

BECKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Beckley Village Centre on WEDNESDAY 10 MAY 2017 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillors Christopher Broadbent (CB) Chairman, Mrs Deborah Ongley (DEO) Vice Chairman (*arrived 8.30pm*), Mrs Sue Evans (SE), Mrs Tina Langmead (TL) and Mike Rowe (MRO).
Attending: County Cllr Ms Angharad Davies (AD) and District Cllr Martin Mooney (MM).

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk Mrs V Ades and 14 members of the public.

Public Questions – to allow questions from the public for a period not exceeding 15 minutes. Members of the public are welcome to remain during the meeting, or may leave at any point, but they must remain silent unless invited to speak by the Chairman. There will be another opportunity for public speaking at the end of the meeting.

Mr P Maynard said the village sign, discussed at the April meeting, has been decided on and will cost £4,400 of which £2000 has been raised. Will the PC consider a donation? Agenda item 8. Concerns were raised over the planning application at Northlands Farm site for a funeral parlour, shop and burial ground. Enforcement notices in respect of work already started have gone to appeal and the PC will be responding.

County Councillor's report: Following Elections County Hall now has a conservative majority with 30 Cons. 11 LibDems 4 Labour and 5 Independent. Foster carers are urgently required – all backgrounds will be considered. There are 450 children in care and 50 children waiting for placements.

District Councillor's report: Community scheme is open for applications by 15 July 2017. Re agenda item 5g flight paths. It appears there will be no further consultation. Currently the flight path is not over Beckley, but further west. The 2nd runway traffic will fly over Maidstone. County has an agreement with Gatwick that flight paths should rotate.

Agenda item 6. Following AD's suggestion at the April meeting for her not to send written reports, the Clerk had spoken with other local clerks and all requested written reports should continue as some contained technical details which clerks were not always familiar with and the reports could be sent to councillors prior to meetings enabling them to prepare any questions. **AD agreed.**

Reports from Parish Councillors.

LD –asked about the future of rural schools. AD said Huw Merriman has been lobbying re this. Large areas have huge sums of money per child whilst rural areas have very little, which is not satisfactory. Rise in the minimum wage has had huge impacts. AD will meet with the head of Beckley school to discuss structuring.

CB – is getting in quotes for the fencing at the field adjacent the school.

TL – drew attention to a burglary in the village near to the garage. Be aware.

PC meeting commenced at 7.55pm.

- 1 **Apologies** had been received from IJ and DEO who would arrive late due to child minding problems.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** To receive any disclosures under the Council's Code of Conduct. None declared.
- 3 **Minutes** of the PC meeting held on 12 April 2017 were agreed as accurate and signed by CB.
- 4 **Planning – to consider any planning applications** received from RDC and other planning matters.
RR/2017/591/P - Beckley / Northiam Northlands Farm, Rye Road. Use of land as a natural burial site (retaining part agricultural and reinstating two ponds) including related facilities - septic tanks, toilet block, office, farm shop/chapel, two mobile log cabins, fencing and hardstanding. The two enforcement notices issued by RDC have been appealed against. Members felt the application was unstructured; a farm shop doubling up as a chapel did not bode well; a burial site is not an agricultural service and a natural burial site does not require 2x4 bedroomed log cabins with en suites. They also considered what impact the site would have on its neighbours. Members voted unanimously (6:0) against the application and for CB and MRO to put together written representations re appeal of enforcement notices and send to PINS.
RR/2017/860/P - Oxney View, Peasmarsh Road. Two storey extension to the rear (part over existing single storey.) Erection of double garage to free existing parking to allow turning exit onto highway forwards. **TL declared a personal interest.** Members discussed the application and **voted 5:0 in support.**

RR/2017/893/P Heronwood, Hayes Lane. Single storey extension and relocation of garden room. Members felt this was a sympathetic extension and **voted 6:0 in support**

RR/2017/942/P Little Knelle Farm, Whitebread Lane. Variation of condition 2 of RR/2016/1626/P to alter the extension to include a garage and alter its roof, with deletion of the detached garage building. Variation of the fenestration. **Members supported the application 6:0.**

8.30pm DEO arrived.

