



BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Linda Weaver Room of the Village Hall on Wednesday 11th January 2017 from 7:35pm to 9:25pm.

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

Also Present: Mrs S. Muteham (Clerk)

256 APOLOGIES

Cllr A. Bowles

257 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

258 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 14th December 2016 (minutes 243-252)
- Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20th December 2016 (minutes 253-255)

259 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

A. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTWAYS

- It was reported that there is a significant dip in the road surface at the bottom of Stockers Hill where the highway bridge passes over the A2. The Clerk will report this to KCC for maintenance.
- Potholes at Chalky Lane, The Ridgeway and The Street/Staplestreet were reported to the Clerk who will in turn request that KCC make the necessary repairs.
- The road surface was reported to be in poor condition between Brickfield Lane and the far end of Bushey Close. The Clerk will report this to KCC.

B. PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

- Nothing new to report.

C. PUBLIC LIGHTING

- It was noted that the streetlight by the junction of Colonels Lane/The Street had a damaged shade which had fallen to the ground and smashed, however the light was still working. The Clerk will request that a new shade be installed.

D. TRANSPORTATION

- Nothing new to report.

260 **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

A. RECREATION GROUNDS

BULL LANE

- The Clerk reported that following documentation received from Land Registry, the perimeter road appears to be unregistered land over which the Parish Council have a right of way. It was agreed to investigate the matter further (prior to any expenditure to remedy the poor condition of the perimeter road) by instructing Furley Page solicitors to advise on rights of access/ownership of the perimeter road. It was agreed to pay an initial sum of up to £500.00 for legal advice.
- There are numerous mole hills on the recreation ground and the Clerk was asked to instruct a pest control contractor to deal with the problem.
- The Clerk reported that the HGVs which have recently been parking in the lay-by at the bottom of the recreation ground are not known to be linked to local businesses.

POPLAR VIEW

- Following reports of inconsiderate parking in the residents parking area at Poplar View, the Clerk will write a letter to local residents reminding them that the car parking area is owned by the Parish Council, that cars should not be left unattended/unmoved for more than 28 days or they may be removed and that residents should park considerately to allow ease of access for all.

B. BURIAL GROUNDS

- Following a review of the current cemetery fees chargeable to clients, it was agreed to increase the interment fees to £100 for the Burial Ground and £65 Garden of Remembrance.

C. PUBLIC TOILETS

- Cllr J. Owens reported that the Swale Borough Council website stated that the Borough Council owned the public toilets in the village, rather than the Parish Council. The Clerk will investigate the matter.
- The Clerk discussed quotes for a new parking sign to be placed by the parking bays outside toilets, but it was agreed not to purchase a sign at this stage. Cllr G. Bobbin agreed to investigate the matter of obtaining a replacement sign directly from Swale Borough Council, who provided the original.

D. TELEPHONE KIOSKS

- Nothing new to report.

E. ALLOTMENTS

- It was agreed to ask Mr K. Howland to undertake the job of removing the compost heap at a cost of £1,000.00.
- The Clerk will facilitate the installation of 2 new water taps at the allotment site prior to the water being turned on in April.
- It was agreed that the allotment fees would be reviewed in May 2017.

261 **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

A. BANK RECONCILIATION

The bank reconciliation dated 31st December 2016 was circulated at the meeting, approved and signed by the Chairman..

B. ITEMS FOR PAYMENT

All payments as detailed on the bank reconciliation dated 31st December 2016 were approved at the meeting, and cheques signed by two authorised signatories.

C. BUDGET & PRECEPT (2017/18)

- The Clerk circulated the budget for the forthcoming financial year and answered questions from Councillors. It was agreed by those present to accept the proposed budget of

£54,755.00. Councillors present agreed that the precept to be ordered from Swale Borough Council would be £49,195.00 (increase of 9.71% on previous year), giving an additional tax of £72.29 per Band D property (increase of 9.04% on previous year).

D. VILLAGE HALL

- Minutes from the VHMC meeting held on 13th December 2016 were circulated via email.
- A meeting of the trustees of the Village Hall was held on Tuesday 10th January 2017.
- The Village Hall noticeboard located at the bus-stop at the bottom of School Lane is required to be temporarily removed while building works take place at the adjacent property.

E. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- Cllr T. Fitchett reported that the first draft of the plan needs some amendments before progressing any further.

F. VILLAGE SIGNS

- Following discussion about budget items for 2017/18, it was agreed by those present not to budget for the proposed village sign as it would increase the budget/precept significantly, but to seek alternative sources of funding to progress the project.

262 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- None

263 CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Email received from Cllr Andrew Bowles detailing November/December newsletter
- B. Invitation to attend Civic Service at Rochester Cathedral on 14th March 2017

264 CHAIRMAN/CLERK'S SUNDRY REPORTS

- The Clerk reported that celebratory coffee morning with Mr & Mrs Chopra (Doctors) would take place on Saturday February 11th at 10am at St Barnabas.

265 ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON FEBUARY AGENDA

- Update on perimeter road at Bull Lane

The next full meeting of the parish council is scheduled for Wednesday 18th February 2017 at 7:30pm. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

Signed by the CHAIRMAN of the meeting