

## **BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**Held on Wednesday 7 April 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  
Cllr. P. England  
Cllr. E. England

Lynda Fisher, Clerk  
County Cllr. M. Whiting  
Borough Cllr. M. Baldock  
Borough Cllr. C. Woodford  
Jamie Rhodes, Member Pioneer,  
The Co-operative Group

1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Chair formally welcomed everyone to the Zoom video conferencing meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Parish Cllr. Major, Borough Cllr. Hunt 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.

Jamie Rhodes attended from The Co-op Group, in his capacity as a Member Pioneer. His mission is to connect with the local community and connect stores with groups/charities to find out what local needs are. There is a focus on three main areas – offer access to food, offer access to wellbeing, and offer access to education. He works with local Food Banks, nurseries, and various other charities. There is a local community fund and applications for 2021/22 open on the 4 May. Details can be found on <https://co-operate.coop.co.uk/>.

2. **County and Borough Councillors** – County Cllr. Whiting – reported Vicky Sedgewick, Swale Borough Council, will be delivering bags and litter pickers to anyone who wants them, she will also arrange to collect the filled bags. He referred to Simpsons Crossing and the closure of the footpath, which he has been advised is temporary and closure is on health and safety grounds. Network Rail/PROW are working together to try and determine a nearby diversion. CCTV will monitor the closed crossing as people are still trying to use it; this is breaking the law. KCC will be working with both the Aspire School and the Watermark developers (Vellum Drive has not been adopted yet) to look at Zigzag lines, which were not included in the Planning permission.

Borough Cllr. Woodford advised that residents have been in touch regarding litter and fly-tipping.

Borough Cllr. Baldock advised that Rose Hill has suffered a lot of damage; Enforcement Wardens will patrol the site. This impacts on the long-term maintenance programme for the area. It would be ideal if local people were involved in setting up and monitoring the woodlands.

3. **Community Warden/PCSO** – Community Warden – No report. PCSO's - Bobbing - Crimes of note: Two school children from Bobbing school reported they were followed by a male for some distance from the Senora estate. The male disappeared after about 10 minutes, but the children were concerned as he seemed to be quickening his pace. Safeguarding has taken place at the school since, and the incident is

still under investigation. A drugs grow was reported at an address on Keycol Hill. Police visited and several cannabis plants were discovered, still under investigation. A motorbike was found abandoned in the front garden of an address on Keycol Hill. Police attended and the vehicle was found to be stolen from Chatham, so was recovered. Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note: A report of a possible burglary at an abandoned house in Parsonage Lane. Police attended and nothing had been damaged or stolen. It is believed that some youths were going to 'hang out' in the building, which was in a poor state of repair, but ran off when disturbed by a neighbour. A male was seen on Bobbing Hill with a white quilt around him, possibly a rough sleeper. Patrols attended after this male had also been reported crossing the A249. The male was spoken to and safeguarding was put in place. The male was later sent on his way.

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

Proposed by Cllr. Ball and seconded by Cllr. Clare, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 3 March 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. **Staplehurst Road/A2 Junction** – Cllrs. Clare and Ball met with KCC Officers on site. Westlands School are so concerned about the safety of the junction that they have put two Teachers on the crossing in the morning and the afternoon. It looks as though the lines on the junction are in the wrong place. Councillors were advised that it was originally part of a much bigger plan (this part cost £34,000) to include the Cryalls Lane's junction. KCC are unable to take any action until a further safety audit is carried out in twelve months' time, however, they agreed to install some bollards to stop vehicles cutting the corner. They also agreed the lines also need moving. Take off the Agenda. **Action: Clerk**

2. **Grove Park – Yellow Lines near the School and surrounding Areas** – Cllrs. Clare and Ball met with KCC Officers on site. KCC Officers stated that there are numerous things wrong in the location, e.g., different signate regarding the zigzags. Cllr. Clare suggested zigzag lines either side of the School gateway, covering the turning circle. The Officers agreed to look at this. **Action: Cllr. Clare/Clerk**

3. **Water Leak – Grove Park** – Cllr. Clare advised Southern Water has now taken to sending text messages stating 'no updates'. She understands one of the leaks has been found and rectified and water escaping near the School has reduced. They have acknowledged that their pipe is leaking in two places. She is also aware that work is planned for the 4 April start, working on another leak. They made no mention of the sink holes. **Action: Cllr. Clare**

### 6. **Parish Councillors' Reports**

Cllr. Ball, including Cllrs Herbert and Clare and the Clerk, had a site meeting with McDonalds and KCC to look at the Bobbing Apple junction; KCC agree to monitor the area to assess traffic flows and provide possible solutions on the back of suggestions made at the meeting. He also visited Staplehurst Road and the turning circle in Hilton Drive – see items 5.1 and 5.2 above.

Cllr. P. England asked if a new post box could be installed in The Meads, the existing one is often overflowing with mail. Clerk to request. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr. Morgan-Brown advised lorries are still using Sonora Way due to the development; he agreed to keep an eye on this. **Action: Cllr. Morgan-Brown**

Cllr. May advised there were a few incidents of fly tipping in Grove Park, possibly people moving out?

Cllr. Clare had nothing further to report. Cllrs. Randall and E. England nothing to report.

### 7. **Reports from Representatives**

1. **KALC** – Nothing to report.

2. **Western Area Committee** – nothing to report.

## 8. Correspondence

1. **The Local Plan Review 2021 (Reg 19) - Start date: 08/02/21 09:00 End date: 23/03/21 17:00** – Agreed to add the following to any response:

To support the development that is already in the existing Plan and anything in the new Plan, the Council would ask the Inspector to consider the requirements along the A249 corridor in his/her assessment in the Public Inquiry.

