

Biddenden Parish Council

APPROVED Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7 July 2020 at 7.30 via Zoom

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

Mrs A Swannick (Parish Clerk)

0 parishioners attended

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr E Cansdale due to technology
Cllr R Hunt due to technical difficulties
Cllr N Bell, ABC

2. Any declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr J Tydeman re planning application 20/0083/AS

3. Any alterations to Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

None.

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

Cllr Bell was absent due to borough council business.

5. Parishioners' Questions

None.

6. Approval of the unapproved minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2020

The draft minutes of 2 June were deemed to be a true and proper record of the meeting.
Proposed by: Cllr C Friend Seconded by: Cllr T Bizley. **Unanimous**

7. Any matters for information not on the agenda

The broken fencing at Cheeselands Playing Field has been chased up.

Councillors discussed the Biddenden says YES project written by Tom Swain. Councillors were asked their views on the way forward. Discussion took place on whether to set up a group, charity or hire consultancy services to provide youth activities. Examples were given of activities such as boxing etc. **It was agreed** that to take the issue forward a councillor needed to take the lead on it and develop ideas quickly to say how it would be run and terms of reference. Cllr Wright is to put a skeleton proposal together with the support of Cllr Bizley and Cllr Montgomery.

8. Traffic Issues:

See the attached email to and from Highways and meeting notes from 13/12/19

- Village Centre Road Junction. To be chased up
- North Street development road junction with North Street: Nothing received as yet but it was noted that the road had been resurfaced.
- Castletons Oak Crossroads/Benenden Road: There is still an issue at this junction.
- Other traffic issues: It was noted that traffic was speeding up. There was an increase in cycling.

9. Housing

The mutual exchange which has been discussed in Sandeman Way, has now been turned down by ABC and the applicant notified by them.

10. Telecommunications Mast

Shared Access have had their contractors return to the site to repair tarmac and replace posts. The issue with the seeding (lack of growth) has been raised and they are planning a site visit.

11. Review of Terms of Reference of Committees

- Finance Committee
- Internal Review Committee
- Planning Committee

12. 1-3 High Street Committee:

The Terms of Reference of the above committees were agreed. However, the 1-3 High Street Committee should be disbanded. Proposed by: Cllr M Clixby Seconded by: Cllr D Boulding. **Unanimous.**

Agenda items 13 – 15 were taken together

13. Review of Standing Orders

Reviewed by Cllrs Tydeman and Boulding. Copies circulated separately

14. Review of Finance Regulations

Reviewed by Cllrs Tydeman and Boulding. A copy circulated separately.

15. Review of Code of Conduct

Reviewed by Cllrs Tydeman and Boulding. A copy circulated separately.

The above agenda items 13-15 were **agreed**. Proposed by: Cllr D Boulding Seconded by: Cllr J Wright. **Unanimous.**

16. Group Reports:

a) Working Group Reports

i) Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow (Cllr Friend)

Discussion has taken place with the owner of a property backing onto the Jubilee Meadow regarding hedge cutting and fence replacement. The hedge will get cut in the autumn, but it is believed that the hedge and fence to the rear of the property belongs to the owner. A site meeting is to be organised with the owner.

Millennium Field Car Park: Following an inspection, it was noted that tyre/wheel marks were evident going around the grassy mound. It was then reported that there had been cars using the MF car park as a track on the evening of Saturday 25th June and squealing wheels could then be heard on the Sissinghurst Road. This has been reported to the PCSO.

A large number of nitrous oxide capsules have been found in the MF car park behind the squash club. This has been reported to the PCSO.

Discussion took place regarding CCTV and a barrier to the Millennium Field car park. **It was agreed** to look at options. The Clerk would also speak to the police regarding CCTV options.

ii) Traffic, Pedestrians and Footpaths (Cllr Wright)

It was agreed that Peter Whitestone would become a member of the working group.

A new name for the working group was put forward. It was suggested that it become the Connections Working Group. **It was agreed** that the name would be discussed at the group's next meeting and a new name reported back to the full council.

It was noted that the hedge outside Vine Cottage needed cutting back but the house is empty. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would report it to KCC.

A meeting is to be held shortly.

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

The bowls club has been asked for a contribution towards the cost of the path as it provides access only to the bowls club. **It was agreed** that the parish council goes ahead with the path but asks the bowls club for a contribution.

Multipurpose trail: Cllr Bizley reported that he would be chasing up quotes for the trail.

There were traveller horses on the GJ Playing Field on Saturday evening 25 June. The police were aware as they had come from the Headcorn area. No damage was done to the field. There have been rumours of a horse fair.

