

NBU 01

Minutes of the meeting of Borough Green Parish Council held at 7.30p.m. on Monday 5 November 2001 at Potters Mede

Present: Cllr Mrs S Murray (Chairman), Cllrs. C Brinkley-Willsher, J Evans, B Hughes (7.50pm), Mrs J Lucas, J McWilliam, M Stone, M Taylor
County Cllr. Mrs V Dagger.
Apologies: A Dolton, D Evans, Mrs V Hayman

There were three members of the public in attendance

79. **Minutes** of the meeting 1 October 2001: 75. delete 'fire alarm' add ' emergency lighting'. The amended minutes were signed as a true record.

County Cllr Mrs Dagger gave an update on the proposed Borough Green & Platt Bypass and the possible future plans of Celcon and RMC. Support from neighbouring parishes would be helpful.

80. **Matters Arising**

- 65.56. 108 Maidstone Road, proposed children's home. This will be considered by T&MBC in December/January.
- 66. Telecommunication towers – a reply from T&MBC was read and noted.
- 66. Development r/o Borough Green House: The developers will be asked to cut back trees overhanging FP 407.
- 67. There is still concern about poor illumination of the zebra crossing, Maidstone Road.
- 69. Cllr Hughes has prepared draft Standing Orders: copies were given to all members who will consider whether any additions are required. For discussion at the next meeting.
- 70. Village of the Year competition: a feedback CD has been received.
- 71. Chairman will speak to a leader of Plaxtol Youth Club as soon as possible.
- 72. The Jubilee fir tree has been planted at the Baptist Chapel.
- 75. The Charity Commission are supplying guidance notes.
- 76. Chairman reported that Hanson Waste Management have agreed to supply a large piece of ragstone suitable to bear a village name plaque.

81. **Planning Matters**

Pre-meeting:

- TM/01/1647 Landscaping and boundary treatment – Residential development r/o Borough Green House Query breach of planning conditions re. removal of trees on northern boundary.
- TM/01/1648 Road and footpath junctions – Residential development r/o BG House. No objections.
- TM/01/2060 Car parking details – Conversion 36/38 Western Road (excl. Vet Surgery) into 5no dwellings. Objection: Impractical car park layout. 3no parking spaces should be omitted to allow cars to manoeuvre.
- TM/01/2432 Access road, hardstanding & attendance facility – Livery Yard, Downsview Farm, Borough Green Road, Ightham. 1. Premature, inappropriate and excessive application. 2. Suggested use of diary to monitor use is impractical. 3. Determination of additional access onto haul road should be delayed until after adoption of the road.
- TM/01/2489 Outline application 20no 2 bed flats – 21/25 Sevenoaks Road. No objection in principle but 1. Query proposals for improving public transport. 2. Re. triangle of land j/o Sevenoaks Rd/Rock Road – will this be highway land and subject to Sect. 106 agreement? 3. Query Sect. 106 agreement for recreation facilities. 4. There must be adequate fencing btwn. site and Garden of Remembrance 5. Traffic analysis of refuse disposal vehicle entering/exiting site will be requested.
- TM/01/2521 Tree Surgery – 44 Crowhurst Road. No objections.
- TM/01/2522 Tree Surgery – 46 Crowhurst Road. No objections.
- TM/01/2543 Extension – 9 Tilton Road. Concern about an area indicated on the plan to left of garage, which looks unsightly. If this is marked in error – no objections.
- TM/01/2621 Conservatory – 18 Griggs Way. No objections.
- TM/01/2656 Detached dwelling – adj. 25 Conyerd Road. Objections: 1. Design is out-of-keeping with area. 2. Over-intensification of site. 3. Small amenity use area. 4. Dense planting to rear will restrict light. 5. Additional on-street parking is likely, which will prove hazardous. 6. If T&MBC is mindful to approve, materials should match no 25 Conyerd Road.
- TM/01/2683 Extension & conservatory – 97 Crouch Lane. No objections.

Meeting:

- TM/01/1284 Children's Home – 108 Maidstone Road. Amended site plan noted.
- TM/01/2815 Brick Store – 28 Wye Road. No objections but query misleading information re. mention of proposed extension to adjoining property.

