

BAPCHILD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Zoom Meeting held 24th September 2020

A meeting of the Bapchild Parish Council was held via Zoom on Thursday 24th September 2020 at 7.30pm

1. **Present:** Cllr L Trott (Chairman) Cllr R Bush (Vice-Chairman), Cllr C Culver, Cllr M Pape, Cllr M Palmer, Cllr M Larking, Mrs E Cruise (Clerk)

2. **Apologies:** Cllr M Juliens

In attendance: Cllr Monique Bonney, Apologies received KCllr Andrew Bowles

Public Participation: There was no public participation.

3. **Minutes of Annual Meeting held virtually 28th May 2020** – it was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the annual meeting held via Zoom, 28th May 2020 as a true record of the meeting. The Chairman will meet with the Clerk to sign them off.

4. **Matters arising from previous Minutes:**

4.1 Stones Farm – update Fox Hill layby area, temporary closure of both PROW's. Cllr Bush had been contacted by several Fox Hill residents who enquired about the progress of the parking bays, parking scheme and the general untidiness of the area within the layby. The Deed of Variation to the S106 together with the Planning Decision Notice will be published on the Swale Borough Council Planning Portal imminently and SBC are currently designing the car parking permit scheme for the residents.

On the Stones Farm site, the area behind several Canterbury Road properties is being worked on. Drains are being laid, and a road is under construction. Cllr Culver reported a lot of soil moving and work being undertaken to construct the attenuation pond area with concerns about the height of the bank and causing safety issues for children. Cllr Bonney will look into the safety issues of the steep land sides of the attenuation ponds and what size the finished levels of the balance pond are meant to be; also, should a safety audit of the area be carried out?

PROW ZR191 (Part) and ZR205 confirmation the Orders to temporary close notices have been added to the village noticeboard, and to the website informing residents of the paths being closed for a maximum of 6 months effective 3rd August 2020.

5.1 **Amenity area/adjacent PROW between Doubleday Drive and Morris Court Close:** A replacement tree is due to be planted, together with the shrub beds and large trees to be pruned as part of the SBC Autumn/Winter programme. The overhanging branches to the rear of the school boundary fence have been reported to the school. Cllr Culver confirmed if branches are overhanging the PROW then this should be reported to KCC.

Action: Clerk to report.

5.2 **Lighting Matters update:** – the Clerk awaits an inspection report from Ken Bonner on the lighting columns. It was agreed by all members that KCC Highways be asked to carry out an inspection of the lighting column in School Lane outside no 63 (concrete column).

Action: Clerk to email KCC Highways to arrange.

5.3 **Bapchild Parish Highway Speeding issues:** – Several residents have raised concerns about the speeding motorbikes and vehicles along the A2 between Bapchild and Tonge. Tonge Parish Council have recently put together a Highway Improvement Plan and in support of Tonge's HIP it was agreed by all members that a Highway Improvement Plan (HIP) highlighting the issues with the A2 and

enquiring about a speed restriction between Bapchild and Teynham and the possibility of Speedwatch being carried out.

Also discussed was the recent resurfacing works being carried out on the A2 near Swanstree Avenue, but the detector loops have not been installed (£12,000 funding to be provided by the developer as part of the Stones Farm S106 Agreement). It was noted the yellow lines have been extended as part of the recent resurfacing works, but Cllr Bonney was asked to enquire what is happening with the junction at Swanstree Avenue as Alun Millard, KCC Highways previously emailed the funding is to be pooled with other schemes in the area. Cllr Bush will email the history of the junction to Cllr Bonney. Cllr Bonney will also enquire how the dedicated cycle lane/cycle route will be reinstated through the village. Cllr Culver will also check the blue signs depicting shared pedestrian/cycle path near to Sittingbourne School.

5.4 **Damaged Panteny Lane Sign:** - The Clerk confirmed the sign had been reported via the portal and had been straightened promptly.

6.0 **Planning Matters:-**

6.1 Application No 20/503513/FULL 42-44 The Street. This scheme has been reduced from 5 to 4 properties, no comments by members. It was noted one resident had written in response to the recent revised application, but this site already has approval from SBC.

7. **Fernfield Homes:** - further to our letter to SBC Planning Department on 10th June, point 4 concerning the soft landscaping plans remains unanswered. The revised soft landscaping plans are to be submitted to SBC by the developer. Some of the homes are now occupied. Cllr Bonney will enquire what is happening.

