

Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 10 May 2017 at the Pavilion, Deep Spinney, Biddenham

Present: Peter Chase, Graham Bates, Chris Gee, Jon Gambold, Alan Jacobs, Terry Platt, Francia Slade, Borough Cllr Rigby and the Clerk were in attendance. In addition, there were 12 members of the public.

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr Chase was proposed by Cllr Jacobs and this was seconded by Cllr Gambold. All members were in favour and Cllr Chase accepted his nomination to remain as Chairman of the Parish Council for a further year.

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Osuch – **it was resolved** to accept the apologies.

3. Declarations of interest

Cllr Roger Rigby declared an interest in item 8 the Local Plan as one of the sites proposed for Biddenham is directly behind his property.

4. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 12th April 2017

It was resolved to approve the minutes.

5. Matters Arising from Minutes

There were no other matters not covered elsewhere within the agenda.

6. Public Open Session (15 mins)

No questions

7. To allocate areas of responsibility within the Parish Council as follows:

Vice Chairman – Joe Warren

Town and Parish Network Representative – Graham Bates

Play Area (weekly visual inspections) – Karen Chase

Street furniture (report any problems to the Clerk) – Francia Slade

Notice boards – Graham Bates and Krzys Osuch

Borough Highways Representative – Jon Gambold

Planning Groups – these would remain the same

Accounts – Krzys Osuch

Website – Joe Warren

8. Local Plan 2035 – to consider a response

The Borough Council are consulting on its Local Plan which will shape where development will take place in the Borough up until 2035. Areas of the Borough are categorised as either urban, edge of urban or group 1,2,3 or 4 villages. The Plan outlines the Borough's predicted housing requirements and preferred numbers for each area. All sites are rated and sites with a higher score are more likely to be included. Biddenham are fortunate that only two sites have been included in the consultation for consideration:

Land off Gold Lane and land off Bromham Road.

160 dwellings are proposed for the area of land off Gold lane although not on land closest to the village pond. The applicant has applied for between 250-300 dwellings but the Borough have recommended only 160.

What about the development on the old golf course owned by Mr Wingfield? This has planning permission for 700 houses and is already included in the housing quota.

Can the parish council control density numbers on new developments so they are more in

Clerk

keeping with the existing housing stock in Biddenham? No, new developments work to an agreed formula although those in rural locations generally have more generous sized plots than those in the urban area.

It was resolved that Cllr Chase would complete the questionnaire and then circulate to all members for their views and amendments prior to sending to the Borough. The clerk had requested an extension of time if required.

Peter Chase
ALL

9. Planning – to note the report and comment on any new applications

The report was noted

21 Church End – the parish council objected to this application.

18 Main Road, Grove House – is this a listed building? *Details of all listed buildings can be found on the Borough website.*

98 Bromham Road – *have we written to planning enforcement regarding the lights and use of the outbuilding as a separate dwelling?* Yes, planning enforcement are aware and have opened an investigation case for this property.

There were no other comments on the remaining applications.

10. Clerk’s report

The report was noted

It was resolved not to apply for the Village of the Year competition.

It was resolved not to alter the wording for the Observer Close plaque.

11. Financial Matters

(i) Accounts for approval – **it was resolved** to approve the accounts for payment:

BACS	Payee	£	Description
BACS	Bostock Health Care	566.98	External AED cabinet, replacement pads, accessory pack, and 2 x AED/CPR manuals
BACS	Viking	72.88	Cleaning materials for Pavilion
BACS	1&1	5.98	Registration of additional domain name www.biddenham-pc.org.uk
BACS	T Horton	180.00	Descale urinals, descale of showers, drain down and refill and heat hot water tanks (legionella health and safety risk assessment checks)
	TOTAL	825.84	

Clerk

It was resolved to instruct Came & Company to renew the parish council’s insurance policy with Inspire on a 3-year Long Term Agreement. This year’s premium would be £2523.19.

Clerk

(ii) To note the spend against budget – the report was noted

12. Matters in Progress

Surfacing outside St James Lower – site visit will be taking place next Wednesday

Clerk

Gold Lane – white lines will be marked along the edges of the highway and we will review this matter in a few months to see if this has any impact on speeding vehicles

Traffic Survey on Bromham Road – one solution may be to increase the speed limit from Day’s Lane to the Gold Lane roundabout to 40mph. This would mean additional signs and

Peter

road markings could be installed. Cllr Chase agreed to include something in the Loop outlining the proposals. It was also suggested this could be displayed on the notice boards and the parish website.

Chase

Roundabout feature – the parish council’s preferred option is for one tall pillar and we are awaiting confirmation from the Borough regarding permission and what would need to be done with the existing trees planted on the roundabout.

Clerk

Shrubbery near the War memorial – please chase Bidwell’s regarding this.

Wooden Posts on Biddenham Turn – **it was resolved** to install additional wooden posts to close the gap between the existing two sections. **It was resolved** to obtain a quote from the Borough who had installed the original posts several years ago.

Clerk

13. **Parish Concerns**

Who is responsible for cutting the service road off Bromham Road as this has not been cut yet? The parish council’s contractor Chris Horne. The clerk to contact Chris Horne to request this area is cut as soon as possible.

Clerk

14. **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 14th June

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 Approved by Chairman 14 June 2017