

BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 3 March 2021

MEETING HELD VIA 'ZOOM' DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

Present:

Cllr. G. Herbert – Chair
Cllr. R. Ball – Vice-Chair
Cllr. R. Morgan-Brown
Cllr. L. May
Cllr. G. Randall
Cllr. N. Clare

Lynda Fisher, Clerk
County Cllr. M. Whiting
Borough Cllr. M. Baldock
Borough Cllr. J. Hunt
Borough Cllr. C. Woodford

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair formally welcomed everyone to the Zoom video conferencing meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Parish Cllrs. Major, P. England and E. England, Borough Cllr. Clark and the PCSOs (who could not attend due to Kent Police not supporting the use of Zoom because of security).

2. Visitors/Public Time

Residents, County and Borough Councillors, PCSOs and Community Wardens were advised that they could attend as normal but public speaking time might be limited; they were also invited to forward reports/questions to the Clerk beforehand.

1. **Residents** – None attended, and nothing raised.
2. **County and Borough Councillors** – County Cllr. Whiting – has organised speed traps with the PCSO. The E.A. has taken away a large truck that was being used for industrial fly tipping. Has written to Highways England regarding the litter on the A249.

Borough Cllr. Woodford advised that Planning Application 20/505458/OUT has been refused by Officers. The Western Area Committee will be holding a review, any views or comments on improvement, let her know. Cllr. Clare advised that there is confusion over the funding available, how to apply, is there a form, etc. Cllr. Woodford responded that is why a review is being undertaken, to decide how things will go forward next year. She added that £1200 is being put towards the 'Brown' signs requested by Bobbing Parish Council.

Borough Cllr. Baldock advised the deadline for the Local Plan consultation has been extended to the 30 April 2021. The Bobbing Garden Village is not in the Plan and hopes the Parish Council will respond to the other policies within it. The Plan has higher levels of 'housing for life' and has increased biodiversity gain from 10% to 15%. Cllr. Ball asked if there was any news on the Wises Lane Development? Cllr. Baldock responded no, this is causing concern to residents as the result of the Inquiry was expected back in March 2020.

Borough Cllr. Hunt advised that the Redrow development on Quinton Road is now starting. There are some planning issues to deal with, one of these is no construction traffic down Sonora Way and not using the Sheppey Way during dropping off and picking up times at Bobbing School. The Persimmon development is on Swale's Planning Committee Agenda tomorrow and he has asked for details regarding highways. The Woodlands Funding Group met last night to discuss the Management Plan for the whole of the Woodlands and Rose Hill. He hopes the Parish Council will be asked for input. Cllr. Morgan-Brown advised of adolescents over on the Woodlands, smoking and having bonfires, a trial biker is also using this land. Cllr. Hunt said the area has been cleared and the PCSO needs to know when they are there.

3. **Community Warden/PCSO** – Community Warden – No report. PCSO's - Bobbing - Crimes of note: Fuel was taken from a lorry parked overnight near Howt Green. A crime report has been taken. Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note: There has been a complaint about speeding on Keycol Hill, a colleague and I will be performing speed checks over the next few weeks.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Proposed by Cllr. Morgan-Brown and seconded by Cllr. Ball, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 3 February 2021 were agreed and the Chair will sign as a true transcript.

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

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

1. Litter – Sheppey Way – Clerk advised this has now been cleared of litter.
2. Staplehurst Road/A2 Junction – Cllr. Clare submitted a Freedom of Information request to KCC, some data was received but some important drawings were missing, she has gone back and requested these. It would appear a safety audit was carried out and some issues are going to be revisited in a year's time. The cost for the junction was £35,000. It was stated that the reasoning behind the project was the crash data over a three-year period, however when investigated, the number of crashes over that period was the same as outside the Bobbing Apple, where no action has been taken. Cllr. Clare wondered if the accidents were due to issues with the traffic lights, which have been reported on numerous occasions over the years as being out of sync,
3. Grove Park – Yellow Lines near the School and surrounding Areas – Cllr. Clare sought residents' views on yellow lines in Wellington Road, Hilton Drive (not those on the left-hand side of Hilton Drive) and Clive Road on Facebook and received varying responses for and against removing lines. It was agreed to send out a letter to residents to gauge opinions and for Cllr. Clare to write to Borough Cllr. Baldock. Still trying to ascertain whether the zig zags in the turning circle to the front of Grove Park School entrance can be extended. The Headteacher is interested in having a meeting to discuss the situation. Clerk to contact KCC asking for clarification. **Action: Cllr. Clare/Clerk**
4. Water Leak – Grove Park – Cllr. Clare advised Southern Water has acknowledged that their pipe is leaking in two places. Water is bubbling up through the ground over the back of Grove Park School. She spoke to a senior member of staff and they have a problem that where the water pipe runs through the through and under the A249 there is also a gas main, which they are trying to locate. They have done some ultrasound testing. The Headteacher of Grove Park School is aware of the issue. County Cllr. Whiting agreed to approach Southern Water.

