



BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Linda Weaver Room of the Village Hall on Wednesday 11th March 2020 from 7:32pm to 8:56pm.

Present: Cllr D. Clayson (Chairman)
Cllr T. Covell Cllr C. Clayson Cllr G. Bobbin
Cllr T. Fitchett Cllr J. Martin Cllr P. Ray
Cllr A. Gould (SBC) Cllr A. Bowles (KCC)

Also present: Mrs S. Muteham (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

131 APOLOGIES

Cllr J. Owens, Cllr T. Owens

132 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

133 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 Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12th February 2020 (minutes 116-127)
- Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 5th March 2020 (minutes 128-130)

134 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

An application was made by a local member of the public to join the Parish Council. After consideration by Parish Councillors present, it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Paul Ray to the Parish Council. A Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by Paul Ray and he then immediately joined the meeting as Parish Councillor.

135 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

A. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTWAYS

- The Clerk has been investigating obtaining quotes for the purchase and removal of existing/installation of a new bus shelter on The Street. A company called “Externiture” offers an all encompassing facility and was recommended by the Clerk as the most suitable supplier of services for the project. The current proposed costs of approximately £8,300 (including VAT) incorporate removal of existing shelter (including removal of associated asbestos roof), installation of new shelter, re-designing kerb for more suitable disability access to buses and extending the bus-stop road marking. Kent County Council are likely to pay a portion of the total cost associated with the kerbing and road markings, and further grant funding towards the project will be applied for. The Parish Council will consider the remaining cost which is likely to be approximately £3,000.00 at this stage. The project will also require a planning application to be submitted to Swale Borough Council. Those present considered the

details provided and agreed that the Clerk would prepare a planning application to be considered at the April meeting before submission to Swale Borough Council.

- It was reported that there is a pothole near the weighbridge on Canterbury Road, which the Clerk will report to Kent County Council.
 - Cllr A. Gould reported that the consultation period on the Traffic Regulation Order had finished on 2nd March 2020 and he was not aware of any objections to the consultation at this stage.
 - Cllr C. Clayson reported that the directional fingerpost sign opposite the bottom of Nine Ash Lane needs cleaning/repairs. The Clerk will liaise with Kent County Council to request the necessary work.
- B. **PUBLIC FOOTPATHS**
- Nothing new to report.
- C. **PUBLIC LIGHTING**
- Nothing new to report
- D. **TRANSPORTATION**
- Nothing new to report.

136 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

A. RECREATION GROUNDS

BULL LANE

- The Clerk reported that the rocking horse in the toddler play area needs repairing as the footrests have been badly damaged. The Clerk offered a choice of materials for the repairs and it was agreed by those present to purchase materials at a cost of approximately £70.00
- The Clerk reported that the Byelaws noticeboard located in the corner of the village hall car park near School Lane needs replacing as the old one has been stolen. The purchase cost of a new board was proposed at £169.20 and was agreed by those present.
- There was no update on the repairs to the steps from the village hall to the playing field.
- The Clerk reported that she had met with two personnel from the Pitch Improvement Programme and Faversham Strike Force F.C. to discuss and survey the football pitch with a view to improving the standard of maintenance to encourage further use of the pitch. The Clerk will receive a detailed report of the survey within 28 days, which will then be considered by the Parish Council.

POPLAR VIEW

- The Clerk reported that she had responded to Southern Gas Networks and their request to lay a new gas pipe for the golf club across the recreation ground. Southern Gas Networks initially offered £1,000.00 compensation for the work and Parish Councillors declined this offer, along with citing the lack of future flexibility to utilise the immediate area for any work relating to the existing building at the site and also the small financial compensation. Southern Networks have revised their offer of compensation to £1,500.00, which was considered by those present and again declined as the compensation is not considered sufficient for the future inconvenience it may cause.

B. CIVIC CEMETERY

- One recent interment has taken place in the burial ground..

C. PUBLIC TOILETS

- ISwale Borough Council have completed the installation of the new footway/kerbing adjacent to the public toilets.

D. TELEPHONE KIOSKS

- The Clerk has been investigating the repairs needed for the damaged door at the phone box on The Street. Two options currently being considered are a full replacement of the door at a cost of approximately £1,500.00 or repairs to the current door at approximately £400.00 for materials (excluding labour). The Clerk will continue to review the situation and provide a further update at the April meeting.

E. ALLOTMENTS

- There are currently 2 plots available.

137 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

A. BANK RECONCILIATION

The bank reconciliation dated 28th February 2020 was circulated at the meeting, approved and signed by the Chairman.

B. ITEMS FOR PAYMENT

All payments as detailed on the bank reconciliation dated 28th February 2020 were approved at the meeting, and cheques signed by two authorised signatories.

C. REVIEW OF INVOICING TERMS FOR SCHOOL FOR USE OF VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

- Cllr J. Owens and the Clerk had a meeting with Mr S. Way (Headteacher) on 27th February to discuss how the school can move forward to accommodate the revised schedule as proposed. The Parish Council had proposed that payments be moved from arrears to in advance and the school have now responded with their agreement to this plan with effect from the year commencing 1st April 2020.

D. LITTER PICKER VACANCY

- Following two recent applications, one application was withdrawn and the second applicant has made no further contact with the Parish Council. The vacancy will continue to be advertised.

E. COMMUNITY WARDEN VACANCY

- No further correspondence from KCC has been received on applications for the vacancy.

F. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

- The vacancies for the position of Parish Councillor continue to be advertised.
- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**
- Cllr T. Fitchett reported that the team are looking for funding to keep the project going. Those present agreed to match any contribution by Dunkirk Parish Council up to a maximum sum of £1,500.00

138 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- Cllr C. Clayson asked the Clerk to get a quote for additional kerbing on The Street (Colonels Lane towards Arthur Kennedy Close)

139 CORRESPONDENCE

- A.** Letter and newsletter from Faversham Town Council containing details of proposed Neighbourhood Plan

140 CHAIRMAN/CLERK'S SUNDRY REPORTS

- None

141 ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON APRIL AGENDA

- Bus shelter
- Steps at Bull Lane recreation ground
- Community pay-back
- Community Warden
- Litter picker vacancy
- Parish councillor vacancy

The next full meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for Wednesday 8th April 2020 at 7:30pm. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

Signed by the CHAIRMAN of the meeting