

Present: Cllr J McWilliam (Chairman), Cllrs. Mrs L Barrow, C Brinkley-Willsher, D Holcroft, B Hughes, Mrs B Woodhams
Apologies: Cllrs Cllr Mrs J Lucas, Mrs S Murray, County Cllr Mrs V Dagger

There was one member of the public in attendance

There were no declarations of interest.

Action

140. **Minutes** of the meeting 26 January 2004 were signed as a true record.

141. **Matters Arising**

137.125.110 A recent spell of bad weather highlighted areas particularly affected by icy conditions. It will be suggested that BGVH provides a salt bin within their car park area. The Parish Council will consider making a financial contribution.

142. **Planning Matters**

TM/82/1138 Revised details - Holding pond for surface water drainage, Stangate West Landfill site. No observations.

TM/04/0067 Variation of condition, to increase the open storage restriction height of 4m to 15m - 73 Wrotham Road. Objections: Height too intrusive and there is concern about the incremental style in which planning permission is being sought. Previous comments re Green Belt, un-permitted development and hours of working reiterated.

TM/04/0081 Change of use of first floor flat to offices, parking provision including demolition of garage - 2 Sevenoaks Road. No observations.

Planning Decisions

TM/03/3140 Change of use of land to include mobile platforms and erection of 7 structures - 73 Wrotham Road. Permission granted.

TM/03/3631 Windows - Unit 9, Bourne Enterprise Centre. Permission granted.

TM/03/3632 Increased height of fence - Fairfield Road. Permission granted.

TM/03/3634 Tree surgery - 4 Monckton Road. Permission granted.

TM/03/3535 Design amendments, new dwelling - r/o 1 Sevenoaks Road. Amendments approved.

TM/03/3641 Loft conversion - 85 Station Road. Permission granted.

43 Western Road. Enforcement investigation found no breach of planning control.

Henry Simmonds PH, 4 Wrotham Road. Advertisements - Owner asked to remove notices - enforcement action will be taken if necessary

143. **Oral reports from Members and Clerk**

Gullies in the High Street and Station Road still need attention. Chairman will write to the Highway Manager about the drainage system across entrance to the village hall car park - a site visit will be requested.

JMcW

Concern about speeding lorries A25/High Street will be referred to T&MBC.

Noted that works to reconstruct the culvert A25 Maidstone Road will commence on 16 February 2004 and are likely to last for a period of six weeks.

Chairman referred to a recent newsletter from Wrotham Parish Council and comments re Celcon Ltd's planning application/BG bypass funding were noted. Chairman reported further on differing attitudes about the bypass: he will liaise with Wrotham and Platt parish councils.

JMcW

There then followed the period for public consultation.

There was discussion about the possible future management of the skate park.

The extension to the Drop-In Centre has now been completed and will be opened later in the month.

Agreed that the lighting of the pedestrian crossing outside the Recreation Ground is much improved.

144. **Vacancy BGPC**
Chairman reported on his recent meetings with two applicants for co-option. Agreed to invite them for interview on 23 February 2004. All Cllrs
145. **Hanging Baskets 2004**
A quotation from How Green Nursery Ltd in the sum of £80.90 per basket was received. Cllr Brinkley-Willsher proposed that this be accepted, seconded by Cllr Mrs Woodhams. Agreed.
146. **Borough Cycle Parking Initiative**
T&MBC proposed locations for cycle parking racks in the High Street and Western Road were agreed.
147. **KCC Traffic Management Proposals**
Chairman reported on the information received. Proposals noted and supported.
148. **Vital Villages**
Text responses have now been analysed. Chairman summarised comments received. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Brinkley-Willsher for preparing a spreadsheet for the results. Chairman will write a progress report for 'The Voice' and will advise Clerk of consultant's costs in order that budget figures can be submitted to the Countryside Agency. JMcW
149. **T&MBC Parish Partnership Panel**
Noted that Chairman has written to T&MBC Chief Executive expressing views on this Panel. Copies of the minutes of the meeting 11 December 2003 had been given to Chairman and Cllrs Brinkley-Willsher and Hughes. Chairman also advised of his response to the recent Audit Commission's 'Comprehensive Performance Assessment' questionnaire re. T&MBC.
150. **Skate Park**
All members had received copies of correspondence between Wrotham PC and T&MBC. Noted that Wrotham PC will apply for the necessary planning permission. It is understood that T&MBC is likely to award a grant of £8,066 to BGPC. There was some discussion about ways in which to publicise this project.
151. **Basted Mill Public Open Space**
Cllr Holcroft reported on Basted Mill Public Open Space: There are ongoing works to upgrade the footpaths and coppice trees. Desilting the Mill Pond will be given further consideration by the committee in view of recent information received from T&MBC.
152. **Recreation Grounds**
Tree surgery - Rec. Gd: Copies of a report from Cllr Brinkley-Willsher had been given to all members. Noted that the Oak tree to the south-east of the bowling green is on Cooper Estates' land. Cllr Hughes proposed that tree surgery be carried out to a Maple tree adj 4 Monckton Road. Seconded by Cllr Brinkley-Willsher Agreed.

Locations for new benches and litter bins at the Recreation Ground agreed. These will be installed as and when access to the ground is available.

Chairman proposed that Mr M Taylor be asked to carry out strengthening works to south side of play area fencing. Agreed.

Chairman reported on his correspondence concerning the pond area on land adjacent to Potters Mede. Noted that it may become available for purchase.
153. **Cheques for Signature**
Auto-Pay: £960.59 R Springett - Asst. Groundsman 1/1 - 31/1/04
£832.78 H Damiral - Clerk January 2004
£601.25 W Austin - Caretaker/Groundsman 1/1 - 31/1/04
£3.45 Kent Aluminium - Maint. materials, Potters Mede
£168.49 Seeboard - Street Lighting Supply December 2003
£99.36 BGVHMC - Hire of hall, Pop-In
£24.84 BGVHMC - Hire of hall, Foot Clinic
£1,233.75 KCC - Play equipment repairs
£212.82 Seeboard - Street Lighting maintenance February 2004

153. **Cheques for Signature (Continued)**

£8554.00	L J Marsh & Son Ltd - Potters Mede car park
£2115.00	Forge Engineering - Height Barrier, Potters Mede
£79.25	Neat Ideas - Office supplies
£35.25	Wicksteed Leisure - Playground Inspection
£50.00	Victim Support West Kent - Donation
£75.00	Compaid Trust - Donation
£3,559.08	Urban Engineering - Benches and litter bins, Rec. Gd.

Proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Brinkley-Willsher that the above cheques be paid. Agreed.

154. There were no matters for discussion in committee.