

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRENCHLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON TUESDAY
23rd OCTOBER 2007 IN BRENCHLEY MEMORIAL HALL**

Present

Chairman M Mackenzie presided, Vice Chairman J Barsley, Cllrs F Playfoot, R Berry, B Stanley, D Jolley and Mrs M.A. Edmeads. M Powell-Clerk.

Apologies for absence

Cllrs A Lee and P Randall for family commitments

Pecuniary and Personal Interests.

Members were reminded to declare any interest, as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct, on any matter appearing on the agenda or advise the Council of any interest before speaking on any subject that may be raised.

Confirm minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the planning meeting of 21st August were agreed and duly signed.

Public question time.

No members of the public attended

Planning Applications.

TW/07/03350/CEU/SJM The Coach House Gedges Farm Crittenden Road Matfield

Change of use to residential

Recommendation- Approval

TW/07/03461/LBC/TA1 The Old Vicarage High Street Brenchley

Provision of ground floor utility and WC ground floor kitchen and 1st floor ensuite

Recommendation- Approval

Subject to the approval of the Conservation Officer

TW/07/03453/FUL/TAI Byeways Brenchley Road Matfield

2 bay garage

Recommendation- Approval

Subject to the permission of the landowner or a right of way over the point of egress

TW/07/03356/LBC/ARJ1 The Old Work House High Street Brenchley

New palisade fencing

Recommendation- Approval

TW/07/03538/FUL/CP3 Newhaven, Brenchley Rd Matfield

Rear Extension

Recommendation- Approval

TW/07/03511/FUL/SJM2 Tong Farm Cottages Tong Road Brenchley

Demolition of single storey rear extension and erection of 2-storey side extension

Recommendation- Approval

Subject to conforming to regulations regarding size and windows

Decisions taken by TWBC

TW/07/01597/LBC/TW2 Whitethorn Cottage Brenchley Road Matfield

New staircase to attic and conversion of end bays to residential

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Refusal

TW/07/02828/FUL/BS1 Corkwood Cottage Fairmans Lane Brenchley

Conversion of existing garage to annexe

Recommendation- Refusal Decision- Refusal

TW/07/02847/ADV/PJT Blueboys Service Station

Alterations to illuminated signs and new awnings

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

TW/07/02825/FUL/CLC The Beeches Cryals Road Brenchley

Conservatory

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

TW/07/02880/FUL/BS1

Little Crook Cottage Crook Road Brenchley

Single storey front extensions

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

TW/07/02884/FUL/CLC

8 Porters Wood Petteridge Lane Matfield

Rear Conservatory

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

TW/07/02963/FUL/DSD

Temple Farm Crook Road Brenchley

Part change of use and conversion of agricultural building to residential annexe

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

TW/07/03038/FUL/TW2

Beechwood Foxhole Lane Matfield

Rear extension and loft conversion

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

Meetings Attended

None advised

Decisions taken by Clerk out of meeting**Matfield Pond Signs**

N Mephram & Co. builders have been instructed to replace the post that held the "Fishing for Children only" sign. Emrys Davis advises he will fix the sign once the post is reinstated.

Holly Bank

The posts at the bottom of Holly Bank have been knocked over again and have lifted the kerbstones. KCC Highways have been asked to attend to it. They have inspected and advise they will repair it shortly. The Clerk was asked to enquire the availability of cast iron "bell" shaped bollards to prevent this occurring again.

Matters Arising**Audit**

The audited accounts of the Parish have been returned and duly certified without any issues arising. The accounts have been posted on the notice boards.

Brenchley War Memorial

Mr Maw has visited the Clerk in attempt to identify some names on the memorial. He advises some work has actually started.

Code of Conduct

The Monitoring Officer has been advised of the Councils adoption of the code, as has the Standards Board for England. The Clerk reminded the Council of the requirement to have the register of interests forms returned by 28th October.

Matfield Pond

The Clerk and a builder have visited the rebuilt retaining wall. It would appear impractical to raise the height of the wall to provide a pathway level with the existing upper level, which is slightly below the highway, without significant expense. It was agreed to leave the project for the time being.

Correspondence**Standards Board for England**

First Edition of Town and Parish Standard- a newsletter.

TWBC

A printed version of the presentation given in a Parish and Town Council Seminar was distributed. The next meeting is planned for Thursday 24th January at 6pm in Goudhurst and contains a request for possible topics. The Clerk was asked to enquire as to the nature of these seminars and the likely topics raised.

High Weald AONB

Annual review for 2006-7 was distributed.

Brenchley and Matfield School

Minutes of several meetings were distributed.

KCC

A list of local post offices proposed for closure. The nearest is Tunbridge Wells
Notice of the closure of the A228 at Colts Hill on Sunday 21st October for repairs. It is expected to last 1 day.

DEFRA

An advice booklet on ways to reduce climate change was distributed.

KAPC

Notice of 60th AGM was passed to Cllr Stanley for action.

KHWP

A leaflet regarding the Kent Free Trees Scheme. The Clerk was asked to enquire of KHWP if they would provide trees en masse for the replanting of the Leylandii recently removed from Geddes Hill.

Marks and Spencer

A reply to our letter complaining about the poor maintenance of the Blueboys Service Station.

Accounts for payment

Post Office	Tax and NI	£319.88
BT	Telephone	£86.35
Matfield Village hall	Meeting expenses	£96.00
EDF	Street Lighting Maintenance	£62.47
EDF	Electricity	£41.39
M Noakes	Maintenance to playground and bollard	£245.00

Other Matters as maybe Notified**Christmas Lights**

A grant of £500 has been applied for but the outcome is as yet unknown. A cherry picker as discussed will cost circa £400 a time to hire. It was agreed to advise the residents who normally erect these lights in Brenchley that they should request the loan of the lights from the Council on a form to be provided by the Clerk and to take responsibility for their safe erection. It was also agreed that the lights in Brenchley should be replaced by LED lights and the Clerk was given the authority to spend up to £500 on this, which included the cost of pollarding the trees in The Avenue, Matfield.

Jack Verrall Garden

Cllr Playfoot advised he had been doing some voluntary work on the garden but was unable to continue with it. Cllr Mackenzie volunteered to discuss the matter with a neighbour of the garden to see if a contribution towards the maintenance could be obtained.

Trees

The trees in the Avenue were discussed. Their recent growth has reached a point where they need pleaching and the Clerk was asked to contact Mr M Kneller for a quote.

Footpaths

The footpath between Matfield and Goshen farm was becoming narrowed by overgrowing brambles and the Clerk was asked to contact KCC to have it cut back.

Cinder Hill Wood

A footpath in Cinder Hill wood had become blocked by trees, which have apparently been felled deliberately. Cllr Jolley volunteered to visit with a colleague to remove the blockage.

Matfield Pond

Cllr Edmeads advised she was organising a clean up day on Sunday 18th November from 10am and asked for volunteers, who should bring their own tools.

Charity

Cllr Edmeads advised she and colleagues were having a "Butchers in Pink" day in aid of a cancer charity and hoped that as many people as possible would contribute to this worthy cause.

Cars

It was noted that cars are regularly offered for sale at Keys Green on the A21. The Clerk was asked to advise KCC.

Allotments

The Clerk advised that the Chairman of the newly formed Matfield Allotment Association had contacted him. They have some requests and the Clerk had been asked to meet the Chairman. It was agreed that it was important that the principle of regular meetings with the Allotment tenants was maintained and that the Clerk should attend a meeting in the first case in order to be able to advise the Council prior to an AGM.

Date of next meeting

A full meeting will be held in Matfield Village Hall on Monday 5th November at 7.30pm.