

BAPCHILD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday 19th September 2023

A Meeting of the Bapchild Parish Council was held in the main hall, Bapchild & Tonge Village Hall, on Tuesday 19th September 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

1.0 Present: Cllr Liz Trott (Chairman), Cllr Richard Bush (Vice Chairman), Cllr Carol Culver, Cllr Matthew Julians, Cllr Mik Larking, Cllr Chris Clifton, Mrs Liz Cruise (Clerk)

2.0 Apologies

Received from Kent County Cllr Rich Lehmann, SBC Cllr Monique Bonney.

3.0 Minutes from Annual meeting held Wednesday 10th May 23 were approved by all unanimously.

4.0 Matters arising from previous Minutes

Agenda Items 4.1, 4.2, 1,2,3 in respect of Stones Farm/Spring Acres.

A discussion was held reference the various issues on Stones Farm and it was **agreed unanimously** to write to Cllr Bonney to ask her if she could progress a site meeting to discuss the following list of items:-

- (1) Access arrangements near the Fox and Goose area
- (2) Attenuation pond report and safety issues
- (3) Stewardship and handover of countryside park.

Also, the other issues on Stones Farm are:

- (1) Update on Travel Plan – we have been informed the project is now due for completion 2027.
 - (2) The vacant retail units for a medical facility – assistance from Cllr Bonney to see if this idea could be progressed further and for confirmation of how much commercial space is available.
 - (3) Completion of the Fox Hill parking area landscaping and stewardship of the tree planting.
- Members also added to the list of items for further update by Cllr Bonney Item 7 from our agenda, requesting an update on the status of the Local Plan.

Cllr Trott confirmed we have received confirmation via County Cllr Lehmann the Fox Hill landscaping area trees are due to be planted during October.

5.0 Highway Matters

5.1 Bapchild HIP updates – the 40mph reduced speed limit signs along the A2 have been installed between Teynham and Bapchild.

Parking Issues outside Bapchild School – Jennie Watson, KCC has confirmed the enquiry for a single yellow line (SYL) to be installed opposite Bapchild School is feasible. There would be a sign to confirm the hours covered. This would however require a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) at a cost of £2850 plus cost of the SYL, post and sign. KCC will provide a plan and once received we can carry out an informal consultation with any affected residents and the school. It was suggested once we receive the plan contact is made with County Cllr Rich Lehmann to enquire whether there are any grants available to assist with the cost.

5.2 Ashtead Drive – drainage/flooding update. Nothing recent to report currently, but this situation needs to be monitored. Cllr Larking will speak with the resident at the bottom of Ashtead Drive affected by the flooding previously.

6. Planning Matters

6.1 21/501334/OUT Provectus 95 houses Fox Hill/School Lane Planning Application – There is nothing new to report reference this application.

6.2 21/503906/EIOUT and 21/503914/EIOUT Highsted Park, revised plans – There is a further holding objection reference the revised plans until the end of October 2023.

6.3 Appeal Ref(s): APP/V2255/W/23/3318509 Proposal: Outline application for up to 380 residential dwellings (Trenport) – the appeal lasting 8 days starting on 12th September 2023.

7. Local Plan – update/progress –

As with the items under point 4, this has been added to the list for Cllr Bonney to provide an update on the progress.

8. Toll House perimeter fence - The latest email from SBC Enforcement confirmed this case has now been taken over by Paul Casey, Planning Enforcement Team Leader and an extension of time has been granted to the home owner until the end of the year.

9. Horse chestnut trees latest update from Paul Hegley

We reported a further loss of a branch to Paul Hegley, Tree Officer SBC in July and have received confirmation he has made a further site visit to view the tree opposite 35 School Lane and has said on inspection there does not appear to be a hazard.

10. Amenity areas – rear of school boundary update.

Cllr Trott and The Clerk had a site visit with the Chair of Governors, Susannah Butcher on 10th July to discuss the overgrowth at the rear of the school, and around the lighting column. Susannah had recently visited with her husband and carried out pruning underneath and beside the lighting column area which has exposed the lantern but as agreed at the meeting, the pruning will only help it temporarily due to the size of the trees and how quickly they regrow.

