

**BEKESBOURNE WITH PATRIBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 13 JANUARY 2020**

**Present:** Parish Cllr Andrea Nicholson (Chairman)  
Parish Cllr Christine Ash  
Parish Cllr Graham Duplock  
Parish Cllr Christine Sladden  
Parish Cllr Jill Thomas  
Parish Cllr Joanne Watts  
Parish Cllr Emily Young  
Parish Cllr Mary Evans

Mrs Nicola Purcell, Clerk to the Council  
There were no members of the public present.

**74. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Parish Cllr Tara Fisher.

**75. REQUESTS FOR DPI'S OR DISPENSATIONS RELEVANT TO THIS AGENDA  
(WRITTEN OR VERBAL)**

Cllr Duplock declared a personal interest in the Village Hall as he is on the management committee.

Cllrs, Thomas, Young and Nicholson declared a personal interest in the Recreation Ground as they are all on the management committee.

**76. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2019**

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman as a true Record of the meeting.

**77. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

**78. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

i) A discussion was had regarding a complaint received from a parishioner regarding the content of the village hall questionnaire. Cllr Nicholson has responded to the complaint accordingly, and thus at present, no further action is required.

ii) The clerk spoke about the number of supporting emails received in the past week from the community regarding the problems with the 89b bus service. County Cllr Northey offered his support on the matter and requested the Clerk to send an email to him detailing the problems.

**79. HIGHWAY MATTERS**

i) The parish has suffered a substantial amount of road closures over recent months. It has been noticed that the road works appear to be unattended for many days, causing unnecessary disruption throughout the villages, impacting businesses in the area and causing disruption on the single lane roads that are being used as unofficial diversions. Clerk to send email to Cllr Northey at KCC.

ii) Cllr Ash noted that additional reflectors have been installed on the bend of Chalkpit Hill. Their effectiveness could be compromised over time from damage. Crash barriers have been requested in the past. It has also been noted that the old ones have been left in place, making it difficult to maintain the grass verge. Cllr Ash to send a photograph to the Clerk, who will then report to Kent Highways on the matter

iii) Cllr Duplock questioned why the parish council had been sent a Highways Improvement Plan reminder, as the parish council submitted in November? The Clerk agreed to look into this.

## **80. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

i) KCC are holding consultations regarding their five year plan for Kent and its residents. The council have published a document entitled 'Your Future Our Priority' which is available at:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/corporate-policies/5-year-plan>

The plan encompasses a number of areas such as: housing; infrastructure and transport matters. KCC are inviting public comments to be submitted online at: [www.kent.gov.uk/5yearplan](http://www.kent.gov.uk/5yearplan). The consultation is open to comments until 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020.

ii) A select committee has been set up to find a solution for affordable housing. Consultation is open until 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and is chaired by Canterbury City Council leader Robert Thomas. KCC welcome public comments.

iii) KCC Budget proposed a 44% rise in council tax. 1 million pounds is being designated to green issues.

iv) The dismantling of Operation Brock on the M20 has begun. The removal of the barriers should benefit the flow of traffic throughout the county. Questions were raised in the meeting as to the impact of Brexit and if there will be a need for the barriers again in the future.

v) Kent County Cllrs have a briefing on the new medical school at Canterbury Christ Church University/University of Kent. KCC wish to support a new hospital in Canterbury, as currently, Kent is the largest area without a teaching hospital.

vi) KCC have released a new document on healthy lifestyle promotion. This is available on the KCC website.

## **81. FINANCE MATTERS**

It is documented that the bank account on the financial statement is not up to date. The clerk has updated the figures accordingly but due to a change in address on the account the most recent bank statement has not yet been received and will be updated in due course.

The following payments by cheque were APPROVED by all:

| Cheque Number | Payee                                 | Amount   |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 000911        | T Block – Expenses                    | £ 129.19 |
| 000912        | T Block- November and December Salary | £ 596.72 |
| 000913        | HMRC PAYE payment                     | £ 0.80   |
| 000914        | N Purcell December Salary             | £ 222.27 |

There was discussion regarding the format of the finance documents that are circulated to Cllrs. The Clerk will look into this. Cllr Duplock has requested a percentage column to be added to the spreadsheets.

Cllr Thomas has requested that the Clerk to look into Government income bonds.

The Clerk is also to get the ball rolling regarding an additional bank account.

## **82. NAILBOURNE UPDATE**

Cllr Thomas has circulated a report. The last year of serious flooding was 2014. The river is now flowing in parts of the Nailbourne. The outcome of the River Group meeting was that they are satisfied that everything is in place to prepare for a potential flood. In addition, the Environment Agency are also making safety checks. On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 0930-1100am, Cllr Thomas is running an exhibition of alternative sandbags available for the community to purchase. Cllr Nicholson concluded with a note that it was reassuring that there are preparations in place.

## **83. FEEDBACK FROM HIGHLAND COURT FARM**

Cllrs Nicholson, Thomas and Watt have visited Mr Walters. Cllr Nicholson fed back that Mr Walters is reviewing his plans for new developments at the farm that would be better suited to the area and that all Cllrs are welcome to visit and discuss the draft plans with him.

## **84. VILLAGE HALL QUESTIONAIRES**

Cllr Duplock discussed the results. Overall a good response was received. Most responded that it needs updating. A large number would not want it moved to a new location. Other comments made were mainly regarding the lack of outdoor space and difficult parking which has been emphasised since network rail introduced parking charges on Station Approach.

