

MAR 02

Minutes of the meeting of Borough Green Parish Council held at 7.30p.m. on Monday 4 March 2002 at Potters Mede

Present: Cllr Mrs S Murray (Chairman), Cllrs. C Brinkley-Willsher, A Dolton, J Evans, B Hughes, Cllr Mrs J Lucas, J McWilliam, M Stone, M Taylor  
Apologies: D Evans, Mrs V Hayman. C Cllr Mrs V Dagger  
There were two members of the public in attendance

Action

137. **Minutes** of the meeting 4 February 2002 were signed as a true record.

138. **Matters Arising**

127. Results of the election for the Standards Committee were noted. Cllr Hughes was congratulated on his election.

134. Cllr Brinkley-Willsher has agreed Seaboard street lighting agreement.

134. Cllr Taylor reported on proposed Drop-In Centre. Volunteers are coming forward to help run it. Combining it with a daytime tea-room is being considered. T&MBC will be consulted re. possible locations and Cllr Taylor will consult with the VHMC about possible use of the caretaker's flat.

MT

139. **Planning Matters**

**Pre-Meeting**

TM/01/3040 Extension - 93 Wrotham Road. Concern about off-street parking.

TM/01/3357 Replacement garage & conversion of existing into dining room - 3 Tolsey Mead. No objections.

TM/02/0271 Dormer shower room - 56 Annetts Hall. No objections.

TM/02/0034 Extension - 21 McDermott Road. No objections.

TM/02/0165 Vehicular access - Downsview Farm, Ightham. Premature application. No additional access onto the haul road should be allowed until future plans for the rest of the land are known.

TM/02/0315 Replacement dwelling - 1 Crow Hill Road. There should be no planting on the frontage of this site because of sight lines.

**Meeting**

TM/01/2489 Outline application - 20no 2-bed flats: Pedestrian link to Sevenoaks Road. Whilst the improved pedestrian access is welcomed, it is still not considered satisfactory. Query whether width of path is adequate. Previous comments on original application still stand.

TM/01/1284 Change of use to Children's Home. Appeal lodged

140. **Correspondence**

**Noted:**

KCC - Borough Green Library Annual Review (copies displayed on notice boards)

The Countryside Agency - Local transport workshop, Swindon 23 March 2002

KCC - Local Govt. Pension Scheme regulations 1997, amendments

KRCC - Rural News February & Rural Partnership Initiative

RAISE - Newsletter

T&MBC - WPPC meeting 23 April 2002 (copies to BH/MS/JMcW)

Medway Valley Countryside Partnership - Annual Report

KAPC - Newsletter (copy to Cllr Stone)

CPRE - Newsletters

Kent Downs - newsletter

T&MBC - Heritage Open Days

BH/MS/JMc

West Kent Mediation Service - Request for donation. This will be considered at the 2003/04 budget meeting.

T&MBC - Register of Electors. Noted that this will be available on computer disk. Agreed that 12no hard copies are still required.

Sevenoaks Town Council - Request received for information about provision of Christmas lights. STC will be advised to contact the Lighting Committee.

141. **Borough Green & Platt Bypass/Traffic Matters**

A very successful public meeting had taken place and residents were urged to write to the leader of KCC. Chairman reported on meetings with Celcon & RMC and KCC & T&MBC. Chairman reported that another safety audit is to be carried out.

A20/A25 Wrotham Heath carriageway reconditioning scheme will be undertaken April-August 2002. Diversion route noted. After discussion agreed to request temporary traffic lights on the affected Sundays at j/o A227/A25.

A reply from Babbie re. proposed traffic management and speed limits scheme A227 Borough Green/Wrotham was read. Copies will be given to all members.

Action

**Borough Green & Platt Bypass/Traffic Matters** (Continued)

All members had received copies of a report from Cllr Taylor re. possible mini-roundabout and pedestrian crossing j/o A227/A25. Chairman gave further information. The content of the report will be passed to KCC.

There then followed the period for public consultation  
Residents reiterated the need for a footway at Basted Mill.

142. **National Spring Clean**  
Agreed to participate in the National Spring Clean. A litter pick of A25/A227/High Street will be carried out on Sunday 5 May 2001, commencing 10am. Support from Wrotham Secondary Schools pupils will be requested. All Cllrs
143. **Planning Green Paper**  
All members had received copies of a letter and summary from KCC. After discussion agreed that KCC's current proposals have not offered the Parish Council any benefits and the Government's new proposals may serve better. Copies of the CPRE's briefing were given to Chairman and Vice-Chairman, who will complete the response form on behalf of the Parish Council. Individual responses can also be made. SM/LMcW
144. **T&MBC Rates - Recreation Ground Pavilion**  
T&MBC had advised that rates are payable on the pavilion w.e.f 1 April 2001. A demand for £197.80 for the year 2001/02 was received. Chairman proposed that this be paid but liability queried re. war memorial status.
145. **Proposed Telecommunications Apparatus (Ultramast/Orange PCS Ltd) – BG Station**  
Noted that Borough Green Station car park is a possible site for a telecommunications mast. After discussion agreed that the location is close to sheltered accommodation, senior citizens' and other family dwellings. If the mast is installed, it should not displace any car parking or waste recycling facilities.
146. **Parish Council Superannuation Payments 2002 – 2005**  
Chairman proposed that this be discussed under item 154 of the agenda. Agreed.
147. **1<sup>st</sup> Borough Green Scout Group – request for Financial Assistance**  
A request for financial assistance towards camping equipment was received. Agreed that this will be considered at the 2003/04 budget meeting.
148. **Commemorative Tree**  
Cllr Stone reported that the Chequers Tree planted on the Cloke's site, in memory of Mr Bob Cloke, had not survived. Agreed that Cllr Stone will locate a suitable replacement tree and Cllr McWilliam will identify an alternative site. MS/JMcW
149. **Countryside Commission**  
Chairman reported on recent press comments from the Countryside Commission re. the Parish Council being 'inactive'. Agreed that the comments are totally unjustified and a slur on the hard work of the Parish Council in recent years. Chairman and Vice-Chairman will reply on behalf of the Parish Council and take advice from T&MBC. SM/JMcW
150. **Recreation Ground**  
**Playground Equipment:** Inspection reports from Wicksteed Leisure and KCC were received. Chairman proposed that Wicksteed Leisure be instructed to carry out maintenance works as per their schedule for the total sum of £140 + VAT. Agreed. The Groundsman will be instructed to sand and varnish rough wood on sprung motorbike.  
Chairman proposed that the quotation from Wicksteed Leisure in the sum of £2735 + VAT for installation of 2no rockers, inclusive of safety surfacing be accepted. Agreed.  
**Woodland Walk:** Cllr Brinkley-Willsher proposed that the best estimate from the Medway River Project in the sum of £4320 be accepted for the construction of a woodland walk and associated works. Seconded by Cllr Taylor. Agreed.  
**Field:** Cllr Stone will arrange for spraying and fertilising. MS

