

**MINUTES OF A FULL MEETING OF BRENCHLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY
2nd NOVEMBER 2009 IN MATFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

Present

Chairman M Mackenzie presided, Vice Chairman J Barsley, R Carter, I McEwen, P Randall, R Dafter, B Stanley, C Woodley, Mrs C Cornford and Clerk M Powell.

Apologies for absence

Borough Cllr Mrs M Callow for being unwell.

Declaration of Interests

Members were reminded that if a member has a ***prejudicial*** interest in an agenda item, this should be declared at the start of the meeting.

Personal interests may be declared at this point or, alternatively, can be declared at the time a specific item is being discussed if that member wishes to speak on the item in which s/he has a personal interest. In case of doubt about such an interest Councillors are advised to contact the Monitoring Officer before the meeting or declare the interest anyway.

Confirm Minutes of the full meeting and the Finance Sub committee meeting on 5th October 2009

It was noted that the minutes failed to record the presence of Cllr Woodley and that on page 1473 under the heading of Fly Tipping it was in fact the gate that was broken, not the lock. These items were amended, duly confirmed as now accurate and signed by the Chairman

Public Question Time

None

Planning Applications.

09/03059/FUL/SEP

Gedges Lodge, Gedges Hill Matfield

Single storey side and rear extension to replace existing conservatory

Recommendation-Approval

09/03134/FUL/CLC

Land rear of the Clays and Margaret Villas,

Maidstone Road Matfield

One dwelling

Recommendation-Approval

Decisions taken by TWBC

09/02374/FUL/TA1

Oasthouse, Little Dunks Farm Cuckoo Lane

Brenchley

Construct a 20m x 40m riding arena comprising of a network of land drains, a stone base, silica sand and rubber surface surrounded by a post and three railed fence with a five bar gate entrance

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

09/02497/FUL/SEP

Chestnut Cottage Foxhole Lane Matfield

Construction of a lean-to open sided porch over main entrance door

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

Decisions taken by Clerk out of meeting**Bus Shelter**

The Clerk had asked Cornfords to repair the shelter again following the damage, which happened the day after it was last repaired. This has been completed. Concern was raised about the frequency with which the shelter was being damaged and the safety aspects it posed. Cllr Stanley agreed to contact Highways with a view to seeking advice on possible solutions.

Posts

The Clerk had been asked to chase Messrs Forwards regarding the installation of posts around the green particularly the post in a socket at the entrance to the green opposite East Court. Forwards have confirmed they had in fact installed the post but it has been driven over, damaging both it and the socket. In addition since their initial work several lengths of chain have been broken. Cllr Mrs Cornford advised that the work had been now been completed.

Other Meetings Attended**Cricket Pavilion**

Cllr Mrs Cornford had attended a meeting with the Cricket Club. They felt that a security light was desirable and estimate had been received for £200.00, which the PC agreed to. Also the front of the pavilion was falling into disrepair and a quotation for £495.00 had been received from E. Barham and Son to repaint the front windows, repair the weatherboarding and gutters and to replace the lock to the shutters. The PC agreed this was necessary and to proceed with the work.

Media Training

The Chairman had attended a course on media training and felt it very worthwhile. He thought it were something that could be used to an advantage in the way we communicated with the public. Cllr Dafter agreed to try and give some consideration to this.

Brenchley Memorial Hall.

Cllr Carter had attended the AGM of BMH principally to appoint officers and agree the accounts. They also received a presentation from the pre-school group who were considering an alternative venue to the hall.

Matters Arising**Mandate**

The necessary forms for the bank mandate have been obtained and all Councillors signed it. It was agreed to continue to use Nat West as the PC's bank and as per standing orders all cheques require two signatories.

KPROW

Cllr Woodley has been in touch with Jonathan Bibby to try and expedite the repairs to the boardwalk on W225. The steps on WT300 have been cleared.