Opening the Play Area: The government has now stated that play areas can be opened. Councillors had been circulated information relating to decisions to open playgrounds by other borough and parish councils and guidance issues. **It was agreed** to open the play area on the Gordon Jones Playing Field. The proposed notice was also **agreed**.

Proposed by: Cllr J Montgomery Seconded by: Cllr D Boulding.
Unanimous.

iv) Regeneration (Conservation Working Group) (Cllr Wright)

Notes from the working group meeting held on 5 June had been circulated.

Discussion has been taking place regarding a new name and it was proposed that the name should be changed to the Conservation Working Group.

Proposed by: Cllr J Montgomery Seconded by: Cllr T Bizley.

Unanimous.

A Zoom meeting was due to take place with an ABC officer but nothing further has been heard from them. Cllr Wright is chasing this up.

v) Community Project Fund (Cllr Friend)

The recommendations for donations was agreed at by the Community Project Fund Working Group and circulated. However, please note that Biddenden Juniors have withdrawn their application as they have received a grant of £5000 to pay for improvements to their pitches. It has been agreed that the council places the order and invoices the Football Club for the costs involved.

It was agreed to pay £500 towards the mower maintenance relating to the churchyard. Proposed by: Cllr D Boulding Seconder: Cllr T Bizley.

Unanimous

vi) LTIDP (Cllr Hunt)

Nothing to report.

b) Other reports:

i) Police Liaison: Police UK shows 14 crimes reported during May 2020

Criminal Damage & Arson	4
Other Theft	4
Violence & Sexual Offences	4
Anti-Social Behaviour	2

The PCSO has been informed of traffic, drug and traveller issues detailed under other agenda items.

The PCSO's July update had been circulated..

ii) KALC (Cllr Hunt/Cllr Bizley): Nothing to report

iii) PO, Car park and toilets (Clerk): Nothing to report.

iv) Tenterden Forum (Cllr Friend): Nothing to report.

v) Village Hall Sports Club: (Cllr Friend): The village hall is now open and guidelines for use issued.

vi) Health and Safety (Clerk): An inspection report had been circulated.

17. Finance

- a) Payment List: The list was presented and **agreed**. Proposed by: Cllr C Friend
Seconded by: Cllr J Wright. **Unanimous**
- b) Note accounts to 30 June 2020: The accounts are not available as they are still with the Internal Auditor, who have been chased.
- c) Annual Return: An extension to 28 August has been agreed with the External Auditor for the Annual Return as the Internal Auditor still has the accounts.

18. Planning – to note decisions and any plans tabled

Case No	Parish	Location and Description	Decision
20/00699/AS	Biddenden	<p>The Den, Shortwood Cottage, Tenterden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8DW Removal of Conditions 03 & 04 on application 00/01384/AS related to the use of the building as tourist accommodation</p> <p><i>Note: See application form for full details. Below are the reasons for removal</i></p> <p><i>A Lawful Development Certificate (19/00704/AS) has been obtained for this property for full residential use in breach of conditions 03 & 04 of the planning permission granting its conversion to holiday accommodation. The two conditions are therefore 'ultra vires' and we seek their removal.</i></p> <p><i>Condition 03 states - 'the proposed tourist accommodation shall be used solely as specified in the application and not as independent dwelling(s) nor for any other purpose whether or not in the same use class of the schedule of the Town & Country Planning (Uses Classes Order) 1987 or any subsequent order revoking or re-inacting that order.'</i></p> <p><i>Condition 04 states - 'a record of the occupancy shall be kept and made available to the Local Planning Authority for inspection on request.'</i></p>	Support
20/00732/AS	Biddenden	<p>20 Chulkhurst, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8ED Replacing existing roof light with a front dormer.</p>	Support
20/00801/AS Removal of Condition	Biddenden	<p>Rogers Wood, Cranbrook Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8ET Removal of agricultural occupancy condition (B) on planning permission 79/00454/AS</p> <p><i>B. The occupation of the dwelling shall be limited to persons solely or mainly employed, or last employed, locally in agriculture (as defined in Section 290 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971) or forestry, and the dependence of such persons.</i></p>	Support
20/00830/AS Cou – Agricultural to dwellings	Biddenden	<p>Disused Stable Block at, Hammer Mill Oast, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, Kent Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building and land within its curtilage to one residential dwelling and associated operational development</p>	Support

19. Correspondence

There were no comments on the Correspondence List

20. Items for future consideration

Policies and Procedures
Annual Return

21. Next meeting: Parish Council meeting, Tuesday 4 August 2020