

Barham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council held at Barham Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 4th July 2013.

Present

Chairman, David Wood; Vice Chairman David Tamsitt; Councillors E. Mullett; V. Steer; L. Minter & C. Ridgeway

The Parish Clerk Janice Robinson was also in attendance

Councillor Northey Kent County Council (KCC) and Councillor Bill Oakey Canterbury City Council (CCC) were in attendance for the item Public Speakers.

Six members of the public were in attendance

0098/2013 Apologies

Councillors M. Simpson and A. McElroy

0099/2013 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 6th June 2013 were agreed and signed by the Chairman

0100/2013 Public Speakers

- i. There were no speakers from the public
- ii. Councillor (Cllr) Michael Northey (KCC) gave his report. He advised the meeting that it had been agreed and funding identified to implement traffic calming this financial year at Breach where current traffic speeds limits were inappropriate. He had also raised the issue with KCC regarding litter on the A2. Cllr Northey informed the meeting that he has raised the issue of sponsorship in respect of litter clearances and that a framework on how sponsorship could work will be ready in the autumn of 2013. The Chairman advised the meeting that notices had been received that road repairs were due to be done on Rabbit Hole. He asked Cllr Northey if all of Rabbit Hole is due to be resurfaced. Cllr Northey undertook to ascertain this. Cllr Mullett advised Cllr Northey that the tractors are not adequately cutting the verges. Cllr Northey asked if specific locations could be given and then the matter could be taken up.
The Chairman thanked Councillor Northey for his report to the meeting and congratulated him on his promotion to a Cabinet role on KCC.
- iii. Cllr Oakey advised the meeting that he would be holding a surgery at Barham Village Hall on Saturday 13th July 10am – 12 noon together with a Parish Councillor. He would be bringing a copy of the Local Plan for the Canterbury District to this surgery should anyone have any questions about it. Cllr Oakey said that the proposals in the Local Plan would deliver new homes and importantly bring two new primary schools to south Canterbury, easing pressure on Barham and Bridge primary schools. A new road would give relief to the A2. Cllr Oakey then reminded everyone that the new refuse and recycling scheme was starting in Barham. He explained that the new scheme would vastly reduce the amount of refuse Canterbury committed to land-fill and that land-fill waste was a very costly way of disposing of refuse both financially and in terms of the environmental impact that it had. He said that

Signed.....

Date.....

the new scheme would be very helpful to householders in that they would no longer have to wait two weeks for the collection of food waste which could be very unpleasant during the summer. Cllr Oakey said that no one was being forced use the scheme. However, he urged everyone to use it and that he would be more than willing to help anyone who had difficulties or concerns with the new scheme.

The Chairman advised Cllr Oakey that he would be making a formal comment about the short consultation period for the Local Plan particularly given the summer holidays. It is customary that Parish Councils do not hold meetings during August and this would make it difficult for many parish councils. The Chairman also said that concerns about how Barham could be considered a rural centre/hub would also be put forward during the consultation process. It was considered that the information did not always tie in with parts of the Hierarchy Study and was potentially misleading in the context of Barham as a local centre . Cllrs also asked Cllr Oakey about the scheme at Barham Court Farm. Cllr Oakey said that this was a recognised development within the Local Plan but that the village would benefit from the Community Infrastructure Levy that would be raised from the development and that the village would have a real say on the development itself. The Chairman also raised the issue of trees in Crookenden Place that are now far too large for their location. Cllr Oakey offered to contact East Kent Housing again and discuss the suggestion from the Council that one of the two main problem trees be reduced and the other be removed and replaced by a new tree in keeping with the scale of he properties in Crookenden Place. The reduced tree to be replaced by a similar new tree when the first one was established and of a reasonable size. The Chairman thanked Cllr Oakey for his report.

0101/13 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

0102/13 Resignation of Parish Councillor

The Chairman advised the meeting that Cllr ‘Jim’ Callan had found it necessary to resign his post because of the growing commitments he had caring for his elderly mother. The Chairman expressed his gratitude for the hard work that Jim had put into the Parish Council and said his presence would be missed. The vacancy had been advertised and processes in train to fill this vacancy.

0103/13 Parish Clerk

The Chairman advised the meeting that Janice Robinson had resigned her role as Parish Clerk and thanked her for the work she had put in setting up procedures and processes.