The Clerk agreed to email network rail to gather information on the benefits of the parking charges.

Cllr Evans suggested it could be looked into the possibility of a Bekesbourne/Bridge Linked village hall.

The purpose of the questionnaire was to ascertain if there was a desire for a new Hall. Cllr Duplock will take results of the questionnaire back to the management committee to discuss further.

#### **85. RECREATION GROUND SURVEY**

The survey identified that the most popular request for new equipment was swings/zip wire/slide/places to sit. Moving forward Cllrs Sladden and Young are to visit other playgrounds to research options. Cllrs Young and Sladden to report back at next meeting.

Following up a previous request for a memorial bench, it was suggested that the bench could be placed at the recreation ground/park. The recreation ground committee are to discuss this and inform Cllr Thomas of outcome. Clerk to email Cllr Thomas the families contact details.

#### **86. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

The parish council have introduced a social media policy to support the use of online interaction from the parish council. This was circulated prior to the meeting and was approved by all.

Clerk to update all passwords for all accounts linked to the parish council.

#### **87. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRISPONDANCE**

##### Correspondence:

I have received correspondence from the caravan club regarding access to the site. The club are continuing to look into the matter, advising site users of the correct access to the site and hope that we see an improvement soon.

A complaint has been received regarding the content of the Village Hall questionnaires that have been circulated. The Chair has responded to the complaint accordingly.

In the past week I have received a number of emails regarding the issues with the 89b bus service. I will be looking into the matter with Stagecoach.

I have also received plans from Kent Highways for double yellow lines at Coldharbour Lane. This was circulated to Cllrs.

##### Report:

The title plan for the sale of land at Aspinall close has been received and filed.

The suggestion of yellow lines at the passing point on school lane has been put forward to Kent Highways. They will put this forward as part of their annual parking review, and will let us know the outcome of this in due course.

Tracey looked into bank accounts: Natwest appear to be the best option for moving money from the savings account. It is a struggle to get an account with a very high

interest rate but this option seems fair for the needs of the council- I shall begin the process of opening this account in the upcoming weeks

## 88. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

New applications:

|             |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|
| CA/20/00031 | Proposed two-storey semi-detached dwelling.<br>Land Adjacent To 2 Bifrons Road,<br>Bekesbourne, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 5DE, | Comments being received until 07/02/2020 |
|-------------|--|--|

The council expressed concerns regarding access to the rear of number two.

For Information:

|              |  |          |
|--------------|--|----------|
| CA//19/00451 | Variation of condition 02 (drawings) of planning permission CA//16/01975/FUL for proposed erection of 15 two-storey dwellings with access from Aspinall Close, parking and landscaping; to allow re-configuration of the layout of plots 6-10 together with internal and external alterations to plots 12 and 13.<br><br>Land adjacent to Aspinall Close, Bekesbourne, CT4 5DN | Granted  |
| TRE/19/00497 | T1 Dismantle to near ground level Variegated Holly tree located to the left boundary line, and carry out stump grinding to the stump of the tree. T2 Laurel, located to the top end of the garden, reduce by approximately 50% and re-shape back the outer growth to balance.<br><br>1 The Street, Patrixbourne, CT4 5DA   | Approved |
| CA//19/02143 | Proposed single-storey event venue building.<br><br>The Night Yard, Highland Court Farm, Coldharbour Lane, Bekesbourne, CT4 5HN  | Granted  |
| CA//19/02077 | Proposed single-storey side and rear extension and external alterations following demolition of existing conservatory and garage.<br><br>Brambles, School Lane, Bekesbourne, CT4 5ER   | Granted  |

|              |   |                   |
|--------------|---|-------------------|
| CA//19/01755 | Details submitted pursuant to condition 04 (window and door details) of planning permission CA//18/01507/VAR.<br><br>Coldharbour Farmhouse, Poor Start Lane, Bekesbourne, CT4 5HH   | Approved          |
| CA//18/01260 | Retrospective application for the change of use from forestry to mixed leisure/forestry<br><br>Palmsted Wood, Bekesbourne Lane, Bekesbourne, CT4 5DX  | Awaiting decision |
| CA//18/02358 | A Gomez and Co Distribution Services Ltd, Coldharbour Lane, Bekesbourne, CT4 5HL<br><br>Details submitted pursuant to conditions 03 (external lighting) and 04 (external plant and machinery) of planning permission CA/17/02182/FUL. | Awaiting decision |

Cllr Ash requested details of the extent of the Parish Envelope, as used in planning application decisions. Clerk to find this information.

### 89. AOB- For Discussion Only

It was discussed that it is unclear who owns the newly built houses off Aspinall Close. Clerk to look up affordable housing document from KCC and circulate to allow Cllrs to make joint response.

Cllr Watt mentioned that Mounts Farm may possibly erect signage regarding HGV access, but this is not confirmed.

Cllr Thomas raised concerns about the lack of post office facilities. The nearest one for things such as Driving Licence renewals is currently Faversham. Cllr Thomas to email City Cllr Louise Jones.

Cllr Watt requested we begin to think about planning a VE day event. Clerk to post on social media for ideas from the community.

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....

Parish Council future meetings; March 9th 2020, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2020 (AGM)