6. **Parish Councillors' Reports**

Cllr. Clare attended Flood Warden training and will sign up for this. Attended Vision Zero - road strategies and how to attempt to achieve zero fatalities on Kent roads by 2050. KCC is seeking Parish Councils' input on how to achieve this. Also attending was Ryan Shiel, Sarah-Jayne Ellcock's Manager. Sarah-Jayne is the Officer the Parish Council hoped to have a site meeting with to look at issues with the junction outside the Bobbing Apple, but the meeting had to be cancelled because of Lockdown. He will contact her to set up a site meeting to look at this and hopefully also look at the Staplehurst Road junction. Cllr. Clare also attended the Green Agenda, what a Council can do to lower its carbon footprint. This is not really for the Parish Council; it is more for the Borough Council as we do not have the assets to look at; we can only educate people in the parish. Cllr. Clare advised she has been contacted by residents complaining that someone is regularly burning rubbish in Lonsdale Drive; this has been reported. **Action: Cllr. Clare/Clerk**

Cllr. Morgan-Brown attended the same functions as Cllr. Clare (see above). He also attended the Western Area Committee – see his report under 7.2 below.

Cllr. Randall has carried out random litter picks.

Cllrs. Ball and May – nothing to report.

7. Reports from Representatives

1. KALC – Nothing to report. There is a meeting next week.
2. Western Area Committee
Cllr. Morgan-Brown attended the March meeting of the Committee. There was a section about friends' groups, i.e., befriending woodlands, etc. Mention of the Brown Signs requested by Bobbing Parish Council – see Cllr. Woodford's comments under Item 2 above.

8. Correspondence

1. **Vision Zero: The Road Safety Strategy for Kent 2020 – 2026** – KCC's target is that by 2050 there will be zero fatalities on Kent road; the question was raised why not earlier? County wants to set goals and a lot of this is around Parish Councils having a Road Strategy. County Cllr. Whiting advised that at present KCC rely on Police data and from this they decide where to spend their budget, but now County is now looking for extra layers of information to make it more accurate.
2. **The Local Plan Review 2021 (Reg 19) - Start date: 08/02/21 09:00 End date: 23/03/21 17:00** – Agreed to bring back to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

9. Planning Applications

1. **21/500414/FULL**: Erection of part single, part two storey rear extension with internal alterations: 21 Bobbing Hill Bobbing Kent ME9 8NY – No comments.
2. **21/500449/FULL**: Erection of first floor extension with internal and external alterations, including insertion of roof lights and rear Juliet balcony: 27 Key Street Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1YX – Agreed to respond no objections but will the Planning Officer please note the neighbour's comments.
3. **20/502559/FULL**: Land on The North West Side of A249 Bobbing Kent: Erection of 4 stables on concrete base and open field shelter (Revised siting of proposed stables & Amended description) – Agreed the respond the Parish Council's original objections still apply.
4. **21/500748/PNEXT**: 27 Bobbing Hill Bobbing Kent ME9 8NY: Prior notification for a proposed single storey rear extension which: A) Extends by 6 metres beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling. B) Has a maximum height of 3 metres from the natural ground level. C) Has a height of 3 metres at the eaves from the natural ground level – no comments.

10. Finance

1. **On-Line Banking** – The application to open an account is progressing well. Clerk has a few more documents to forward to Unity Trust, when the information is to hand. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Society of Local Council Clerks 2021/22 Subscription** – proposed by Cllr. Ball and seconded by Cllr. Clare agreed to renew the subscription for 2021/22 at a cost of £208 – half to be reimbursed by Iwade Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Bulbs and Trees 2021/22** – Clerk to obtain prices and bring back to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**
4. **Accounts and Cheques Raised** – Proposed by Cllr. Morgan-Brown and seconded by Cllr. Clare, Members noted the budget figures, agreed the accounts to the 28 February 2021 and the following cheques were agreed and signed:

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
03.03.21	0759	L. Fisher	Expenses February: telephone, use of home, 50% AVG Ultimate (Iwade P.C. paying 50%)	£58.49p
03.03.21	0760	H.M. Revenue & Custom	Tax due for February	£93.80p
03.03.21	0761	Society of Local Council Clerks	Subscription 2021-22 (50% to be reimbursed by Iwade Parish Council).	£208.00p

03.03.21	0762	Waller Associates Limited	Building Materials to be donated to Bobbing Village Hall	£12154.24p
Four cheques in total				

Paid by Standing Order:

Staff Salary – February 2021:	£341.98p	Paid by Standing Order
Invicta IT Solutions – Mailboxes & 365 February	£52.32p	Paid by Standing Order
GoCardless – HugoFox Monthly Fee February	£29.99p	Paid by Direct Debit

Paid In:

K.A.L.C. – Grant towards new website costs	£599.13p	Paid by Direct Credit
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11. Parish and Annual Parish Council May Meetings

Clerk advised that the National Association of Local Councils is pressing Government to extend the regulations for the use of Zoom and other platforms until it is safe to hold face to face meetings. This deadline is the 7 May 2021 and there has been no feedback so far. It was agreed that as the first Wednesday falls on the 5 May, then these meetings will be held on that date and will be followed by the normal monthly meeting.

12. Any Other Matters Arising

Cllr. Clare referred to Elections coming up in two years' time and concerns that if important Members step down there will be a gap in Parish Council knowledge. Can this be looked into with a view to passing on this knowledge to other Members?

13. Next Meeting(s)

Wednesday 7 April 2021, 7.30 p.m. venue depending on Covid-19 situation.

The meeting closed at 10.03 p.m.

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

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____