8. **Website Accessibility Statement:** The clerk emailed our draft statement to all members ahead of the meeting and has been in contact with Andy Hudson as he will upload the statement onto the home page of the website (next to the privacy notice).

9. **Bank Reconciliation:-** In advance of the meeting, the clerk had circulated via email the reports for June, July, August and the September balance to date for consideration and approval by all members. All members agreed unanimously to accept the statements together with the payments due to be made before the end of September 2020. The statements will be signed by the Chairman.

9.1	<u>Cheques/online payments already made:</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
9.1.1	03/06/2020	KCC column Wihtrred Road	£1,333.45
9.1.2	15/06/2020	EDF 1-31 May 2020	£130.05
9.1.3	18/06/2020	Auditor Fee	£75.00
9.1.4	25/06/2020	Clerk Salary June	£388.53
9.1.5	15/07/2020	EDF 1-30 June	£129.25
9.1.6	27/07/2020	Clerk Salary July	£388.53
9.1.7	03/08/2020	Streetlights Maintenance	£352.91
9.1.8	05/08/2020	Hudson/Berkley – Clerk email address	£23.33
9.1.9	17/08/2020	EDF 1-31 July	£130.05
9.1.10	25/08/2020	Clerk Salary August	£388.53
9.1.11	01/09/2020	CPRE Annual Subscription	£36.00
9.1.12	15/09/2020	EDF 1-31 st August	£130.05

9.1.13	<u>Cheques/online payments due:</u>		
9.1.14	25/09/2020	Clerk Salary September	£388.53
9.1.15	<u>Income Due:-</u>		
9.1.16	End of September	Second part of precept and lighting grant.	£7,329.50

10.0 Apology from the Clerk to all members, the numbering on the Agenda is out of step and therefore the minutes will continue with point 11.0 (in line with the Agenda).

11.0 **Kent Science Park – Application for Expansion update:** This design has changed significantly. Bredgar, Milstead, Rodmersham and Tunstall Parish Councils have submitted their responses to the changes from the previous application.

12.0 **Swale Area Committee (KALC SAC):** meeting update – Cllr Pape emailed to all members ahead of the meeting her comprehensive notes from the recent online meeting. Cllr Trott thanked Cllr Pape on behalf of all members for attending the meeting and for her detailed notes.

13.0 **Correspondence:-**

1. 20/08/2020 Local Green Spaces Local Plan Review – SBC Meeting 11th September
2. 25/08/2020 Western Area Committee (first Skype Meeting 1st September 2020)
3. 07/09/2020 Climate & Ecological Emergency – Presentation and Q&A session
4. 07/09/2020 Swale Joint Transportation Board – SBC Meeting Monday 7th September.
5. 07/09/2020 KALC - Have your say on Policing and Road Safety survey closes 30th September.
6. 09/09/2020 Government Consultations Reforming Planning System – KALC/CPRE event 11th September.

13.1 Items listed 1-6 (as above) were discussed by all members and the following points made. It was also noted that points 4 and 5 above had been covered under minute point 5.3.

Members all agreed the importance of confirming our request that land on the south side of the A2 (opposite the countryside park area) should be designated as a countryside gap to delineate Bapchild from the wider urban area.

Also raised was the importance of identifying hedgerows within the village and documenting them.

Members were in agreement that we should make an arrangement for Cllr Tim Valentine to attend a virtual meeting to discuss further the initiatives around Climate & Ecological Emergency e.g. considering planting more trees, possibly looking into “green grids” e.g. leaving grass to grow longer, and the planting of wildflowers, to encourage bees and other pollinators.

14.0 **Any Other Business:**

14.1 Due to technical issues with Zoom, Cllr. Larking could not speak in person but had emailed out to all members ahead of the meeting the unfortunate cancellation of the Autumn Litter Pick (due to the updated Covid-19 restrictions).

14.2 Newsletter update – Cllr Larking confirmed by email ahead of the meeting unfortunately due to the earlier Covid 19 restrictions imposed the next edition of the newsletter is unlikely to be printed or circulated until the New Year.

14.3 The clerk is awaiting an update reference the new PCSO to be appointed.

14.4 Cllr Culver has reported a pothole issue outside no 25 The Street.

14.5 Cllr Palmer requested the leaf clearing and gulley cleaning should be reported to ensure the village is well prepared for the Winter months.

15.0 Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday 26th November.

There being no further business, the meeting was drawn to a close by the Chairman, Cllr Trott at 21:14 hrs.

Signed:

Date: