

MINUTES OF A FULL MEETING ON MONDAY 6th DECEMBER 2010 IN BRENCHLEY MEMORIAL HALL

Present

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

Apologies for absence

Cllr J Barsley for family commitments.

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 of 1st November 2010

The minutes were agreed as being correct and duly signed by the Chairman.

Public Question Time

None

Planning Applications.

10/03481/FUL/SJM

South Cottage High Street Brenchley

Demolition of outbuilding, creation of single storey infill extension, internal restoration and alterations and removal of chimney

Recommendation-Approval

10/03291/FUL/SJM

The Platters High St Brenchley

Retrospective-replacement bungalow

Recommendation-Approval

10/03722/FUL/SJM

Kenilworth Coppers Lane Matfield

Flat roof dormer to rear with conservation roof light to front

Recommendation-Approval

10/03515/House/SE2

Cryals Lodge Cryals Road Matfield

Replace existing roof and dormers with new, extend existing chimney stack, clad existing external walls, replace existing windows, install bi-fold doors to front elevation

Recommendation-Refusal

Due to extremely poor design features and materials choice of a very low standard of

10/03721/House/SE2

Foxhole House Foxhole Lane Matfield

First Floor rear extension

Cllr Mackenzie declared an interest as the applicant was known to him and whilst he remained in the room took no part in the discussion or vote.

Recommendation-Approval

10/03669/Full/CT2

A Berry and Son Ltd Petteridge Lane Matfield

Erection of 2 no detached houses & garages

Recommendation-Approval

10/03715/FUL/SE2

Orchard Cottage Maidstone Road Matfield

Demolition of existing and erection of replacement bungalow

Cllrs Mackenzie and Stanley declared an interest as the applicant was known to them and whilst they remained in the room took no part in the discussion or vote.

Recommendation-Approval

10/03522/LBC/CP3

Bournes High Street Brenchley

Change of use of part ground floor and part of lower ground floor from office to self contained flat. Internal alterations to form separate internal entrance door to new flat, separate internal entrance to existing flat, block up existing door to shop and new WC to shop

Recommendation-Approval

Subject to steps being taken to preserve the retail unit. In principle the PC was happy to be involved in commercial prospects for the village and would support such as much as possible subject to an understanding of any financial implications.

Decisions taken by TWBC

10/02996/FUL/SEP

Primrose Hill Brenchley Road Brenchley

Demolition of existing garages, construction of double garage and associated landscaping

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

10/03038/FUL & 10/03041/LBC/SE2

Lees Court The Green Matfield

Demolition of conservatory and single storey side addition; construction of single storey side and rear extension with associated internal alterations

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

10/03044/FUL & 10/03046/SE2LBC

The White House High St Brenchley

Rear Extension including new boundary wall

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Refusal

10/03321/House/SE2

1 Weald View Pearsons Green Road Brenchley

Two storey extension and front porch

Recommendation-Refusal Decision-Approval

10/03312/FUL/CLC

Orchard Cottage Maidstone Road Matfield

Replacement double garage

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

10/03313/House/CLC

Burtons Crook Road Brenchley

Retrospective-Erection of replacement garden shed

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

10/03347/FUL/TA1

Land to the rear of Walters Farmhouse High St

Brenchley

Demolition of existing barn and construction of dwelling and garage

10/03688/TreeCA/DMD

Matfield Green and Common Land

Trees in conservation area-repollard

Decision-No objections

Meetings Attended

Finance Sub Committee

Cllr Carter reported on a meeting of the Finance Committee held immediately prior to the full meeting. They were happy that all items were satisfactory and gave no cause for concern. Spending was largely on target with the budget. They had examined the proposals based on previous work by Cllr Carter and the Clerk and made some changes to budgeted amounts on various items. It was discussed that the item "Posts on the Green

should be changed to read "Matfield Green" to allow other works to be included in the heading.

After discussion it was proposed that the precept should be maintained at £55,000 for the following year which was agreed unanimously.