It was discussed whether Cllr Lehmann could provide assistance in bringing together KCC PROW and the school to reach a solution to this ongoing issue.

11. Village lighting update

The Clerk had received the Annual Service Inspection Report and Streetlights had reported two of the old concrete columns requiring replacement doors, plus a new secondary isolation unit required to a further column. A quotation for £105 + VAT per column had been received. Members **approved unanimously** for this work to be carried out.

There were two other issues of note on the report, one concerning overgrowth of a conifer around the lighting column lantern (bungalow walkway between Doubleday Drive and the A2). Cllr Julians will speak with the owner to ask if he can trim the branches. The other issue involves the wall surrounding the column in Hempstead Lane. The Chair has spoken with the resident again who said they would rectify the issue by installing a pipe inside the wall to drain out any rainwater.

Action: Cllr Julians to speak with resident about pruning of conifer

12. Bank reconciliation – The Clerk presented the monthly reports for June, July, August, September balance to date all of which were **approved unanimously** by members.

<u>12.1</u>	<u>Cheques/online payments already made:</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount (Gross)</u>
12.1.1	15/06/2023	EDF 1-31 st May 2023	85.67
12.1.2	22/06/2023	Bapchild Village Hall Coronation Event donation	250.00
12.1.3	26/06/2023	Clerk Salary June 2023	417.88
12.1.4	03/07/2023	Hudson Berkley Clerk Email Address	23.33

12.1.5	14/07/2023	Streetlights 2 (of 4) Maintenance Contract	370.55
12.1.6	17/07/2023	EDF 1-30 th June 2023	85.20
12.1.7	25/07/2023	Clerk Salary July 2023	417.88
12.1.8	04/08/2023	CPRE Annual Subscription	36.00
12.1.9	15/08/2023	EDF 1-31 st July 2023	85.67
12.1.10	25/08/2023	Clerk Salary August 2023	417.88
12.1.11	15/09/2023	EDF 1-31 st August 2023	85.67
12.2	Payments Due:-		
12.2.1	25/09/2023	Clerk Salary September 2023	417.88
12.3.1	Income/Received or due End September 28/04/2023	Precept & Lighting Grant 2 (of 2)	7432.50

13. Any Other Business

This is for information only; no decisions can be made on matters raised.

13.1 Superfast Fibre broadband latest update

Cllr Culver had received an update from Openreach about the Superfast Broadband confirming they are commissioning the poles in Doubleday Drive/Morris Court Close this week, and it should only be a matter of weeks before it is available to order. It would normally be the network provider who would contact residents with any new deals. This is a separate provider to Network Fibre working in other parts of the village.

13.2 KALC SAC

Confirmation the next meeting date is 26th September 7 pm Teynham Village Hall.

13.3 Conifers growing over footway.

It was reported overgrowth of several conifers from a property along The Street, Bapchild. This is the North side of the A2 and is nearer to Panteny Lane Junction. The conifers are overhanging the footway. The Chair and Clerk visited to speak with the owner but there was no reply.

Action: Clerk to report online via KCC once the number of the property is established.

13.4 Bus Shelter North side of A2 - Cllr Larking reported the light inside the bus shelter North side of the A2 (near to the Fox & Goose) is full of debris and insects. With the darker evenings approaching, it requires a thorough clean and check (photograph taken).

This item considered to be a matter of Health and Safety which requires reporting to Clear Channel who own the bus shelter and are responsible for maintenance.

Action: Clerk to email Clear Channel to ask for this to be cleaned and, if necessary, a replacement bulb installed.

14. Date of next meeting.

Provisional – Tuesday 21st November 7.30 pm – awaiting confirmation.

(We hope to be back in The Antony Room once the flooring has been completed).

There being no further business, Cllr Trott thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.58 p.m.

Signed Chair:

Date: