

BEARSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of Bearsted Parish Council held at King George V Memorial Hall, Manor Rise, Bearsted on Tuesday 17th September, 2019 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Jon Hughes (Chair)
Cllr Frank Jagger (Vice Chair)
Cllr Fabienne Hughes
Cllr Pat Marshall MBE
Cllr Richard Ash MBE
Cllr Suzanne Camp

Also in attendance was the Assistant Clerk Erin Sugden (AC) and two members of the public.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Two members of the Bearsted Cricket Club reported that the relationship between them and BCP needs to improve after occasions where they felt that better communication could have prevented situations to escalate. They have requested that both sides move forward positively.

1. **Declarations of intention to record**
The Assistant Clerk recorded the meeting for the purpose of the minutes.
2. **Apologies and absence**
No Apologies received.
3. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
None declared.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting:**
The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of Tuesday 16th July, 2019 were agreed as a true record and duly signed.
5. **Matters arising from the last minutes and action points.**
The Assistant Clerk updated the Committee about the action points from last month's meeting and will continue to action outstanding points.
ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK
6. **Church Landway/Church Car Park**
 - a) Correspondences:
 - i) Girl Guides Access: Empathy was given to all clubs as it is appreciated that the current availability to key access does increase the time to complete tasks. However, it was felt by the committee if further keys are issued it would decrease the security measure in place. It was agreed with 5 in favour and 1 abstention not to issue any further keys. The AC will write to the Girl Guides
ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK
 - ii) CCTV on Church Landway: The Council had previously considered CCTV however it was not thought that if not monitored 24 hours a day it would not act as the best deterrent to anti-social behaviour or burglaries. The AC will write to the Tennis Club.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

- b) Quotation to improve steps at Church Lane Car Park: It was identified that the steps need improvements and quotations will be requested ready for next meeting.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

- c) Update of location for bench donation and quote for installation: Deferred to next meeting.

7. Highways & Footpaths

- a) Correspondence:
- b) Joint Traffic Working Group: A letter was read out from Boxley Parish Council to thank the working group. At the next October meeting a presentation will be put together and presented to the in-coming Head of the Kent County Council.
- c) Progress with Highway Improvement Plan: The Ware Street Improvements Plan is currently out for consultation. Speed monitoring will take place in Roseacre Lane and Yeoman Lane. A proposal about Roundwell has been submitted to KCC who are also investigating the possibility of a pedestrian crossing on Ware Street.
- d) Manor Rise Correspondence: Adjustments are required on Manor Rise due to the 'Keep Clear' road sign being ignored and therefore the access issues for service vehicles remain.
- e) Update of LED light conversion quotes: Cllr F Hughes to request this from the contractor.

ACTION: CLLR F HUGHES

- f) Handrail at Bell Lane steps: The need for a handrail had previously been raised. Instead of BPC being responsible it was agreed for The AC to put a request to KCC.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

- g) Smarts Cottage Update: KCC have reported that the bridleway is being considered.
It was agreed by a vote of 4 in favour and 2 abstentions, to request MBC to remove the 2 remaining bins from the flat.
It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the 3/4 green bins along the east side of Church Lane opposite the Cricket Pavilion should also be removed by MBC.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

8. General Maintenance

- a) To identify/ratify essential maintenance issues. None identified
- b) Footpaths for clearance: The Community Payback team will be instructed to clear footpaths when identified.

9. Bearsted Green

- a) Correspondence:
- b) Pond management: A report currently being put together by Cllr G Hannington will be given next month.
- c) Bins to the rear of Smarts Cottages: see above
- d) Additional planting to The Green: Cllr J Hughes proposed that some hedgerows are planted at the south part of the pond area to create a quiet area near to the benches. However due to the quality of the ground this was not seen achievable.
- e) Additional electrics for The Green: Cllr J Hughes informed the committee that the electrics have been installed within the agreed amount of £250 ratified at June's Environment Meeting; minute reference 383.9e.

- f) Dead walnut tree on the Green: The tree will be removed and the metal guard will be stored in BPC shed at the Church Lane Allotment. The AC will request the maintenance contractor to do this work.
ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK
- g) Cricket Club: Cllr Marshall recommended that the BCC should ensure that any plans incorporate disabled access. It is recommended that the details provided are passed to Full Council.

10. Allotments

- a) Correspondence: None received
- b) Isolation valve, meter reading location and water supply to Church Landway allotment site query: Cllr J Hughes found the value and will take the reading for the AC to inform South East Water.
- c) Deposit system: AC to write to The Street and inform them of the new deposit system.
Cllr F Hughes left 20.52
Cllr F Hughes returned 20.56
- d) Church Landway roles & responsibilities: The committee are happy with the current situation of the roles and responsibilities and do not feel any changes are required.

11. Meadow Bank

- a) Correspondence:
i) Letter from resident: The committee are happy that there is no one accessing Meadow Bank. The AC will respond to resident
ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK
- b) Grazing of livestock: The area is very over grown at present and advice has been given by Wildwood Trust that sheep would clear the land including brambles. A vote was taken and unanimously agreed that the Wildwood Trust be contacted and requested to put a proposal for the land and present this at the next Full Council meeting.
- c) Fencing: Deferred until 11b is investigated further.

12. Open Spaces

- a) BT Phone Box - Ashford Road: BT to be contacted to request that the phone box at this location and Crosskeys are removed.
ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK
- b) Tree Survey: Cllr J Hughes and Cllr Ash are going to photograph all trees in the Parish.
ACTION: CLLR J HUGHES / CLL ASH
- c) Football Licence: Not relevant to the Parish Council.

13. General Correspondence

None

14. Update of policies

Deferred to next meeting

15. Future Agenda Items

Policies from July
Update of location for bench donation and quote for installation
LED lights for the path from Ragstone Road to Madginford school
Pond Management

16. Date of next Meeting, 15th October, 2019

There being no further business to transact, the meeting ended at 21.13pm.

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