

## **BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2014**

**Present:** Cllr. G. Herbert – Chair  
Cllr. R. Ball – Vice-Chair  
Cllr. K. Johnson  
Cllr. T. Wright  
Cllr. R. Richardson  
Cllr. D. Dewar-Whalley  
Lynda Fisher, Clerk  
County Cllr. Mike Baldock  
6 Parishioners

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chairman formally welcomed everyone and hopes they all had a good Christmas and wished them a Happy New Year. Apologies were received from Cllr. Major and the PCSO; Cllr. Dewar-Whalley and County Cllr. M. Baldock will be arriving late due to a prior commitment.

#### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

#### **3. Public Session**

County Cllr. Baldock mentioned the brick earth extraction application in Hartlip; this is going to have an impact on the whole of the A2 between the Tuck Inn and Key Street. An exhibition will be held in Hartlip Village Hall on Wednesday 5th February, from 2.00 until 8.00 p.m; plans will be on display and representatives from the company will answer any questions. An objection to the original application was put in by the Parish Council, but no fresh application has been lodged as yet. Cllr. Wright suggested that perhaps a couple of Councillors could attend early in the day and then report back at Bobbing Parish Council's meeting which falls on the same date. **Action: All Councillors**

#### **4. Declarations of Interest** – None

#### **5. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Last Month's Meeting**

1. **Planning Training - 12 December 2013** – They Chairman attended this event, which was held at Swale Borough Council. The presentation was given by a Lawyer and was based on a couple of cases where he had acted for Local Authorities relating to Gypsy and Traveller sites. Notes on the presentation were electronically circulated by Swale Borough Council and also appear on their website.

2. **Frontline Kent - (Promote Your Swale Commemorative Event)** - The school is are unable to give any information at this time regarding a joint commemorative event. Clerk was instructed to contact the Vicar to see if Bobbing Church is planning an event and then bring this item back to the February meeting. **Action: Clerk**

3. **Speed Survey Bobbing Hill (should read Keycol Hill) and outside the School** – KCC's parking section are looking at the issue of the parked cars on Keycol Hill; nothing further has been heard from Kent Police. Clerk to write to Demelza House to see if this has any impact on them. Members also agreed to perhaps look at having the speed surveys carried out in the spring; Clerk to place this item on the April Agenda. **Action: Clerk**

4. Invitation to Meads Trust to discuss new Community Hall – agreed Clerk to write re-inviting the group to the March meeting. **Action: Clerk**

5. **S.106 Agreements and new Medical Centre** - Members felt it would be beneficial if the Meads Community Hall worked with Bobbing Village Hall to bring it up to scratch and for the two halls to complement each other. Cllr. Dewar-Whalley is looking into the S.106 funding associated with this; Cllr. Johnson was surprised to see that out of the £410,000 allocated to the new centre, £62600 has been spent on Architect's fees; this was before the current Trust was formed.

Cllr. Wright queried whether there was any money allocated in the S.106 Agreement relating to the bus shelter near Rooks View? She expressed concern that the speed limit in Rook Lane is currently 60 mph. and felt that it should be reduced to 30 mph; in addition she is worried about the narrow entrance/exit (with limited sight lines) at its junction with the A2. Clerk to see if Swale Borough Council can answer these questions and to ask if they can give details of monies spent relating to the each S.106 Agreement; what is remaining and is there any deadline for spending the sums. **Action: Clerk**

Members noted that it is hoped that the new Medical Centre will be opened by September 2014.

6. **Parish Councillor Vacancy** – Clerk reported that she has posted notices advising that a vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council; the deadline for applying is the 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2014.

## 6. **Councillors' Report**

**Cllr. Dewar-Whalley** - raised the issue of potholes on the London Road; temporary repairs are being carried out but these are unsatisfactory and the material used quickly erodes with the hole opening up again. Clerk to take this up with KCC Highways. **Action: Clerk**

**Cllr. Johnson** – referred to the sad news of yet another death on the railway line; ironically on the crossing that was discussed at December's meeting. He's investigated parking in Vellum Drive and it's not commuters (as mentioned by Redrow at the last meeting) it is workers from the units; people are opting to park on the road within the estate as opposed to using the car parks; it might be worthwhile getting back to the developers on this. He queried whether anything had been heard from Swale's Enforcement Team regarding the new Bobbing Apple sign – Clerk responded no but she will chase for a response. He referred to the Gypsy and Traveller land provision and that within the document circulated by Swale it refers to a corridor of land within the A2, but does not mention where – Clerk to try and ascertain where. Finally he raised concerns regarding HGVs parking under the A249 flyover near to the Bobbing Apple. He related that this practice had been going on in another park of the country; a HGV had caught fire and caused huge structural damage to that flyover with the road being closed for a long period of time. Clerk to contact the relevant agencies to see if something can be done to stop this practice. **Action: Clerk**

**Cllr. Richardson** - referred to transport; he thought something was contained in a S.106 Agreement to look at improving the A249 links down to the M2; he was concerned that at times the road is gridlocked. Cllr. Ball commented that at a meeting with Highways it was mentioned that there was the possibility of some new slip roads on to the A249 to ease queuing; he thought Redrow were putting some money towards this?

