

BEARSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Bearsted Parish Council held at
KGV Memorial Hall, Bearsted on Tuesday 12 January 2016 at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr Richard Ash
Cllr Geoff Bennett
Cllr Richard Camp
Cllr Suzanne Camp
Cllr Dan Conner
Cllr Helena Goodwin
Cllr Fabienne Hughes
Cllr Jon Hughes
Cllr Pat Marshall MBE
Cllr Fiona Redman
Cllr Tony Ryan
Cllr Paul Young

Also in attendance The Clerk Mrs Michelle Rumble and 7 members of the public

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Fiona Redman

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Graham Farrow (holiday, Cllr Helen Farrow (holiday)

2. Disclosure of interest or Lobbying

Cllr Ash declared an interest as a Governor of Madginford Primary School

3. Minutes of the previous full Council meeting

RESOLVED: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 8 December 2015 as a true and correct record. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman with handwritten additions.

4. Reports

4.1 Report from the PCSO and Police Issues.

PCSO Timon Gurr was in attendance and his report had been received.

4.2 Report from the Community Warden

Community Warden Martin Sherwood was in attendance, and gave his report and spoke on scams which were taking place.

5. Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Reports had been received from all three of our Borough Councillors Cllr Val Springett, Cllr Mike Cuming and Cllr Richard Ash.

6. Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings

For the parish council to receive the minutes. Members are allowed to ask questions of the Committee Chairman but may not initiate a discussion.

6.1. Planning Committee 17 December 2015

As Cllr Graham Farrow was not in attendance Cllr Conner reported on the last planning committee meeting and updated members on applications. Cllr Conner stated that the last planning meeting was one of the largest attended meetings to date with more than one controversial application.

6.2. Environment meeting 4 January 2016.

Cllr Bennett reported on the last meeting and the following items were **RESOLVED** at the meeting

- Payment of £120.00 plus 4 x £30.00 to Paul Waring for repairs to access route onto the Green. Proposed by Cllr Ash, Seconded by Cllr Young. **RESOLVED** by all members present.
- Confirmation that the Parish Council will not be giving another key to the bollard as requested by the owner of 1 Smarts Cottages. Will be dealt with under the closed session.
- Christmas Tree Lights – confirmation of all paperwork the clerk has requested from Mr Garry Reynolds. This paperwork has not been forthcoming and this item will now be removed from the agenda.
- Clerk to write to Mr Touhey (159 Ashford Road) re maintenance of hedge. **RESOLVED** clerk to write to Mr Touhey
- Cllr Camp will contact Mr Toby Butler (Chairman of Governors Madginford Primary school if no response received within 2 weeks). Response has been received and this will be added to the next Environment agenda.
- Purchase of 2 x Walnut Tree Guards at a cost of £220.00 x 2 plus £23.00 delivery charge. Proposed by Cllr Young, seconded by Cllr Ryan. **RESOLVED** by all members present.

6.3 Finance and General Policy meeting of the 6 January 2016

Cllr Camp reported on the last meetings. The main item discussed at the last meeting as the Budget and setting of the precept for 2016/17. Cllr Camp reported that the recommendation from the committee was to increase the precept by £20,000. This increase was necessary to cover projects and maintenance the Parish Council are planning on. This would take the precept to £116,800. This is a Band D increase from £27.10 to £32.00 per year. It was proposed by Cllr Camp, seconded by Cllr Bennett. **RESOLVED** by all members present.

6.4. Communications & Community committee.

The next meeting will take place on the 20th January 2016 at the KGV Memorial Hall.

7. Finance

7.1. To authorise list of payments made from 9 December 2015 to 12 January 2016 - for approval and signing, including list of individual payments exceeding £500.00. All members agreed the payments including previous cheque presented at full council meeting. Proposed by Cllr R Camp and seconded by Cllr Young. **RESOLVED** by all members.

7.2 To note Account balances. **RESOLVED:** All members noted the account balances

7.3 Budget setting for 16/17 – Cllr R Camp covered this under item 6.3.

7.4. To agree precept for 2016/17 – Cllr Camp covered this under item 6.3

8. Chairman's Report

Cllr Redman spoke on getting value for money and increasing income. Cllr Redman would also like the Parish Council to look forward.

9. **Vice Chairman's/Deputy Vice-Chairman's report**
No report.
10. **Reports from councillors**
Cllr Ash reported on an item which had been in the recent edition of the Downs mail. Bearsted Events had placed an article in the paper talking about the forthcoming Music on the Green. Cllr Ash stated that in the article it had stated that the event did not have the backing of the Council. Cllr Ash added that the Parish Council had given a donation of £400 towards the toilets and was letting them have the use of the Green for free. Cllr Redman will discuss this with the Chair of Bearsted Events.
11. **Matters for discussion**
Cllr Redman handed over to Cllr J Hughes who spoke on this, he wondered if the Parish Council would consider the placing of a porta cabin on the green for use as a small Newsagents/shop if the planning application for the demolition of the shops was approved. This will be an item to be added to the agenda for future discussion. Mary Richards from the Bearsted & Thurnham Society wished to thank the Parish Council and all residents for their support in the Save our Shops campaign.
12. **Correspondence**
Clean for the Queen is a National event taking place on the weekend of the 4th to the 6th March 2016. The Parish Council will look at what around the Parish could be carried out.
13. **Resolution:**
Footpath side of 1 Smarts cottages, Bearsted
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).
Covered in Closed session
14. **Date of next meeting**
The next meeting of the Full Council will be at Madginford Hall on the 9 February 2016 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm