

# **BREDHURST PARISH COUNCIL**



## **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at Bredhurst CE Primary School, on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 6.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr Vanessa Jones (Chair), Cllr Nichola Carr (Vice-Chair), Cllr Steve Bowring, Bex Ratchford (Clerk)

Public: 8

### **146. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Hales due to being away, Cllr Hinder (MBC) due to another meeting and Cllr Butler (MBC).

### **147. Declarations of interests**

Cllr Carr declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 156 as part of the committee organising the village show. A dispensation was granted under Section 33 of the Localism Act on the grounds that without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited by section 31(4) from participating in the business would be so great as to impede the transaction of the business.

Cllr Bowring declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 159d as a contractor used by one of the applicants.

### **148. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

The minutes were **agreed** as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed and dated by the Chair.

### **149. Police briefing**

PCSO Adlington was not present but the crime figures had been obtained via the E-watch website. There has been one crime in Bredhurst – a child's slide was taken from a garden without consent.

The meeting adjourned for a short open session but there were no matters raised.

### **150. Cllr vacancy**

An election was not requested so all three vacancies can be filled by co-option. Four applications have been received, all of which are from people living within the correct distance of the village. One applicant was unable to attend the meeting due to personal reasons but the other three were invited to speak briefly about themselves and their interest in being a parish cllr. Voting took place by secret ballot and the three applicants elected were John Merrick, Miriam Noble and David Till. All applicants were thanked for their interest and the new cllrs will be sent the relevant paperwork ready for next meeting. **Action 1: Clerk to send paperwork to new cllrs.**

#### **151. Matters arising (for information only)**

- a. AP1: agenda item 150.
- b. AP2: planning comment made.
- c. AP3: the sign is awaited from KCC.
- d. AP4: tree contractor informed, survey carried out and report awaited.
- e. AP5: grass cutting contractor informed. The company chosen has now been taken over by Landscape Services but they will honour the original contract and quote.
- f. AP6: letters sent re resurfacing. It appears one of the landowners has recently changed.  
**Action 2: Cllr Jones to send contact details of new landowner to the clerk for a further letter.**
- g. AP7: agenda item 158.
- h. AP8: GDPR being monitored.
- i. AP9: precept form returned.
- j. AP10: mandate form returned and mandate updated.
- k. AP11: letter sent to KCC re potholes.
- l. AP12: enquiry sent re play equipment funding, as well as a letter from Cllr Butler (MBC), response awaited.
- m. AP13: agenda item 156.

#### **152. Playing field**

A draft contract has been received and the PC has submitted comments to Savills. A response is awaited.

#### **153. Play equipment**

Two inspection reports have been received which identify the aerial slide as being a risk due to the placing of the buffer tyre. The tyre was recently replaced and put back in its original location after taking advice from the play inspector. It was **agreed** to inspect the slide and assess the risk and chain it up in the meantime. **Action 3: Cllr Bowring to inspect the slide and chain up in the interim.** It was **agreed** to write to MBC challenging the inspection reports which are not consistent (the risk shown in March is lower than the earlier risk shown in February on the same piece of equipment), asking for another inspector to visit and give an opinion and a possible site meeting. **Action 4: Clerk to write to MBC.**

#### **154. Speed limit reduction**

Medway Council is proposing to reduce the speed limit in Maidstone Road at the entrance to Bredhurst from national speed limit to 30mph. It was **agreed** that this would be a welcome proposal. **Action 5: Clerk to respond in favour of the proposal.**

#### **155. Resurfacing in Hurstwood Road**

The required resurfacing will now be done and fully funded by KCC Public Rights of Way. No contribution is required from BPC.

#### **156. Requests to use the playing field**

Two requests have been received to use the playing field - the village show on 1<sup>st</sup> September and a children's sports afternoon on 4<sup>th</sup> August, which will be instead of the church fete. It was **agreed** that the field could be used for both occasions.

### 157. Ethical standards consultation

This consultation is looking at a number of issues including standards and conduct of cllrs, declarations of interests, processes followed when investigating allegations, whistleblowing and intimidation of cllrs. It was **agreed** that the clerk would draft a response for consideration at the next meeting. **Action 6: Clerk to draft a response.**

### 158. Bredhurst Tidy Up

The turnout was good and residents were thanked for their efforts. Dunn Street to the crossroads will be done soon and the waste will be collected. **Action 7: Clerk to email residents with thanks.** Commercial waste is being regularly dumped in a passing area on the way towards Boxley. Evidence of the perpetrator is necessary to take this forward.

### 159. Planning

- a. 18/500319 – Hawthorn Cottage, Dunn Street – demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings, and erection of four semi-detached dwellings – deadline passed.
- b. 18/500346 – Gleamingwood Drive – erection of 115 dwellings together with associated infrastructure, open space, landscaping and access works – comment submitted reiterating the PC’s original response.
- c. MC/18/0556 – Gibraltar Farm – renewal of planning permission MC/14/2395 – no comment required as a renewal.
- d. 18/500560 – Hurst House, The Street – erection of 1 dwelling house with integral double garage. Cllr Bowring declared an interest in this and did not vote. The PC was therefore not able to submit a comment.
- e. 18/501403 – 10 Kemsley Street Road – erection of a two storey detached dwelling – this is a similar application to the original. It was **agreed** not to comment on the application.
- f. It was **agreed** to investigate implementing a policy for the clerk to have delegated powers to submit comments on planning applications that miss meeting deadlines. **Action 8: Clerk to contact KALC for advice and draw up a policy.**

### 160. Finance

- a. The financial statement and bank reconciliation were reviewed and accepted.

Account	Balance as of 28/02/18
Current Account	189.57
Reserve Account	12,461.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,651.29</b>

- b. The payment for the tree survey could not be made as no invoice had been received.
- c. Payments were **agreed** as follows:

Cheque	Payment	Amount	VAT*	Total
BACS	Clerk – wages and office rental (for info only – paid by BACS)			
1438	Clerk – expenses (stamps and phone calls)	8.56	-	8.56
1439	Bredhurst Primary School – annual donation for meeting hire (17-18)	100.00	-	100.00
1440	Appointment Business Machines - printing	22.62	4.53	27.15
1441	OFN – grass cutting	100.00	-	100.00

\* VAT to be reclaimed.

**161. Reports from parish councillors**

Nothing to report.

**162. Reports from borough and county councillors (if present)**

Nothing to report.

**163. Correspondence**

All correspondence was noted.

- a. A complaint regarding the erection of the fence was received from BVH and a response sent.
- b. A complaint was received from BVH regarding screws protruding from the playing field gate. The gate was inspected by Cllr Hales who dealt with the tips of 4-5 screws sticking out, and thanks were given to Cllr Hales for attending to this.
- c. A letter was received by Cllr Mike Whiting (KCC) about potholes and residents were encouraged to report potholes as KCC are now instigating their 'blitz'.
- d. Emails have been received from MBC notifying the PC that trees covered by Tree Protection Orders adjacent to Strawberry Banks have been unlawfully pruned/destroyed without consent and an enforcement case has been opened.
- e. There is an election for a borough cllr in the Boxley Ward.
- f. Cllr Bowring will attend the next Police Liaison meeting.
- g. An email was received regarding advertising hoardings in Blind Lane and the resident was advised to contact MBC with his complaint.

The meeting adjourned for a short open session but there were no matters raised.

**164. Close of meeting**

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 at 6.30pm.  
This will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting.**

Signed.....

Date.....