**Cllr. Wright** – referred to the Lorries near the flyover; those parking close to McDonalds and causing an obstruction (there have already been fatalities in this area) and others parking near the railway bridge. Clerk to write to Kent Police and KCC regarding this issue. **Action: Clerk**

**Cllr. Ball** – referred to the recent death on the railway line and wondered when the new bridge was going to be put up; hoping that it would be 'caged' to stop people from jumping off of it. He understands plans went out for consultation last July and asked the Clerk to ascertain progress on this project. **Action: Clerk**

## 7. **Correspondence**

1. **KALC Training - Conference, February 2014. Resilience and Reassurance for Local Councils** - none to attend
2. **KALC Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency** - Noted; this will not apply to the Parish Council as Bobbing falls under the financial limit.

3. **KALC Summary of response and Government response on the registration of new town and village greens** - Noted.
4. **Shaping the Future of Children's Centres in Kent** – Members were pleased to see all of Swale's Centres were saved.
5. **Lower Thames Crossing** – Details of sites noted.
6. **KALC Government Consultation on Local Authority Parking Strategies** – Document noted.
7. **KALC Finance Update (Winter 2013): DCLG Local Government Finance Statement** – Finance Statement issued by the Under Secretary of State, Communities and Local Government (Mr Brandon Lewis) noted. Cllr. Dewar-Whalley commented that Swale Borough Council had to make a difficult decision not to offer a support grant for 2014/15 in order to avoid cuts to services and jobs.

## 8. **Planning**

Current applications: None.

Determined applications:

1. **SW/13/1305:** Detached garage and store room to rear – Eldon Lodge, Sheppey Way, Bobbing, ME9 8PL – Permission granted.
2. **TP/13/0128:** Crown lift to canopy of Sweet Chestnut and reduction in crown spread of Pine subject to TPO 1 of 2000 – 16 & 17 Rooks View, Bobbing, ME9 8GB – Consent granted.

## 9. **Finance**

1. **Budget** – The Chairman circulated the draft 2014/15 Budget and following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Wright and seconded by Cllr. Johnson; agreed that the requested precept be raised to £13500; an increase of £3.61p per year or 6p per week for a Band D property. The precept requested for 2013/14 was £12276, but this included the support grant given by Swale Borough Council of £1026, which will not be received for 2014/15 (see item 7.7 above). Members also agreed the Budget for 2014/15 with the amendments discussed in light of raising the Precept. Clerk to now lodge the necessary forms with Swale Borough Council's Finance Section and the Chairman to adjust the budget figures accordingly.

**Action: Chairman/Clerk**

### 2. **Cheques raised at this meeting:**

The following cheques were agreed and signed and the accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2013 approved:

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
13.01.14	0379	L. Fisher	Wages – December 2013	£176.27p
13.01.14	0380	L. Fisher	Expenses Nov/Dec 2013 – Stationery, Telephone, Use of Office	£25.38p
13.01.14	0381	H.M. Revenue & Custom	Tax due November 2013	£40.00p
13.01.14	0382	Williams Giles	Quarterly payroll prep. to Dec 2013	£36.00p
13.01.14	0383	Andrew Swain	Grass Cutting Oct, Nov, Dec 2013	£450.00p
Five Cheques in total				

## 10. **Any Other Matters Arising**

The Chairman read out a letter from Bobbing Village School regarding parking.

The Chairman also raised the issue of the village hall guttering. This urgently needs replacing and it is Asbestos. A quote has been received for £750 plus V.A.T. and he asked if the Parish Council would assist with this cost. Cllr. Dewar-Whalley suggested applying for a Localism Grant for half the cost. Proposed by

Cllr. Wright; Members were 'minded to' support this request for a donation and Clerk to place an item on the February Agenda for formal agreement. **Action: Clerk**

**11. Next Meeting(s)**

The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2014, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in Bobbing Village Hall.

**The meeting closed at 09.50 p.m.**