

Biddenden Parish Council

APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4 February 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Old Village Hall

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 Wright
Cllr M Clixby

1 parishioner attended.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Montgomery due to work commitments
Cllr Latter due to personal commitments
Borough Cllr Neill Bell
PCSO Kate Richards

2. Any declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

None.

3. Any alterations to Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

None.

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

No report.

5. Parishioners' Questions

No questions.

6. Approval of the unapproved minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2020

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

7. Any matters for information not on the agenda

As you are aware, Cllr Lidgett has resigned from the council. Ashford Borough Council has been informed in line with requirements. A notice has been put up regarding the issue. The council wishes to thank Adrian for all his hard work both relating to his own briefs and the help he gave to others in support of the council's work. He will be missed. The time and effort he gave to the council is greatly appreciated. Adrian will continue with Neighbourhood Watch and Farm Watch work. The Clerk will draft a letter of thanks on behalf of the council.

Rev Bienfait has announced that he will be stepping down as vicar in April. Alex has done a huge amount in the village during the 13 years they have been in the parish and Stephanie chaired the Community Led Plan and set up the Biddenden Community Facebook page. The Council appreciates all the work they have done and would like to thank Alex and Stephanie and wish them well.

The Bowls Club will be holding a formal opening of their new toilets on Saturday 11 April 2020 at 1pm. Councillor Hunt will attend and other councillors were invited to the event.

A request has been received to put the Parish Update documents on the Biddenden Information Facebook site as well as the Biddenden Community site. Background was given on both sites including membership numbers. **It was agreed** that the parish council would only post on the Biddenden Community site as it was well administered and issued formal guidance for use.

There is the offer of 10 free saplings due to ABC's borough wide tree planting. Councillors agreed they would be interested in this scheme. The Clerk was asked to find out the type of saplings being offered. Cllr Clixby agreed to carry out the survey on behalf of the council.

8. **Traffic Issues:**

- Village Centre Road Junction: An update will be given at the meeting.

- North Street development road junction with North Street: A letter was written to Cllr Hill who passed it to Highways who replied directly. Correspondence attached. The last letter to the council was dated 23 January and the Council has not yet responded to this. ABC responded to the parish council on 24/1 stating that they will ask Highways to respond directly. A copy of the latest Highways letter has been sent to ABC.

- Castletons Oak Crossroads/Benenden Road

- Other traffic issues: A parishioner has received a ticket for double parking outside the village hall in the lay-by. A letter from ABC to the parishioner does give reasons, but the PCSO has been asked for parking advice.

9. **Housing**

The parish council has received a complaint relating to a mutual exchange in Sandeman Way. This is currently being dealt with. Southern Housing are aware of the complaint.

10. **CCTV**

CCTV was discussed in light of the new PO tenant putting up CCTV in the PO. **It was agreed** that the parish council would remain responsible for its own CCTV and that the barbers would put what was required in the shop.

11. **Toilets on the Gordon Jones Playing Field**

Cllrs Friend and Hunt are looking into putting in a single unit from Easter to September to see how much usage it gets. Quotations will be sought.

12. **Telecommunications Mast**

The heras fencing has been put back up. Shared Access have been down to the site to check the state of the ground, and the Clerk has been sending photographic updates.

13. **High Street – work caused by fire**

No further information on scaffolding at the time of writing.

14. **Open Spaces Strategy**

The first draft of the Strategy had been circulated. The Chairman asked for any comments prior to the next meeting. The strategy was agreed with the inclusion of verges.

15. VHSC LTIDP Working Group

The invoice for the Parish Council's agreed share for the work on the Pavilion roof has been received and VHSC had sent a report complying with the terms of parish's agreement, and these were in order. On this basis the invoice from the contractor was paid as previously agreed by the parish council.

Cllr Cansdale has replaced Cllr Lidgett on this working group.

16. Multipurpose Trail

Details of contractors have been provided. However, quantified costs will not be available for the meeting. The Council was asked to consider whether it wished to have a tree assessment carried out and an ecological survey of the Gordon Jones Playing Field. By Easter figures should be available as to how much it will cost and ABC will know how much the S106 contribution will be.

17. Area in front of the church lychgate

Kent Design Studio has been contacted and a meeting will be held on 6 February.

18. Group Reports:

a) Working Group Reports

i) Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow (Cllr Friend)

A meeting will held shortly.

ii) Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths (Cllr Friend)

Due to Cllr Lidgett's resignation, those councillors interested in joining the group should contact the chairman.

