

BAPCHILD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting 23rd September 2008

A Meeting of the Bapchild Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 23rd September 2008 at 7.30p.m.

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

Apologies were received from the Community Police Officer who was to due attend this meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2008 previously distributed with the agenda were signed as a true record.

Members signed the Notice of Unchanged Councillor's Interests Forms as appropriate.

Matters Arising From Previous Minutes:

Open Space, Panteny Lane: The Clerk reported that he had spoken again to Mr Tuff, Swale Borough Council to remind him of the works outstanding. This work should be accomplished in the autumn planting season.

Replacement Wooden Bollards surrounding parts of the open space, School Lane: The Clerk reported that he had spoken again to Mr Tuff, Swale Borough Council to remind him of the works outstanding. This work should be accomplished in the autumn planting season.

Mr Bush asked that action be taken to remove a skip which had been sited on the green for a number of weeks.

Damaged Street Nameplates: The Chairman had spoken to Borough Councillor Bonney but that to date no response had been made.

"Bapchild" sign missing: The Clerk would continue to report this outstanding issue.

Wihfred Road, footway repairs: The Clerk reported on continuing difficulties in corresponding with KCC Highways and that a seminar was to be arranged by KCC and the Clerk was preparing to raise a number of issues.

Overgrown hedge, School Lane: This matter had been dealt with by KCC.

Overgrown bank, Fox Hill: This matter had been dealt with by KCC.

Overgrown hedge, Panteny Lane, junction with A2. This matter had been dealt with by KCC.

Condition of Parish Council owned Bus Shelter: The Environmental Response team had reported back with regard to cleaning up the graffiti. Unfortunately, because the panes are plastic and not glass, the cleaning process would not be effective. The recommendation was to paint over the graffiti. This was agreed.

Speeding in Village: The Chairman reported that he had recently spoken to the Police about this and other matters. It was generally thought that the incidents of accidents was, thankfully, very rare and that the Parish Council should continue to monitor the situation.

Date of Village Clean-up: It was noted that the date was 11th October 2008 and the leaflets had been produced by Swale Borough Council and were handed over to Mr Cooke for distribution with the Parish Magazine. The Clerk asked for helpers on the day.

Planning Matters:

Other:

Swale Borough Council, Preparation of land Availability Assessment – noted.

Stables behind Fox & Goose – The Chairman reported that most of the structures had been removed after Swale Borough Council enforcement action and there was one structure left subject to an outstanding planning decision.

Proposed diversion of footpath ZR 193, Mr Oliver Doubleday, G.H.Dean & Co. The Chairman reported that the temporary planning permission regarding the haulage activity would expire in October 2008. The Clerk reported on correspondence from G H Dean stating that the diversion was now lodged with KCC but that there would be delays of approximately 18 months because of a backlog at KCC.

Applications:

The Bungalow, Lomas Road – Bedroom Extension. No adverse observations.

Bapchild & Tonge C of E Primary School – Construction of 4 classroom extension block, etc. No adverse observations. Also, Tree Impact Assessment – noted with comments.

16 Morris Court Close – single storey rear extension and extension to garage. No adverse observations.

12 Hempstead Lane – side and rear extension. No adverse observations.

Planning Decisions by Planning Authority:

Bapchild & Tonge C of E Primary School – Construction of 4 classroom extension block, etc – granted

The Bungalow, Lomas Road, Bapchild – Bedroom ext. - granted

Accounts:

Parish Council Grant Scheme. Members were reminded of balance in hand of £6,000 after 2008/09 allocation of £835 has been credited. No further monies are to be granted under this scheme and the balance must be used before April 2010 or it will be absorbed into the Borough Council balances. It was agreed to publish a notice to the effect that there may be monies available to organisation within the parish.

To receive Internal Audit Report for year ending 31st March 2008. The Clerk tabled this report. There was a recommendation that the Fidelity Guarantee Insurance limit be increased from £2K to £8K. This was agreed.

To receive External Audit Report for year ending 31st March 2008. The Clerk tabled this report which showed no matters of concern to report to Members.

Footway Lighting – renewal of 6 columns:

The Clerk reported that this work was now completed and the invoice received in the estimated sum. This was a great relief as Ringway had absorbed the EDF charge of approximately £4,000, as they had promised. It was agreed to ask

Ringway which is the best way the Parish Council could publish this benefit the parish.

It was agreed to draw the following cheques:

Kevin Funnell – internal audit fee	£35.00
EDF Energy Contracting – repairs to footway lighting columns	
School Lane, opposite School	£52.84
School Lane, o/s 71	£52.84
D Akhurst – postages	£5.05
Ringway – footway lighting columns	£4,799.71

Correspondence – It was agreed to note the following correspondence:

Kent Assn. Of Parish Councils -
 Parish News No's 332, 333
Swale Area Committee – Agenda 1/9/08 and Minutes 2/6/08
Swale Borough Council –
 Preparation of Land Availability Assessment
 Change of Allocation of Housing
 Publication of “Shaping Spaces and Places” Swale Borough Councils
 Local Development Framework Submission Copy Statement of
 Community Involvement (Preferred Options)
 Revenue Budget and Capital Programme
Kent County Council -
 East Kent Public Rights of Way – Minor Re-organisation and Change of
 Address
 Annual Plan
 Draft Permit Scheme
Local Council Review – July & Sept ‘08
Clerks & Councils Direct – July & Sept ‘08
Action with Communities in Rural Kent – invitation to join.
Action with Communities in Rural Kent – Funding available for Parish Plans
Victim support – volunteers required
Groundwork News
Kent Parish Councils

Any other business:

Mrs Culver reported that the Sycamore tree at the corner of the School field needed maintenance to restrict growth along the fence line and that self seeded saplings would cause further problems. It was agreed to write to the KCC commenting on this issue when responding to the planning consultation – tree impact assessment. It was further agreed to write to Mrs Lyn Mann, the Chairman of Governors to alert her of this issue.

The Chairman reported on the commercial van often parked by the School in School Lane close to the bend. This had been reported to the Police and for some time the van was parked in the village hall car park. It was noted that the van had been broken into at this location. It was noted that tonight the van was parked in School Lane on this band. It was agreed to write to Web Finn, Managing Agents to the School Trustees, alerting them to this issue.

The date of the next meeting was set for Tuesday 11th November 2008 at 19.30hrs.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.40.

Chairman

Date