

Biddenden Parish Council

**APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at 7.30 pm on
Tuesday 3 March 2020 in the Village Hall, Biddenden.**

Present: Cllr J Tydeman (Chair) Cllr C Friend
Cllr T Bizley Cllr R Hunt
Cllr D Boulding Cllr G Latter
Cllr E Cansdale Cllr J Montgomery
Cllr M Clixby Cllr J Wright

3 parishioners attended.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that agenda item 23, Planning, would be taken after agenda item 7 due to interest from members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr T Bizley due to work commitments

2. Any declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr Hunt due to planning application 20/00258/AS.

3. Any alterations to Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

None.

4. Report by Borough Councillor Neil Bell, ABC, to Parish Councillors

Cllr Bell stated the annual budget was being put together. He outlined the breakdown of the Council Tax and stated that Ashford still had one of the lowest Council Tax charges.

Discussion took place about the company set up by ABC to rent out property at commercial rates. Approximately £100 million had been invested. This was not related to the Housing department which looks after the Ashford housing stock.

The ABC contingency plans around COVID-19 were discussed.

5. Parishioners' Questions

None as the Planning agenda item was being brought forward.

6. Approval of the unapproved minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2020

There being no comments or amendments, the minutes were deemed to be a true and proper record of the meeting. Proposed by: Cllr D Boulding Seconded by: Cllr E Cansdale. **Unanimous.**

7. Any matters for information not on the agenda

The tree survey was completed by Cllr Clixby and sent off to ABC. The saplings have been delayed but should be delivered to Cllr Clixby next week, date to be confirmed. Councillors agreed that the Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow Working Group should discuss their positioning.

The Parish Council has been given the go ahead by ABC to start the co-option process. A notice will be issued and applications invited.

Agenda Item 23: Planning

NEW APPLICATIONS TO ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY 3 MARCH 2020

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
19/00173/CONA/AS	Biddenden	Land between Worsenden Lodge and 1 Worsenden, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Kent Discharge condition 1, 3, 5, 6, 8,	N/A. BPC not a consultee
20/00192/AS	Biddenden	Ibornden Farm, Frittenden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8LG Demolition of existing consented conversion with proposed new dwelling including new car barn, change of use of land, biodiversity and landscaping enhancements. (Resubmission of application 19/00549/AS)	Support
20/00228/AS	Biddenden	Weavers Barn, Cot Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JB Variation of condition 9 on planning permission 19/00960/AS (Proposed conversion and extension of barn/store building to form single residential dwelling) to alter the wording to change timber joinery windows and doors to powder coated aluminium (grey in colour)	Support
20/00173/AS	Biddenden	Chart House, Benenden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DJ Demolition of existing conservatory and chimney. Installation of side dormer window	Support
19/01477/AS	Biddenden	Little Greenacres Meadow, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8EH Change of use of the stables for ancillary accommodation and for storage in connection with the applicant's business; Stationing of a log cabin for residential use by a gypsy family.	Support (by a majority)
19/00505/AS	Biddenden	Greenacres Farm Fishery, Sissinghurst road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8EH Erection of new bailiff's cabin and siting of 4 holiday-lets on site (Amended description)	Object
17/01654/CONA/AS	Biddenden	Bloomsburys Biddenden, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DQ Discharge of condition 19 19 Within three months of planning permission being granted full details of appropriate measures to enhance biodiversity and nature conservation value of the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter these measures shall be implemented in full in accordance with the approved details. Reason: To protect and enhance existing species	N/A BPC not a consultee
20/00258/AS	Biddenden	12 Glebelands, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8EA Removal of existing side elevation and car port; erection of single-storey wrap-around side and rear extension and porch (Revision to planning application 19/00319/AS)	Support

Discussion took place relating to application 19/01477/AS. The applicant and a parishioner interested in the application attended. The applicant clarified issues relating to access to the property and stated that he was in possession of legal documents stating this. Details were also given relating to the erection of the lodge, its height, positioning and screening. Discussion also took place regarding the applicants business operation. The Chair took comments from both parties during the meeting and then asked each councillor in turn for their decision regarding the application. A majority of councillors supported the application.

8. Traffic Issues:

- **Village Centre Road Junction:** There is currently an issue of the wooden posts being knocked over or broken on the village green. There have been a few replacements in recent months, and it is probably due to cars doing U Turns. The Clerk was asked to look at the cost of replacing them with bell cast iron traffic bollards.

A reply from Kent Highways is expected from Kent Highways on the Village Centre Junction plans.

- **North Street development road junction with North Street:** Nothing to report. This item will be removed from the agenda as there is nothing more for the parish council to discuss.

- **Castletons Oak Crossroads/Benenden Road:** The parish council received a report of another accident at the crossroads. An email was sent to Cllr Hill (attached) outlining the parish council's concerns about this issue once again.

- Other traffic issues

None.

9. Housing

The Southern Housing mutual exchange in Sandeman way has been cancelled, and the complaint has been withdrawn.

10. Toilets on the Gordon Jones Playing Field

A company had been approached for a quotation and the options of type of toilet available and issues surrounding locking and emptying them.. It was agreed to speak to VHSC in the first place regarding opening up the referees toilet.

11. Telecommunications Mast

The ground is currently still too wet to do the remainder of the work. The final payment instalment has been enquired about and will be in the bank account shortly

12. Model Publication Scheme

Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr D Boulding. **Unanimous.**

13. Financial Regulations

Proposed by: Cllr R Hunt Seconded by: Cllr M Clixby. **Unanimous**

14. Risk Assessment

Proposed by: Cllr M Clixby Seconded by: Cllr J Montgomery subject to amendment. **Unanimous.**

15. Business Continuity Plan

Proposed by: Cllr R Hunt Seconded by: Cllr G Latter subject to amendment. **Unanimous.**

16. High Street – work caused by fire

Updates to be given at the meeting. There is currently nothing to report.

17. Bowls Club Path

The Bowls Club has asked the parish council if they could resurface the path leading to the Bowls Club. VHSC has confirmed to them that the path is the responsibility of the parish council. The Bowls Club

has obtained two quotations in the sums of £2145 plus VAT. The second quotation is for a path and drop off area which totals £4650 plus VAT. The Clerk has asked a contractor that has done work for it before to quote for the work on the same basis as the first quotation provided by the Bowls Club.

18. VHSC LTIDP Working Group

Nothing to report.

19. Multipurpose Trail

Cllr Bizley confirmed that he was chasing up figures.

20. Area in front of the church lychgate

Cllr Friend had spoken to Kent Design Studio and he will look at proposals and specifi

21. Group Reports:

a) Working Group Reports

i) Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow (Cllr Friend)

A meeting is to be arranged.

ii) Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths (Cllr Friend)

KCC has been advised of streetlights requiring new bulbs. ABC has also been asked what will happen to the lampposts being removed and replaced.

At the junction of the two footpaths by Church View is flickering.

iii) Gordon Jones Playing Field and Play Area (Cllr Bizley)

The work to the play area has been carried out. There is still work to do on the roundabout but the ground is currently too wet and this will be dealt with as soon as possible.

iv) Regeneration (Cllr Wright)

The report from the Cheeselands Field workshop had been circulated.

The council was asked to approve the Kent and Stour Partnership carrying out a topographical survey. This was agreed to a maximum of £500.

ABC has been contacted regarding the Cheeselands Field project. As issues relating to the Cheeselands Field cover several departments, it has been circulated to different officers for comment. A reply is expected shortly.

The fence near The Meadows at the end of the Cheeselands Field is down and requires repairing/replacing. The Clerk will report it but better photos are required.

v) Community Project Fund (Cllr Friend)

A notice will be going out very shortly.

vi) LTIDP (Cllr Hunt) – see agenda item 18.

b) Other reports:

i) Police Liaison: Police UK is still showing December 2019 figures so there is no change in information from the last meeting.

ii) KALC (Cllr Hunt/Cllr Bizley)

Nothing to report.

iii) PO, Car park and toilets (Clerk)

The ladies' toilet doors have swollen and therefore been shaved slightly so that they close.

iv) Tenterden Forum (Cllr Friend)

Nothing to report.

v) Village Hall Management Committee (Cllr Friend)

Nothing to report. The next meeting is 19 March.

vi) Health and Safety (Clerk)

A report was presented.

22. Finance

a) Payment List . Agreed. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr G Latter. **Unanimous**

b) Note accounts to 1 March 2020: To be produced separately as the statements were not available.

23. Planning – to note decisions and any plans tabled

This item was taken earlier in the meeting.

24. Correspondence

There were no comments or requests relating to the Correspondence List.

25. Items for future consideration

Annual Return

26. Next meeting: Parish Council meeting, Tuesday 7 April 2020 – *All Welcome*

Alison Swannick 07783 223450
Parish Clerk