



BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Linda Weaver Room of the Village Hall on Wednesday 14th March 2018 from 7:30pm to 9:20pm.

Present: Cllr D. Clayson (Chairman)
Cllr G. Bobbin Cllr T. Covell Cllr C. Clayson Cllr T. Fitchett
Cllr T. Owens Cllr B. Collyer Cllr J. Martin

Also Present: Mrs S. Muteham (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

444 APOLOGIES

Cllr A. Bowles

445 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

446 MINUTES

The minutes of the following meetings, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman

- Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 13th February 2018 (minutes 428-430)
- Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 14th February 2018 (minutes 431-440)

447 VILLAGE SIGN

Mrs J. Owens and two other members of the public attended the meeting to give an update on the project to purchase and install an ornate village sign. It was noted that current funds total approximately £3,250 which represents approximately 50% of the anticipated total cost of the project. Mrs J. Owens asked if the Parish Council would be willing to accept a donation of the funds raised to date and any future funds that are raised for the project. Those Councillors present considered and agreed to the request and thanked the Boughton Community Projects Group for their hard work.

448 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

A. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTWAYS

- It was noted that BIFFA who are scheduled to clear the significant amount of rubbish in the hedge on the Canterbury Road near Nash Court (between the Canterbury Road and A2) have not yet completed the works. The Clerk will chase Swale Borough Council who are organising this to obtain a specific date if possible.
- It was reported that there is several large drums (possibly fuel?) in the hedge at the top of The Street near the junction with Staplestreet. The Clerk will report these to Kent County Council for clearance.
- It was reported that the chevron sign at Goddens Corner has been damaged. The Clerk

will report this to Kent County Council for repair.

B. PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

- It was reported by a member of the public that there is a “No Dog Walking” sign at the junction of footpaths ZR624 and ZR652. This is a private sign and has no significance to the way in which a public footpath can be used.

C. PUBLIC LIGHTING

- Nothing new to report.

D. TRANSPORTATION

- Nothing new to report.

449 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

A. RECREATION GROUNDS

BULL LANE

- The Clerk reported that she had obtained one quote for the replacement of the missing bollard in the lay-by at the recreation ground. However it was reported that an additional bollard has now been removed so those present discussed and agreed that the Clerk should now seek quotes for concrete posts or similar with the intention of creating an obstacle to prevent HGVs from parking in the lay-by. The Clerk was also asked to write to the local farm asking that they drive considerately past the bollards.
- The Clerk received a request from a local child for adult style swings at Bull Lane recreation ground. The Parish Council agreed to consider the idea and asked the Clerk to investigate the potential cost of purchase and installation of swings before considering the matter further

POPLAR VIEW

- The Clerk is pursuing an application for additional trees to be placed at Poplar View recreation ground and has been in contact with the village school who have agreed to support the project. It was agreed by those present that the Clerk should include requests for the following tree types in the grant application: Ash, Horsechestnut, Oak. It was also agreed by those present that the Parish Council would pay the minimum amount of 25% of the total cost of the project if grant funding could be obtained for the remaining 75%.
- It was reported that there are several wooden pallets which have been dumped by the gate accessing the recreation ground. The Clerk will facilitate the removal of these.
- The Parish Council discussed the possibility of a play area at Poplar View recreation ground, but decided against it at the current time as it was considered that there are sufficient facilities at Bull Lane recreation ground and there would not be enough footfall to use an additional play area in such a location.

B. BURIAL GROUNDS

- The Clerk reported that there is one headstone which is leaning over and is scheduled for repair.

C. PUBLIC TOILETS

- Nothing new to report..

D. TELEPHONE KIOSKS

- The Clerk reported that after inspection by a qualified electrician, it was agreed that the telephone kiosk on The Street was no longer connected to mains electricity, nor was it currently viable to arrange a re-connection.

E. ALLOTMENTS

- All plots are currently rented.

450 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

A. BANK RECONCILIATION

The bank reconciliation 1st March 2018 was circulated at the meeting, approved and signed by the Chairman.

B. ITEMS FOR PAYMENT

All payments as detailed on the bank reconciliation dated 1st March 2018 were approved at the meeting, and cheques signed by two authorised signatories.

C. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

No further expressions of interest has been given for the three casual vacancies.

D. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Nothing new to report.

E. VILLAGE SIGN

Cllr T. Owens gave further details on the proposed village sign. These included a proposed location on the footway outside the vicarage on The Street, at the corner of The Street and Arthur Kennedy Close. Whilst the Parish Council agreed to support the principal idea of the project, at this stage no financial commitment from the Parish Council has been made. Cllr T. Owens was asked to provide a detailed costing of the project at the next Parish Council meeting to enable Councillors to make an informed decision regarding financial commitment.

F. COFFEE PROJECT

Cllr C. Clayson gave details of a “Coffee Project” run by English Rural. The project involves a mobile coffee van which can visit designated locations to provide a community focal point. The Clerk is to investigate the scheme further.

G. DEFIBRILLATOR

Mrs T. Birks from the White Horse has offered to fund raise towards a defibrillator for the community. The Parish Council were supportive of the idea and agreed to assist with fund-raising for the project. Suitable locations for siting a defibrillator were discussed, and it was agreed that a central location in the most residential area of the Parish would be most beneficial. Sites to be considered include external locations at Woods Garage, White Horse Inn, Queens Head and the Public Toilets (School Lane).

451 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- None

452 CORRESPONDENCE

A. Notification of KALC Annual Planning Conference on 16th March 2018

453 CHAIRMAN/CLERK'S SUNDRY REPORTS

- None

454 ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON APRIL AGENDA

- Village sign
- Coffee project
- Defibrillator
- Bollards at Bull Lane recreation ground
- Swings at Bull Lane recreation ground
- Trees at Poplar View

The next full meeting of the parish council is scheduled for Wednesday 11th April 2018 at 7:30pm. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

Signed by the CHAIRMAN of the meeting