

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 2 March 2022

Present: Cllr. R. Ball – Chair
Cllr. P. French
Cllr. L. Major
Cllr. N. Clare
Cllr. G. Herbert

County Cllr. M. Baldock
Borough Cllr. J. Hunt
Samantha Gray – Clerk
1 Resident

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair formally welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Parish Cllrs. Morgan-Brown and Randall; Borough Cllrs. Woodford and Hampshire; Kirsty Linge the PCSO for Bobbing and Katie Jordan the PCSO for Grove Park ward. No apologies received from Cllr. May.

2. Visitors/Public Time

1. **Residents** – No comments.

2. County and Borough Councillors

a. County Cllr. Baldock advised the following: -

- I. Kent County Council's budget for buses has been cut by a third. There is a public consultation, and he urges residents to respond, this can be found online and on the Grove Park Facebook page and Cllr. N. Clare added the petition is also in the Co-op at the Grove.
- II. Kent Highways have seen an increase in expenses relating to maintaining roads in the county. He also advised there have been some problems with Special Educational Needs (SEN) transport; most pupils have now been allocated alternative transport.
- III. There is an issue regarding assisted travel to grammar schools; currently students are allocated assisted travel to their closest appropriate school; he is trying to change the policy so that students are eligible for assisted travel to their closest grammar school.
- IV. Swale Borough Council have introduced a management plan for woodlands at The Meads and Rose Hill. He has suggested a friend's group would be a good way to manage Rose Hill and he would like the council to be involved in the group.

b. Borough Cllr. J. Hunt advised the following: -

- I. The Meads has an internal management plan, and a group will be set up.
- II. He has asked for an update regarding Simpsons Crossing but has not heard anything.

3. Community Warden/PCSO

a. Community Warden – no report.

b. Report received from PCSO Linge

- I. **Crimes of note:** No crimes of note for the Bobbing area this month.
- II. **Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:** Nothing of note.
- III. **Items of good work/Things being worked on:** Attended Byfield Court during power outage to carry out welfare checks on residents. Everything all in order.
- IV. **Updates of previous reported issues:** No further reports of vehicles parking on the pavement at Bobbing Hill.

c. Report received from PCSO Jordan

- I. **Crimes of note:** 01/01/2022 Gadby Road – Shoplifting – suspect enters the store, fills up a basket of goods and leaves without making an attempt to pay. 11/01/2022 Gadby Road – Theft from vehicle – tools were stolen from a van overnight. No other crimes of note.
- II. **Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:** No incidents of note.
- III. **Other information of note:** I am the new local PCSO for Borden and Grove Park ward, as well as Woodstock and West Downs Ward. I have been holding local surgeries throughout my wards and will be looking to hold one in The Grove over the next few weeks.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Major and seconded by Cllr. French, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 3 February 2022 were agreed and signed as a true record.

4. Declarations of Interest – None.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Last Month’s Meeting

1. **Bobbing Apple Junction** – No updates, leave on the agenda. Action: Clerk

6. Parish Councillors’ Reports

Cllr. Clare advised she has received reports of rubbish falling from lorries, possibly due to not using nets, which take waste to the incinerators at Ridham Dock and St. Regis. Clerk to report. Action: Clerk
She has raised concerns regarding the possibility of a light being installed in the Cattle Arch; the concern is increased anti-social behaviour from youths who may use it as somewhere to congregate. Cllr. Clare suggested installing a timer so that the lights turn off at 8pm or fitting a solar sensor instead of the lights remaining on throughout the night. The Parish Council are concerned that they were not initially consulted regarding the lights in the Cattle Arch. Borough Cllr. J. Hunt agreed to pass on concerns to the management company.

Cllr. French advised he attended the planning and enforcement forum in which they discussed the lack of communication by Swale officers. This is now being taken on board and will be rectified in time. The CEO will be seeking more finance to improve all areas of the department. He also reported his concern that lorries from the Redrow site are still using Sonora Way, and the temporary no construction traffic signs have not been updated to permanent signs. He also advised Kent County Council have started to carry out red blocking and are adding a zebra crossing to Sonora way which is needed for the increase in traffic in the area. He advised there are still speeding issues on Staplehurst Road.

Cllr. Major reported his concern regarding burglaries in Keycol Hill. Clerk to report to PCSO Kirsty Linge. Action: Clerk

Cllr. Herbert reported an incident of fly-tipping between the cricket ground and parsonage lane on the verges at the side of the road. Action: Cllr. Baldock
He is also concerned by 3 workmen who appeared on footpath ZR116 in the Keycol hill area with a tripod, poles, and theodolite. Clerk to contact Highways England and Highways Kent to confirm if the visit was authorised.