According to Borough Cllr. Baldock, paper copies of the numerous documents are available on request, this was not made evident in any correspondence sent. Clerk to request paper copies and Cllr. Herbert delegated to look further into possible additional details affecting the A249 Bobbing and Bobbing Services and to add these to the response. **Action: Cllr. Herbert/Clerk**

2. **Floplast** –Cllr. Woodford referred to 14/506167/OUT and explained that because the S.106 was not agreed, the three-year period had not started. It was proposed by Cllr Ball and seconded by Cllr. Clare, agreed that this should not be delegated to an Officer for a decision, but should go before Swale's Planning Committee. It was further agreed that a new application should be submitted. Clerk to confirm this in writing to Cllr. Woodford. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Simpsons Crossing/Closure of Footpath** – See response from County Cllr. Whiting, Item 2.2. above.
4. **Boot Camp, Grove Park** – Cllr. Clare advised residents had raised concerns regarding the meetings and she understood the Police were going to check on this. Current regulations appear to state a maximum of 30 people, and this needs to be adhered to. Borough Cllr. Baldock to discuss this with Swale Borough Council Officers.

## 9. Planning Applications

1. **20/504249/FULL: Bobbing Place Cottage Sheppey Way Bobbing Sittingbourne Kent: Erection of a part single storey, part two storey side extension with 1no. front roof light, two storey rear extension, and associated landscaping** – no comments.

## 10. Finance

1. **On-Line Banking** – Clerk advised that the Current Account with Unity Trust Bank is now open. There are four signatories – Cllrs. Herbert, Ball, Clare and Morgan-Brown; Cllr. Randall had not responded to the request for a specimen signature sent on the 19 February. It was agreed to remain with four signatories.
2. **Bulbs 2021/22** – proposed by Cllr. P. England and seconded by Cllr. E. England, agreed to order three nets of Daffodil bulbs and 1000 large flowering crocus, plus VAT and delivery at a total cost of £185.40p. **Action: Clerk**
3. **AGAR Training 30 March 2021** – Proposed by Cllr. Ball and seconded by Cllr. Herbert, agreed the Clerk and Cllrs Clare and Morgan-Brown attend this training at a cost of £84 – Iwade Parish Council had agreed to reimburse 50% of Clerk's fee. **Action: Clerk**
4. **Insurance Renewal 2021/22 – last of three-year tie in** – renewal documents not yet received, bring back to May meeting. **Action: Clerk**
5. **Defibrillator – Gadby Road site** – Physiotherapy 2 Fit in Gadby Road is willing to take on an external Defibrillator. Agreed Cllr. Clare to advise them that the Parish Council will supply the machine and accessories and pay for an Electrician to install the heated cabinet. The equipment will be gifted to them and they will take on responsibility for future maintenance and supplies. **Action: Cllr. Clare**
6. **Citizens Advice Bureau – Request for Donation** – Proposed by Cllr. P. England and seconded by Cllr. Ball, agreed to donate £100, under Section 137. **Action: Clerk**

7. **Kent Air Ambulance – request for Donation** – Proposed by Cllr. P. England and seconded by Cllr. Ball, agreed to donate £100, under Section 137.
8. **KALC Subscription** – Proposed by Cllr. P. England and seconded by Cllr. Clare, agreed to renew the subscription at a cost of £923.06p for 2021/22.
9. **Financial Regulations** – the updated Regulations, to include on-line banking and the use of Unity Trust Bank, were agreed and adopted.
10. **Financial Risk Assessment** – Proposed by Cllr. Clare and seconded by Cllr. Morgan-Brown, the 2020/21 Assessment was agreed and adopted.
11. **Statement of Internal Control** – Proposed by Cllr. Ball and seconded by Cllr. P. England, the 2020/21 Statement was agreed and adopted.
12. **Adjustment to 2021/22 Budget** – Proposed by Cllr. Ball and seconded by Cllr. Morgan-Brown, agreed to reduce the projects figure previously set in the 2021/22 the budget from £63,000 to £15,000 as the hall project was completed prior to the 31 March 2021.
13. **Accounts and Cheques Raised** – Proposed by Cllr. Clare and seconded by Cllr. Ball, Members noted the budget figures, agreed the year end accounts to the 31 March 2021 and the following payments were agreed. Cllrs. Herbert and Clare to log into Unity Bank to authorize the payments.

EXPENDITURE				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
07.04.21	BACs	L. Fisher	Expenses March: telephone, use of home,	£21.00p
07.04.21	BACs	H.M. Revenue & Custom	Tax due for March	£93.60p
07.04.21	BACs	K.A.L.C.	AGAR Training, Clerk, Cllrs. Clare and Morgan-Brown	£84.00p
07.04.21	BACs	K.A.L.C.	Subscription 2021/22	£923.06p
04.04.21	SO	Staff Salary	March	£375.05p
04.04.21	SO	Invicta IT Solutions	12 Microsoft 365 Mailboxes	£52.32p
01.04.21	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£29.99p
INCOME				
19.03.21	CHQ	From Iwade Parish Council	Reimbursement 50% Microsoft 365; AGAR Training (Clerk), SLCC Subscription and Zoom Payments	£148.54p

11. **Any Other Matters Arising** – None.

12. **Next Meeting(s)**

Wednesday 5 May 2021, 7.30 p.m., Parish Meeting, Annual Parish Council Meeting and Monthly Meeting: venue depending on Covid-19 situation.

**The meeting closed at 10.38 p.m.**

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

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_