

BETHERSDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 11th January 2012 at 8 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mr A. Boyd in the Chair, Mr K. Mitchell, Mr K. Brannan, Mr P. Buss, Mr T. Carmichael, Mr H. Eyre, Mr B. Muddell, Mrs J. Crannis, Mrs D. Healey and the Clerk, Mrs. M. Shaw.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting, it was proposed by Mr B. Muddell, seconded by Mr K. Mitchell, and unanimously agreed that these were a correct record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman, Mr A. Boyd.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

Dumped three piece suite – this has now been removed.

4. PLANNING CONSULTATIONS:

There were no new applications.

The following application had been discussed at the previous meeting but required clarification from the Planning Dept:-

11/01265/AS Mr Steven Scrivens, Longberry Farm, Etchden Road, Bethersden.
Replacement dwelling.

This has been objected to but the Planning Officer required further details of the reasons for this. Mr K. Brannan had drafted a detailed reply, and this was approved by Councillors, Clerk to forward to A.B.C. and requesting that it goes to the full planning Committee if Planning Officers are minded to approve.

5. A28 SPEED REVIEW – SPRATTS BARN TO FURNER FARM

Potential costings for the second phase are underway; County Cllr R. King is following these up.

6. THE GEORGE DEVELOPMENT:

Agreed to write to the Planning dept regarding the 106 agreement, as the Parish Council are anxious to have their input into the scheme, earth movement etc., etc. Also has this Agreement been signed yet?

7. LOCAL NEEDS HOUSING:

A draft layout was presented and this was approved in principle by the Parish Council. It was confirmed that a joint meeting be held between Borough Councillors and the Developers as to the best method of promotion of this scheme to the Planners. Mr K. Brannan will arrange this meeting.

8. RECREATION GROUND:

Litter Bin:

The Litter Bin has been installed by Mr P. Buss in the vicinity of the cycle racks. The second new litter bin has been received and will also be installed by Mr Buss.

Playground Safety Inspection:

Repairs – nothing further.

Trim Trail:

This will be completed by the end of January.

Tennis Courts:

Proposals for modernization of the courts and recreation grounds is awaited from the Development Committee.

Pavilion:

Nothing further

Gate:

The contractor is in progress to make the final adjustments to the emergency gate hinges.

Youth Shelter:

The Street Cleaner has been asked to clear this area and keep tidy.

9. QUEENS JUBILEE, 2nd – 4th JUNE 2012 CELEBRATION:

The road closure form for “The Street” has been completed by Mr K. Mitchell, for the 4th June, this will receive approval subject to confirmation that there is no bus service on that day. An initial meeting had been held and several volunteers had come forward, the next committee meeting will be on 24th January in the Chapel. The marquee had already been booked. Car parking facilities will be available on the day for the event at the Chapel. The insurance position is to be checked. Mr K. Mitchell gave brief details of some of the proposals for the day.

It was agreed that the Parish Council are the facilitators not the organisers. It was proposed by Mr K. Brannan, seconded by Mr T. Carmichael that the Parish Council will support the event up to £ 1,200, and this was unanimously agreed.

10. TELEPHONE BOX REPAIRS:

Nothing yet heard from the Community Pay-Back Scheme.

11. CARE HOME NEEDS:

The Village Society will be forming a Working Group once the Jubilee Celebrations are organised.

12. BETHERSDEN VILLAGE SIGNS:

Nothing further, suitable locations could be suggested by the Jubilee Committee.

13. LOCALISM BILL:

Nothing further

14. ELECTRICITY TARIFFS, change of supplier ?

Clerk to make enquiries.

15. FINANCE:-

Account as at 30th December 31st 2011 (as shown on statement) £ 30,482 - 05

Income received:-

Interest on account £ 4 - 53

Bethersden Tennis Club, Floodlighting Tokens £ 195 - 00

Skyline, use of facilities, £ 225 - 00

Cheques were approved and drawn:-

D. Cook, Street cleaning £ 70 – 00

Mrs M. Shaw, Clerks January salary £ 340 less PAYE £ 68 = £ 272 +
Administration expenses £ 36 - 66 total due £ 308 - 66

H.M.R.C., PAYE October – December £ 204 - 00

Glasdon UK, Litter Bin, £238 – 10, plus V.A.T. £ 47 – 62 Total due 285 - 72

The grass mowing and ground maintenance account had been queried with K.C.C. Landscape Services who would put the invoice “on hold” until they have the opportunity to review it.

16. REPORTS.

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS.

There is still a problem with the PROW and the locked gate. It was noted that the stile had been repaired and area to the left of the track to the fence had been cleared down to Fridd Lane. Mr K. Brannan has investigated with A.B.C. as to the Planning consents granted and is awaiting a response. Mr Buss reported that the track had been in use when Colts were manufacturing on the site and the track has been in current established use since Colts left the site. It does appear to be a neighbour dispute rather than a matter for the Parish Council.

The water leak at Church Hill is to be monitored.

Several blocked drains are to be reported to Highways.

The possibility of a lay-by at Orchard Field is being investigated by A.B.C., also the suggestion of plastic grass surfacing.

COMMUNITY WARDEN:

Kathy Carter had forwarded her monthly report.

17. PLANNING:

Approvals received:-

11/01204/AS Mr Grant Kay, Great Chart Golf & Leisure, Bears Lane, Great Chart.
Change of use of land for paint-balling activity.

11/01288/AS Mr D. Wraight, Barton Farm, Old Surrenden Manor Farm, Bethersden.
Retrospective application to demolish original Unit 5 and form Unit 2

11/01289/AS Mr D. Wraight, Barton Farm, Old Surrenden Manor Farm, Bethersden.
Proposed light industrial building.

Refusals received:-

11/01121/AS Mr A. LeBeau, The George Inn, The Street, Bethersden.
Installation of free standing car park ticket machine.

11/00933/AS Mr K. Wood, Etchden Court Farm, Etchden Road, Bethersden.
Proposed horse rehabilitation building.

18. CORRESPONDENCE:

- (i) Rural Housing - The Bulletin
- (ii) A.B.C. Taxi Licensing Policy
- (iii) A.B.C. Sustainable Design and Construction SPD
- (iv) Letter of thanks for Churchyard donation
- (v) Clerks & Councils Direct
- (vi) Police Forum

19. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR.

Cllr R. Taylor had tendered his apologies

20. WEBSITE etc.

The site had the usual number of “hits” this month including those from Turkey, New Zealand and Singapore.

It was hoped that more local business would participate in the website.

There had been no response from Mr R. Smith of Neighbourhood Watch regarding alerts being on the website.

21. YOUTH FORUM

Nothing further.

22. PARISH PLAN REVIEW:

Nothing further at the present time.

23. BROADBAND

The possibility of a faster broadband service is being initiated by A.B.C. and K.C.C. Residents are to be encouraged to register but if access is already available, then they cannot register again. Mr T. Carmichael will contact Kate Wood of A.B.C. on this.

24. MEMORIAL to Mrs P. PEARMAN

Nothing further for the time being.

25. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA and ITEMS OF INTEREST

It was reported that the Induction of the new Vicar will be on 19th March 2012.

26. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Meeting of the Parish Council was agreed for Wednesday, 8th February 2012 at 8 p.m. with the Planning Meeting to be held at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.
