

BAPCHILD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held 25th January 2018

A meeting of the Bapchild Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Thursday 25th January 2018 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mrs L Trott (Chairman) Mr R Bush (Vice Chairman), Mrs C. Culver, Mr M. Juliens, Mrs M Pape
Mrs E Cruise (Clerk)

Apologies: Mr M Palmer, Cllr Andrew Bowles

In attendance: Cllr Monique Bonney,

Public Participation: There was no public participation.

Residents discussion - Non Agenda Item:

Ref: Planning Application SHD Bapchild 17/505851/OUT – new access from the A2 into School Lane and 80 houses.

A number of local Residents attended at 7.30 pm to discuss their informal views reference the recent planning application noted above.

It was explained that as this planning application arrived after the Agenda for the Meeting had been prepared it was not an Agenda item for tonight's Parish Council Meeting, but will be a formal Agenda item at a future meeting.

The Parish Council confirmed that their request to Swale Borough Council Planning Department to extend the deadline for comments on this application until the end of February has been approved.

Residents discussed issues surrounding the proposed changes to the A2 junction layout and also brought some prepared notes listing other concerns and these were passed to the Clerk.

Residents were advised to monitor Swale Borough Council Planning Portal reference any updates/comments posted.

Residents were also advised that the Parish Council would require time to study the vast amount of paperwork/plans in order to prepare a response. This would then be emailed out to everyone.

Residents were issued an invitation to stay for the Parish Council Meeting, but the offer was politely declined and the informal discussion ended at 8.25 p.m. when the Residents left.

3.1 Signing of Minutes: Commenced at 8.30 p.m.

The Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 23rd November 2017 were agreed by all members as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4.1 Morris Court Farm: Nothing has changed since the last Parish Council Meeting – Mr Bush confirmed he had been in contact with Mr Graham Thomas (Swale Borough Council Planning) and although a detailed plan for the 8 houses was imminent, no application has been submitted.

4.2 Stones Farm: Mr Paul Sharp confirmed with Mr Bush the updated 106 Agreement covering the developer contributions has now been signed, but there are still matters outstanding regarding the Lansdowne School pick up and drop off point for children.

4.3 Streetlights:

4.3.1 The Clerk confirmed the two replacement columns in Ashtead Drive have been ordered and are due for replacement by KCC Contractors at the end of February 2018.

4.3.2 The Clerk had received a query concerning the warranty/responsibility of the two KCC installed replacement columns by the Lighting Contractor, Ken Bonner. KCC confirmed the type of lanterns to

be installed and that they had a 5 year warranty. It was agreed by Members to ask Ken Bonner if he would maintain them.

Action: The Clerk to email Ken Bonner the details of the new lanterns and to ask if he would be prepared to maintain them in line with the others.

5.0 Amenity Areas:

5.1 It was reported that new grass is growing through part of the recently levelled amenity area. However, the other areas repaired by SGN (previously used for siting their compound) and approved as satisfactory by SBC following a recent site visit, required further monitoring as it is very uneven, with no sign of grass re-growth.

5.1.2 – Uneven Footpaths – as previously discussed with Cllr Bowles. Confirmation was noted that these are still on the schedule for remedial work, but a definite date is still not known. This item to be added to the Agenda for the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to add to next Agenda.

6.0 Overgrown Shrubbery: - (Alleyway between Morris Court Close and Doubleday Drive) –

6.1 It was confirmed that this land is under the ownership of Kent Highways, but it is unclear/uncertain whether the maintenance for this area is the responsibility of PROW or the School. Members were unclear whether the school trees had been cut back where they overhung the school boundary and it was agreed that this should be checked.

Action: Mr Bush to email Cllr Bowles regarding ownership/maintenance of the land, and Mr Kelly to enquire when the school will be pruning the trees.

7.0 Highway Matters:

7.1 Tree Stumps: Mr Bush reported he had a response from Mr Jonathon Reason, SBC who stated there was a query over the ownership of the land where two of the tree stumps are situated and the land owner should be contacted. Mr Bush and Cllr Bonney offered to chase this up again as this has been an on-going issue for the past 12 months.

