

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held 4th August 2010 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. Herbert (chairman), Cllr's Bennett, Bullen, Edwards, Major, Nappey and Stowe.
Clerk: Mrs S Crawford.
Three members of the public attended.

1.0 Apologies: Cllr's Ball, Dewar-Whalley and Ward Councillor Randall.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were amended to include 'knowingly trespasses', agreed to be a true record and signed accordingly.

Sarah Bodiam Grove Ward Police Community Support Officer attended the meeting to introduce herself. She works with a PC who is very proactive. They have been ticketing for various offences such as speeding and non wearing of seat belts. She was happy to let councillors have her mobile number (07772225942) and will try to come to other meetings when work allows but will keep in contact with the clerk. Various issues around the parish were discussed with her and she was thanked for attending.

3.0 Public Session:

Council were asked to make a donation towards the Sittingbourne Carnival Court. They travel to represent Sittingbourne at various carnivals and events and recently won Deal and Swanage Carnival Court prizes. The costs have to be raised and as one of the parishioner's daughters is in the court it was hoped the council would make a donation. The clerk will research the legalities and this will be on the next meeting. The Local Development Framework Committee is meeting on Thursday 5th August and on the agenda will be the revised Gypsy and Traveller site scores. He drew attention to the recent planning application at Upchurch for a traveller site which has already been refused permission and lost at appeal but the travellers have submitted another application. He was thanked for bringing it to the attention of the council and the clerk informed them that she will try to attend the meeting.

4.0 Declarations of Interest:
None declared.

5.0 Chairman's Report and Matters Arising:

5.1 Village Sign: This has now been erected thanks to Niall Crawford, Rod Phillips and the cherry picker was generously donated by Rapid Plant Hire. A picture and press release has been sent to the local papers and it is hoped it will be printed soon.

5.2 Traveller Sites: As heard previously this matter has not gone away despite Eric Pickles removing the need to be included in housing numbers. The chair did not want us to be lulled into a false sense of security so wondered if the way forward would be a parish plan. The clerk informed council that no grants or funding is available for parish plans at present. Discussion followed with the idea of forming a committee which must not be made up of just councillors. This should be parishioner led with input by the council and involved much consultation with the whole parish with open meetings. This option will be looked into again after councillors had researched what was involved by looking at other parish plans.

5.3 Japanese Knotweed: As the knotweed was looking very sick the chair asked when the best time to tidy that area up. The clerk will contact Highways to get an informed answer to this.

5.4 Greenery at Keycol Hill: The greenery at the bottom of Keycol Hill requires cutting back again and the clerk will request this from Swale.

6.0 Clerks Report and Correspondence Received:

6.1 Call for sites for Minerals & Waste to be made by 29th October 2010.

6.2 A thank you letter for the donation was received from Grove Park Community School

6.3 Swale West Parishes Meeting 15th July 2010. The clerk attended this meeting with Cllr Ball and the decisions were made on how Cllr Ferrin's money will be allocated this year. A list will be published in due course.

6.4 Audit Commission payment update? The clerk wished to pay this outstanding invoice and as Cllr Dewar-Whalley was absent it was decided to pay this and send a letter stating our dismay at being hit by this higher payment whilst being successful with grant allocations.

6.5 Village sign erected 27th July. This was covered earlier.

6.6 EIS Survey- The clerk had received a survey from EIS and this was completed at the meeting. It was to see if any other IT assistance was needed by parish councils.

6.7 FOI update- The clerk reported that KCC had rung on Monday 2nd August stating that they would miss our deadline for various reasons. One was Bill Forrester was off work, another was the amount of time being taken as it was over 20 hours to date. The officer will write to the clerk but this had not been received yet. Swale had not replied at all. Much discussion followed regarding lack of responses, apathy and frustration around this matter. It was decided to write to the ICO and give details of requests and responses.

6.8 Cllr Dewar-Whalley has £1250 for small scale projects. If there are any of these a form needs to be completed.

7.0 Councillors Reports:

Cllr Nappey: Reported that BT have started installing fibre optic onto The Meads estate. The police have been stopping speeding traffic on the estate and they are aware of the practice of 'donutting' around the roundabouts. Redrow have been asked why there has been no cutting on the 2nd roundabout but no answer has been received yet. Also the block paving has been mentioned as this needs to be addressed to deter the young people from digging it up. Cllr Nappey also was concerned over reports in the local paper regarding a lorry firm who wishes to move to Barge Way. It was thought this will add to the already congested Stockbury roundabout and together with other proposed lorry movements in this area will bring traffic to a standstill. The clerk was asked to write to Highways asking for an explanation of the design of the roundabout and the capacity it is/was expected to take as vehicles per hour. There was also an accident near the Bobbing McDonalds which involved a lorry that tipped onto its side. This could have been much more serious and the clerk was asked to contact Highways to ask how many accidents have occurred on that stretch of road.

Cllr Stowe: Asked if we can remind people to be considerate when lighting bonfires and the materials burnt on them as he had an incident recently regarding one. During discussion it was clarified that there was no bylaw or anything else which prevented people lighting them at specified times.

Cllr Edwards: Reported that Bobbing in Bloom is three quarters completed. It was decided to hold the presentations on the 6th October before our normal meeting. Also raised the bad parking at Bobbing Hill mainly the result of one bungalow's vehicles. The clerk was asked to report it to the Community Warden and maybe the environmental department as there was lots of oil and diesel on the road.

Cllr Major: Commented on a report which offered free installation of solar panels and the like to generate electricity which is offered to the generator at a lower price but the excess sold onto the grid. It sounded ideal for the village hall. Discussion followed regarding the roofing which is asbestos and other possible problems. This will be looked into further.

Cllr Bullen: Asked the clerk to alert Highways to the dangerous tree that is overhanging the road by Webbditch.

8.0 Planning Applications and Notifications:

8.1 To consider new planning applications:

SW/10/0874 Case 15153 Single storey front and rear extensions & internal alterations to create 2 additional bedrooms, ensuite bathrooms and swimming pool and extension to fund raising building at Demelza Rook Lane. No objections were raised.

SW/10/0901 Case 23258 Erection of 2 storey detached dwelling with associated double garage and parking for No 23 Key Street and alteration to vehicular access at land next to 23 Key Street. No objections were raised.

SW/10/0925 Case 23916 2 storey front and rear extensions at 28 Rooks View, Bobbing. No objections raised.

8.2 Planning Notices:

None received to date.

9.0 Finance:

9.1 To resolve to write cheques for the following:-

Audit Commission £334.88

This will be sent only after the clerk has spoken to Cllr Dewar-Whalley following his research into this item.

10.0 Other Matters Arising:
None raised.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

The next parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st September 2010 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm.

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

Signed: _____

Date: _____