

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14 March at the Pavilion, Deep Spinney, Biddenham

Present: Peter Chase, Graham Bates, Jon Gambold, Alan Jacobs, Krzys Osuch, Terry Platt, Joe Warren, Francia Slade and the Clerk were in attendance. In addition, there were 8 members of the public.

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Chris Gee. Cllr Gambold would be later arriving as he had another meeting at the Borough. Cllr Rigby had advised he was unable to attend.

### 2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Chase declared a personal interest in item 6 - Planning

### 3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 February 2018

One amendment to remove the word “whether” from Paragraph 9 and **it was then resolved** to approve the minutes.

### 4. Matters Arising from Minutes

None

### 5. Public Open Session

Timber bus shelter on main road – 1 pane of perspex broken please can this be repaired.

Clerk

It was noted that the vegetation in front of Lavender lodge had been removed. However, there still remain numerous small tree stumps (approximately 4-5” wide) and these could damage the grass cutting machinery. Could the parish council contact Bidwell’s to ask for the stumps to be ground out? The land is now bare ground, would the Parish Council arrange for this area be re-seeded? *Although the land belongs to Mr Wingfield the parish council agreed to arrange for this area to be seeded and to request that Bidwell’s arrange for the tree stumps to be ground down.*

Clerk

A member of the public thanked members of the parish council for all the hard work on behalf of residents regarding the local plan and the proposed housing development off Gold Lane.

It was reported that the drain on Gold Lane near to the junction with Hampden Court is blocked and it overflows constantly. This had already been reported by the Clerk via the Highways helpdesk and the clerk would ask for an update. This item would be added to matters in progress.

Clerk

The kerbstones on the left-hand corner of Biddenham Turn and Bromham Road have been damaged. **It was resolved** to contact Andrew Prigmore to ask the Borough to repair or suggest an alternative solution as the buses swing to the left as they struggle to make the right turn onto Bromham Road due to the proximity of the traffic island.

Clerk

### 6. Planning

It was noted the application for the demolition of Biddenham House and the erection of 8 new dwellings had been refused permission.

Cllr Platt enquired if the parish council had received an explanation from the planning department why 17/03244/FUL 21 Main Road had been granted permission when the revised plans were virtually the same design as the original application which was refused permission. **It was resolved** to write to the Borough for clarification.

Clerk

It was reported that the Borough had received 578 responses relating to Policy 19 and 492 responses relating to Policy 23.

**7. Clerk’s report**

Data Protection – members agreed that a footer (as proposed in the Clerk’s report) should be included at the bottom of any email sent on behalf of the parish council. Once the SLCC policy is available this could then be modified and adopted by the parish council. Members were reminded they should not retain personal data for any longer than necessary. Once a matter has been resolved or an enquiry dealt with then there is no longer any need to retain personal data.

**Cllr Gambold joined the meeting.**

There were no other matters for consideration.

**8. Financial Matters**

**Accounts for approval –**

**(i) It was resolved** to approve the accounts for payment including an additional payment of £135.00 to White Hart Press for print costs regarding the Local Plan.

**(ii) To note the spend against budget for the PC**

The report was noted

**(ii) To note the spend against budget for the Pavilion**

The report was noted

Undesignated reserves had been used to balance the payments against the receipts.

Asset Register – members asked to include a notional value of £1.00 for the defibrillator unit which had been donated by the Mark Law Hing Choy charity. The parish council had paid for the installation and the external cabinet. **It was resolved** to adopt the revised asset register with a total sum of £713,289.88.

Clerk

**9. Car Parking issues at T Junction with Deep Spinney**

This matter had been considered previously by the parish council. Members were informed that the matter is worse than ever, with cars parked on the pavement on both sides near the beauty salon and in front of the Pavilion gates. This makes it extremely difficult if you are turning right onto Deep Spinney as you cannot see any vehicles leaving the Pavilion. The Clerk also reported that cars and a transit van were regularly parked in front of the pavilion gates and was concerned this would prevent emergency vehicles gaining access to the Pavilion. **It was resolved** to request yellow lines for both sides of the road at the T junction with Deep Spinney and to enquire whether additional parking spaces could be provided on highways land.

Clerk

**10. Matters in progress**

**White Lining on Gold Lane**

It was noted that white lines had been painted on Gold Lane, but not along the full length of it. The white lines are only in the central section near Duck End Lane and Hampden Court. Cllr Gambold suggested that the narrowest section of Gold Lane had been painted and asked the parish council to allow time to see whether this has any effect on speeding traffic before requesting further white lining.

All members

**Roundabout feature**

Cllr Platt has spoken with Boden & Ward and thanked them for their patience while the council considered how to fund the additional road safety and traffic management costs.

Coffin Path

It was reported that the Borough Highways team (which now incorporates the old Rights of Way team) have agreed to liaise with the Wingfield Estate regarding laying shingle on the coffin path. Chris Hayden Jones is continuing to monitor progress via his Borough contacts.

Parking Provision for the new country park

Cllrs Rigby and Gambold are in discussion with the management of the new sports facility but there is nothing further to report as the country park is not yet completed.

Biddenham Drain – nothing further to report

Village Green – Clerk had received a holding email from the new contact at BT and would continue to pursue BT for a full refund of the money spent repairing the village green.

**11. Parish Concerns**

The Village Hall Barn is being affected by masonry bees and the village hall committee will need to get this repointed. The village hall committee will need to apply for funding towards the cost of the repairs. Cllr Gambold will inform the committee they must contact the Clerk should they wish to apply to the parish council for a grant.

J Gambold

It was noted that Cllr Bates had attended the Economic Heartlands transport meeting (the presentation notes had been emailed to all members). There were no comments.

**12. Date of Next meeting:**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm to be held at St James Primary School, Main Road, Biddenham. This would be followed by a meeting of the parish council.

The Clerk was asked to invite a representative from:

- The local police – perhaps to offer some crime prevention advice
- Biddenham Country Park Sports Centre committee
- St James's School governing body
- The Friends of Biddenham Pond
- Biddenham Cricket Club
- Jason Thompson from the football team.

.....  
Approved by Chairman 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018