

MINUTES OF A FULL MEETING OF BRENCHLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2007 IN BRENCHLEY MEMORIAL HALL AT 7.30pm

Present

Chairman M Mackenzie presided, B Stanley, D Jolley, A Lee, P Randall, R Berry and Mrs M A Edmeads. M Powell, Clerk. Six members of the public. The meeting was also attended in its latter stages by PCSO N Brown.

Apologies for absence

Vice Chairman J Barsley 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 were duly approved and signed by the Chairman.

Public question time.

Two members of the public asked that if a particular application in which they had an interest required further information would they be able to assist the Council as they were the applicants. The Chairman agreed that this would be acceptable if required. A resident of Cinderhill Wood Gypsy site stated he had recently purchased a plot of land in Petteridge Lane and asked if the Council would support an application to site a caravan on this plot as he wished to move away to his own property. The Council thanked him for asking and suggested he get professional help in drafting an application for submission in the normal way. The Parish Council had no power to grant or decline any application but would review all those it received and make recommendations according to their individual merits.

Planning Applications.

TW/07/03897/FUL/ARJ

6 The Old Palace Brenchley

Repairs following timber failure

Recommendation- Approval

Subject to the Conservation Officers approval

TW/07/03938/FUL/ARJ

9 The Old Palace Brenchley

Alteration of internal layout from that approved under 06/03031

Recommendation- Approval

Subject to the Conservation Officers approval

TW/07/03840/FUL/ARJ

Cowden, Horsmonden Road Brenchley

Detached sheep barn/ lambing shed

Recommendation- Refusal

Totally inappropriate design for the use proposed

TW/07/03966/FUL/CT2

Tanglewood, Hatmill Lane Brenchley

Replacement dwelling and alteration to access

Recommendation-Approval

Generally in favour if legislation permits.

TW/07/03884/FUL/CLC

Pippins, Furnace Lane Brenchley

Renewal of permission granted 03/01051 single and two-storey extensions

Recommendation-Approval

TW/07/03925/FUL/CLC

Corkwood Cottage Fairmans Lane Brenchley

Revised details of conversion of garage to annex 07/02828 refers

Recommendation- Refusal

Refusal on similar grounds the application is not significantly different.

Decisions Taken by TWBC

TW/07/03350/FUL/CLC The Coach House Gedges Farm Crittenden Road Matfield
 Change of use to residential
 Recommendation- Approval Decision- Refusal
TW/07/03453/FUL/TA1 The Byeways, Brenchley Road Matfield
 Two Bay Garage
 Recommendation- Approval Decision- Approval
TW/07/03611/FUL/ARJ Bassets Cottage Maidstone Road Matfield
 Two additional velux windows in garage
 Recommendation- Approval Decision- Approval

Other Applications

TW/07/03641/LBC/TA1 The Old Vicarage High Street Brenchley
 Provision of ground floor utility room and 1st floor en suite
 Application withdrawn
TW/07/LBC/ARJ The Old Workhouse High Street Brenchley
 New Palisade Fencing
 Planning permission deemed not required

Decisions taken by the Clerk out of meeting**Gardening**

Kent Fine Lawns Ltd have been employed to clear the paths at the viewing point and they will advise shortly on the cost of the clearing of some shrubs etc from the Jack Verrall garden.
 Mr John Hood had been engaged to pollard the trees in the Avenue Matfield and remove a dead sapling for a cost of £150, which had now been completed.

Lights

New Christmas lights have been ordered and duly installed in Brenchley.

Meetings attended**Public Lavatories**

The Clerk and the Chairman met Cllr Bullock to discuss public lavatories and the desire of TWBC to divest itself of some of the costs onto the Parish Council. The matter was discussed and the Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Bullock advising him of the Councils decision not to support the matter in any way.

CILCA

The Clerk attended a training course module held by KALC. Eventually the requirement to be a Quality Council will be mandatory and a pre-requisite will be a Clerk with a Certificate in Local Council Administration. There is a cost attached believed to be initially £70 registration with the certificate being achieved within 2 years of registration. The Clerk was asked report back in March on what was required to be a Quality Council and what effect it was likely to have on Councillors.

Matters arising**Web Site**

A quotation has been received for the creation of a professional web site together with identifying tags to improve visibility to search engines from A Mr M Bennett who created and maintains the Goudhurst site.

20 page site at £35	£700
Creation of custom graphics and any necessary photographs	£175
Domain name and hosting transfer	£25
First year hosting	£50
Total to bring web site active	<u>£950</u>

Maintenance pa based on one monthly update	£250
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A local resident had agreed to assist in the maintenance of the site, which would save some costs. It was agreed that Cllrs Mackenzie, Randall and Stanley would form a sub committee to explore

the issue further in terms of a specification and a proposal to add the costs to the budget was agreed.

Allotments

The next meeting of the Matfield Allotment Association is 11th of December and the Clerk has been invited to attend to advise of the Councils response to their requests.

Correspondence

KCC

A quotation for the annual mowing which at 3.5% increase was considered acceptable.

Police

An invitation to complete a questionnaire in regard to their options to increase the Police precept was received and passed to Cllr Playfoot for completion.

Biological Records Centre

A letter reminding communities about the existence of the charity, which collates records of anything regarding Kent wildlife, which are available to anyone with an interest.

Highways

A leaflet describing Kent Highways activities during icy conditions and a map of their primary salting routes was distributed.

Accounts for Payment

Fire Protection Ltd	Servicing of Matfield Pavilion Extinguishers	£29.38
Post Office Ltd	Tax and NI	£319.67
M Powell	Salary and Expenses	£1654.82
M Powell	Expenses	£207.18

Other Matters as maybe Notified

Planning

There was some discussion concerning deliberations on one of the planning applications reviewed by the Planning Sub-Committee. Cllr Lee and Cllr Jolley were unhappy that the Council did not accept their recommendation for this particular application. It was agreed after some discussion that although the other councillors would sometimes disagree with the recommendation of the sub-committee review panel this was not a reflection of the quality of the panel's conclusions or a comment on their ability to reflect the planning guidelines, simply a differing opinion. In a vote at the point of original discussion, the majority found in favour of the application being acceptable as long as it met the planning legislation requirements. The Chairman pointed out that he did not take part in the discussion nor did he vote but merely summed up the debate for the benefit of the clerk's minute on the subject. The detail of that original minute was reviewed during this later discussion and it was agreed that it should remain as recorded at the time of the original debate.

Dogs

It was reported that a pair of Labrador dogs were allowed to roam freely around the Market Heath area and they had been seen to attack other dogs with some degree of ferocity. It was also reported that they had bitten a resident. PCSO Brown advised he was aware of the problem and the Clerk was asked to contact the Dog Warden and advise him.

Archiving

The Clerk reported that planning applications dating back over ten years were being stored together with large bundles of major works over the years. It was agreed that much of this was unnecessary and that a rolling five-year storage was sufficient with the older material being securely destroyed.

Date of next meeting.

The next meeting is Tuesday 18th December in Brenchley Memorial Hall to discuss planning issues. This will be preceded by a meeting of the Affordable Housing sub committee together with representatives from TWBC and TCHG