0104/13 Finances and General Purposes

I.	Balances as at	
	Current Account	£5349.48
	Capital Reserve Account	£71,493.12
	Includes Social Fund of	£1,379.15

Includes Youth Club Balance of £516.00

To pay accounts received prior to the meeting

Grassmow Services £517.00

KALC Cllr Training x 3 £216.00

Grassmow Services £894.00

II. Other related items

- i. The Clerk advised the meeting that she had not progressed the purchase of the computer equipment because she was now leaving.
- ii. It was agreed to adopt interim processes to handle complaints, enquiries and Freedom of Information requests. It was further agreed that suitable permanent systems be researched and brought to the meeting on 5th September 2013.

Action Parish Clerk

0104/13 Town and Country Planning Matters

New Applications

- i. CA/13/01029/FUL Elderberry Cottage. The Street. CT4 6NY. Demolition of existing garage and replacement with detached building to provide ancillary accommodation and garages. No comments had been received and no comments were made.

Applications received prior to the meeting

- i. CA/13/01196/FUL Sunny Downs. Out Elmstead Lne CT4 6HL. Removal of existing roof and proposed additional bedrooms to first floor with new pitched roof to residence. Single storey extension linked to house including day room, garage, gym and swimming pool. No Comments had been received and no comments were made.

Updates

- i. The Pines. There were two enforcement notices from Canterbury City Council outstanding.
- ii. Sparrow Court withdrawal of application
- iii. Mill Cottage, Mill Lane withdrawal of application
- iv. Tree in right of way. The ownership of the tree had been established and the owner agreed to clear the ivy.
- v. CA/13/00985/FUL Dale View, Derringstone Hill, CT4 6QD. The Council was advised that since this application was considered at the Parish meeting on 6th June 2013 the clerk had received an email outlining resident concerns regarding the application. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Canterbury City Council Planning to inform them that no comments had been made by residents at the time of the June meeting. However, it had now been drawn to out attention that the ground surrounding the

proposed site were private domestic gardens. Further agreed that reply to the email from the local resident be sent.

Action Parish Clerk

Policy issues

It was agreed to produce a paper for the next meeting setting out information for Parishioners on planning matters in relation to the role of the Parish Council.

Action Parish Clerk

0105/13 Highways

- i. Streetlights update.

The Chairman had circulated a paper undertaken by Cllr Callan. It is now apparent that the Council are not getting best value for money with the current arrangements for streetlighting. Alternative arrangements will now need to be put in place before the existing contract expires at the end of September 2013.

Action Chairman and Parish Clerk.

0106/13 Open Spaces

- i. Christmas lights. It was agreed in principle that it would be a good idea to have additional Christmas trees in the village, however, there were issues with accessing power supplies for the trees. It was agreed to find out the cost of suitable trees.

Action Cllr Minter

- ii. Community clear up. It was agreed to organise a community clear-up in Spring 2014.

0107/13 Footpaths & Rights of Way

- i. The electric fence on stile around Greenhills had been reported to Kent County Council (KCC).
- ii. Cllr Minter has produced a logical and well used footpath route around the village. KCC will now approach the farms to discuss putting up more accessible gates and kissing gates, wherever appropriate.
- iii. Kingston Parish Council will be approached to seek information on the footpaths at Hearts Delight.
- iv. There is a map of local footpaths on the village green. It was felt that this might be looking a little tired and consideration be given to a replacement.

0108/13 Road Safety, Police & Ambulance

There were no items

0109/13 Publicity & Communications

There had been approximately 200 visits to the website over the past month

Website <http://www.barhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk/>

0120/13 Village Clubs & Societies

Simon Cavalier explained that the 2nd stage application for the grant for the village hall was in and they now had a 3-4 month wait before they would hear.

0121/13 External Organisations

- i. First Response Officer – request for sponsorship
- ii. Update River Management Group
- iii. KALC training for Councillors
- iv. KALC letter on localism

Matters received prior to the meeting

- i. Gazebo and go children's event on the village green 13th August 2013. There were no objections or concerns.
- ii. Parish Charter Workshops. Noted.
- iii. Police Contact Points. The Police will have a contact point for the public on Sunday 14th July in the car park at Barham Village Hall. It is believed this will be approximately every two weeks.
- iv. Notice of consultation from the Local Government Boundary Commission has been received.

0122/13 Correspondence for noting

- i. Inspectors report on Shepway Core Strategy
 - ii. Government announcement on onshore wind farms
 - iii. Guidance on community infrastructure levy
 - iv. KCC Highways tracker survey
 - v. Parish Newsletter CCC
- Correspondence received prior to the meeting
- i ARCK magazine

0123/13 Councillors items

There were none

Date of next meeting

Thursday 5th September 2013, 7.30pm in Barham Village Hall

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.11pm

