

## **BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2016**

Present:	Cllr. G. Herbert - Chair	Lynda Fisher, Clerk
	Cllr. D. Dewar-Whalley	Borough Cllr. B. Stokes
	Cllr. L. Major	Borough Cllr. N. Hampshire
	Cllr. P. Paige	PCSO Ian Henderson
	Cllr. G. Randall	6 Members of the Public
	Cllr. P. England	

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Chair formally welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from the Cllrs. Ball and Bartlett and Nick Mayatt, Community Warden.

#### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Proposed by Cllr. Paige and seconded by Cllr. England; the Minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016, were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

#### **3. Public Session**

A member of the public raised the subject of dog bins; Clerk to request one of these be placed near the Haymac site. **Action: Clerk**

A resident thanked the Parish Council for its assistance to alleviate parking on verges outside of his property. Cllr. Ball advised by e-mail that 4 Oak Bollards had been installed hopefully to stop patrons to the Dancing Dog PH from parking on the grass. He also advised that the Landlord had put up a sign asking people not to park on the grass.

Another resident raised several ongoing issues in the Abbey Homes development; there are issues with the 'T' junction, parking and people not using garages, speeding. She queried whether yellow lines could be installed near Pearl Walk. The plastic drain covers in the car park are broken and a manhole cover is subsiding and there is a need for a dog waste bin. The Chair advised that Borough Cllr. Hunt is still trying to sort out problems with Abbey. She mentioned issues with youths; the PCSO agreed to look into this. Cllr. Dewar-Whalley agreed to follow these matters up; Cllr. England to forward a list of residents to him.

**Action: Cllr. Dewar-Whalley/England**

The Chair read out a letter of thanks from a representative in Grove Park thanking the Parish Council for the donation towards the Easter Trail event, she also kindly sent in a tray of cupcakes which were much appreciated by all.

The PCSO had nothing to report. He advised that there is a new Chief Inspector, Paul Anderson. The report from the Community Warden commented on the Wardens starting up Speed Watch operations in Bobbing; dealing with fly tipping, graffiti and burnt litter bin.

#### **4. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Randall declared an interest in Item 10.1.; Cllr. Dewar-Whalley in Item 7.4 and 7.5.

#### **5. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Last Month's Meeting**

- 1. Bobbing Hill – Travellers** – All barriers have now been installed. The Chair asked County Cllr. Baldock if he could provide some funds to paint them. Cllr. Ball advised by e-mail that some of the barriers have already been painted making them visually more acceptable.

2. **Flooding Issues A249 and Surrounds** – Clerk has now heard back from Carillion as follows: “The void caused in the northbound carriageway was a direct result of scouring from the water main failing. It was not a sinkhole as reported in the local media. The northbound carriageway and slip road was subject to testing by specialist Geotechnical Teams. These investigations showed that there was no movement of the northbound carriageway. If there was no movement of the northbound carriageway where the damage was closest, then there would have been no movement of the southbound carriageway, further away from the failed pipe. There was no damage to the embankment on the southbound carriageway, no damage around the pipe underneath the southbound and no further evidence to suggest that there was an issue with the southbound, therefore the southbound was not tested.

Water may have been in the fields by the rugby pitch and other properties adjacent to the Southbound carriageway, as Southern Water have admitted, but this excess water was a steady stream over a period of time and would not cause the same kind of damage that the northbound carriageway suffered, which was down to the sheer volume of water once the main finally failed, with water finding the quickest route to the surface. The northbound void has been repaired and the northbound re-opened as soon as possible. If there had been any evidence to suggest that the southbound carriageway had moved or was at risk of movement, then the southbound carriageway would have been closed, same as the northbound and testing would have been carried out.”

Cllr. Ball advised by E-mail: “I have now had 2 meetings with residents of The Grove and have some sympathy with their concerns with regards to water levels and flooding. I have also met with engineers from Network Rail who seemed very concerned and very helpful. They promised to have a look at the pipe that runs along the side of the railway line installed by the railways many years ago (date not known). They will excavate down to the pipe and make sure it is not partially blocked in any way though that would not appear to be the case as water is still flowing out of this pipe the other side of the railway arch. True to their word they started this work on the 21<sup>st</sup> March. I am not sure when we will get any information about this though they have promised to keep the Grove residents informed. During these meetings it transpires that there are still active licenses for companies to extract water in this area including the Paper Mill which is now closed. It is concerning how much water was extracted and efforts are being made to find out whether these pumps are still operating and if not what is happening to the water table. Ancient maps show that there were water courses particularly around The Grove and across The Meads.”

It was suggested that Ashford Borough Council be approached as they have dealt with similar issues.

