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Established 1934

www.boroughgreen.gov.uk

Minutes of the **BOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held in Borough Green Village Hall on **Monday 1st July 2024** starting at **1930**. The meeting was not recorded.

Present: Cllrs Taylor (Chair), Cllrs, Ramsden (Vice Chair), Butterfill, Reid, Heselden, Hook, Millener, Thrush, Cllr Rayner (KCC) , & the Clerk. There was no members of the public.

055. Apologies for Absence Cllrs Shaw, Rawsthorne & Reading

056. Declarations of Interest - None

057. Minutes of the meeting 3rd June 2024 - Agreed

058. Submission by County Cllr Harry Rayner, who spoke about KCC's financial difficulties and felt we could be looking at Unitary arrangements in the near future. He advised that if we needed Highway Safety measures implemented, a professional report was imperative, as with the Rec crossing. He spoke about Alliance concerns about the traffic implications of the TMBC Local Plan, and requested BGPC support for a new Traffic Analysis - AGREED He warned about imminent problems at the Channel Ports as the holiday season picked up, and further problems when the new Biometrics came into force in October. Noted that unaccompanied immigrant children had risen to 1000, of which nearly 600 were in KCC care, putting extreme stress on the system.

059 Matters Arising -Resignation - Cllr Angelique Rawsthorne. Chairman noted his regret, that Cllr Rawsthorne had been a strong voice and a pro-active member of the Council, and that a gift of flowers would be appropriate - Clerk to arrange.

060 Planning Matters

- (i) To note Planning Notices as circulated
- (ii) Current applications and **responses** as circulated, Update on AGILE and Planning problems

24/00875/PA 64A Sevenoaks Rd Prior Notification for Larger Home Extension (Part 1 Class A): Single storey rear extensions to a depth of 8m, maximum roof height of 4m, and eaves height of 2.88m

24/00989/PA 30, FAIRFIELD ROAD Single storey rear extension , changes to windows with front porch extension.

24/01002/PA 5, CROWHURST ROAD LDC: loft conversion with dormer window to rear & 3 No rooflights to front

24/01033/PA 87 Fairfield Proposed double storey extension to rear.

All above applications noted without comment.

24/00958/00959/00960 BGSP 3x Section 73 applications to vary conditions 1,2,25,30 and remove 12 on TM/20/2400. vary 2 & 37 TM22/2292, and 1.3 & 35 TM/20/2397, and extend all until 31 December 2030 - Chairman to review all applications carefully, but on face value the Council supports the longer time frame.

R Body - Chairman reported on a visit to the Landfill site, and the operator's proposal to move the recycling operation, to allow landfill operations to continue, noting significant bunding proposals to reduce noise, and that post quarrying ground levels would be achieved during restoration. Council looks forward to an application in due course -Noted.

061 Potters Mede

- (i) Update -Storage Container s installed, Fences altered and gates installed, lockboxes ordered
- (ii) BG Scouts move completed
- (iii) Van Service 16 July

062 Recreation Ground

- (i) Black Horse Mews - meeting builder 14th July - low lever works, no impact to Bourne River.
- (ii) New safety fencing installed - stock fencing saved for Isles Quarry

063 Community Issues

- (i) AQ Monitor levels low, proposed removal next year
- (ii) ASB recreation ground Part 2

064 Village Enhancements & Green Spaces

- (i) **Solar Projects** - PM and Bowls complete, awaiting Fibre installation at PM BT quote £37.95 +vat pcm one off delivery £9.95. Survey this week. Thanks to Cllr Ramsden for his work.

Signed **Chair Mark Ramsden 5 August 2024**

- (ii) **Public Toilets** - Female door relocation in hand, Cllr Ramsden to post closure notice on Facebook.
- (iii) **Surgery Parking**- the single MOP who complained has now lodged complaints with Planning Enforcement. Chairman has checked the site and there has been no damage to the main root system of the TPO Limes. Planning Permission for the two roadway lights not required - we are a Public Authority with PDR. New parking signs ordered £73.14 +vat Noted & Agreed.
- Chairman had written to the surgery thanking them for allowing us to install two streetlights on their property and offering to power them.

