



Clerk: Mr Bernie Galopin

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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 3rd October 2022** starting at 1930. The meeting was recorded to ensure the accuracy of the minutes
Present: Cllrs Taylor (Chairman), Shaw, Millener, Perry, Wray, Reading, Ramsden, Butterfill, Rothwell, Rawsthorne, Simpson, Ms Bartlett & the Clerk
Cllr Rayner (KCC) & Cllr Palmer were present, and two Members of the Public.
Chairman called for a **One Minute Silence** as a mark of respect, and handed over to the Clerk

On behalf of Borough Green, the Clerk made this tribute: Since our last Parish Council meeting on Monday 5th September, like so many people across the country and around the world, we have been shocked and saddened by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We recognise the incredible service Her Majesty provided to our country and across the world as well as her compassion and kindness as a person. The Parish Council send our heartfelt condolences to the Royal Family. Her Majesty is succeeded by His Majesty King Charles III.

GOD SAVE THE KING

115. Apologies for Absence - None

116. Declarations of Interest - None

117. Minutes of the meeting 5th September 2022- AGREED as a true record

118. Matters Arising - None

119 Submissions by County and Borough Members

Chairman moved Agenda Items 127 (iii) & (iv) and 122 (ii) & (iii) to this point

Cllr Rayner responded to Cllr Millener's reports about Sevenoaks Rd Drainage works ref 127.

Noted excellent cleaning and investigation, identifying two sites for further repairs. To note surface water run-off problems from the Westbank Drive. Chairman to write to Westbank and Cllr Rayner. - AGREED

Pavement resurfacing progressing 104-Western Rd Junction, Chairman tabled letter (app 2) from Cllr Brazier KCC pledging Sevenoaks Rd resurfacing in 2023

Stangate Landform and Solar Farm progress, and Planning Gain will be sought.

KCC Funding is perilous, but bus subsidies remain, problems with delivery of Bus Passes and poor arrival times.

and Members of the Public - ongoing concerns about ASB

Rec ASB - Clerk reported on liaison with Police & PCSO, and that 7 children had received warnings in front of their parents, and one an ASB Warning. There seems to be a significant reduction in the problems. Chairman reported liaison with Bowls Club re extra CCTV coverage, but doubts were expressed about Police use of this evidence. Quotes for removal of two picnic benches sought, about £4,000, and there was some evidence already that the benches were not the cause of the problem.

Cllr Palmer noted the Wrotham Local Plan meeting, and that it would be discussed at Platt PC on Tuesday

120 Planning Matters to hand

(i) To note Planning Notices as circulated

(ii) Current applications and responses circulated

TM/22/01912/FL 55 Western Erection of a two bedroom single storey detached dwelling

TM/22/01924/FL 29 Wye Road First floor rear extension, terrace over existing flat roof extension

TM/22/02010/FL 11 High Street Single storey rear extension

7 November 2022

120 Planning cont/

TM/22/02004/FL 43 High Street Removal of ATM and signage and application of blanking
Chair reported liaison with TMBC Regeneration Cabinet Member, but no one have obtained any response from Goldex who own the Costa Coffee Franchise. Chair noted a groundswell amongst residents to call for an embargo on Costa Coffee, but whilst we fully understand the sentiment, it is not something the Parish Council could legally promote. Chair noted 190 objections on the TMBC website, but there are no material planning grounds to call the application before Area 2 Committee.

121 Potters Mede

(i) Proposed use as Youth Music venue - a timely proposal circulated , but very aspirational - the PC looks forward to concrete proposals for a more nuanced start. We will need details of a management committee, DBS checks, staffing numbers and structure, liaison with Kent Youth - funding ideas etc - **AGREED** in principle
Proposal by Jiu Jitsu for 5 days per week - Clerk to meet and discuss.

