

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held 7th August 2013 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. Herbert (Chairman), Cllr's Ball, Dewar-Whalley, Major, Nappey, Richardson and Stammers.

Clerk: Mrs S Crawford.

There were 4 members of the public in attendance.

1.0 Apologies: Cllr's Johnson, Wright and Ward Councillor Randall.

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

3.0 Public Session:

The Moonstone Square fair was attended but details about the trustees and hall were absent except that a big announcement was made to say this time next year the hall will be built. Discussion centred on why money from the Watermark development should go to The Meads as its in Bobbing. Cllr Dewar-Whalley is on the case.

The recent planning meeting about the Howt Green cold store was attended but it was felt to be a done deal. No discussion was made by council and it was just passed.

4.0 Declarations of Interest:

None declared.

5.0 Chairman's Report and Matters Arising:

5.1 The chairman had received the clerk's resignation. This wasn't discussed at this meeting but wheels will be placed in motion to find a replacement.

5.2 The village hall's decision to close the car park to the school resulted in the head teacher going straight to the paper. It was felt goodwill had been given, donations were proposed but not forthcoming and veiled threats regarding pupil safety were made. It would have been appropriate for more dialogue to be made between the two parties. This is not an isolated case and KCC needs to be more accountable for this. It was spoken about the hall applying for outline planning for housing. The clerk will find out costs and also ask about their travel plan lodged with KCC.

5.3 The chair attended the meeting to discuss Cllr Baldock's community engagement fund. He has £22500 Highways budget and £22000 member's fund. Various projects from parishes were discussed with Bobbing looking for a speed indicator to share with other parishes.

5.4 Swale are consulting on their 'Bearing Fruits' which the chair attended on the 22nd July. This was a power point explaining options. The clerk was asked to request a paper copy as the maps are better to view. This will be placed on the agenda for September.

5.5 Community Governance Review – This again is on the SBC website and there will be some public meetings to hear all about it. Parish boundaries and creation of possible new parishes is under scrutiny. The chair had put together a draft response for councillors to read and this item will again be placed on the agenda for September. Discussion comments included the different options and what feelings councillors had especially towards The Meads and Bobbing Parish. The chair had also printed off a parish boundary map and ward boundary map.

6.0 Clerks Report and Correspondence Received:

6.1 Southern Water- Water Resources Management Plan 2013 Consultation

6.2 SBC – Consultation on Draft Local First Policy. This is regarding tendering and procurement services. The deadline is 27th September.

6.3 SBC Local Plan – Revised Consultation meeting – covered under the chairman's report.

6.4 Street Lighting KCC- consultation regarding turning off some non priority roads from midnight.

6.5 Citizens Advice AGM 3rd Sept 7pm for 7.30pm. No one able to attend.

6.6 Victim Support – donation? Not at present.

6.7 Dog bins update – Leanne from SBC will visit sites and approve positions. The clerk has the form to obtain the grant.

6.8 PCSO Ian Henderson – We have been given an experienced PCSO who the clerk will invite to the next meeting.

6.9 Swale – Have your say booklet. The clerk thought this was very misleading as it tells the public that parish councils are able to fund dog bins, bus shelters etc when in reality we have to go to SBC for authorisation.

6.10 The clerk had spoken to a member of the church who informed her that the church was using water from the village hall as they don't have a supply. She had found this astonishing and asked if the council was able to help. There is a fund that she had read about but needs to find out more information. Cllr Dewar-Whalley will also investigate.

7.0 Councillors Reports:

Cllr Dewar-Whalley: Asked if a response regarding risk assessments had been received – the clerk responded saying that there was no requirement for Highways to undertake risk assessments on roads. He had recently authorised £30,000 towards the creation of a skate park in Sittingbourne. Commented that the grass cutting recently undertaken wasn't carried out very well around the parish. Cllr Dewar Whalley also commented that the council should speak at SBC planning meetings as it does sway the councillors at times. This wasn't well received by members of the public as they felt that members of the planning committee should make themselves aware of any problems concerning applications and it was commented that many councillors read through the applications on the evening. It was also commented that to download documents from the SBC website takes well over an hour at times. This will be looked into.

Cllr Major: A recent traffic incident resulted in many lorries coming along the A2. The parked cars on Keycol Hill didn't allow for free flow of traffic so he rang 101 to inform them but there was never a police response. This could have allowed easier traffic flow.

Cllr Ball: Asked if there was any response regarding the feasibility study for the parking at Bobbing Hill. The clerk responded saying no but will chase Amey. The speed limit outside the school is not appropriate but Bobbing Parish had asked for a reduction which wasn't adopted by Highways. It was felt a 20mph would be appropriate around school times. Cllr Ball asked the clerk to chase Network rail regarding the parking of lorries on the bridge. Regarding grass cutting at Bobbing Hill it was disappointing that the strimming wasn't done when Blenwood cut the grass. The clerk will contact Graeme Tuff who is in charge of open spaces copying in Cllr David Simmons whose portfolio it is.

Cllr Nappey: The gate to the attenuation pond had been left unlocked but after SBC was asked about the liability for the pond it was swiftly locked but this could be a problem if there was water in it. A member of the public had also told some children to vacate the pond as the water was toxic but they didn't really understand what that meant. Cllr Nappey asked Cllr Dewar-Whalley what was holding up the doctors surgery. It was the PCT dragging their heels despite the fact that they had been abolished. The body taking over was again unsure of the background on the case. The Moonstone Square event had erected a large sign to advertise it and she wondered where the money was coming from. It was understood that money from the lottery had been secured and required using hence the awareness event. Comments regarding the money and accounts were made.

8.0 Planning Applications and Notifications:

8.1 To consider new planning applications:

SW/13/0794 Case 14261 Rear extension at 47 Brier Road. No comments to be made.

PROW ZR109/1/NR Crossing diversion and closing of part of footway by Premier Inn Bobbing Corner. It was felt that for a high risk crossing this application was a few years too late. It was broadly welcomed but it was felt the response sheet was restrictive. It was also felt the pedestrian/ traffic interfacing may need more barriers to ensure walkers do not try to 'risk' a crossing when it wasn't safe. Also the other crossing needs to be closed again in case people try their luck.

8.2 Planning Notifications:

SW/12/1189 Case 08530 Unit A Howt Green Sheppey Way Bobbing has been REFUSED permission to change of use to retail and mechanical workshop.

SW/13/0622 Case 14820 Stickfast Farm Sheppey Way has been GRANTED permission to change of use of washrooms to farm office, toilet and store.

9.0 Finance:

9.1 To resolve to write cheques for the following:-

Mr A Swain (nicenstripy)	£ 150.00	Cheque No	100367
--------------------------	----------	-----------	--------

10.0 Other Matters Arising:

None.

Meeting closed at 10.15pm.

The next parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th September 2013 in Bobbing Village Hall at 7.30pm.

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

Signed: _____

Date: _____