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Established 1934

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DRAFT Minutes of the **BOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held at **Borough Green Bowls Club** on **Monday 4th November 2024** starting at **1935**. The meeting was not recorded. Members are reminded of the importance of Section 10 of Standing Orders regarding confidentiality of Part 2 discussions and documents. Please refer to our Data Privacy, Use and Retention Policy, which is published on our website.

Present: Cllrs Taylor (Chair), Cllrs, Ramsden (Vice Chair), Reid, Butterfill, Heselden, Shaw, Millener, Thrush, Cllr Rayner (KCC), Cllr Palmer (TMBC) & the Clerk. There was one member of the public.

127. Apologies for Absence - None

128. Declarations of Interest - Cllr Ramsden - related to new cleaner - noted & recorded

129. Minutes of the meeting 7th October 2024 - AGREED

130. Submissions by County and Borough Members and Members of the Public.

Cllr Rayner updated Members about the Moto Appeal, noting that PINS had raised concerns about KCC Highways failure to maintain their objection to the first application, when the second had no variations to the Highway's proposals - there was considerable discussion, and confirmation of BGPC's continuing financial contribution to the Parish Alliance planning team. Members asked the Chair to thank Cllr Gillin, Chair WPC. Cllr Rayner noted the Port Entry/Exit Scheme had been postponed by the EU, and that KCC were still struggling with Finance, not helped by the Government's announcement of increases to Employer's NI and the Minimum Wage. Cllr Rayner to address mud issues at Wrotham School development and the highway danger.

Cllr Palmer also spoke about Moto, and updated Members on the Enforcement progress on the Black Horse, and TMBC's DPHEH recent letters about the Basted Mill fly infestation, and having established it is not the Egg Farm, TMBC are continuing scientific investigations in the wider area.

The MOP declined the invitation to speak.

131 Matters Arising -

Vacancies - we now have formal approval to co-opt two new Councillors

Remembrance Sunday Wreath Laying 10am at the War Memorial.

Christmas Lights Festival 30 Nov - members were asked to help marshalling between 3pm and 5pm

4x4 Santa will tour Platt & Borough Green 13th December 5pm Pineview until 7.30pm passing out sweets

132 Planning Matters

(i) To note Planning Notices as circulated

(ii) Current applications and **responses** as circulated,

Moto Appeal update (see above) - changes to Planning process. Planning Officers have acknowledged their failure, and TM Members will now receive immediate notification of the start of an Appeal, not delayed until PINS send the formal "Start Letter" appointing an Inspector

Kent Minerals & Waste Plan Draft- Note Soft Sand safeguarding still in place, sterilising some possible LP sites

Applications

24/01963 64A Sevenoaks Rd Prior Notification for Larger Home Extension (Part 1 Class A): Three single storey rear extensions to a depth of 8m, maximum roof height of 4m, and eaves height of 2.88m

24/01726/PA 50 Sevenoaks Rd Single Storey rear extension and internal alterations

No Observations

133 Potters Mede

- (i) Update -Fibre installation - we are now on our 16th re-booking - BT and Openreach poor communications
- (ii) Update power supplier - delayed awaiting Fibre Broadband installation
- (iii) Office move complete - King's Portrait, Col Frank Griggs & Frank Bangay installed in PM main hall
- (iv) Generous thank you letter from BG Scouts (Appx 1)
- (v) New Defib battery installed
- (vi) New support Groups replacing Martial Arts, bookings growing well
- (vii) Malling Explorer Scouts request for venue - politely declined - lack of space

134 Recreation Ground

- (i) Pavilion Refurbishment - Working Group- Cllr Thrush Project Manager updated Members on Damp Survey by Gulliver, but wanted to explore further excavating the rear bank. Three Quotes received, being analysed to ensure like for like comparison. Chairman thanked Cllr Thrush for the work and his invaluable expertise
- (ii) New defib light installed at Play Area.

135 Community Issues

- (i) ASB catapults, windows, streetlights etc- information passed to Local PC and CSP
- (ii) VH - Defib their property now. All keys returned
- (iii) Basted Mill Flies letter from DPHEH - flies are not from the Egg Farm - (Appendix 3)
- (iv) Public Toilets - new cleaning regime working well, reduced costs
- (v) Public Toilets Gutter clean in hand

136 Village Enhancements & Green Spaces

- (i) Still waiting Planners decision re surgery carpark lighting - Wrong address and case details noted
- (ii) Annual Tree Inspection ongoing all areas
- (iii) Harrison Rd Flail mowing completed
- (iv) IQE PROW fencing completed, Deep Quarry signs ordered