(ii) To note hire of carpark to BGJFC for one game at 3G pitch - £25 received - NOTED

(iii) Loan of Heras fencing to Wrotham Bonfire - AGREED

122 Recreation Ground

(i) Perimeter Path Update - commencing Wed 5 Oct - Clerk organising evening patrols by Members

(ii) ASB & litter. above

(iii) Picnic bench- above

(iv) Damaged Oak Woodland Walk - Treeability booked £196+vat completed - RATIFIED

123 Village Enhancements

(i) Green Space Review - Ms Bartlett showed Attendance Certificates , signed by Chairman. First 80 children will visit 13 Oct in 3 groups BGPS organising Risk Assessments and staffing, Cllr Rawsthorne to assist. Platt School visits to be finalised. Members thanked KPM (TMB) Platt Ind Estate for the generous free printing.

(ii) Tree Preservation Orders & PROWs - no update

(iii) VH Toilets Electrical Certificate & repairs - completed. Note Clerk's ongoing discussions with nPower

(iv) 4x4 Father Christmas - Platt to BG - Cllr Butterfill proposed 4x4 Rescue Father Christmas visiting multiple venues mid December, delivering sweets donated by local stores. PC to provide £200 "back-up" funding. Chair to liaise with Platt PC - AGREED

(v) Remembrance Wreaths RBLI - Chairman proposed 6 off x£20 - AGREED. Cllr Simpson to contact Ukrainian friends to lay a wreath on behalf of Ukrainian War Dead. Clerk reported on his upcoming Hope Church aid trip to Ukraine 29th Oct-2 Nov with medical and hygiene supplies -
Chairman proposed a donation of £500 and the Clerk's time - AGREED

124 Financial Matters

(i) Responsible Financial Officer's report

(ii) Bank Reconciliations 31 September, statements tabled, Reconciliations to be circulated.

Total bank balance £196,583.01

(iii) To approve Payment List as circulated. Prop Chair, Sec Cllr Butterfill - AGREED

Invoices checked : Cllr Rothwell & Taylor

125 Website & Social Media

(i) Strong responses to Cash Machine application on all Social Media- 190 objections

126 TMBC Local Plan & Policies

(i) Consultation Documents now released - consultation links on BG.gov website. Chair's personal submissions lodged & circulated, which can be sent as a formal BGPC submission, subject to any amendments. Chairman noted BG Landfill sites could be supported for modest housing and employment, as in 2018, but suggested a

roundabout on the A227 as a Planning Gain. Chair to circulate sketch - AGREE cont/

Chair urged everyone & to submit even if only "Stop BGGC/Save The Greenbelt" to localplan@tmbc.gov.uk
Wrotham Local Plan meeting, TMBC Leader & 2 Cabinet Members pledged to protect Greenbelt.
Cllr Simpson asked the Chair to circulate information about the Parish Alliance for newer members - AGREED

127 Highways & Streetlighting

- (i) Rec Crossing - timing reset (EXCELLENT), Darkhill 40mph completed, thank you letter sent
20mph in hand - amend HIP : Bourne Estate, High St & Western Rd, Quarry Hill, Sevenoaks Rd to 104, Maidstone Rd to Rec Crossing - AGREED
- (ii) KCC Baskets & Lighting - report of meeting with Christmas Lights Committee. Compromise letter (APP 3) sent to KCC, no response, so Lights are going ahead. If KCC do not have the resources to install 41 Commando Sockets before 1st November, they won't have the resources to remove offending attachments
- (iii) To note drainage work on Sevenoaks Rd, and discovery of blockages. (above)
- (iv) To note Cllr Millener's discussion with landowner and KCC about Westbank drive excessive run off. (above)
- (v) To note pledge by Cllr D Brazier KCC re A25 (APP 2) resurfacing (above)

128 Quarries & Landfills

- (i) Report on meeting with H+H Celcon - as circulated. Whilst H+H won't admit to failings by their contractors, it is apparent there is covert action being taken. H+H are investigating a new sweeper supplier who can wash roads and keep the dust down. It is crucial that every incident time, and registration if possible, are noted and reported back to the PC

129 Councillors Reports from outside Bodies (max 3 min)

- (i) Skatepark - request to run manual scooter lessons - insurance cover sought,
- (ii) Village Hall rate increase. There has been no response to the PC letter (APP4) asking for the increase to be deferred, and Cllr Taylor was asked to leave their meeting when it was discussed.