151. **Potters Mede**  
**Cricket Square:** Noted that Farningham Cricket Club does not require use of Potters Mede this year. The Groundsman will be instructed to treat weed growth and Cllr Stone will arrange for spraying and fertilising.  
**Showers:** These were inspected and tested by F P Caine Ltd last year and it is likely that a new boiler and pipework will be required. A second opinion will be sought.  
**Fencing:** Chairman proposed that chestnut paling fencing be erected around the pond. Agreed.  
**Drainage:** Cllr Stone will liaise with the Groundsman re. hosing through pipework under the car park area to check for blockages.
- MS
152. **Committee Reports**  
**Highways, Footpaths & St. Lighting:** There is concern about constant parking of cars in Rock Road close to junction with the A25. This will be referred to T&MBC. Lights on the A227 and A25 need attention. Gullies along the A227 and the High Street are still blocked. High St drainage channels - Further correspondence from Kent Highways was received. The responsibility for cleaning the channels is still queried. Disabled access - T&MBC does have a small budget for the construction of dropped crossings, however, there is a waiting list. Cllr Taylor will discuss this further with T&MBC on site. Drainage works A227 Wrotham Rd - Copy letter from KCC to resident noted. Kent Highways will refill salt bins and repair the pedestrian barrier on the railway bridge as soon as possible. Footpath - A25/Dene Lodge. Request for maintenance works will be passed to T&M Housing Association. Repairs are required to the pedestrian barrier at the j/o A25/Quarry Hill Road. Chairman will liaise with T&MBC about pedestrian barrier Rock Rd/Staleys Rd footpath.  
**BGVHMC:** No report  
**Men of Trees:** No report  
**Quarries Liaison:** Cllr Hughes reported on access to Downsview Farm  
**Basted Mill Open Space:** No report  
**Planning:** In view of bank holidays and the summer period (April - August incl), members will be advised of the date of the meetings as and when required.
- MT
- SM
- All Cllrs
153. **Cheques for Signature**  
**Pre-Meeting**  
 £82.26 KAPC - Planning Information Day course fees  
**Auto-Pay**  
 £31.71 Kent Aluminium - Maintenance Materials, Potters Mede  
 £29.38 Landscape Services - Playground inspection  
 £164.87 Seeboard - Street Lighting Supply, February 2002  
 £494.17 T&MBC - Rates, Potters Mede March 2002  
 £585.90 R Springett - Asst. Groundsman 1/2- 28/2/02  
 £786.87 H Damiral - Clerk February 2002  
 £459.40 J Stephens - Caretaker 1/2- 28/2/02  
 £36.93 Seeboard - Street Lighting Repair, Harrison Road  
 £236.27 Mid Kent Water - Supply, Recreation Ground  
 £43.36 Mid Kent Water - Supply, Potters Mede  
 £197.80 T&MBC - Rates, Recreation Ground, 2001 - 2002  
 £235.67 Seeboard - Supply, Potters Mede  
 £81.00 BGVHMC - Hire of Hall 'Pop-In' Jan - March 2002  
 £204.37 Seeboard - Street Lighting Maintenance - March 2002  
  
 £352.50 Sevenoaks Glazing - Replacement windows, Potters Mede  
 £59.69 Courier Newspapers - Staff advertisement  
 £29.38 Wicksteed Leisure - Playground inspection  
 £75.00 Compaid - Donation  
 £72.85 EJP Fire Protection - Inspections Rec.Gd. & Potters Mede
- Proposed by Cllr McWilliam, seconded by Cllr Dolton that the above cheques be paid. Agreed.

154. **Resolved to enter into committee**

The advertisement for the staff vacancy, Potters Mede, will remain open for another week.

Chairman, Cllr Dolton and Clerk will sift applications and interview appropriately.

Increased employer contribution rates to the KCC superannuation fund for the next three years were noted. Agreed that these will be paid in the year that they are due.

Agreed that, if Clerk takes a 3 week holiday break, necessary arrangements will be made for redirection of mail to Chairman.

Planning Enforcement investigation - The Crescent noted.

SM/AD