Action

All Cllrs

SM

Cheques for Signature (Continued)

£465.01	R Springett – Asst. Groundsman 1/10– 31/10/01
£786.66	H Damiral – Clerk October 2001
£517.00	J Stephens – Caretaker 1/10– 31/10/01
£204.37	Seaboard – Street Lighting Maintenance – November 2001
£742.39	KCC – Superannuation April – Sept. 2001 incl.
£15.00	RNLI – Donation
£29.38	Wicksteed Leisure – Play Equipment Inspection June 2001
£1856.50	Syd Bishop & Sons (Demolition) Ltd – Demolition & Removal of Storage Containers, Potters Mede
£1400	BMPOS – Maintenance Grant 2001/2002
£1530.32	How Green Nursery – Maintenance/Removal Hanging Baskets 2001
£77.00	Cash – A Gill Retirement Gift
£37.53	J Evans – reimbursement, electrical supplies, Potters Mede

Proposed by Cllr McWilliam, seconded by Cllr Hughes that the above cheques be paid.
Agreed.

91. **Resolved to enter into committee:-**

The Groundsman retired on 31 October 2001. Chairman and Clerk presented him with a retirement gift and card on behalf of the Parish Council. There was some discussion about future caretaking/grounds maintenance arrangements for both Potters Mede and the Recreation Ground. For further consideration at the next meeting.

Planning Matters (Continued)

Decisions

- TM/01/1197 2no dwellings – 1 Crow Hill Road. Permission refused
- TM/01/1421 Details, materials & acoustic protection – adj. 165 Maidstone Rd. Details approved.
- TM/01/1477 Extension – 7 Ascot Close. Permission granted.
- TM/01/1836 Conservatory – 11 Black Horse Mews. Permission granted
- TM/01/2175 Extension & Garage – 5 Brockway. Permission granted.
- TM/01/2271 Telecommunications Tower – Saab Garage, Station Approach. Permission refused.
- TM/01/2386 Revised detailing of houses – residential development r/o Borough Green House, off Tilton Road. Amendments approved.
- TM/01/2388 Revised detailing of materials – residential development r/o Borough Green House, off Tilton Road. Amendments approved.
- TM/01/2888 Pedestrian Barrier – 'Fox & Hounds' redevelopment, Maidstone Road – Details approved.

There then followed the period for public consultation. Concern was expressed about safety of pedestrians crossing the A25 Sevenoaks Road. A petition from residents was received which will be forwarded to KCC with PC support for a pedestrian crossing and speed reminder signs.

82. Correspondence

Noted:

- Medway River Project – newsletter
- Rail Passengers' Committee – Public Meeting
- BG & District Chamber of Commerce – Letter of Thanks
- Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust – Annual Report
- CPRE – Rural Matters newsletter and magazine
- KCC – Superannuation Report & Accounts 2001
- KCC – Superannuation Meeting 2/11/01
- Kent Downs – Newspaper
- KCC – Speed Restriction Order
- Highways Agency – Ttraffic Information in Sussex & Kent
- T&M Housing Assn. – Newsletter
- KCC – Trading Standards 'Occasional Sales'
- KRCC – Annual Report 2000/2001
- London Inn Group – Transfer of Justices' Licence 'The Red Lion'
- T&MBC – 'Highways Information Items'
- Fox & Manwaring – Fencing, land adj. Recreation Ground
- BTCV – Environmental Warden Schemes

Kent County Constabulary – Crime & Disorder Analysis noted. Chairman reported on the public meeting held by the Police in September. This was attended by over 200 residents of Borough Green and neighbouring parishes. It was a very positive meeting and another meeting is planned for 12 months time. There is however, particular concern about young people congregating after dark in and around the village hall car park. Members will consider possible night-time closure of the public conveniences. For discussion at the next meeting.

T&MBC – Funding for Local Projects Seminar 19/11/01. Cllr McWilliam will attend.

NALC – National Training Strategy for Parish & Town Councils. Chairman reported. Information noted. Copies will be given to all Cllrs.

KAPC – AGM: Chairman attended. Agreed to contact 'The Countryside Agency' representative re. 'Vital Villages'.