130 Coronation Advance Planning will be an ongoing agenda item

131 Future Dates

- (i) Date of next meeting **Monday 7th November 2022** At all other times contact the Clerk using the details above. There being no further business, Chairman closed the meeting at **2150**

132 Exclusion of Public and Press: Pursuant to Section 1(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.

Standards Matters no update



7 Nov 2022

APPENDIX 1 PAYMENTS LIST Below

APPENDIX 1 PAYMENTS LIST

Borough Green Parish Council

Payments Schedule Natwest

Month: October 2022

£

Staff Costs

Staff Salaries	4,589.74
HMRC	2,266.58
KCC Pensions	1,084.82

BACS Payments

BGVH, office rent, inv 3/22	750.00
BGVH, luncheon club, booking number 104/22	386.10
BGVH, luncheon club, booking number 105/22	386.10
Tuckwells, inv C26974	318.00
EJP Fire Protection, (Rec Ground) inv 44360	87.60
EJP Fire Protection, (PM) inv 44360	249.60
Commercial Services, inv LS204345	143.52
Streetlights, lighting column repairs, inv 13106	117.30
Kent County Playing Fields (annual subscription)	20.00
Npower, inv04233558	546.42
Npower, inv04233596	523.93
Npower, inv04362618	536.99
Npower, inv04640156	680.80
Expenses - Rob Springett	40.58
Expenses - Barry Glew	69.45
Expenses - Barry Glew	57.40

DD Payments

Zen Internet	11.99
Bank Charges *	22.00
Npower* - streetlighting	1,436.98
EDF (PM)*	1,126.00
EDF (RG)*	28.00
Castle Water*	51.06
Castle Water*	17.60
TMBC	57.00
Vauxhall Finance	544.80

* DD amounts may vary on a monthly basis

Total Payments

16,150.36

TOTAL BANK BALANCE 31 Sept 2022

£196583.01

Signatures

1 Cllr Rothwell

2 Cllr Taylor

NB: Receipts for the period 01/09/22 to 30/09/22

1,348.15

(exc bank transfers)



APPENDIX 2 KCC Cllr DAVID BRAZIER re A25 RESURFACING 28 Sept 2022

[Sent on behalf of David Brazier](#)

Dear Mike

Thank you for your recent email dated Thursday 1 September 2022, regarding issues with traffic using the A25 Borough Green Rd and resurfacing issues.

I can confirm that the resurfacing of A25 Maidstone Road, Borough Green, between the Dark Hill Roundabout to Station Road is programmed to be undertaken in 2023 which should resolve any issues you have identified with the road surface at this location.

Regarding the other roads mentioned in your correspondence, such as Long Mill Lane, KCC do undertake a substantial programme of surface preservation on an annual basis, utilising surfacing processes such as surface dressing and micro surfacing.

I would not identify these treatments as being designed to 'upgrade' the road, rather they are used to seal existing, structurally sound roads from water ingress, traffic induced wear and tear and environmental degradation. In essence they protect the existing road structure.

While road surfaces such as Long Mill Lane may have appeared visually to be in a better condition than others, these sites have been identified via our highway survey data as being at the point this season where surface preservation works were required to extend the usable life of the road. This is a key component of our highway asset management strategy, which does emphasis extending the lifecycle of existing roads, economically, to prevent the need for more expensive and disruptive surface reconstruction works in the medium term.

With regards to the issues raised about the day and night speeding HGV traffic, I have spoken to our Transportation team regarding these issues. The A25 is classed as an 'A' road and as such most vehicles can use it. In some instances, the issue of lorries using unsuitable routes is a difficult problem to deal with.

On a strategic level the council has developed and published a Freight Action Plan with the aim to effectively address concerns with the movement of freight both through and within Kent. Details are available on: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/transport-and-highways-policies/freight-action-plan>.

KCC's Freight Action Plan sets out the vision to:

"Promote safe and sustainable freight distribution networks into, out of and within Kent, which support local and national economic prosperity and quality of life, whilst working to address any negative impacts on local communities and the environment both now and in the future."