KALC AGM

Cllrs Randall and Woodley attended the AGM of KALC. Cllr Stanley reported on the meeting including the considerable interest generated by the major speakers. Greg Clarke MP advised that the reported capping of PC's precept was untrue and that the information from TWBC did not apply to town and parish councils. The policy of General Competence would in fact increase local powers and that government funding was designed to promote the "Big Society". The new Chief Constable Ian Lemont was bullish on how to tackle the deficit in public spending. People must expect less from the police and many of their current duties such as the control of anti-social behaviour, noise abatement etc should be the responsibility of district councils and not the police. Some of this could be facilitated by an improvement in the relationships between Parish, District and Borough Councils.

Matters Arising

War Memorial

The Clerk had been asked to enquire on preferred methods of cleaning Matfield War Memorial. Copies of recommendations from the War Memorials Trust were to hand. Principally gentle methods such as manual washing with water and soft bristle brushes are to be recommended or washing with a steam cleaning systems. High pressure water jets, abrasive methods including sand blasting and chemical methods are to be avoided. The Council agreed to consider this for recommendations at the next full meeting. The Clerk was asked to try and obtain professional quotes for the cleaning of the memorial. A total of £437.00 had been raised at the service from recipients of the booklet produced and it was agreed that this would be forwarded to the British Legion.

Meeting Dates

Proposed meeting dates had been circulated. The PC was happy to accept these as proposed but the next full meeting would be incorporated into the planning meeting scheduled for the 18th January, the meetings of the 21st December and the 4th of January being cancelled

Signage

The tourism signage recently installed has been removed by KCC without any correspondence with the PC. Alex King has been contacted who has agreed to discuss the matter with the relevant departments and see that they reinstated them as soon as possible at their expense. A request has been received for another sign directing to the Hopbine Inn at Markets Heath. The Clerk has viewed the existing post and for a new sign to be installed at least one of the existing would need to be removed. The PC discussed this and agreed that in keeping with the policy of promoting local businesses this was acceptable. It was also agreed that a sign directing people to the Castle Inn was also in keeping.

Correspondence

TWBC

Advice has been received that TWBC will be holding a public meeting to discuss proposals for the future of the Civic Complex in Tunbridge Wells. Cllr Woodley advised that every resident would receive a questionnaire to allow all to make comment.

Matfield Village Hall

Advice that the rent of the hall is to increase to £17.00 per session

TWBC

A copy of their new planning guide was distributed.

TWBC

An email from TWBC to the effect that the developer of the affordable housing has suggested the development be named

1-6 Wish Court, Chestnut Lane, Matfield, Tonbridge

The PC was very happy about this choice.

Hospice in the Weald

A letter of thanks for our donation had been received.

Air Ambulance

A letter of thanks for our donation. had been received.

KCC

Advice had been received that there are proposed changes to the validation process for planning applications. Details could be found at http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/planning_in_kent/planning_application_s/validation_of_applications.aspx. Comments are required by 13th December.

Annual Performance report

The KCC APR is published at

www.kent.gov.uk/your_council/council_performance/annual_performance_report.aspx

Rev Boyce

A letter had been received from the Rev'd John Boyce and his wife Shirley to say thank you for the invitation he received to the War Memorial rededication service and how enjoyable the proceedings had been.

Accounts for Payment

M Powell	Salary and expenses	£1747.57
Post Office	Tax and NI	£363.33
E.ON	Electricity	£24.97
Matfield Village Hall	Hall Hire	£96.00
TMS	War Memorial printing	£634.87
Roundabout	Yearly Advert	£200.00
C Cornford	Memorial service refreshments	£12.88
KCC	RPA grant and yearly donation	£6600.000
B Stanley	memorial service refreshments	£93.15
SE Water	Allotments water	£203.66

Monies received

TWBC	Christmas Light Grant	£205.00
RPA	Country Stewardship Scheme	£3100.00
RPA	Country Stewardship Scheme	£2145.00

Other Matters as maybe previously notified**KCC Winter Service**

A report on the service provided was distributed. The PC considered the report insubstantial and that the products suggested such as "Safe Thaw" was too expensive for local councils both to purchase and to deliver.

Race to Infinity-High Speed Broadband

It was reported that the distribution of leaflets urging people to vote had proceeded well and thanks were due to Cllrs McEwen, Carter and Stanley. It was thought unlikely Brenchley and Matfield would be in the top five but would be high on the list for future improvements in the network.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 18th January in Matfield Village Hall.