

BETHERSDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 9th November 2011 at 8.14 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mr A. Boyd in the Chair, Mr K. Mitchell, Mr K. Brannan, Mr P. Buss, Mr B. Muddell, Mrs J. Crannis and the Clerk, Mrs. M. Shaw.

IN ATTENDANCE: Two members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES: Messrs. H. Eyre, T. Carmichael and Mrs D. Healey.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

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

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Fire Hydrant usage – South East water is aware of this problem and further investigations are ongoing

5. A28 SPEED REVIEW:

Email from Mrs Caroline Buckley enquiring of the Parish Council wish their committee to continue with the second phase. It was unanimously agreed that they should continue.

6. PLANNING CONSULTATIONS:

01216/AS Stratford's, The Thorne, Forge Hill, Bethersden.

The installation of 16 Solar PV panels on top of a slate roof to the south side of garages (approved under application 10/00596/AS)

The Application was supported.

11/01231/AS Peter Adams Trust, Thorne Business Park, Forge Hill, Bethersden.
The installation of 42 UPSolar PV panels to the roof of the Estate Store Building.
The application was supported.

11/0272/AS Mr C. Bingham, Cherrels, Mill Road, Bethersden.
Erection of front and rear extensions and the conversion of the roof including the replacing of the hip ends with gable walls and a dormer on the rear roof slope.
This was objected to as it does not meet the Parish Design Statement. The flat roof dormer at the rear is not in keeping with nearby properties.

11/01124/AS Mrs Liz Smith, Inwood, Brissenden Green Lane, Bethersden.
External alterations to convert existing triple garage to ancillary accommodation.
This was supported with the proviso that this is not permitted to become a separate dwelling.

11/01127/AS Mrs Liz Smith, Inwood, Brissenden Green Lane, Bethersden.
Addition of pitched roof with clay tiles, installation of new window and doors with weatherboarding to elevations of outbuilding for use as a garage, shed, storage and workshop.
This was supported.

11/01277/AS Mr D. Taylor, Land to the west of Odiam Farm, Smarden Road, Bethersden.
Change of use of land for the stationing of 1 no static caravan residential occupancy by an agricultural worker.
This was objected to unless there is a proven agricultural need for this.

7. GEORGE FIELD DEVELOPMENT:

This is on the Planning Committee agenda for next Wednesday, the Parish Council will not be speaking at the meeting, letter to be sent to the Planning Officer thanking her for the opportunity to do so.

8. THE GEORGE CAR PARKING:

Nothing further.

9. LOCAL NEEDS HOUSING:

This is progressing with the Thorne Estate.

10. RECREATION GROUND:

Litter Bin:

Litter Bin will be installed by Mr P. Buss in the vicinity of the cycle racks.

Playground Safety Inspection:

Repairs – nothing further.

Trim Trail:

The Chairman will contact Mr T. Brooks regarding the installation of the final structure to complete the circuit.

Tennis Courts:

It was understood that progress is being made for costs of improvements in anticipation of future Grant applications.

Pavilion:

The Chairman will contact Simon Fuller regarding preventative measures to safeguard the pipes from freezing in severe weather.

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

A meeting had been held by the Village Society who had agreed in principle to support this event. The possible closure of The Street is to be followed up with A.B.C. Chief Executive. It was agreed that a courtesy letter be sent to residents informing them of this.

12. FINANCE:-

Account as at 30th October 2011 (as shown on statement) £ 30,598 - 95
(includes second instalment of Precept and Concurrent Functions grant)

Income received:-

Interest on account £ 3 - 49

Bethersden Tennis Club, Floodlighting Tokens £ 147 - 00

Cheques were drawn:-

Simon Whitehouse “No Parking” signs £ 10 – 78

D. Cook, Street cleaning £ 70 – 00

Mrs M. Shaw, Clerks November salary £ 340 less PAYE £ 68 = £ 272 +
Administration expenses £ 47 - 12 total due £ 310 – 80

Bethersden Village Hall, Hall hire July to September £ 74 – 00.

Finance Committee to meet for annual Budget meeting 15th November 2011

14. REPORTS.

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS.

The Salt Bag has been delivered to the Village Hall car park.

Mrs J. Crannis reported that she had walked the pavements with two Highway Inspectors and numerous locations were marked for repairs.

COMMUNITY WARDEN:

Kathy Carter had forwarded her monthly report, which will also go onto the website.

15. PLANNING:

Approval received:-

11/01132/AS Mr Simon Garbott, Oakdene Farm, Fridd Lane, Bethersden.
Proposed single storey extension to provide living room and bathroom to side and front elevations.

Refusals Received:-

11/00224/AS Mr S. Scrivens, Longberry Farm, Etchden Road, Bethersden.
Erection of a replacement dwelling.

11/00978/AS Mr S. Scrivens, Shed, Longberry Farm, Etchden Road, Bethersden.
Proposed replacement dwelling and installation of parking area.

11/00745/AS Mr Jeffrey Wright, Tuesnoad Farm, Tuesnoad Lane, Bethersden
Change of use of land for the operation of a dog kennels with erection of a building to house the dogs and creation of new access.

11/00601/AS Ms Charmaine Murrell, Land at Riverfield Farm, Etchden Road, Bethersden.
Change of use of land for the stationing of one mobile home and the erection of a day room for one gypsy family (part retrospective).

16. CORRESPONDENCE.

- (i) Parish Forum Minutes – Mr K. Mitchell had attended and reported thereon, especially on Localism, Planning, the Core Strategy etc.
- (ii) A.B.C. Urban sites & Infrastructure Development Plan Document
- (iii) Hi-Kent for hard of hearing
- (iv) Leaders statements
- (v) Standards Committee
- (vi) A.B.C. Housing News

17. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR.

Cllr R. Taylor had tendered his apologies.

18. WEBSITE etc.

The site had 300 + “hits” this month including from Egypt and China.

19. PARISH PLAN REVIEW:

The last review was carried out in 2008, Mr K. Brannan suggested that this be reviewed within the next twelve months by a working group. Several members showed interest in participating.

20. BROADBAND

It was agreed that enquiries would be made regarding the possibility of a broadband wireless repeater to improve reception for the parish, being placed on the Church tower – Mrs J. Crannis to investigate.

21. MEMORIAL to Mrs P. PEARMAN

Nothing further.

22. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA and ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Notice Board has been varnished by Mr P. Buss.

Quotes waited for telephone box repairs.

Discuss care home needs.

A28 speed review Spratts Barn to Furner Farm

Bethersden School has had an excellent report- Chairman to write on behalf of the Parish Council.

Village sign at Ashford entrance to village, Orchard Fields Bungalows.

24. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Meeting of the Parish Council was agreed for Wednesday, 14th December 2011 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 9.25 pm
