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Established 1934

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Draft Minutes of the meeting of **Borough Green Parish Council** held in Borough Green Village Hall on **Monday 13th June 2022** starting at 1937. The meeting was recorded to ensure the accuracy of the minutes

Present: Cllrs Taylor (Chairman), Shaw, Perry, Wray, Reading, Ramsden, Butterfill, Rawsthorne, Simpson & the Clerk

Cllr Rayner (KCC) & Cllr Palmer (TMBC) were present, and one Member of the Public.

Chairman apologised for his error putting 7pm instead of 7.30pm on the agenda

042. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Crawley sent apologies and has submitted his resignation. Vacancy will be published and the Monitoring Officer informed. Chairman thanked Cllr Crawley for his contribution.

Cllr Millener apologised, delayed by business.

043. Declarations of Interest

Chairman and Cllr Butterfill declared an interest and would abstain from the payment vote, and Cllr Rawsthorne would abstain from any Millbourne vote, and Cllr Simpson from TM/22/01076/FL Southways

044. Minutes of the meeting 9th May 2022 - **AGREED**

Minutes Parish Annual Meeting 9th May - AGREED

045. Matters Arising **NONE**

046 Submissions by County and Borough Members

Cllr Rayner reported on traffic chaos over a wide area caused by a long closure on the A21, which reinforces the case for Slip Roads at the A21/M26/M26 junction. The Active Travel strategy proposes a cycle route through Sevenoaks. The Government is proposing that all schools become academies. KCC recognise the need for reform, but there need be no haste. The current high cost of SEN Schools in Kent has caused a £100m deficit in KCC's deteriorating finances. Stangate Reprofilng application will open new avenues of dialogue with the Solar Power Developer. KCC is supporting provision of homes for Ukrainian refugees, and noted BGPC's provisions.

Cllr Palmer reported on the new TMBC Committee structure that **could** increase members **influence** over Cabinet, but needs an annual review.. She also reported the widespread anger over the loss of the Bulky Waste Freighter, and the expense of the collection service, which has a large environmental cost and unfairly impacts the poor & elderly. Cllr Shaw noted his FOI that showed fly tipping cost £70k pa, but this is an estimated cost, and reality is far higher. The Local Plan continues to drift on into the future. Travellers had been reported accessing land at Seal and Sevenoaks.

The Member of the Public was invited to speak and made her case against access to Crowhill. Clerk noted the decision would be left to the landlord Clarion Housing. There was some discussion about the difference between a PROW, a Permitted Footpath, a footpath, and a right of access over land. Chairman stated for the record that if the access was allowed, mowing would only be required once per year, that the security of the fence would be maintained at PC expense, and that there was no intention whatsoever to reinstate any public access to or over that part of Crowhill Estate. The Parish Council has a duty to maintain its "wild land" in accordance with the principles laid down by the Kent Wildlife report as a benefit to the whole Community.

047 Emergency Item - Ukraine Crisis

Clerk reported on discussions with Tonbridge School, that the PC can provide emergency accommodation and back-up funding if required, but most Ukrainian refugees are still being matched to volunteer families. Clerk asked for support/donations for the Hope Church van to Poland/Ukraine is September

048 Planning Matters to hand

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

TM/22/01221/FL 34 Quarry Hill Road First floor extension to the side of the property, and a double storey extension to the rear and the removal of the existing conservatory - Members have no objection to this development, but had serious concerns about site parking and deliveries causing local road chaos. - **AGREED**

TM/22/01076/FL Southways 35A Staleys Road Section 73 application to vary condition 2 (Parking Layout) pursuant to planning permission TM/21/01922/FL Demolition of existing dwelling, erection of 4 detached dwellings with associated access, parking and landscaping - No Observations

TM/22/01145/FL 32 Annetts Hall Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and conversion of loft to habitable room with rear dormer and sky light window. - No Observations

- (iii) To note contact re possible land form reprofiling application Stangate Quarry. (Cllr Rayner above)

049 Platinum Jubilee

(i) Platinum Jubilee Celebrations - The Beacon Ceremony and the Saturday Festival were both well attended, and raised £1864, Clerk proposed BGPC absorb the costs, and top up the HOK Hospice Donation to £2000 - **AGREED**
To note our thanks to Sue and John, Cllrs and volunteers who turned out to help, and our Clerk & staff.

- (ii) To note beacon will be refurbished and used as a waste bin until required again.

050 Potters Mede

- (i) Hall flooring - Completed. Initial reports are very favourable.

051 Recreation Ground

- (i) Perimeter Path - Contractor will commence in September in liaison with BGJFC
- (ii) War Memorial plaque installed on the Pavilion (See Platinum Jubilee)

052 Village Enhancements

- (i) IQE various - path upgrade - volunteer morning to be arranged this month
- (ii) Report on meeting with Millbourne residents. The PC has offered to include the annual mowing in our cuts, but control and management of the land is entirely the resident's responsibility. Confirming that the Public have a Right of Way on the footpath to the woodland of Isles Quarry but not the adjacent private land.
- (iii) Report on meeting with Surgery & Scouts - There still seems to be issues between the Scouts and the Surgery, but the PC remains committed to using the land for the benefit of the Public
- (iv) Crowhill access & hedge cutting . Discussions ongoing with tenants and Clarion Housing. MOP invited to be involved in any consultation about the land management
- (v) Noticeboard, plaques. Barry painting noticeboard - new BG plaques for that and Gateways. I have presented one to Charles Willsher's widow with a copy of the Flag artwork.
Planter To note our thanks to Nisa for replanting and watering.
- (vi) BG 1934 Flags 2 off, £162.15 +vat. Thanks to Cllr Ramsden for arranging the new artwork.
- (vii) Landscape Services quotes for 2022 - hedges 464.18, grass 386.60 - **AGREED**

