GDPR). It is important that Crime is reported to the Police
- (ii) Loose dog complaint - Dogs are required to be kept on a lead in the Rec/Potters Mede, but the public regularly disregard the rule. Cllr Ramsden to post on Social Media.

179 Village Enhancements

- (i) Green Space Review - Cllr Bartlett circulated on the Final Report by Kent Wildlife on Crowhill and IQE, noting Solitary Miner Bees in large numbers, and the possibility there may also be the rare Shrill Carder (bumble)Bee as well. Further investigations into flora and fauna at Crowhill and IQE to be carried out
- (ii) Tree Preservation Orders & PROWs - no report
- (iii) Salt Bins - 4x 1 tonne Dumpy bags ordered. KCC replacing Fire Station bin. Cllr Shaw asked about a bin at Monckton Rd, but there is already a bin at Crowhurst, and with 20 Parish bins the logistics of topping them all up is stretching our resources.

180 Financial Matters

- (i) Responsible Financial Officer's report
- (ii) Bank Reconciliations 31 December. Clerk noted total balances of £143,740.76 and that we should finish the year with £100k in reserves which leaves us well placed for our scheduled projects and Planning/Legal Costs of fighting Borough Green Garden City & the TMBC Local Plan
- (iii) To approve Payment List as circulated. Prop-Chair, 2nd-Cllr Butterfill, - AGREED
Invoices checked : Cllrs Shaw , Wray & Ramsden
- (iv) Legal Cost Recovery. Clerk is taking our case to the Insurance Ombudsman, because we had a clear Public Liability comfort from our insurers before we allowed legal matters to proceed.
- (v) Donations - The Counselling Service declined - not local, SE 4x4Response £100 towards Santa Costs. Stefan Taye SN School £150 + furniture. Gladys Banks 106th Birthday £40 bouquet - AGREED

181 Website & Social Media

- (i) Bernie's Ukraine Aid trip and 4x4 Santa seem to have struck the right chord. It was noted that there was still a huge amount of disinformation on some Social Media pages, and the Clerk has been liaising with moderators.

182 TMBC Local Plan & Policies

- (i) To note variations to Planning Rules by the DHLUC Minister , Michael Gove MP. If it ever makes it into law, this will remove Government Housing targets, to be replaced by locally agreed targets to meet actual housing need. It may not be soon enough to modify TMBC's Local Plan.

183 Highways & Streetlighting

- (i) Bus cuts - Possible Parish Subsidy Report of meetings and progress. (Above)
- (ii) KCC Baskets & Lighting - KCC have not completed column replacement or Commando socket installation, but have refrained from threatened removal of any "illegal" Christmas Lights.
- (iii) Update on A25 road and pavement resurfacing , gullies done

184 Quarries & Landfills

- (i) No Report

185 Councillors Reports from outside Bodies (max 3 min)

- (i) Skatepark - access road, container - Noted
- (ii) 4x4 Santa report - Excellent response, next year needs a tighter time table and wider publicity
- (iii) St George's Court, appoint Cllr Millener as liaison. St George's Court could provide Covenanted Elderly accommodation freeing up larger homes for desperate families

186 Coronation Advance Planning Cllr Butterfill will lead on the event, with a tea-party and entertainment for children in the Village Hall (Outside in carpark if fine) planned for Sunday 7th May. We will explore a similar party for the elderly Lunch Club Group downstairs at the same time

187 Future Dates

(i) Date of next meeting **Monday 6th February 2023**

At all other times contact the Clerk using the details above

Chair called a short break from 2045 - 2055 then moved to Part 2

188 Exclusion of Public and Press: Pursuant to Section1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Chairman to move that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting during consideration of any item. Members are reminded that any release of information from a Part 2 discussion is contrary to the Standards Code and an offence under the above Public Bodies Act.

Part 2 - Clerk reported on discussions about leaks of confidential disinformation, and how to bring an end to it. The events of the past couple of years had caused a huge amount of unnecessary extra work that could have been better applied for the benefit of the Community. There being no further business, Chairman closed the meeting at **21.22**

APPENDIX 1 PAYMENTS LIST

Borough Green Parish Council Payments List : January 2023	£
Staff Costs	
Staff Salaries	4,630.85
HMRC	2,173.48
KCC Pensions	1,084.82
BACS Payments	
Wrotham Parish Council, inv 352	886.21
Commercial Services t/a Landscape Services, inv LS205189	143.52
Streetlights, inv 13383	534.00
SHS Hygiene, inv 43932	631.20
Donation - Stefan Taye School	150.00
BGVH (office rent, Oct to Dec 22, inv 4/22)	750.00
BGVH Luncheon Club 24/23	504.90
BGVH Luncheon Club 25/23	504.90
Expenses - B Galopin	6.50
Expenses - B Galopin	130.00
Expenses - B Glew	36.29
DD Payments	
Zen Internet	13.99
Bank Charges *	22.00
Npower* - streetlighting	1,441.76
EDF (PM)*	1,126.00
EDF (RG)*	28.00
Castle Water*	51.06
Castle Water*	17.60
TMBC	57.00
Vauxhall Finance	544.8
Total Payments	15,468.88
NB: Receipts for the period 01/12/22 to 31/12/22	1,908.40
Total Bank Balances	143,740.76
Signatures 1 Cllr Shaw 2 Cllr Wray 3 Cllr Ramsden	