



BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Linda Weaver Room of the Village Hall on Wednesday 9th October 2019 from 7:30pm to 9:45pm.

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

Also present: Cllr A. Gould (Swale Borough Council) Cllr J. Tutt (Dunkirk Parish Council)
Mrs S. Muteham (Clerk)

063 APOLOGIES

Cllr J. Owens, Cllr T. Fitchett, Cllr A. Bowles (KCC)

064 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

065 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 11th September 2019 (minutes 047-056)
- Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 17th September 2019 (minutes 057-059)
- Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 1st October 2019 (minutes 060-062)

066 DISCUSSION ON TRAFFIC ISSUES AFFECTING THE VILLAGE

Cllr A. Gould from Swale Borough Council led a discussion on traffic issues affecting the village, in particular when the A2/M2 is closed. Items discussed included the suggestion of a “20’s Plenty” campaign, speed bumps, chicane/narrowing of the highway at the entrance/exit to the village, all of which Parish Councillors present gave a majority vote not to pursue. The volume of traffic through the village when the A2/M2 is closed was the key focus and it was agreed to raise a petition across the Parishes of Boughton under Blean, Dunkirk and Hernhill for a 7.5t Traffic Regulation Order to be taken to the Joint Transportation Board on 2nd December. The Clerk was also requested to raise a request to Swale Borough Council for air pollution monitoring in the Parish.

067 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

A. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTWAYS

- The gas roadworks have now been completed and the temporary double yellow lines removed.
- Cllr T. Covell again reported that the potholes on Colonels Lane have not yet been repaired. The Clerk will again chase up the matter with Kent County Council.
- The Clerk reported that she had contacted Kent Wildlife Trust for advice on planting wildflowers on the banks on The Street and is awaiting a response.
- The Clerk reported that following a request at the previous meeting for the installation of flower boxes/planters along the railings on The Street, near the phone box and also for the railings be painted, she had been in contact with Kent County Council who did not approve the request on the grounds of maintenance and highway safety.
- The Clerk reported that she is trying to obtain quotes work to renovate the bus shelter on The Street (Faversham bound) and is also trying to obtain some grant funding towards the project.
- The Clerk reported that she has been in contact with Swale Borough Council (Events Team) with concerns over the use of Chalkey Road as a one way system during events at Faversham Showground and is awaiting a response.

B. PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

- Nothing new to report.

C. PUBLIC LIGHTING

- The Clerk provided an update on the current upgrade programme for the street-lighting. After liaising with the lighting contractor "Streetlights" it was noted that 5 columns could be replaced at a cost of £10,126.00 + VAT. Councillors present agreed to replace 2 columns each in Wheatsheaf Close and The Ridgeway along with 1 column in Colonels Lane.
- It was reported that the light by the bridge under the A2 was permanently on. The Clerk will investigate the issue and take relevant action if the light is faulty.

D. TRANSPORTATION

- Nothing new to report.

068 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

A. RECREATION GROUNDS

BULL LANE

- The Clerk held a site meeting at the football pitch with the Faversham Strikeforce football club and is awaiting further information on the possibility of the pitch being hired out to them on a regular basis.
- The Clerk was asked to chase the school for a list of dates when the village hall carpark would be busy due to school events, in order to facilitate any further arrangements if the village hall is also in use.

POPLAR VIEW

- It has been noted that there is a poorly looking tree near the far corner of the field. The Clerk has currently obtained one quote for felling the tree and Councillors present wished to wait until the next meeting when further quotes should be available before making any decision on how to proceed.
- The Clerk reported that she is obtaining quotes for the removal of the weeds around two sides of the field and re-seeding of the area with wild flowers/grass.
- The Clerk reported that Swale Borough Council have now removed the dumped vehicle in the Poplar View parking area.
- The Clerk reported that she had investigated options for the placement of stainless steel posts at either end of the gate with welded on loops for securing padlocks. Two quotes

were provided for the work, only one of which included ground installation. Councillors present agreed to award the contract to “Force 5 Engineering” to make and install 2 galvanised steel posts at an estimated cost of £1,088.34 + VAT.

B. CIVIC CEMETERY

- The Clerk reported that the gardener had asked if the headstones in the Civic Cemetery required routing cleaning. It was noted that individuals were responsible for cleaning the headstones on plots until the individual title deeds expire and the plot maintenance becomes the responsibility of the Parish Council.

C. PUBLIC TOILETS

- It was reported that the new toilet tissue dispenser in the gentlemen’s toilets has been installed and is already being vandalised.

D. TELEPHONE KIOSKS

- The salt bin which was previously blocking access to the phone box has now been moved, however the door to the kiosk cannot be opened. The Clerk has asked for help in opening up the kiosk before work can be undertaken to adapt it to a free community book exchange..

E. ALLOTMENTS

- The Clerk is awaiting quotes for clearing plot 8B.

069 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

A. BANK RECONCILIATION

The bank reconciliation dated 1st October 2019 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 October 2019 were approved at the meeting, and cheques signed by two authorised signatories.

C. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- Nothing new to report.

D. SOCIAL MEET-UP OF WARD PARISH COUNCILS

- The Clerk reported that she had contact all 6 Parish Councils in the Boughton and Courtenay Ward to organise a social meet-up of Councillors. Following a variety of responses from the Parishes, it was agreed to host a meeting on Thursday 21st October at 7pm in the library.

E. SET DATE FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

- It was agreed to hold the annual Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday 26th November 2019

F. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

- Councillors were reminded that the Remembrance Sunday service would be held on 10th November 2019.

070 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- None

071 CORRESPONDENCE

A. KALC SAC September newsletter (circulated via email)

B. Minutes from KALC SAC meeting on 9th September (circulated via email)

072 CHAIRMAN/CLERK'S SUNDRY REPORTS

- The Clerk proposed (in accordance with good practice from GDPR) to Councillors that they take a Parish Council email address for all Parish Council related correspondence.

Cllr T. Owens, Cllr T. Covell and Cllr J. Martin all declined to have a Parish Council email address.

073 ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON OCTOBER AGENDA

- Update on petition collation for No HGV (except for access)
- Christmas Market
- Update on car removal at Poplar View
- Wild flowers on banks at The Street
- Quotes for weed removal at Poplar View
- 2020/2021 budget requests

The next full meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for Wednesday 13th November 2019 at 7:30pm. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

Signed by the CHAIRMAN of the meeting