053 Financial Matters

- (i) Responsible Financial Officer's report. AGAR submitted to PKF Littlejohn External Auditors
- (ii) Bank Reconciliations 31 May have been circulated, Current balance - £151,429
- (iii) Electric Van - is now in production and should be available by end of June. Charge Point - Clerk tabled three quotes. EDF quote at £948 was the cheapest (other two £1049 & 1145), and included an app to monitor costs. - **AGREED**
Clerk will draw up a short agreement with the Groundsman - **AGREED**
- (iv) To approve Payment List as circulated. (Appendix 1) Proposed Cllr Shaw, Sec Cllr Reading **AGREED**
Chair & Cllr Butterfill abstained.
Invoices checked by Cllrs Rawsthorne & Ramsden

054 Youth Facilities

To note upswing in antisocial behaviour, and possible solutions. There is a groundswell of volunteers keen on putting something together, and there seems to be existing expertise. I have suggested that when they have a proposal, we would listen sympathetically. Youth Provision, especially where ASB is involved, is squarely within our remit, but it needs to be arms length. AGREED

055 Website & Social Media

(i) Cllr Ramsden noted that Cllr Crawley had intended to revamp the website. Cllr Rawsthorne offered her expertise. The main problem is that the Chairman is retired, and has the time to ensure information is kept up to date on a daily basis, which others do not. There was some discussion about how website templates were slowly diverging, and it was becoming common for many browsers to be unable to read other formats. This was a real problem with mobile devices. But the PC's duty is only to make the information public, and beyond DDA requirements it was the responsibility of the searcher to find a complementary format. Chairman urged members to check the website regularly and report if it was not up to date and error free.

056 TMBC Local Plan & Policies

(i) Update - The Local Plan is now stretching out into the future

057 Highways & Streetlighting

(i) Update on Waste Services. Bulk Freighter and fly tipping are the main outstanding issues, see Cllr Palmer

(ii) KCC Baskets & Lighting - meeting report. We seem to have the makings of an agreement-

- 1) We cancel winter hanging baskets, giving KCC Jan 6th to end May to change as many columns as they want.
 - 2) They will advise how many columns so we can order new larger brackets.
 - 3) KCC will install "commando sockets" so all lights are powered from the columns. no catenaries
 - 4) engineers have begun arranging to collect brackets on installation days, so I have ordered 4 more. AGREED
 - 5) I am also talking to CJS about new brackets for Xmas lights, which I suggest the Parish pay for. AGREED
- (iii) Upgrade to footpath 104 Sevenoaks Rd to Westbank - NOTED

058 Quarries & Landfills

(i) Update Note Cllr Rayner

059 Councillors Reports from outside Bodies (max 3 min)

(i) BGPS looking for two more Governors contact Karen Proctor Clerk@bgpschool.kent.sch.uk

(ii) TMBC Standards Committee - note Government has stopped short of allowing Authorities to ban members. The Government supports this fundamental principle of representative democracy, that only those who choose their representatives at the Ballot Box should have the right to remove them.

060 Future Dates

(i) Date of next meeting **Monday 4th July 2022**

At all other times contact the Clerk using the details above

There being no further matters for discussion, and no Part 2 Matters, Chairman moved to close the meeting at 2133

061 **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.

London Bridge Protocol	no report
Standards Matters	no report

APPENDIX 1 BELOW

APPENDIX 1

**Borough Green Parish Council
Payments Schedule June 2022**

Staff Costs	£
Staff Salaries (subject to annual review)	4,780.99
HMRC	2,560.67
KCC Pensions	1,013.78
BACS Payments	
Cotor Flooring, inv SI-1382	5,596.00
Greenthumb, inv 192365	25.00
SHS, inv 42708	631.20
SHS, inv 42827	631.20
KWT Consultancy Services, inv 10227	450.00
Commercial Services Trading Ltd, inv LS203467	143.52
DJ Lee Events (QPJ), inv 58	430.00
Mrs Back-to-front (QPJ), inv 884	250.00
Phoenix Medical Services (QPJ), inv 1319	240.00
Jo Smith (COGS) (QPJ)	139.90
Exps - Barry Glew	8.68
Exps - Barry Glew	214.69
Exps - Barry Glew	206.40
Exps - Mike Taylor	30.00
Exps - Mike Taylor	194.78
Exps - Sue Butterfill	62.16
Exps - Rob Springett	71.39
DD Payments	
Zen Internet	11.99
Bank Charges *	20
ALD*	301.32
Wex *	5.4
Npower*	517.64
EDF (PM)*	443
EDF (RG)*	13
Castle Water*	51.06
Castle Water*	12.01
TMBC	57
PWLB	2873.68
* DD amounts may vary on a monthly basis	
Total Payments	21,986.46
NB: Awaits reconciliation - Commercial Services	710.5
Potential Payment Total	22,696.96
Signatures	

Mark Ramsden

Angelique Rawsthorne