

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held 3rd September 2008 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. Stowe (Chairman for this meeting), Cllr's Ball, Bennett, Bullen, Dewar-Whalley, Major and Nappey.

Clerk: Mrs S Crawford.

Ward Councillor Gareth Randall attended.

2 members of the public were in attendance.

1.0 Apologies: Cllr Herbert.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a true record and signed accordingly.

3.0 Public Session:

A member of the public from the Meads estate asked for our opinion on the traveller situation at Staplehurst Road. There have been more caravans that have arrived since notices were served on them which have been ignored. Cllr Dewar-Whalley has been informed that the court date is 5th September so it is hoped they will be vacating the site soon. When they are gone Watermark has proposed to create a bund which they are willing to pay for to prevent other encampments. It is feared the travellers will try to access the proposed hall site on Redrow's land as one of the Milton pipes that was installed to deter entry has been smashed. Redrow security is aware of the problem and has been blocking the entry point with a vehicle but this cannot remain there indefinitely. Kent Highways have not been very helpful with moving the travellers and Derek Wyatt MP will be chased again regarding changing laws with regards to the travelling community. Cllr Dewar-Whalley thanked Cllr Nappey for all the hard work she has done regarding the travellers. We will have to wait and see if the travellers move and where to. It was agreed that it was not the right image for Sittingbourne's gateway. Another resident had been asked to share his opinions with the council regarding the land at the bottom of Bobbing Hill. It was felt that although obtaining access and creating access to the gardens of the properties affected would indeed alleviate parking on Bobbing Hill, the residents all use their rear gardens but not their front ones so this would be their choice. It also depends on Swale Housing and the access over KCC land as well. The clerk was asked to chase Swale Housing for their reply.

4.0 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Dewar-Whalley declared an interest in planning matters.

5.0 Chairman's Report and Matters Arising:

5.1 The pot holes that were reported in April although fixed then other jobs that were reported then have not been addressed. The clerk was asked to chase the roundabout pothole which was down for repair, the junction at Bobbing Corner and also potholes that are occurring.

5.2 Cllr Nappey was asked the outcome of the proposed pub name at the Meads. Our suggestions were passed on but nothing has been heard back. It was thought Milton Brook was a working name.

6.0 Clerks Report and Correspondence Received:

6.1 The clerk gave an update on the village sign. Mr Stanley had visited to measure the old sign and felt it was possible to use the existing pole and fixings with a clean up. Designs were discussed and he liked the one proposed so has gone away to cost the metal and do drawings that fit in with our design.

6.2 KCC Annual report was received.

6.3 Audit Commission advised of a change of address.

- 6.4 SBC – had replied regarding the proposed boundary changes. It required 250 electors from Bobbing to sign up to these changes. It was felt 250 electors would be willing to sign for these changes to go ahead. Cllr Dewar-Whalley was keen to take the lead on these plans. It was also felt that the parish boundary should echo the ward boundary and include Chalkwell ward.
- 6.5 KCC- Meeting at Hartlip Village Hall on 18th September to discuss localism etc with Cllr Keith Ferrin – all welcome to attend.
- 6.6 Kent Highways are hosting a Parish and Town seminar on 15th October in Canterbury –
- wrote with regarding changes with the way housing is being allocated in Swale. Details of the briefing sessions are available from the clerk.
- 6.11 KAPC – Finance Information Day at Headcorn Village Hall on Sat 18th October.
- 6.12 SBC- Asking for sites with development potential to be included in the Local Development Framework. Form available from the clerk.

7.0 Councillors Reports:

Cllr Nappey: Asked about dog bin provision at The Meads. The clerk had heard from Ann Ryman but will chase again for prices and cost of emptying. Informed council that she had spent a worrying amount of time on the traveller situation. Residents have also reported an increase in burglary on the estate which is being blamed on the travellers but this is possibly coincidence. Asked the clerk if she had received any feedback regarding the drainage pond on The Meads. The clerk had received an acknowledgement via e-mail but nothing since. This will be chased.

Cllr Ball: Had obtained a quote regarding the clearing of the Knotweed and growth along the old Sheppey Way. This was from the lamppost to the roundabout and along by the wall near the heritage sign. The quote was £995 which was felt to be good value for money. A more detailed quote will be obtained and assurances the Knotweed will be removed in accordance with guidelines. The clerk will also ask Highways and SBC if they have any objections to this being cleared and if their contractors will keep this down once cleared.

Cllr Bennett: The cars parked along the A2 opposite the terraced cottages are creating a nuisance as it slows the traffic down. A local resident has been complaining as his sightlines are now nil but he has been passed from Highways to Swale with no-one taking responsibility.

8.0 Planning Applications and Notifications:

- 8.1 To consider new planning applications:
SW/08/0877 Case 13724 New detached bungalow to replace the mobile home at Basser Hill Farm Basser Hill. No objections were raised.

Lambert & Foster had written to the council with details of the proposed extension to the cold store at Howt Green Farm. The plans were a little confusing so council decided to invite them to the next meeting for a presentation.

- 8.2 Planning Notifications.
None received at present.

E.H. Nicolls Holdings Ltd are appealing against the refusal by Swale for a lawful development certificate for a road contractors depot and storage at land at Pheasant Farm Iwade.

9.0 Finance:

- 9.1 To resolve to write cheques for the following:

Mrs S Crawford (reimbursement for flowers for Bob Wileman) £25

A financial statement was presented to councillors.

10.0 Other Matters Arising:

None.

Meeting closed at 10.05 pm

The next parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st October 2008 at 7.30pm in Bobbing Village Hall.

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

Signed: _____

Date: _____