137 Financial Matters

- (i) Responsible Financial Officer's report. Clerk outlined our very strong financial position. Chair thanked the Clerk for the huge amount of grant money he had accessed.
- (ii) Bank Reconciliations & Balance 31 October 2024 Total Bank Balance **£259,252.25**
- (iii) To approve Payment List as circulated (Appx 2). Prop-Chair, 2nd Cllr Butterfill, AGREED
Invoices checked : Cllr Reading & Taylor
- (iv) RFO laid out Budget & Precept - Budgets presented :
 - (a) 6 months YTD (Oct 24) actual compared to budget.
 - (b) Budget forecast to Y/E 31/03/25.- agree go to Finance meeting - 13th Nov 7pm
- (v) Donations - BG Christmas Lights £2000, Victim Support £200 - AGREED

138 Website & Social Media No report

139 Neighbourhood & Local Plans

- (i) TMBC Local Plan still on hold awaiting updated Government rules New NPPF due December

140 Highways & Streetlighting

- (i) Speed Indicator Devices - ongoing
- (ii) Sevenoaks Rd Pavement Survey - Les Henry report delivered
- (iii) Highway Improvement Plan - update - Cllr Shaw to update
- (iv) Cllr Heselden reported on vehicles mounting pavements - obtain numbers and pictures where possible - report to Police

141 Quarries & Landfills

- (i) Now we have installed secure stock fencing at the Woodland Walk, sheep are invading R Body Landfill.

142 Councillors Reports from outside Bodies - included elsewhere

143 Future Dates

(i) **Date of next meeting 2nd December 2024 1930 BOWLS CLUB, 6th January 2025 1930 BOWLS CLUB**

At all other times contact the Clerk using the details above

There being no Further Business or Part 2 Matters Chairman closed the meeting at **2058**

144 Exclusion of Public and Press: No Part 2 Matters

APPENDIX 1 Scouts Letter Extract " I wanted to start by offering our huge thanks to you and your colleagues on Borough Green Parish Council for the fantastic support you have provided to the Scout Group in ensuring they can utilise Potters Mede at such short notice following their eviction from the site near the doctors' surgery. It is no exaggeration to say that, without this support, the future of the Group would have been threatened and the more than 100 local young people who use the facility every week would have been left without the structure, fun and friendship that scouting provides. It has been hugely reassuring and appreciated to see the Parish Council step in to provide support at such a crucial time. "

APPENDIX 2 BGPC Payments List November 2024	£
Staff Costs	
Staff Salaries	6,280.32
HMRC	2,101.79
KCC Pensions	2,576.00
BACS Payments	
Wrotham Computer Care, inv 222471	24.00
Nu Venture, inv 3085	833.00
Astra Security, inv SI-109269	150.00
RBLI Poppy Appeal, SDM01	205.00
BGVH, inv 0203 (luncheon club)	526.50
BGVH, inv 0204 (luncheon club)	526.50
SE Solar, inv 1019	270.00
Astra, inv SI-109218	30.00
Perimeter Solutions, PSL5582-01	3,653.26
Les Henry, LHA/BGPC/2024/01	396.14
DR	345.00
BG Christmas Lights Committee	2,000.00
RS	104.00
RS	238.80
BG1	223.00
BG2	282.89
BG2	153.26
DD Payments	
Zen Internet (monthly charge)	13.79
National Domestic Rates RG	57.00
COGS - The Voice Magazine	300.00
Bank Charges *	34.12
Npower* - streetlighting	247.73
Npower* - public convenience	218.04
EDF (PM)*	443.00
EDF (RG)*	60.00
Castle Water*	181.56
Castle Water*	21.56
Stellantis (formerly Vauxhall Finance)	544.80
Total	23,041.06
NB: Receipts during Oct 24 (exc bank transfers)	3,610.24
TOTAL BANK BALANCES	259,252.25
Signatures Cllrs Taylor & Reading	

Appendix 3 Draft Letter DPHEH to Residents.

"By way of a brief update, I can advise that the Council have this year visited multiple sites in the locality including stables and farms and worked with other agencies such as Southern Water to test the margins around the river Bourne. As yet we are no further forward in identifying the root cause of this recurring fly problem. However, we have now retained a new Pest Consultancy to aid us in investigating and resolving residents' concerns which we continue to work to do.

Some residents continue to claim that the egg farm is the source of this problem. This site has formed a large part of our investigation to date and the consultant last visited there on the 27 August where conditions were found to be good. This concurs with his previous inspections and those of other agencies such as the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) with whom we remain in contact. Therefore, we have no evidence to support those claims.

If you are currently affected by the increase in fly numbers, please do log your concerns with our Environmental Protection Team environmental.protection@tmbc.gov.uk

Eleanor Hoyle
Director of Planning, Housing & Environmental Health
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council"