

BAPCHILD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting 11th March 2008

A Meeting of the Bapchild Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 11th March 2008 at 7.30p.m.

Present: Mr A Hudson (Chairman), Mrs L Trott (Vice Chair), Mrs J Kingsley and Mr R Bush.

Apologies were received from Mr A Smith, Mrs Culver and Mr Cooke.

Minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2008 previously distributed with the agenda were signed as a true record.

Matters Arising From Previous Minutes:

Open Space, Panteney Lane: The Clerk read to the meeting a letter sent to Swale Borough Council. This was noted.

Replacement Wooden Bollards surrounding parts of the open space, School Lane: It was noted that Swale Borough Council had suggested that where the bollards were damaged the replacement could take the form of hedging. This was considered a satisfactory solution.

Regarding the bollards provided on the footpath at the junction of Asthead Drive/ School Lane, which would be the highways Authority's responsibility, it was agreed to notify KCC to request for the missing bollards to be replaced.

Subsidence, Village Green: The Clerk read to the meeting a letter sent to Swale Borough Council. This was noted.

Damaged Street Nameplates: Regarding the delay in progress in the replacement of these damaged nameplates, the clerk reported that he had sent an email to Borough Councillor Bonney but that to date no response had been received.

"Bapchild" sign missing: This matter was still outstanding.

Wihfred Road, footway repairs: This matter was still outstanding.

Overgrown hedge, School Lane: This matter was still outstanding.

Bollards and Keep Left High Visibility signs, A2. It was noted that the repair had been completed.

Footway Lighting: The Clerk reported that Swale Borough Council had responded to the Parish Council's request that they take over responsibility for the Parish Council owned footway lights, by declining this offer. They had suggested that KCC would be the appropriate Council and the Clerk had written to them in similar terms but to date no response had been received.

Mr Bush stated that the School Lane footway lights had been updated to a standard necessary to illuminate the road humps and therefore should be funded by KCC. The Chairman reported that the lighting problem in the Panteney Lane Estate had now been sorted out but that the estate's lighting and roads had still not been adopted by the authorities.

It was noted that in the recent press it had been reported that Swale Borough Council had made savings by cutting their budget on footway lighting grants. It could therefore be expected that additional costs would fall to the Parish Council and this proposal would

transfer costs to every Parish Council with footway lighting rather than spread this charge borough wide. This was noted to be a decision against rural villages and would not reduce overall costs suffered by taxpayers. It was therefore agreed to object in principal to this and campaign against it.

It was reported that there was a footway light in Doubleday Drive which had no top to it. This had been reported but no repair had taken place.

Condition of Parish Council owned Bus Shelter: It was reported that the glass shelter had suffered from graffiti. The Clerk had obtained a quote to replace all the glass in the sum of £760. It was agreed that the Parish Council continue in its desire to transfer responsibility for this shelter, preferably to Adshell who owned the other shelter in the village.

Planning Matters:

Other:

Swale Borough Council, Local Plan -
Members noted the letter advising that the Local Plan had been adopted by Swale Borough Council.

Stables behind Fox & Goose –
The Chairman reported that he had made numerous enquires of Swale Borough Council and there had been no further progress on this application. Members agreed this was unacceptable.

Proposed diversion of footpath ZR 193, Mr Oliver Doubleday, G.H.Dean & Co. The Chairman reported on the site meeting held on site, subsequent discussions he had had with planning enforcement and the Swale Footpaths Group and various site visits he had made to check on the activities of the haulage contractor. It was noted that the haulage activity would require further planning application by October 2008 and it was agreed to monitor the activity on this site to inform planning enforcement of the current planning transgressions taking place.
Members agreed that in principal the diversion was acceptable, but warned that care should be taken to ensure safety of pedestrians particularly when close to Hempstead Lane. Members further agreed to explore the possibility with the landowners and KCC of extending the footway along Hempstead Lane.

Kent Minerals Development Plan – Withdrawal of Submitted Documents.
Noted.

Applications:

Bapchild & Tonge C of E Primary School, Mobile Classroom for Pre-School Nursery –
The Chairman reported details of the site meeting held at the school and subsequent discussions he had had with various agencies on this matter. Members noted that this application had been granted by KCC and that the mobile was now in place. The Chairman reported that he had contacted KCC with regard to some non-compliance with the agreed plans. It appeared that the ramp and open space play area were not compliant.
Members noted that the grant of planning stipulated that a school travel plan was required within three months of occupation of the mobile. It was reported that the playschool would not be transferring to the mobile until the new autumn term.

12 Hempstead Lane – Two Storey Extension - application withdrawn

192 Canterbury Road - Fell Oak Tree

Planning Decisions by Planning Authority:

Accounts:

Appointment of External Auditor for a five year period. Members noted that the Audit Commission had appointed Alun Williams of the Audit Commission's Limited Assurance Specialist Unit commencing for the 2007/08 audit.

Parish Council Allowances. Members noted the advice received from Swale Borough Council. It was agreed to continue the practice of not paying allowances to Members.

It was agreed to draw the following cheques:

D Akhurst – Clerks fees and expenses	£3247.34
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Correspondence – It was agreed to note the following correspondence:

- 1.1. Kent Assn. Of Parish Councils -
 - 1.1.1. Parish News No's 330
 - 1.1.2. Swale Area Committee – Agenda 3/03/08
- 1.2. Swale Borough Council –
 - 1.2.1. Taking Part – The Draft Cultural Strategy for Swale 2008-11
 - 1.2.2. New Dog Control Orders
 - 1.2.3. Publication of “Shaping Spaces and Places” – Swale Borough Council’s Local Development Framework Pre Submission Draft Statement of Community Involvement (Preferred Options).
 - 1.2.4. Recycling Bring Site Review 2008
 - 1.2.5. Shaping the Future of Swale – Corporate Plan 2007-11.
- 1.3. Kent County Council -
 - 1.3.1. Kent County Councils Draft Permit Scheme
 - 1.3.2. Bus Services Timetable
 - 1.3.3. “Love Food Hate Waste”
- 1.4. Local Council Review – March ‘08
- 1.5. Clerks & Councils Direct – January ‘08
- 1.6. Kent Air Ambulance Trust – Five Year Strategic Plan
- 1.7. Communities and Local Government – Orders and Regs relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members - Consultation
- 1.8. Enjoy England – Celebrate St Georges Day
- 1.9. The Bulletin
- 1.10. Kent Primary Care Agency – Rurality of Area
- 1.11. Action with Communities in Rural Kent – Rural Community Retailer of 2008
- 1.12. Action with Communities in Rural Kent – Kent Village of the Year 2008
- 1.13. Action with Communities in Rural Kent – Discover Youth forums
- 1.14. CAB – Support Request

Any other business:

Mrs Kingsley reported that Mr Keith Clerk, noted for his flower sales in the village, was suffering from a brain tumour.

The date of the AGM was set for Tuesday 13th May 2008 at 19.30hrs.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.50hrs.

Chairman

Date