

# BAPCHILD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting 20th March 2001

A meeting of the Bapchild Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 20th March 2001 at 7.30p.m.

Present: Mr R Bush (Chairman), Mrs C Culver, Mr B Rogers, Mrs G West, Mrs L Trott and Parishioners Mrs Middleton and Mrs Willis.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mr A Smith and Cllr D Jordan.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 23rd January 2001 previously distributed with the agenda were signed as a true record. Mrs West reported that she had received thirteen evidence forms so far regarding the footpath closure and these had been lodged with KCC

Mrs L Hunt, Community Police Unit. Mrs Hunt was in attendance and outlined the service she and the Community Police Section can provide. In brief, this included parish liaison, a mediation service, contacts with Housing Associations and neighbour disputes.

A full and frank discussion took place regarding the issues in Bapchild. Particular mention was made regarding traffic management through the village, particularly highlighted was the Panteney Lane rat run and the request for speed limit and a footpath, car parking problems (particularly the School Lane junction and the outside the School and The Street), car thefts and a recent air rifle shooting incident.

Mrs Hunt promised to discuss these matters with the Police Constables.

Positioning of the Hawkeye camera was discussed and it was agreed to ask for placement each end of The Street facing inwards.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Hunt for her attendance and she left the meeting.

### Matters Arising From Previous Minutes:

#### Footway and Highway Matters:

Gully draining/cleaning - Mr Rogers confirmed that the contractors had been on site. It was noted that the traffic calming scheme included drainage work at the junction of Ashtead Drive and School Lane.

#### Traffic calming/30 m.p.h. and other measures, The Street and School Lane:

The Chairman reported that he had finally received information from Swale BC that the scheme had passed through all committee stages and the works order had been placed. The new traffic signs will be provided but not until the new financial year. The traffic refuge islands lighting will be repaired shortly (apparently they were incorrectly wired in the first instance). 30 m.p.h. signage instillation is progressing. The road surface through The Street is due for re-surfacing in the new financial year. Swale have promised to review the Panteney Lane junction with School Lane six months after the traffic calming had been in place.

Tree overgrowth - footpath Doubleday Drive and Morris Court Close - work had commenced the previous Wednesday.

#### Common Land Registration:

The Clerk has recently spoken to Mr Milne but there was no further progress to report on this matter.

#### Village Hall Clock and Paving Scheme:

All work was now completed and the Chairman detailed the final costings. The Clerk confirmed receipt of the grant from Swale Borough Council. It was agreed to arrange for a waste bin to be located close to the seats.

Consideration was given to a proposal of placing memory plaques on the two seats. It was considered that there might be a number of names eminently suitable for this remembrance and it was agreed to enquire of the village hall committee of their proposal on this issue.

It was agreed to order a twice a year weed treatment of the paved area.

#### Parish Web-site:

The clerk reported that he had received no interest from the recent publication of the newsletter. It was agreed to ask for interest again in the next newsletter. It was noted that the provision of a Web-site was reasonably easy to arrange but the upkeep of the information on it required ongoing regular input.

#### Rural Development Grants:

Members considered the following suggestions for the 2001-2 grant application:

- Renew Notice Board - estimate costs £1,000.
- Village Signs - the Chairman to see Donald Seager for his consideration.
- Landscaping tree and shrub scheme, School Lane - estimate £2,500.
- Lighting outside Village Hall - to be advised from the Village Hall Committee.

#### Planning Matters:

##### Planning Applications:

24 School Lane, Bapchild - site meeting with Swale Borough Council.

17 The Street, Bapchild - Post Office and Stores - support from the Parish Council to encourage a viable village stores but reservations on customer and private house parking and other matters.

47 Doubleday Drive - conservatory - no adverse observations.

Panteney Lane, Nine Dwellings (substitution of house type only) - no adverse observations.

12 mtr Telecommunication mast & equipment - objection lodged. It was understood that the Swale BC were to reject this application. Members and parishioners were extremely unhappy with regard to the health issues which were currently under national discussion. It was thought that should this application be rejected then another revised application would be necessary.

11 Hemstead Lane - Two storey extension - no adverse observations.

##### Planning Decisions:

47 The Street - removal of condition for conversion of existing garage to entrance hall - refused.

123 The Street - Two storey side and single rear extension - granted.

Phase Two, Panteney Lane - granted.

Other:

Morris Court Farm - progress regarding planning conditions - the planning officers had written to the Parish Council stating they were near completing their investigations regarding the original landscaping conditions not carried out and whose responsibilities these matters were now vested.

Accounts:

It was proposed by Mr B Rogers and seconded by Mrs C Culver that the following cheques be drawn:

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| G H Brickwork & Building Services - Village Hall paving | £4993.75 |
| Earth Anchors Ltd - Two Benches                         | £695.00  |
| Artlab Ltd - Millennium Clock                           | £4898.00 |
| D Akhurst - Clerks fee and expenses                     | £1386.00 |

Correspondence: It was agreed to note the following correspondence -

Kent Assn. Of Parish Councils -

Parish News No. 271

Swale Area Committee -

Agenda 5/3/2001

Local Needs Housing

Kent County Council -

The Local Public Service Agreement for Kent 2001-4

Swale Unified Network

Kent Countryside 2000 Understanding Rural Change

Foot & Mouth

Swale Borough Council -

Economic Strategy 2000-5

Funding Advice No.8

Public Entertainment Licence, Village Hall

Going for Green

Kent Police & Parishioners Newsletter No. 1

Kent Police - Letter from Alan Horton, Area Commander

Wards Homes - re Christmas Gratuity return

DETR - A Model Code of Conduct for Members

New Arrangements for Local Government - It was agreed to advise this Council's view that a Leader and Cabinet style of Council is preferable to the other suggestions

Any Other Business:

Mrs Culver volunteered to attend the Swale Borough Council Area Committees. This offer was accepted with thanks.

Mrs G West raised the issue of the status of Neighbourhood Watch and the signage which appeared dilapidated. It was generally agreed that this service needed another kick-start perhaps by way of another meeting. The Chairman agreed to speak with Mr Cook about this issue.

Mrs Trott raised the issue concerning the road narrowing in School Lane. Mr A Smith had trimmed his area but it was noted that the Trust had not dealt with their responsibility yet.

The date of the next meeting was noted as 22nd May 2001 at 7.30p.m. with the Annual Assembly being at 8.30p.m.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....

The Annual Assembly of Parishioners of the Parish of Bapchild was held at the Village Hall, Bapchild on Tuesday 23rd May 2000 at 8.55p.m.

Present: Mr R Bush (Chairman), Mr A Smith (Vice Chairman) Mrs C Culver, Mr B Rogers. Mrs LTrott and Mrs G West. Parishioner Mrs Middleton and Cllr D Jordan were also in attendance.

Apologies: There were no apologies.

Minutes of the last Annual Assembly were read and signed as a true record.

Mrs Middleton raised the matter of a street lamp o/s No. 1 School Lane being out.

Mrs Middleton asked with regard to the collection for the Millennium Clock when the work was to commence as it was understood to be in the Summer/Autumn. It was confirmed that work would commence at this time.

There being no other matters of parish interest the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.57p.m.