Kent Minerals and Waste Development Framework

Cllr Woodley has sent a response in regard to the above consultation request, copies of which have been circulated.

Fly Tipping

Cllr Mrs Cornford reported that the fly tipping had been cleared from the land behind Matfield public lavatories. However, the gate was still damaged and the grass uncut. The Clerk was asked to include this land for next years grass cutting contract. Mrs Cornford agreed to enquire if the gate could be repaired and to advise the Clerk on the response.

Correspondence**Kent Police Authority**

A request to complete an online survey aimed at the decision process of priorities and setting the Council Tax precept had been received. Cllr Woodley agreed to visit the web site and complete the survey.

BTCV

BTCV are applying for a Heritage lottery grant to run a Kent Trees project and as part of the application they need to provide evidence of support from people living in the area. To that effect they have provided a questionnaire they wish us to complete. Cllr Randall had received the paperwork and volunteered to complete it.

Kent Highway Services

An invitation to a Highways seminar on Tuesday 24th November at Sessions House Maidstone had been received. Cllr Woodley volunteered to attend.

KALC

An invitation to attend a training session on "The Power of Well-being" in Headcorn village hall on Saturday 28th November at a cost is £20 a head. It was agreed that Cllr Woodley and the Clerk would attend.

CAB

A request for financial assistance had been received from the CAB. Before making a decision the Clerk was asked to collate a summary of donations over the last few years for presentation at the next full meeting.

Accounts for Payment

M Powell	Salary and expenses	£1240.31
Post Office Ltd	Tax & NI	£320.01
TMS	Plan printing	£4.60
KCC	Management of Cinderhill Woodland by KHWP	£4025.00
Namesco Ltd	2yrs renewal of Brenchley.org.uk	£22.99
BT	Telephone	£127.69
Cornfords	Repair to bus shelter	£563.50
Burlite Ltd	Stage payment for Brenchley Memorial	£4594.25
Matfield Village Hall	Hall Hire	£111.00
Mr Cliff Hughes	Jack Verrall garden maintenance	£120.00
KALC	Training Course	£40.00

Other Matters as maybe previously notified**Post office/Shop update**

Cllr Cornford reported that the decision on the planning application was still awaited. Initial calculations indicated that the start up costs of the project were likely to be around £20,000. KCC were unable to assist as it is now a commercial venture and the owner was looking for any financial assistance possible. The PC discussed the issue and agreed that it should not provide funds directly but it may well consider providing some external feature such as a bench or large flower containers as a benefit to the community.

Speed Monitoring

The results of the recent speed monitoring were discussed. Although the PC could do little more than support the findings it hoped that the presence of Police officers was in itself having an effect. A cable system across the road for continuous monitoring was planned for the near future.

Campaign for the Protection of Rural England

The merits of the PC belonging to the CPRE were discussed and it was agreed that it was beneficial as a source of information and help when required and to pay the annual subscription of £29.00 pa. Cllr Randall agreed to obtain the necessary application forms.

Amenity Vehicle

The amenity vehicle was an item to be discussed at the next Chairmen's' meeting. There were a number of proposals to consider but cost savings were necessary. One such proposal was a prepaid voucher system but there were fears of an increase in fly tipping. KCC had identified that the Borough was responsible for about £1.5million pa in waste disposal of which £175,000 was landfill costs.

Brenchley Charities

Cllr Stanley reported that he was still in the process of finding suitable recipients and if any other had suggestions they would be gratefully received. He proposed that the expenditure should increase this year to around £400, which was agreed.

Charles Wheeler

It was reported that Mr Charles Wheeler had recently passed away. He used to be a PC Chairman some years ago and had moved from Matfield to Hythe. The PC asked the Clerk to write to his widow expressing their sympathies and thanks for his significant contribution to the Parish.

Holly Bank

It was noted that one of the posts at the War Memorial had been pushed over. The Clerk was asked to attend to its repair.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be a planning meeting on Tuesday 17th November in Matfield Village Hall at 7.30 pm.