7. Correspondence

1. Councillors’ contact details requested by Kirsty Linge PCSO – all present agreed. Clerk to contact councillors absent from the meeting. Action: Clerk
2. Simpsons Crossing – no update. Agreed to leave on the agenda. Action: Clerk

8. Planning Applications

1. 22/500410/FULL: Extension to existing compound, for use as parking, storage and the sale of used cars and light commercial vehicles in connection with an MOT service facility, along with associated fencing: Land Rear Of Unit 3 Stickfast Farm Sheppey Way Bobbing Kent ME9 8QP. Council objects.

Consultee comment

Bobbing Parish Council discussed the above planning application at the council meeting on Wednesday 2nd March.

After discussion and referring to the Swale Local Plan the Parish Council decided to object to the application.

It considered the site:

1. To be a Greenfield site (currently an orchard)
2. In open countryside (policy ST1 tier 6)
3. On agricultural land which needs to be protected (policy DM30)
4. Outside of the built-up area boundary (policy DM30)
5. In the countryside gap between Bobbing and Iwade. (Policy DM 27)
6. Not an Allocated employment site.

The site will also generate and have an impact regarding:

7. Additional traffic pollution (customers, cars & deliveries) (policy DM 33/34)
8. Additional light pollution (all vehicles) (policy DM 33/34)
9. Additional noise pollution (All vehicles) (policy DM 33/34)
10. Will impact on Grade 2 listed buildings which are opposite the site entrance. ("Nether Toes" and "The White House")

The Parish Council is also concerned about the wellbeing and quality of life of nearby residents (see representation from Mrs Miller).

Finally, the terms storage and MOT service indicate the possibility of buildings eventually being developed on the land.

2. 22/500411/FULL: Land Front of Axminster Tools and Machinery, Sheppey Way Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent. Erection of a building to provide 3 commercial units with associated landscaping. No comments.

9. Finance

1. **Defibrillator and Electric Quotes – Gadby Road, The Meads, McDonald’s Site** – No further update on McDonalds or Gadby Road (Co-op) Defibrillators. Keep on the Agenda. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Bus Shelter, The Meads** – No update. Agreed to leave on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Internal Audit 2020-21** – Internal Audit presented to the council. Proposed by Cllr. Herbert and seconded by Cllr. French.
4. **Clerk and Councils Direct Subscription Renewal** – Council agreed to renew the subscription at a cost of £12 for six issues. Proposed by Cllr. Herbert and seconded by Cllr. French.
5. **Picnic tables** – new quote concrete base – email 13/02 – Council agreed the new quote of £1,485. Proposed by Cllr. French and seconded by Cllr. Herbert.
6. **Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Ideas** – Cllr. Ball showed the council a Jubilee cup with Bobbing Parish Council printed on it. Cllr. Herbert suggested the following ideas: Water bottles, Bench buddy – 1 in each

school, Jubilee Garden, Sign to show historic buildings in Bobbing with small flower area/Japanese trees. County Cllr. Baldock suggested a hedgerow maze. Agreed to leave on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**

7. **Audit Workshop AGAR – Clerk** – Proposed by Cllr. French and seconded by Cllr. Herbert. Course cost £60 will be shared with Iwade Parish Council.
8. **Accounts and Cheques Raised** – Proposed by Cllr. Major and seconded by Cllr. Herbert, Members noted the budget figures, agreed the accounts to the 28 February 2022 and the following payments were agreed. Cllrs. Ball and Clare to log into Unity Bank to authorize the payments.

Action: Cllrs. Ball/Clare

EXPENDITURE				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
02.03.22	BACs	L. Fisher	Expenses February: telephone, use of home as office, Ink Cartridges (50% of cost)	£27.81p
02.03.22	BACs	H.M. Revenue & Custom	Tax due for February	£115.40p
02.03.22	BACs	S. Gray	Expenses February: Salary	£315.63p
02.03.22	BACs	Bobbing Village Hall	Hire of Bobbing Village Hall for meetings 6 months	£200.00p
01.03.22	SO	Staff Salary	February (Includes holiday)	£461.40p
01.02.22	SO	Invicta IT Solutions	12 Microsoft 365 Mailboxes	£52.32p
01.02.22	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£29.99p
11.02.22	DD	ICO	Data Protection renewal fee	£35.00p
INCOME				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payment From	Reason	Amount

10. Reports From Representatives

1. **KALC Area Committee** – Cllr. Morgan-Brown attended the meeting.
2. **Western Area Committee** – No updates.
3. **Swale West Parishes Meeting** – Next meeting 22 March 2022.

11. Any Other Matters Arising

1. Grass cutting quotes have been received, Clerk will add to the next Agenda. **Action: Clerk**
2. Bobbing Cricket ground has been sabotaged with diesel. Clerk to add to the next Agenda. **Action: Clerk**

12. Next Meeting(s)

Thursday 6 April 2022, 7.30 p.m. 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: _____