

BAPCHILD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting 2nd March 2004

A meeting of the Bapchild Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 2nd March 2004 at 7.30p.m.

Present:, Mr R Bush (Chairman), Mrs L Trott (Vice Chair), Mr A Smith, Mr A Hudson and Mr G Cooke.

Apologies were received from Mrs C Culver.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 18th November 2003 previously distributed with the agenda were signed as a true record.

Adoption of Standing Orders. The Clerk reported that the auditors had recommended that the Parish Council adopt Standing Orders for the conduct of Parish Council business. The National Assn. Of Local Councils publish a model form of Standing Orders and these had been circulated with the agenda. It was proposed by Mr Cooke and seconded by Mr Hudson that the model standing orders be adopted by Bapchild Parish Council.

Matters Arising From Previous Minutes:

Footway and Highway Matters:

Panteny Lane, car parking at junction with A2. – It was noted that the double yellow lines were now in place. However, there was a gap in them of one cars width and the clerk was instructed to report this.

It was reported that there were “unofficial” bollards erected roadside along part of Panteny Lane. After discussion, it was agreed to write to the Highway Authority requesting them to look at this issue and also to consider line delineation along the sides of the road.

Fox Hill – 30 mph extension re speeding traffic. Cllr Jordan’s letter to Brian Planner, Engineering Service Unit Manager, Swale Borough Council was again noted but no developments had been reported. It was agreed to chase the Highway Authority on this issue.

Common Land Registration: Following an article in the Parish Magazine, the Clerk reported that he had received about eight responses. It was agreed to re-issue the request for help in the next issue of the Parish Magazine.

Unsocial Behaviour in the Village: Members discussed the recent reports of unsocial behaviour. Also, Mrs Culver had noted a number of issues in her email and Mrs Smith had written to the Parish Council on this issue

Members noted the apathy regarding the re-launch of the Neighbourhood Scheme and also had the view that matters were slightly better recently.

Members agreed in principle that the Village Hall should be protected from vandalism and agreed to look favourably at any CCTV, including dummy cameras, protection measures.

It was noted that there was a Kent Police meeting for Parish Councils on 18th March 2004 and it was agreed to ask Mrs Culver to attend if she was available.

Parish Website: Members noted the success of the website and the interest shown by other Parish Councils. Mr Hudson stated that he had received a number of favourable comments from residents. Mr Hudson had noted that there were opportunities, upon application, for winning competitions and there may be prizes available. It was agreed in

principle to enter competitions and to congratulate Mr Hudson on the work he has put in to the web site.

Recycling Scheme: Members noted a number of complaints received from parishioners regarding the cessation of kitchen waste from the recycling brown bin collection. In essence, those who have complained request that the green bin collection revert to a weekly collection. The clerk was requested to write to Swale Borough Council asking for the up-to-date situation and proposals regarding future waste collection arrangements.

Planning Matters:

Planning Decisions by Planning Authority:

- Glazed curtain walling replacement, Sittingbourne Community College – granted

Applications:

- 2 Wihfred Road – Remove Hawthorn Tree – No adverse observations
- 206 Canterbury Road – Room in roof void – No adverse observations
- 1 Apple Barn – garage and garden store – No adverse observations
- Morris Court Close – Use of room as office – No adverse observations, providing the loss of use of the garage does not compromise car parking in the vicinity.
- Tonge Mill Car Park – Notice Board – No adverse observations

Other:

- Route of the NDR and connection to the M2. Members noted the press had published outline proposals regarding a new M2 connection with the NDR at Bapchild. The Chairman and Clerk outlined their understanding of the current position having discussed this issue with Cllr Jordan. It was agreed to note the current position.
- Swale Borough Council – re Caravan at Hemstead Lane, Bapchild. Members noted that Swale Borough Council had received notification from Mr Burke, acting as agent for the caravan occupier, who states that an application for planning consent would be presented shortly.
- Swale Borough Council – Local Plan First Review. Advice had been received regarding a meeting concerning the launch of this consultation. The Chairman agreed to organise two Members to attend.

Accounts:

Subsidiarity Grants. The Clerk advised that he had just received the noted concerning the new Subsidiarity grant system. The value allocated to each Parish Council would be published shortly. It was agreed that the clerk copy the documentation to all members when the amount of grant is advised and to place an item on the next agenda.

Members noted a proposal from the Village Hall Committee regarding an extension to the Village Hall. The notion was floated regarding the provision of a penny rate being given by the Parish Council towards the scheme. After discussion, that Members agree in principle to the extension, subject to further details being provided.

It was agreed that the following cheques should be drawn:

Village Hall Committee – vandalism damage to notice board	£58.44
Ringway – Supply Salt Bin and fill	£335.18
D Akhurst – Clerks fee and expenses	£2775.00

Correspondence: It was agreed to note the following correspondence –

- Kent Assn. Of Parish Councils -
 - Parish News No's 296, 297,298

- Swale Area Committee minutes 1/12/03, 2/2/04 and agenda 2/2/04, 1/3/04
 - Strategic Rail Authority Consultation Document
- Swale Borough Council –
 - Funding Advice
 - Code of Conduct – Register of Interest
- Kent County Council -
 - Doorstep Selling Awareness/Proof of Age Scheme
 - Community Strategies and Kent's Natural Environment
 - Towards Kent's Second Local PSA
 - Kent Partnership – Vision for Kent
- Local Council Review – January '04
- Clerks and Councils Direct – January '04
- Mid Kent Water – Business Plan
- Kent Fire & Rescue Service – Home Fire Safety Checks
- KPA News – Winter 03/04
- DEFRA – Equine Issues
- SERPA – Request for financial support
- Kent County Constabulary – Neighbourhood Watch
- Benefits Advice Surgeries
- Kent Calour Village of the Year

Any Other Business:

Mrs Trott asked with regard to the opening of the Footpath between Panteney Lane and Dully Road. It was noted that the PROW order had been received but to date the opening from Panteney Lane was still closed. The Clerk was requested to enquire when the footpath was to be opened.

The date of the next meeting was noted as 18th May 2004 at 7.30p.m. with the Annual Assembly of Parishioners at 8.30p.m.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 09.10 p.m.

Chairman.....
 Date.....