KAPC - Allowances for Parish Councillors: All members had received copies of the national proposals. Intended legislation noted. After discussion Chairman proposed PC response:

1. No remuneration at present although this may be necessary in the future if P Cllrs are required to become more professional.
2. Reimbursement of travelling expenses if required.
3. Chairmans allowance should be paid. Agreed.

T&MBC – Local Plan User Groups: Cllr Brinkley-Willsher will represent the PC.

Citizens Rights for Older People – AGM 29 Nov. 2001. Cllr J Evans will attend.

All Cllrs.

JMcW

CB-W
JE

83. **Borough Green & Platt Bypass/Traffic Matters**
Chairman will arrange meeting with Wrotham and Ightham PC representatives re. proposed bypass. A recent traffic count A25 and A227 was carried out by Babbie. A copy of the results will be requested.
84. **Village Enhancement**
Chairman and Clerk met with T&MBC to discuss installation of a seat and planter at entrance to Western Road car park. Comments from adjacent residents will be invited. For further discussion at the next meeting.
85. **Report of the Finance Cttee.**
All Cllrs were given copies of the budget report – period ended 30/09/01. Clerk reported Finance Cttee recommendations: 1. Fidelity Guarantee Insurance to be increased to £75,000. 2. Shortfall in allocated money for Potters Mede rates to be met from reserve account. Chairman proposed that these recommendations be accepted. Agreed.
86. **T&MBC Financial Arrangements with Parish Councils 2002/2003**
Chairman outlined Finance Cttee recommendations for T&MBC Special Works Grant 2002/03: Further enhancement of Recreation Ground 1. 2no sprung rockers in children's play area + safety surfacing £2735 + VAT. 2. Fencing 3rd side of play area adj. to stream – guideline price requested from Chestnut Products Ltd. 3. Concrete base and fixing of loose seat in play area £250 + VAT approx. 4. Replacement bridge over stream and construction of dog walking track through woodland – guideline price requested from Medway River Project. Chairman proposed that these recommendations be approved and a grant application made. Agreed.
87. **Recreation Ground**
Mowing: Chairman proposed that a quotation be accepted from KCC in the sum of £26.50 per cut less £1.56 per cut if both grounds are cut on the same occasion. Agreed.
88. **Potters Mede**
Mowing: Chairman proposed that a quotation be accepted from KCC in the sum of £50.26 per cut less £1.56 per cut if both grounds are cut on the same occasion. Agreed. Noted that due to frequent wet condition of Potters Mede it is becoming increasingly difficult to cut both grounds on the same occasion.
Cricket Square: Grounds maintenance staff will cut the square as a matter of priority.
Christmas tree recycling: Agreed that car park can be used by T&MBC as a collection point, all as in previous years.
Car Park fence: Tonbridge Fencing will be instructed to repair vandalised fence.
Ladies' Cloakroom: Agreed to purchase replacement door.
Sports Facilities: There was some discussion about possible future sports provision at Potters Mede and Whitegate Field.
89. **Committee Reports**
Highways, Footpaths & St.Lighting: A light in the High Street is not working.
BGVHMC: Trees overhanging the footpath need to be cut back. Agreed to support BGVHMC's application to T&MBC for a grant towards resurfacing the car park. Cllr Evans will refer these matters to the cttee.
Men of Trees: A written report was read. Copies will be sent to BMPOS cttee and BG School. Cllr Brinkley-Willsher will include Basted House in next year's tour of the village.
Quarries Liaison: Cllr Hughes reported on a recent meeting of Stangate Quarry Liaison Cttee. Chairman reported on recent meetings of RMC, Celcon and Nepicar Quarry.
BMPOS: A request for £1400 annual maintenance grant was received. Chairman proposed that this be paid. Agreed.
90. **Cheques for Signature**
Auto-Pay
£204.37 Seeboard – Street Lighting Maintenance – October 2001
£489.00 T&MBC – Rates, Potters Mede November 2001
£164.85 Seeboard – Street Lighting supply, October 2001
£26.54 Kent Aluminium – Maintenance Materials, Potters Mede
£235.00 Landscape Services – Play Equipment Repairs, Rec.Gd.
£36.95 Seeboard – Street Light Repair, 6 Tilton Road
£176.44 A Gill – Groundsman 1/10 – 31/10/01

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