

BAPCHILD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting 16th January 2007

A meeting of the Bapchild Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 16th January 2007 at 7.30p.m.

Present: Mr A Hudson (Chairman), Mrs L Trott (Vice Chair), Mr A Smith, Mr G Cooke, Mrs C Culver, Mrs Kingsley and Cllr Jordan.

Apologies were received from Mr R Bush.

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2006 previously distributed with the agenda were signed as a true record.

Matters Arising From Previous Minutes:

Common Land Registration: The Clerk reported no further progress had been made.

Unsocial Behaviour: Cllr Jordan stated that he had met with Mr Joyd, 31 Randle Way, who has also corresponded with Mr D Wyatt, MP, and reported that groups of youths were congregating on the open space close to My Joyd's property causing a nuisance. It would appear that swearing and loudness was the main cause of concern.

The clerk reported that he had spoken recently with Mr Morolio, Swale Borough Council Open Spaces Officer, who had stated that there were no reports of any problems or issues in Bapchild. Mr Morolio reported that the damaged playground equipment was awaiting space parts, which were on order.

It was agreed to contact Tina Grafton, Swale Borough Council Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, regarding these issues.

Use of motorcycles on farmland. The Clerk reported that he had received a letter dated 11th January 2007 from Mr Heathfield regarding this use on his land. Mr Heathfield stated that he had given permission for only his son the ride on specific parts of his land away from houses and that he had stopped all motorcycling since last November. He further stated that his son would be allowed to motorcycle on occasions on his land.

Damaged Street Nameplates: The clerk reported that Swale Borough Council had no further funds this financial year, but that he had asked for replacement nameplates as soon as could be provided.

"Bapchild" sign missing: The clerk was awaiting the site visit to raise this matter.

Fox Hill, overgrown bushes: It was noted that this work had now been completed.

Planning Matters:

Other:

Kent & Medway Structure Plan. Members noted receipt of the published plan and Mrs Trott highlighted the road issues mentioned within the plan.

Route of the Northern Relief Road. The Chairman stated that KCC are still considering two possible future routes of this road, and it is unlikely that further reports would be available until March.

Swale Borough Council, Local Plan -
Stones Farm –

The Chairman reported that the Local Plan meetings had now been completed and that it would be some months before the Planning Inspector would report.

The Chairman further reported:

At the enquiry, Swale Borough Council stated that there was no need for Stones Farm houses to make up the number the whole plan required. The Northern Relief Road was not in the KCC transportation documented plans and would therefore probably not be provided for 10 to 15 years. It was not high on the Government priority road building list.

After the enquiry, KCC submitted further evidence that stated that Stones Farm could be used for housing without the Northern Relief Road contribution.

Kent Science Park –

The Chairman reported that the Five Parishes Group would tour door-to-door in Bapchild this coming Saturday to collect signatories who are against the KSP proposals. These signatures would supplement signatures collected so far and would be presented to Swale Borough Council after a march through Sittingbourne and would also be presented to Downing Street.

Applications:

None to consider

Planning Decisions by Planning Authority:

2 St Lawrence Close – single storey rear extension - granted

Accounts:

Parish Council Grants Scheme. Mr Cooke reported that there had been problems getting alternative quotations for the proposed works. He would follow this up when possible.

Street Lamps. The Clerk reported that he had contacted Ringway, the KCC main lighting contractors, and the quotes would be received shortly.

Receipt of Anonymous donation to fight the Stones Farm planning proposal. Members noted that the final accounts had now been paid and that after allowing that the Parish Council claiming back the VAT paid, there was an unspent value of £479.24.

It was agreed to authorise the following cheque that had been drawn out of meeting:

Lansdown Solicitors – attendance at Planning Enquiry	£903.34
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It was agreed to draw the following cheques:

Lansdown Solicitors – attendance at Planning Enquiry	£293.75
D Akhurst – village clean-up out of pocket labour expenses	£75.00
Swale Borough Council – Labour/Freighter costs re village clean-up	£130.00

Correspondence – It was agreed to note the following correspondence:

Kent Assn. Of Parish Councils -

Parish News No's 321

Swale Area Committee – Minutes 04/12/06

Kent County Council -

Kent Minerals Development Framework Development Plan Documents

Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000, Sec 47

Swale Housing – forthcoming meetings
Local Council Review – Jan '07 & White paper review
Fire Service
Southern Water
Lord Lieutenant of Kent – Annual Civic Service

Any Other Business:

Mrs Kingsley asked with regard to the stables behind the Fox and Goose and the outstanding planning issue. The Clerk reported that he had enquired on this a number of times and that planning enforcement was to be the next option for the Borough Council.

The clerk reported that next May would be the Parish Council elections and that he would co-ordinate matters if Members wished.

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 27th March 2007 at 7.30p.m.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....