RR/2017/1033/P Pine Hoath, Furnace Lane. Erection of a single storey oak framed garden room to rear elevation. **Members supported the application 7:0.**

RR/2017/597/P Kitchenour, Kitchenour Lane. Change of use of barn to provide 2 no. holiday units, ancillary (annexe) accommodation, garaging and store. **Members would support the application 7:0 providing a condition was put on the property that the units could be used only as holiday lets.**

Planning Refusal:-

RR/2011/1617/P – 2 Great Knelle Cottage, Whitebread Lane. Domestic zero rated renewable energy system incorporating solar panels and micro wind turbines for an off grid cottage.

5 Matters Arising:-

- a **Playground equipment** – team report and ideas if the playground should be relocated. Members resolved not to relocate the playground. The team will apply to RDC for a Community Grant to fund match the £15K which the PC has agreed to give. Total cost for new equipment is around £40,000. The team will discuss its plans with Peasmarsh, who is looking into purchasing new equipment, and see if together better prices could be obtained.
- b **PC website** – update. The Clerk will upload all PC work and SE will deal with everything else. What is displayed outside of PC work will have to be agreed.
- c **Speedwatch** – April results and signs. No results.
- d **Mr Thurston, Beckley School and field security meeting.** Update - CB and MRO. Whilst there is a greater need for security the field cannot be sectioned off because it is a village amenity. Three quotes will be obtained for repairing fencing to the road and at the back of the field and to patch up on the right and left. It was doubtful that this would meet safety requirements set out by ESCC and AD was asked to look into it in more detail. **AD.**
- e **Parish Assembly** – arrangements and agenda items. The agenda and advertising the Assembly were agreed, and all plans are in hand for 25 May, 7.30 start.
- f **Boot sale and Dog show** – fundraising arrangements and insurance cover. TBA.
- g **Flight paths over Beckley** – consultation date confirmation from MM.
- h **Charley and Nick's farm shop** – any views following April meeting.

6 Receiving reports from County and District Councillors – report from Clerk. Dealt with earlier.

7 Road repair works at Bixley Lane – report from AD. AD had left the meeting.

8 Village sign - consider request from Beckley Horticultural Society for a donation towards the new sign. Members voted unanimously (7:0) to donate £1000 towards the total cost of £4,400.

9 Car Boot Sale and Dog Show - Discuss arrangements. See 5f.

10 313 bus service – discuss usage and renewal arrangements for June 2017 onwards. Members voted unanimously (7:0) to continue funding for a further six months provided Northiam and Peasmarsh agree.

11 RNLI appeal - consider request for a donation towards a new life boat at Rye. Members voted unanimously (7:0) to donate £250.

12 Speed watch camera – consider requesting use of a camera from an available local source. DEO will investigate.

13 Insurance June 2017/18 – consider cost and cover. Quote received only today. **June agenda.**

14 End of year accounts 2016/17 – arrangements to be advised. Clerk is meeting with the internal auditor on Tuesday 16 May to carry out the audit.

15 Accounts to consider and approve accounts submitted for payment.

Amounts over £100 show reclaimable VAT where applicable.

Recipient	VAT £	Total £	Recipient	VAT £	Total £
BVH - Committee Room 8.3.17		12.00	Mrs Ongley-duplicate keys		6.00
Mrs M Lenton bin emptying		40.00			
Admin costs		650.00	Rother DC dog bin contract	140.40	842.40
ESALC subscription			Mr Broadbent-reimbursement		40.00
NALC subscription		317.98	Will Morris handyman.		

LD proposed and TL seconded payment – agreed.

Cllrs resolved to make payment of the donation of £400 to Beckley pre-school as agreed at the April meeting.

- 16 **Matters** councillors would like to have considered as an agenda item for the next meeting.
- 17 **Public questions:** not to exceed 15 minutes. Ms Howse asked if newcomers to the village were invited to a get together in the hall when information about the village and clubs could be exchanged would the PC fund the cost of hiring the hall for such an event? To be discussed again.
- 18 **Date of the next Parish Council meeting** - Wednesday 14 June 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.