

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held 3rd February 2010 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. Herbert (chairman), Cllr's Ball, Bennett, Bullen, Edwards, Major, Nappey and Stowe.

Clerk: Mrs S Crawford.

Five members of the public attended. One other attendee was present.

1.0 Apologies: Cllr Dewar-Whalley also Ward Cllr Randall.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes needed to be amended so were not signed at this meeting.

3.0 Public Session:

All members of the public at the meeting wanted to speak regarding the proposed gypsy and traveller site along the old A249 near the Bobbing Apple. The report in the Kent Messenger stated all the facts that were known to the parish council. The parish council had only received a few more days notice before the papers were released identifying that particular plot of land was deemed suitable for a traveller site. General opinion was that this should be fought with all available options. The chairman had compiled a list of negative comments that had been made regarding other sites but these had not been stated for the Bobbing site. These comments also applied to this land and it was wondered why these had been omitted. The scoring criteria would also be useful to know and understand. The public's views were heard and their comments covered their own personal views of what may happen and problems encountered if this site goes ahead. The main problem worrying residents is the value of their properties as it is widely reported that a site like the one being proposed devalues property. One member of the public attended the Local Development Framework meeting and gave an account of the meeting. He felt that some items that were covered will not necessarily be included in the minutes. Workshops were to be held for the traveller community but nothing for the settled community. Discussion was held as to the way forward. It was decided to hold an open meeting and invite all other affected parishes, as well as prominent figures at Swale and KCC. A leaflet drop to include a template letter to help residents write their views will be done and it was decided to get legal help in drafting this letter. The local papers would be invited and used to publicise this meeting at a date to be arranged.

At this point (8.15pm) members of the public were asked to leave the room and there followed a closed meeting. Reconvened at 8.50pm.

4.0 Declarations of Interest:
None declared.

5.0 Chairman's Report and Matters Arising:

5.1 The Meads Steering Committee next meeting is Friday 26th February.

5.2 Matters Arising: Cllr Ball asked if any correspondence had been received from the bus company regarding the buses in the lay-by. Nothing has been received.

6.0 Clerks Report and Correspondence Received:

6.1 The village sign is proceeding well. It is advisable to let them have the metal brackets to make the sign fit them. The chairman is driving it up on Saturday.

6.2 Bobbing have been awarded £12900 from Subsidiarity for the footpath and sign. £9110 is still left to use. After discussion and the tight timescale council Cllr Nappey proposed to use all the money for the village hall seconded by Cllr Bennett with all in favour. The clerk had a quote for a new heater £1432 + VAT and is also meeting a builder for quotes for the kitchen and toilet.

6.3 KCC Annual performance report received.

- 6.4 English Rural – invitation to official opening of Cherry Fields Lynsted 25th Feb 2.30pm
Cllr Edwards and colleague to attend.
- 6.5 Clerks & Councillors direct is up for renewal £44 per annum. Cllr Nappey proposed to renew this seconded by Cllr Stowe with all in favour.
- 6.6 I have received an updated register of electors.
- 6.7 Bobbing Parish Council and the village hall have received £1700 from Cllr Keith Ferrin's allowance. This is £100 to refurbish the sign post and £1600 for new tables and trolley for the small hall at Bobbing. These will be ordered shortly.
- 6.8 Proposed changes to the planning application process were received from Swale with details being on their website. The first comment councillors had were the new website was not very user friendly and these changes were hard to find. The table was useful and should help speed up the process.

7.0 Councillors Reports:

Cllr Bennett: Commented that the parking along Keycol Hill is on the increase. There were 13 cars there on Sunday morning. It does mean that pedestrians are walking in the road and maybe a sign to indicate that would be good. The clerk will chase enforcement with either the police or Swale Borough Council. Cllr Bennett asked if the give way sign at Rook Lane could be altered as it is placed on the wrong side of the road. Council informed her that this was pointed out when it was installed but we were told that was legally correct for Highways.

Cllr Edwards: Asked if grit bins could be made available so residents could make use of them during the bad weather. The implications of where to place them and liabilities for the council were discussed and it was decided this was not possible. The budget for Bobbing in Bloom has been cut by £25 which could cause problems but council assured her that if necessary additional money may be found.

Cllr Bullen: The lorry parking in Bobbing Hill near to the roundabout is causing problems again. It is still not sure what, if anything, can be done regarding this.

Cllr Ball: Requested that Highways are contacted regarding the appalling mess at the Key Street roundabout that has been left from the contractors undertaking the Japanese Knotweed removal. General feeling is that this area in Bobbing has been neglected and we need to clarify if Bobbing Parish Council are able to tidy this area. The clerk will contact Highways.

Cllr Nappey: Made council aware of the potholes on The Meads estate but she has been assured that these will be repaired in the near future.

8.0 Planning Applications and Notifications:

- 8.1 To consider new planning applications:
None to consider.

- 8.2 Planning Notifications.
SW/09/1206 Case 23873 Shop front at 4 Quartz Way has been granted permission
SW/09/1182 Certificate of lawfulness of proposed use or development at Street Foxes Sheppey Way Bobbing for a side dormer window to enable loft conversion has been granted.
SW/09/1283 Extension at 2 Meadow View Cottages has been withdrawn.

9.0 Finance:

- 9.1 To resolve to write cheques for the following:-

CommuniCorp (Renew subscription Clerks & Councils Direct) £44.00

- 9.2 The clerk has been experiencing problems with her e-mail and £135 + VAT is needed to provide a temporary solution. Cllr Stowe proposed to provide a new computer as a parish council asset for the clerk up to the value of £1500. This was seconded by Cllr Nappey with all in favour. Cllr Stowe to liase with the clerk regarding this.

10.0 Other Matters Arising:

None.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm

The next parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd March 2010 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm

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

Signed: _____

Date: _____