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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 5th September 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, Ms Bartlett & the Clerk

Cllr Rayner (KCC) & Cllr Palmer were present, and 8 Members of the Public.

Chairman thanked Members for the agreement to fund the car and undertaker to bring Alec Broad's ashes through the High St in procession, which allowed a huge number of the Public who could not attend the Memorial Service to pay their respects to a real Village Character who will be deeply missed. The Family thanked the Village for their support during a difficult time.

098. Apologies for Absence Cllr Simpson

099. Declarations of Interest Chairman -cheques

100. Minutes of the meeting 8th August 2022 AGREED as a true record

101. Matters Arising None

102 Submissions by County and Borough Members

Cllr Rayner spoke about the Bus Subsidy cuts, and that the worst predictions had not come to pass, but he was closely monitoring the situation. He would be supporting the PC's efforts to get KCC to address resurfacing and gully/flooding problems on the A25/A227. **Cllr Palmer** spoke about the Bus Cuts and the impact on Plaxtol. Both left at 2000 to allow time for the large public presence

and Members of the Public

Chairman moved Items 105 (iv) & (v) to allow 15 minutes public participation.

Several MOPs complained about ASB in the Rec, and asked for removal of two picnic benches. Clerk was liaising with the Police to increase patrols, and we were reviewing extra CCTV. Chairman advised that the 4 benches and bins were installed by Young People in 2004 to combat serious ASB at the time, and that removal was not a simple matter. The ASB was not caused by the benches, but it was agreed to seek costs of moving the benches and report back, and defer any decision until the next meeting.

MOPs complained about flooding issues at the Red Lion. Chair reported the intervention of Southern Water who would be CCTV-ing their system, examining the source of the excess water from Tilton/Staleys, and inspecting the other flooding issue on Sevenoaks Rd and the A227 Wrotham Rd.

Cllrs Millener & Shaw asked for removal of the ban on adult football in the Rec. Chairman noted that the ban had been introduced because of ASB, it was prevalent again now, that the Rec pitch was too small for adults, and that BGJFC intended to progress their youngsters through to develop an adult team instilled with the BGJFC ethos who could play at Potters Mede on the full-size pitch.

Cllr Perry proposed retaining the ban, AGREED 5-4

An MOP raised concerns about nighttime HGVs using Quarry Hill Rd, and Hazelbourne residents illegally turning right onto Darkhill Rd. Chairman advised that the 7.5 tonne violations were a Police matter, and that Hazelbourne residents would eventually work out that Darkhill/A25 was the quicker way to get to the Village Centre.

Chairman asked that MOP to tell her friends on Social Media that the PC had listened to residents justifiable concerns, and had democratically agreed to act where they could.

The public left the meeting at 2050, and Chairman called a short break until 2100

103 Planning Matters to hand

(i) To note Planning Notices as circulated

(ii) Current applications and responses circulated

TM/22/01873/FL 167 Fairfield Road Double storey side and single storey entrance extension to existing residence

TM/22/01857/FL 64A Sevenoaks Rd Two storey front and rear extension to main house with balcony and terrace on first floor. Demolition of link access to Annex. Side extension and creation of first floor to Annex to provide a detached 3 bed Annex. Erection of a detached two storey double garage.

TM/22/01889/FL 9 High Street Single storey rear extension and first floor extension

TM/22/01902/FL 9 Staleys Acre Replace conservatory with a single storey rear extension, conversion of loft, dormer windows to front and rear elevations and new front porch - NO OBSERVATIONS

104 **Potters Mede**

- (i) New rates- because of the economic situation, rates would be held. Clerk noted the discounts that had been given to allow hirers to "survive" the Covid and financial problems. Halls will remain at £16 & £8 /hour.
- (ii) BGJFC will now be hiring all the pitches at PM and the Rec at £2800 pa, with a special brief to promote the game for girls and women, and to progress towards fielding an adult team instilled with the BGJFC ethos.
- (iii) Permanent hire for gym - The Taylor Room was unsuitable for a gym, and hire of the main hall would have meant cancelling all the community uses. PC regretfully refused.
- (iv) Cllr Millener proposed hire (poss free) to allow development of a youth club with a musical theme. Members agreed it was a great idea, and look forward to a serious proposal.

105 **Recreation Ground**

- (i) Perimeter Path Update - Commences 26th Sept for 5-7 days
- (ii) ASB & litter. proposed CCTV enhancement, Clerk in touch with suppliers
- (iii) Report on loose fastenings play area- meeting and advice from Eibe, Course for groundsmen arranged.
- (iv) Request to remove two picnic benches *above*
- (v) Request to lift the Adult football ban *above*
- (vi) To note split branch adj 6 Blackhorse - Treeability investigating

