

BEARSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of Bearsted Parish Council held at KGV Memorial Hall, Bearsted on Monday 21st August, 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Geoff Bennett (Chair)
Cllr Jon Hughes (Vice Chair)
Cllr Richard Ash
Cllr Suzanne Camp
Cllr Pat Marshall MBE

Also in attendance was the Clerk Sarah Lewis.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no reports.

1. Apologies and absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Fabienne Hughes (family commitments)

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

Cllr Jon Hughes declared an interest in item 8g as an allotment holder which was entered into the register.

3. Minutes of the last Environment Committee meeting on 31st July, 2017.

The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of 31st July, 2017 were unanimously agreed as a true record and were duly signed.

4. Matters arising from the last minutes.

The Clerk provided an update on action points from the last meeting.

5. Highways & Footpaths

a. Update on pricing queries from recent invitations to tender: This item is deferred for further input from Daniel McLeish of Evans & Langford. Cllr Jon Hughes will liaise with Daniel in this regard.

ACTION: CLLR J HUGHES

6. Highways & Footpaths

a. Virgin Media trenching update: The Committee were informed that the KCC Highways Officer appears to be actively enforcing repairs by the contractor to pavements and areas that have been poorly attended.

b. Correspondence received:

- KCC Consultation – Rights of Way Improvement Plan. Cllr R Ash will lead on this item going forward and report back to the Committee.

ACTION: CLLR R ASH

- Relocation of co-mingle bin: Correspondence from Cllr Val Springett. A discussion was held regarding the location of the bin at the A20/Roundwell which has been incorrectly cited by MBC. It was unanimously agreed that a further bin is required and that

it would be preferable to leave the existing bin in its current location and install a further bin at the gate by Gore Cottages at a cost of £250.

ACTION: ADMIN

- c. Parish Services Scheme survey: Cllr Ash gave an update that the survey is almost final and will be brought to Full Council for ratification before sending. The deadline for return in 4.9.17.

ACTION: CLLR R ASH

- d. Instruction for maintenance of footpaths – discussion and agreement: Recent instructions update was given by the Clerk. The Committee would like Warings to be instructed to attend to the nettles along the Meadow Bank footpath, for Tantons to provide a quote to attend to the tree hanging across the footpath at the Hampson Way end of the footpath, and to attend to the ancient Cherry Tree that requires pruning on the Meadow Bank to the rear of no 1 Upper Chimes.

ACTION: ADMIN

- e. Debris on footpath in Mallings Drive. This area was highlighted as needing strimming which will be requested from Warings. The Clerk will chase Land Registry regarding ownership of the land where the metal fencing is located.

ACTION: ADMIN

- f. Any further reports: There were no further reports.

7. **Bearsted Green**

- a. Correspondence:

- Bearsted Events CIC who are managing the Music on The Green event have requested a donation for the costs of performing a scan to The Green for location of underlying services and utilities. The Clerk will forward BPC's Grants and Donations Policy for completion and consideration by the Finance Committee. A discussion took place regarding future events and the issue of charging for the use of the Green and any equipment belonging to BPC. This will be brought forward as an Agenda item for the next Community and Communications Committee for consideration.

ACTION: ADMIN

- Communication had been received regarding payment of the latest phase of the post replacements around the Green. The Clerk confirmed that the payment is on the next cheque list.
- The issue of the crumbling kerb on the narrow slip road to the west of The Green which is being damaged by unsuitable large vehicles was discussed. The Committee would like the Clerk to enquire with KCC for the installation of a double kerb as already installed at other locations around The Green.

ACTION: CLERK

- b. Update on ecology survey for the pond on the Green: This is awaiting commencement and is in hand.
- c. Update for further quotes to repair the timber edging replacement to the corner by Yeoman Lane. This item is deferred awaiting quotes.

ACTION: CLERK

8. **Open Spaces**

- a. Church car park allotments – BPC shed maintenance update. The Clerk informed the committee that Richard Gummery has been asked to complete the painting. This item is in hand.

- b. Comingle Bins. This item had been covered at item 6b.
- c. Notice Boards: Updates on any problems or maintenance issues. The Clerk updated the Committee regarding the repair to the Church Landway/A20 notice board which has been knocked over. The Committee agreed to repair and monitor with a view to replacing in the future. The Admin team will source prices for like for like notice boards for future reference.

ACTION: ADMIN

- d. Update on ecology survey and tree surgery recommendation for Meadow Bank: This matter is ongoing.
- e. Update for tree surgery works on the bank in Ware Street: Works are due to start late September following notification in the Downs Mail.
- f. South East Britain in Bloom: The Committee are keen to look at this opportunity in the Spring with a view to entering.
- g. Correspondence:

- A request has been received from The Street Allotments for materials to assist in preventing a bank from sliding at a cost of £208.61. This was agreed with a vote of 4 in favour and 1 abstention.
- A request for permission for necessary tree works has been received from the Scout Group. The Clerk will contact the group to thank them for informing the Council and giving authority for said works.

ACTION: CLERK

- Correspondence had been received from the Bearsted Cricket Club for the citing of a temporary storage container by the Pavilion on The Green. The Committee would like this item to be bought to Full Council for consideration with further information provided by a representative of the club. The club will be contacted with dates of forthcoming meetings.

ACTION: CLERK

9. Maintenance/Handyman work

This item had been previously discussed in items 6 and 8.

10. Storage solutions for Roseacre Raiders FC.

Although keen to assist, the Committee were unable to suggest any alternative solutions for short term storage. The item is due to be further discussed with any recommendations at the next Full Council meeting.

ACTION: CLERK

11. Matters for discussion

- a. ANPR system for speeding cars: The Committee considered the issue of speeding cars further and agreed to proceed with a previous resolution to obtain costs and guidance for speed surveys at hot spots throughout the Parish. The Clerk will obtain information for consideration by the Committee at the next meeting.

ACTION: CLERK

- b. Preferences for reporting in the Downs Mail: The Committee would like to highlight the imminent tree work to be carried out to the bank opposite the railway station in Ware Street; the completed second phase of the replacement of the posts around The Green and the impending final phase; and the ecology survey for Meadow Bank and subsequent renovation of the area.

ACTION: ADMIN

12. War Memorial maintenance.

This item was deferred awaiting further information.

ACTION: CLLR F HUGHES

13. Future Agenda items.

Budget report.
Bell Lane

14: Date of next meeting.

The next Environment Committee meeting will be held on Monday 25th September, 2017 at the KGV Memorial Hall, Manor Rise at 7.30pm.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting ended at 9.08pm.

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