Noticeboards: A quote will be obtained for the smartening up of the large Noticeboard near the church and that of the one on the side of the squash Club. The noticeboard on the front of the toilets in the High Street is marked "Parish Paths Partnership". It is a thin, metal noticeboard that is designed to be fixed to a wall. If councillors wish to consider moving it then a new board would probably be required for it to be freestanding. It could go just inside the fencing in the car park facing the road, or it could go on the grass verge, but this land is probably owned by Highways and is currently being checked out.

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

The heras fencing has been put out. The play area repairs is due to take place on 12/13 February.

iv) Regeneration (Cllr Wright)

The Cheeselands Field Improvement Panel will meet on 8 February at 2pm in the New Village Hall.

It was reported that a call had been received from the Environment Agency who proposed putting forward a bid for £10,000 for carrying out the

investigative work regarding improving the water quality of the hammer Stream under the Cheeselands Field. An email had been sent to councillors.

We know that the Cheeselands Field improvements are to be considered a long term project, with possible aspects being phased in over a period of years, thus spreading costs and funding bids.

- v) Community Project Fund (Cllr Friend)
Applications will be invited for the new round shortly.
- vi) LTIDP (Cllr Hunt) – see agenda item 15.

b) **Other reports:**

- i) Police Liaison

A new member is required to join Cllrs Cansdale and Tydeman on this brief due to Cllr Lidgett's resignation. Councillors should put their names forward to the Chairman

Police UK shows 8 crimes reported in December 2019:

Burglary	2
Criminal Damage & Arson	1
Violence & Sexual Offences	5

- ii) KALC (Cllr Hunt/Cllr Bizley)
Nothing to report
- iii) PO, Car park and toilets (Clerk)
The washer in the urinal has been repaired.
The white lines in the car park need repainting.
- iv) Tenterden Forum (Cllr Friend)
Nothing to report.
- v) Village Hall Management Committee (Cllr Friend)
Nothing to report.
- vi) Health and Safety (Clerk)
A report had been circulated.

19. **Finance**

- a) Payment List: The list was presented to the meeting. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend
Seconded by: Cllr R Hunt. **Unanimous.**
- b) Note accounts to 31 January 2020: The accounts were presented to councillors and noted.
- c) Financial Regulations. Revised regulations were presented and will be brought forward again at the March meeting for agreement.

20. Planning – to note decisions and any plans tabled

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
20/00022/AS	Biddenden	3 Cloth Hall Gardens, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AT Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension	Support
20/00073/AS	Biddenden	Land rear of Rose Cottage Farm, North Street, Biddenden, Kent Reserved matters application pursuant to hybrid application 17/00258/AS to consider the design, scale and massing of the B1 office building as approved as outline planning permission	Support
19/01745/AS	Biddenden	Goldwell Farm, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8BP Prior approval for the change of use of an agricultural building and land within its curtilage to two larger, residential dwellings and associated operational development	Support
20/00097/AS	Biddenden	Coach House Elmstone, North Street, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AE Demolition of outbuilding and conservatory; Conversion of garage to utility room; erection of single storey rear extension; two storey side extension and detached garage.	Support
20/00120/AS	Biddenden	Island Farm, High Halden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JG Proposed single storey extension, enlarged porch and addition of rooflights	Support
20/00121/AS	Biddenden	Island Farm, High Halden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8JG Proposed single storey extension, enlarged porch and addition of rooflights, alteration to existing window, relocation of internal staircase, alterations to internal walls	Support
19/00173/AMND/AS	Biddenden	Land between Worsenden Lodge and 1 Worsenden, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Kent Revision to dormer windows roof line from hipped to gable ends on planning permission 19/00173/AS (Reserved matters application for details of layout, access, scale, landscaping and appearance for the erection of one residential dwelling pursuant to outline planning permission granted under 17/00219/AS)	Support
20/00127/AS	Biddenden	Orchard Barn, Gribble Bridge Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DH Erection of an agricultural store.	Support

21. Correspondence

The Correspondence List was presented and there were no comments or requests for information.

22. Items for future consideration

Risk Assessment
Business Continuity Plan
Model Publication Scheme
Financial Regulations

23. Next meeting: Parish Council meeting, Tuesday 3 March 2020 – *All Welcome*

Alison Swannick 07783 223450
Parish Clerk