The intention is to encourage the use of strategic roads for the transportation of goods across the county, using the most appropriate roads, avoiding restrictions and roads that were not designed to take their use.

I trust you find this information helpful, to update to your constituents on the current position.

Yours sincerely

David Brazier
County Member, Sevenoaks Rural North East Division
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport
Kent County Council

APPENDIX 3 BGPC LIGHTING COLUMN COMPROMISE KCC



BOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



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Andrew Loosemore KCC

Borough Green Christmas Lights and Hanging Baskets

10 Sept 2022

Dear Andrew,

With the delegated authority of BGPC, the Parish Clerk and I met representatives of the Christmas Lights Committee, and we agreed the response below as a way to resolve the ongoing issues about lighting column attachments.

1. BGPC permanently cancel winter hanging baskets, to prevent doubling up of attachments to columns
2. We agree to the installation of Commando Sockets to the 41 columns noted in the August 2022 list, and we gratefully accept KCC's offer to fund the installation of these commando sockets.
3. KCC use their existing suppliers and contractors to install the isolator/timers at the same time as the commando sockets, and invoice BGPC per column or groups of columns for the isolator/timers.
4. KCC calculate a power cost for each columns being approx Power / 12 months/ 50% hours/ wattage of decoration. This will actually be a tiny cost, and does not justify the separate UKPN and power supplier cost, and an annual aggregation of the costs could be charged to BGPC with the annual permit charge.**below
5. BG Christmas Lights undertake to modify decorations, and remove domestic supplies and catenaries as KCC modify the columns. It would be helpful if these works could be programmed outside the Christmas period BGPC will liaise with KCC contractors to assist the changeover of hanging baskets, and KCC will defer any instructions to remove non-compliant attachments for the agreed changeover period.
6. BGPC will fund the cost of new Christmas Light brackets and hanging baskets to suit larger diameter columns.
7. BGPC will agree to pay one annual blanket permit/test fee of £1000 for all columns listed in the August 2022 list, being 41 Christmas Lights and 20 Hanging baskets. We confirm these column attachments will remain unchanged year on year.
8. BGPC will pay equipment replacement costs for timers/sockets during annual maintenance of columns, the labour costs being accepted by KCC as within their own maintenance costs.
9. BGPC will resume its works on KCC's behalf where KCC's funding difficulties have resulted in a loss of service to the Parish. (PROWs, Saltbins and gritting, etc)

Yours faithfully

Chairman BGPC

** - Power Costs- BGPC currently pay nPower £517.64 pcm for 76 streetlights, £6.80 per column. We do not yet get LED discount. Our Xmas displays draw far less than your lighting heads, but even at £6.80x41x2 months= only £557.66. We will agree pay 50% of that calculation, which allows for the minute power being drawn, and that the decorations will only be powered for 7 of the 15 hours of the streetlights, being £278.83 for Nov/Dec.

APPENDIX 4 VILLAGE HALL RATE INCREASE



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Borough Green Village Hall Management Committee

Proposed Rate Increase

5 Sept 2022

Dear Lesley,

The Parish Council was very concerned by the report that the BGVHMC intended to increase Hall Hire Fees. We do understand the financial reasoning behind the proposal, but do not believe this is the right time.

The hirers are all struggling with debt incurred during Covid, and are now trying to build back their customers, and like the rest of the country are being hit hard by the current increases in the cost of living.

The Parish Council has long term fixed bookings supporting the Hall almost as a form of grant funding. The Clerk helped the Hall obtain support grants during the pandemic, and we understand you are currently in a very strong financial position.

The Parish Council was heavily involved with the inception of the Hall, and whilst we have always agreed with it operating as an entirely separate entity, we are always been ready to provide grant funding when needed.

The Village Hall is a Community Asset held in Trust for the people of Borough Green, and whilst you have done excellent work over the years maintaining the fabric and financial viability of the Hall, it is still a essentially a charitable venture, and therefore we urge you to reconsider the proposed increases, at least until the financial situation stabilises for our residents

The Parish Council has maintained its previous rates for that very reason, and has given hirers discounts and refunds to ensure their losses were restricted to their inability to generate any revenue.

Yours faithfully

Chairman BGPC