

BEARSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Bearsted Parish Council
held at KGV Memorial Hall, Bearsted on Tuesday 9th May 2017 at
7:30pm

Present: Cllr Geoff Bennett
Cllr Richard Camp (Vice Chair)
Cllr Suzanne Camp
Cllr Helena Goodwin
Cllr Jon Hughes
Cllr Fabienne Hughes
Cllr Pat Marshall MBE
Cllr Paul Young

Also in attendance were the acting Clerk Mrs Sarah Lewis, Simon Finlay from the Downs Mail, Ward Councillors Val Springett, Mike Cuming and Denis Spooner and 4 members of the public.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public bought up the issue of parking on Ware Street which included instances of vehicles parking on the pavement forcing pedestrians to walk in the road. A suggestion was made for Bearsted Parish Council to liaise with Thurnham Parish Council to jointly fund a consultation with the possibility of installing yellow lines. This is a matter for the Environment Committee who will address the query further.

1. Apologies and absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Redman (personal matter), Cllr Ash (family commitments), Cllr Conner (Family commitments), Cllr O'Sullivan (work commitments) and Cllr Ryan (Holiday).

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

There were no such declarations.

3. To resolve to go into closed session and to exclude the press and public during items 13 (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 in accordance with standing order 10 (xi).

This was agreed and members of the press and public were informed that they will be required to leave the meeting at this item.

4. Minutes.

The minutes of the full council meeting of Tuesday 11th April 2017 were agreed as a true and correct record and duly signed.

5. Reports

5.1 A police report had been received prior to the meeting and circulated.

5.2 A report from Sally Williams, Community Warden had been received prior to the meeting and circulated.

5.3 Ward Councillor Val Springett gave her report which was noted.

5.4 Ward Councillor Mike Cuming introduced the newly elected Ward Councillor Mr Denis Spooner whom the Parish Council welcomed.

6. Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings

- 6.1 Cllr Marshall gave a brief update from the planning committee which was noted.
- 6.2 Cllr Richard Camp gave an update on behalf of the Finance Committee. It was noted that finance procedures will be in place with the newly recruited Clerk in due course.
- 6.3 Cllr Askin gave a brief update of the Communications and Community Committee minutes.
- 6.4 Cllr Bennett gave a brief update of the Environment Committee minutes.

7. Finance

- 7.1 To authorise payment of accounts. The payment list had been circulated prior to the meeting. A discussion took place for clarification of certain payments. It was unanimously agreed to accept the list, with the Donation to Classic Cars on the Green pending agreement at item 7.4.
- 7.2 Income and expenditure to date. This item was deferred pending the new Clerk joining the council.
- 7.3 To note balances of final accounts. This item was deferred as above.
- 7.4 Grants and Donations request. It was unanimously agreed to donate £500 to Classic Cars on the Green to support the Kent Air Ambulance.

8. Policies

- 8.1 Review of Standing Orders. Following review of the current Standing Orders, it was unanimously agreed to accept them for a further year, and incorporate the newly released model Standing Orders where appropriate in due course.
- 8.2 The acting Clerk had circulated a list of policies and documents that should be on public display via the Parish Council Website. These were duly accepted, signed and will be uploaded once the new Clerk is in position.

ACTION: CLERK

9 To review and seek approval for tenders for Christmas Fair.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

10. Vacancy of Councillor

- 10.1 It was suggested to use the Downs Mail to further advertise the position and to contact the local Schools for display of the advert on their community notice boards.

ACTION: CLERK

- 10.2 The acting Clerk informed the council that the advert has been placed on the noticeboards and the procedure has been logged with MBC. The position will be available for election/co-option from 18th May 2017.

11. Matters for Discussion

Reports from parish representatives and external bodies. There were no such reports.

Correspondence. There was no correspondence to discuss.

Community Asset Fund – Sport England. Cllr Suzanne Camp gave a report regarding the project and funding. This is moving forward and regular updates will be supplied.

Traffic Survey. This item had already been covered during the update from the Environment Committee who are dealing with the issue.

Use of The Green for function. Council agreed that more information was needed before agreement could be made.

ACTION: CLERK

A standing Agenda item for all committees in respect of the Downs Mail was agreed. Committees will communicate through the Clerk regarding which aspects of their monthly meetings they would like highlighted/showcased on the parish page.

12. Future Agenda items.

To seek approval for Christmas Fair tenders.

21:00hrs. Members of the press and public were asked to leave the meeting as it went into closed session for item 13 regarding recruitment updates.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting ended at 21:20hrs.

Signed..... Date.....