3. **Key Street Roundabout** – A meeting has been set up for Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April, to meet with a Highways Engineer from KCC to again look at the road and signs.

## 6. **Councillors' Report**

Cllr. Ball submitted an e-mail report in his absence; see comments above under items 3, 5.1 and 5.2.

Cllr. Randall mentioned the next edition of the Bobbing Reporter; the Chair will discuss this with him at the end of the meeting.

Cllr. England advised of increased fly-tipping in the woods near the ‘Jenny Wren’; he has reported three incidents this week. The PCSO will keep a watch on this area. He again mentioned rubbish and the bin not being emptied outside One Stop. Parking on the pavement went before the Joint Transportation Board but nothing is happening.

Cllr. Paige reported that the next meeting of the KALC is the AGM.

Cllrs. Major and Dewar Whalley - nothing further to report.

## 7. **Correspondence**

1. **Queen's 90th Birthday** – The Church is planning an all-day event on the 12<sup>th</sup> June and has asked if the Parish Council wants to assist; agreed to bring this back to May meeting. **Action: Clerk**

2. **Government Update - Neighbourhood Planning and a new Consultation on planning changes - deadline 15 April** – Cllr. Paige advised on the Parish Council’s position as Statutory Consultee. He stated that KALC are looking at the consultation documents and are responding on behalf of all Parish Councils. Cllr. Randall raised concerns with some strands of the consultation and it was agreed that he will respond; particularly with the following points:

- Certain developers should not be given preferential treatment and should be treated in the same manner as others.
- There should only be one planning authority.

Cllr. Dewar-Whalley suggested that a copy of the response be sent to KALC and Gordon Henderson M.P. **Action: Cllr. Randall**

3. **London Southend Airport Standard Instrument Departure Procedures Consultation** – Noted.
4. **Swale Borough Council – Draft Corporate Equality Scheme 2016-2020** – Noted.
3. **Swale Borough Council Green Spaces Consultation** – Proposed by Cllr. Randall and seconded by Cllr. Paige; agreed to put forward the following sites:

- Land either side of the carriageway near to the Bobbing Village Sign.
- The woodlands opposite The Jenny Wren.
- Land at the back of the Rugby Club – Woodlands
- Wooded area to the rear of the Community Centre

## 8. **Planning Applications**

No applications – Cllr. Herbert reported that the application for the Village Hall has been approved; now it just needs Building Consent approval.

## 9. **Finance**

1. **Donation to Sittingbourne Christmas Lights Association** – Proposed by Cllr. Major and seconded by Cllr. England; all agreed to donate the sum of £50; this will be a donation under the Local Government Act S.137. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Membership; Action with Communities in Rural Kent 2016/17** – Proposed by Cllr. Dewar-Whalley and seconded by Cllr. Paige, agreed the subscription fee of £50. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Transparency Fund for Small Authorities – application for a Grant for a Computer** – Clerk advised that the grant had been approved and £842.69p had been received from DCLG. She will now order the equipment **Action: Clerk**
4. **Kent Association of Local Councils – Subscription Renewal 2016/17** – Proposed by Cllr. Paige and seconded by Cllr. England agreed the subscription of £583.66p. **Action: Clerk**
5. **Accounts and Cheques Raised** – Proposed by Cllr. Paige and seconded by Cllr. Dewar-Whalley, the accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 were agreed and the following cheques were agreed and signed:

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
15.03.16	0503	Safesite Facilities	Concrete Barriers, Bobbing Hill	£8400.00p
06.04.16	0504	L. Fisher	Expenses February – Telephone, Use of Office,	£16.69p
06.04.16	0505	H.M. Revenue & Custom	Tax due March 2016	£58.60p
06.04.16	0506	William Giles	Quarterly Payroll Preparation	£54.00p
06.04.16	0507	Clerks & Councils Direct	Subscription 2016/17	£36.00p
06.04.16	0508	Bobbing Village Hall	Hire Charges Swale Marching Band (S.137 Donation)	£84.00p
Six Cheques in total				

Paid Out:

Wages - salary March 2016

£234.91p

Paid by Standing Order

Paid in:

DCLG Computer Grant

£842.69p

**10. Any Other Matters Arising**

1. Cllr. Dewar-Whalley advised that the Rose Hill dig will recommence in a couple of months' time.
2. Cllr. Dewar-Whalley requested that the format of the Agenda be slightly changed to split out the public session into groups. **Action: Clerk**

**11. Next Meeting(s)**

The Parish, Annual Parish Council and monthly Meeting will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2016, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in the small meeting room at Bobbing Village Hall.

**The meeting closed at 09.35 p.m.**

These minutes are certified to be a true and just record.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_