106 **Village Enhancements**

- (i) Green Space Review - Crowhill - Ms Bartlett gave an enthusiastic update on her discussions with Platt & BG Primary Schools to start Nature visits for children. PC proposed up to £200 for equipment - AGREED
Chair announced formal cancellation of flail mowing Crowhill & IQE, and further Kent Wildlife investigations to ensure our Wild Space management plan was both effective & legal - AGREED
- (ii) Tree Preservation Orders & PROWs - no update
- (iii) Report on meeting with Surgery- Cllr Simpson/ Chair - Appendix 1
- (iv) Village Centre, Flagpole, sign & Planter- completed
- (v) Basted House Drive - new signage installed
- (vi) New benches - steel acquired

107 **Financial Matters**

- (i) Responsible Financial Officer's report
- (ii) Bank Reconciliations 31 August, total Balance - £96,248.69
- (iii) Electric Van / Charger- Signwriting/vinyls
- (iv) To approve Payment List as circulated. Appendix 2
Prop Cllr Ramsden, Sec Cllr Perry, Chair abstain - AGREED
Invoices checked : Cllr Shaw & Rothwell
- (v) Clerk reported on further work with Hope Church to supply an Aid Delivery to Ukraine, collections and fundraising now up to £820.

108 **Website & Social Media**

- (i) No report

109 **TMBC Local Plan & Policies**

- (i) Consultation launched 15 Sept for 6 weeks - 1300 pages highly complex
- (ii) Meeting with Cabinet Member & Director of Planning and Leader and PPP. Chair supports TMBC's plan to develop the Plan from public consultation, rather than "impose". This will mean a lot of work to educate and persuade the public to participate.

110 Highways & Streetlighting

- (i) Rec Crossing - timing reset, 20mph in hand
- (ii) KCC Baskets & Lighting - costs of "safety checks" and permits. Every time we seem to approach an agreement with KCC they move the goalposts. Commando Sockets £5412 Free from KCC, but we would have arrange 41 installations by UKPN, have separate power agreements for each column, £3930 for isolator timers, on top of the £3600/£1750 for annual safety checks & permits, they want payment for another 12 load tests, and we won't be allowed a Hanging Basket and Xmas Light on the same pole. We also know from other Parishes that KCC come back with fresh "repair" bills every year. It seems very likely that KCC will kill our proud tradition of Christmas Lights and Hanging Baskets. Chair proposed a "summit" meeting between the PC and the Lights Cttee, KCC invited, to decide a way forward if one exists

Cllrs Reading & Rothwell left the meeting 2200

111 Quarries & Landfills

- (i) Chair meeting with H+H Celcon 6th Sept - multiple issues

112 Councillors Reports from outside Bodies (max 3 min)

- (i) Despite operating within budget, and with healthy reserves, the Village Hall Cttee have announced a significant increase in hire fees. Some hirers suffered significantly during Covid, going into debt, and struggling to get their numbers back up. The Clerk assisted the Hall obtain Covid Government grants, and believes that benefit should be passed on to hirers. The PC supports the Hall by being a major hirer, and gives grants from time to time. Chair/Clerk to write to the BGVHMC asking them to reconsider.

113 Future Dates

- (i) Date of next meeting **Monday 3rd October 2022**
At all other times contact the Clerk using the details above

114 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.

There was a brief further confidential discussion about the Village Hall.
There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 2220.

APPENDIX 1

Cllr Simpson's Report:

Good open friendly discussion with lead GP (Paul Unwin)

We made progress on some details on how the surgery would plan to use the space for parking etc
Councillors concerns about public resources being used to support 'private enterprise' were aired and understood
A suggestion that the surgery pays some rent for the space was discussed and is to be progressed. PU interested in long term arrangements rather than yearly reviews etc.

There is no urgency so there is time to properly deliberate, at least 5 years before expansion is needed

Next steps : Ian to draft up a proposal and discuss with councillors, scouts and surgery
We also talked about improving interaction between social prescribing and BGPC. Paul Unwin +ve about that and willing to provide contact details etc. Ian to progress. Contact details arrived today

APPENDIX 2

Borough Green Parish Council Payments Schedule Month: September 2022

| |
|---|
| £ |
|---|

Staff Costs

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

BACS Payments

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Broad Signs, inv 9244 | 192.00 |
| K G Clarke, inv 1597 | 510.00 |
| SV Electrical, inv 4760 | 465.60 |
| SHS Hygiene Services, inv 43290 | 631.20 |
| Borough Green Village Hall | 4,038.90 |
| Expenses - Barry Glew | 55.01 |
| Expenses - Barry Glew | 8.04 |
| Expenses - Barry Glew | 384.23 |
| Expenses - Mike Taylor | 456.37 |
| Expenses - Mike Taylor | 110.00 |
| Expenses - Rob Springett | 47.80 |
| Donation Request - TW Samaritans | 200.00 |

DD Payments

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Zen Internet | 11.99 |
| Bank Charges * | 22.00 |
| Npower* - streetlighting | 1,428.20 |
| EDF (PM)* | 1,126.00 |
| PWLB | 2,752.67 |
| 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

| |
|-----------|
| 21,079.61 |
|-----------|

Signatures

1 Cllr Ramsden
2 Cllr Rothwell

NB: Receipts for the period 01/08/22 to 31/08/22
(exc bank transfers)

| |
|----------|
| 1,348.15 |
|----------|