

Biddenham Parish Council
Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting – 012021egm
Held Tuesday 26th January 2021 via Zoom

In line with current Coronavirus government legislation, the Parish Council will not be holding face to face meetings for the foreseeable future. Therefore this meeting was held using the Zoom conference facility.

Meeting commenced at 19.30 and finished at 20.30

Present:

Cllrs - P Chase (Chairman), G Bates, S Briggs, H Fowler, F Slade ,K Osuch, J Warren, and K Cotton (Clerk)

Borough Cllrs - R Rigby

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Gee and Jacobs

2. Appointment for Replacement Clerk

The Chair proposed that the Parish Council recruit David Brough following the resignation of the existing Clerk. DB had been interviewed at the same time as KC and it was felt he would be an ideal replacement. It was proposed that DB be contracted for 15 hours per week and commence on 1st February 2021. A handover with KC would take place and the exact length of this would be determined once DB and KC had spoken, but would not go much beyond the financial year end.

RESOLVED – *To offer DB the role of Clerk. (Cllr Osuch abstained from the vote)*

ACTION – *PC to contact DB and issue contract documentation.*

ACTION – *KC to contact DB with regards to the handover.*

3. Revised Meeting Dates

Due to a clash with the replacement clerk's existing parish meeting commitments, the Chair proposed that future meeting dates for Biddenham PC be moved.

RESOLVED – *That future meetings be held on the third Tuesday of the month.*

ACTION – *KC to update zoom and website, and recirculate revised dates.*

4. Precept 2021/22

At the previous meeting on 13th January a precept figure was agreed of £45,500. In light of the clerk's resignation, a handover period will mean paying both the old and new clerks for a period of time. In view of this, the Chair proposed that the precept be increased from £43,000 for 2020/21 to £47,500 for 2021/22. This represents approximately a 4% increase per household on 2020/21.

RESOLVED – *To submit a precept of £47,500.*

Signed by Chair..... Date.....

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ACTION – KC to submit precept paperwork to Borough by 31/01/2021.

5. AOB

- PC and HF had drafted an objection to the Great Denham golf course clubhouse change of use planning application for review by Councilors.

RESOLVED – To object to the planning application using the draft as provided.

ACTION – KC to submit the objection to Borough by the deadline.

- Cllr Osuch recently undertook an audit of the Council's financial transactions since April 2020. His completed report has been submitted to the Clerk and Chair but he recommends that consideration be given to introducing standing orders to regular Pavilion hirers and to improve our credit control processes.

RESOLVED – That Cllr Osuch's recommendations be implemented.

ACTION – KC to discuss with the Pavilion Manager.