Action: Mr Bush and Cllr Bonney to follow up, copy of email to be sent to Mr Graeme Tuff, SBC.

7.2. Lighting Column replacements: Ashtead Drive, (see point 4.3.)

7.2.1 Lantern replacement outside no 5 St Laurence Close. The Clerk reported a temporary lantern had been fitted by our lighting contractor and the new one is due to be fitted by the end of January.

8.1 Horse Chestnut Trees, School Lane: Following our last meeting, Mr Bush emailed Mr Paul Hegley, TPO Officer, to arrange a site visit reference concerns about the poor condition of the Horse Chestnut trees abutting School Lane. To date there has been no response (email sent 16th January 2018.) Cllr Bonney offered to chase this matter.

Action: Mr Bush to email details to Cllr Bonney

9.1 Planning Matters: The Clerk reported “no comments” received from Members concerning Application Ref 18/500282 35 Fox Hill (comments due date 9/2/2018.)

To Be Considered:

Planning Application SHD Bapchild 17/505851/OUT – (Comments deadline extended until end of February 2018.) – **Agenda item for future meeting.**

Planning Application Ref 18/500259/FULL 47 The Street Bapchild (comments due 15 February 2018.)

Paperwork received by Clerk 25/1/2018 - DS Smith Paper Ltd Kemsley Paper Mill DCO (Comments due by 5 pm 2nd March 2018.)

Action: Clerk to add to Agenda, and to ensure Members are notified of any other planning applications as listed above with dates for comments known.

10.1 Five Parishes Group: Cllr Bonney, updated Members on the Quinn Estates recent "Highsted Park" very large development proposal. This is currently not a planning application, but the proposal would be situated south of the A2 and would include a Southern Relief Road from the A2 plus a new junction 5a from the M2. There is a 5 Parishes Website, www.fiveparishes.org.uk and currently leaflets and a newsletter is being produced to be distributed around the villages. Affected villages are keen to gather as much information on this proposal as possible. It was also suggested that the newsletter could be added to the noticeboard outside Bapchild Village Hall. Cllr Bonney explained that there is likely to be further expertise/advice required for future Meetings concerning this matter, and a fund is being set up to help with the cost of appointing external advisors. Members agreed to add this item to the next Agenda for further discussion and decision.

Action: Clerk to add this item to the next Agenda.

11.0 Appointing a Data Protection Officer:

11.1. The Clerk reported receipt from NALC of new legislation due out in May 2018 which requires the Parish Council to appoint a Data Protection Officer. It was agreed that further clarification concerning the new regulations was required.

Action: Clerk to make further enquiries and update Members.

12.0 Maintenance of Grass Cutting/Shrubs/Vegetation after 31/3/2018:

12.1.1 The Clerk confirmed notification letters had been sent to KCC Highways, and SBC ref management of this after the current contract expires on 31/3/2018.

13.0 Accounts:

13.1 The Clerk presented a monthly bank reconciliation and statement covering December 2017, together with a current balance on the account to date (£14,623.67.) The bank reconciliation and statement were circulated to all Members who agreed they were a true representation and they were signed by the Chairman.

13.2 Cheques/online payments already drawn:

13.2.1 14/12/2017 Clerk Salary December S/O £308.17

13.2.2 02/10/2017 EDF D/D 16/01/2018 (1-31 Dec 2017) £221.39

13.3 Cheques/payments due:

13.3.1 Clerk Salary January S/O £308.17

14.0 Any Other Business.

14.1.1 Notification from KALC of update to Waste Recycling Policies with effect from 1st February 2018. It was suggested this information should be added to the next edition of the Bapchild Newsletter.

14.1.2 Information from UKPN in the event of a Power Cut contact details to be added to next Bapchild Newsletter.

14.1.3 Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities – KALC have supplied details of Grant funding available to purchase computers and other equipment. Members agreed that the Clerk should apply for funding to purchase a suitable computer solely for Parish Council business (deadline for applying is 8th February 2018.)

Action: Clerk to submit application form.

15.1 Date of next Meeting 22nd March 2018.

16.1 The Meeting was drawn to a close at 10.20 p.m.