065 Financial Matters

- (i) Responsible Financial Officer's report. Clerk reported very healthy position
- (ii) Bank Reconciliations & Balance 30 June 2024 Total Bank Balances **£202,359.18**
- (iii) To approve Payment List (appx 1) as circulated..Prop Chair, Sec Cllr Heselden - AGREED
Invoices checked : Cllrs Taylor & Thrush - error on SHS invoice- to be replaced.
- (iv) Change of power supplier - negotiations with Octopus, New fibre will allow real time solar generation monitoring and payment. Clerk noted N-Power had ceased overcharging and were now reasonable
- (v) Zurich Renewal £6847 noted minimal increase, but Clerk checking fine print - AGREED
- (vi) SHS Toilet Cleaners want to increase from £694 to £750,Clerk to determine whether they will freeze their monthly costs. If they refuse we consider the best VFM way of cleaning the public toilets.
- (vii) Grant Tracker summarised. BGPC had gained about £26k in funding for capital and revenue projects.

066 Website & Social Media

- (i) Cllr Ramsden to post notice of short closure of Female Public Toilet.

067 Neighbourhood & Local Plans

- (i) TMBC Local Plan consultation starts this month. TMBC Planners want far in excess of the housing numbers for our area that we think is fair, and during discussions the Parish Alliance have sought Independent Advice. We will need to mobilise residents to respond to the Consultation, and it is suggested we follow the path we took last time, using every avenue, including the Voice, Social Media, High St advice, form letters & crib sheets. Contribution to update Highway Report - apx £2000 BGPC share - AGREED

068 Highways & Streetlighting

- (i) A25 Pavement - still awaiting repairs
- (ii) Cllr Heselden reported excessive speeds on the A227, and pavement encroachment at Tollgate, Clerk to investigate camera operation, and Chair will report build-out to KCC and Clarion Homes.
- (iii) Cllr Reid reported the need for a pedestrian guard rail between Station Rd & the Chippy, request to be passed to KCC. She also reported Basted Mill concerns about ducks crossing the road. Chair to liaise with Platt PC and TMBC about installation of warning signs

069 Quarries & Landfills

- (i) Note BGSP Extension to 2030

070 Councillors Reports from outside Bodies (max 3 min)

- (i) D-Day 80 there had been some complaints from outside the Village about lack of publicity
- (ii) Village Hall Reps Part 2
- (iii) To note further Standards Complaint lodged against the Chairman by a member of the Village Hall MC
Chairman had convened a Review Panel according to the Standards Code to investigate the complaint against the Clerk and had appointed Cllr Butterfill to chair it, Chair asked her to update members on the outcome of the Review Panel. Cllr Butterfill reported that she had appointed Cllrs Ramsden and Thrush, and they had reviewed the complaint against the Clerk, emails and verbal reports, and recommended the Complaint against the Clerk be dismissed as unfounded, and confirmed that the Chairman had not been present or involved in the process in any way at any time.

071 Future Dates

- (i) **Date of next meeting 5th August 2024 1930 Borough Green Village Hall**
At all other times contact the Clerk using the details above

072 Exclusion of Public and Press: Pursuant to Section1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Chairman to move that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting during consideration of any item.

After concluding Part 2 discussions on Village Hall, Reynolds Retreat, Local Plan and ASB, Chairman closed the meeting at 21.25 hrs

Signed **Chair Mark Ramsden 5 August 2024**

APPENDIX 1**BGPC Payments List July 2024**

	£
Staff Costs	
Staff Salaries	5,543.92
HMRC	2,838.19
KCC Pensions	2,576.00
BACS Payments	
Astra Security, CCTV data charges, inv SI-108590	30.00
City of Rochester Pipe Band, inv 110624	550.00
Commercial Services, inv LS210389	171.28
SHS, inv 46339	694.32
WPC, inv 491	433.37
Nu-Venture, inv 3027	833.00
RBL Poppy Appeal	55.00
Expenses - B Galopin	40.00
Expenses - B Glew	352.47
Expenses - R Springett	86.29
DD Payments	
Zen Internet (monthly charge)	13.79
National Domestic Rates RG	57.20
COGS - The Voice Magazine	300.00
Bank Charges *	18.00
Npower* - streetlighting	252.85
Npower* - public convenience	229.14
EDF (PM)*	443.00
EDF (RG)*	40.00
Castle Water*	284.40
Castle Water*	49.07
Stellantis (formerly Vauxhall Finance)	544.80
* DD amounts may vary on a monthly basis	
Total	16,436.09
NB: Receipts during June 24 (exc bank transfers)	1,055.24
Total balances at 30 June 2024	202,359.18
Signatures Cllrs Mike Taylor & Sam Thrush	

Signed **Chair Mark Ramsden 5 August 2024**