

**MINUTES OF A FULL MEETING OF BRENCHLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 6th
FEBRUARY 2012 IN BRENCHLEY MEMORIAL HALL**

Present

Chairman M Mackenzie presided, Vice Chairman P Randall Cllrs B Stanley, I McEwen, C Woodley, J Barsley. Mrs A Downes, Clerk M. Powell.

Apologies for absence

Cllrs R Carter, R Dafer for family commitments and Brg Cllrs J March and A McDermott.

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 meeting of 3rd January

The minutes were confirmed as accurate and duly signed by the Chairman

Public Question Time

None

Planning Applications.

None

Decisions taken by sub-committee

11/03828/CEU/KB2 Land adjacent Tibbs Court Oast Cryals Lane Brenchley
Lawful development certificate (existing development) Occupation of hopper huts as single residential dwelling
Recommendation-Approval

12/00036/House/SE2 The Oast Crittenden Road Matfield
Extension of time of 08/03916. two single storey extensions and single storey link
Recommendation-Approval

Decisions taken by TWBC

11/02941/FUL/SJM Ashdene Tong Road Brenchley
Demolition of existing house and garage and replacement with new dwelling house and garage
Recommendation-Refusal Decision-Approval

11/03503/House/SJM Homestead farmhouse, Palmers Green Lane Brenchley
Rooflights to garage block approved under 11/00809 to be replaced by dormer windows
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

11/03377/House/CLC The Park House Maidstone Road Matfield
Single storey rear kitchen extension, single storey front porch extension and second floor pitched roof extension over existing flat roof
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

11/03615/House/SJM 2 Tong Farm Cottages Tong Road Brenchley
Conservatory to rear elevation
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

11/03307/FUL/CP4 OS Plots 4800 & 6900 Pearsons Green Road Brenchley
Agricultural building with 204 solar photovoltaic panels on southern roof slope
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

11/03537/House/CLC

Rowley Plain Cuckoo Lane Brenchley

Refurbishment, single storey extension and detached garage

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval**Decisions by Clerk****Fencing**

Due to the delay in receiving advice from the insurers of the driver who damaged the fence in Brenchley, the Clerk has instructed C Forwards to proceed with the repair, having taken photographs of the damage. The driver is being chased.

Matters Arising**Brenchley Memorial**

The kerb stones have now been installed along the eastern boundary. An appointment with Ardulla to deliver some stones will be made for a mutually convenient date.

Parish Plan

Borough Cllr Mrs J March has agreed to attend the PC meeting of 20th March to discuss her experience of instigating the construction of a Parish Plan.

Jubilee Celebrations

It has previously been reported that Love Matfield Society request a donation towards a marquee etc. A grant appears available up to £1400 which must be matched by other funding. The PC discussed the issue and agreed that it would make up to £700 available to them and a similar amount to an organisation in Brenchley subject to an acceptable proposal.

Meetings Attended**Matfield Pavilion**

The MPG asked to defer its latest report until the next meeting as the work done so far by the architect is still at an early stage. The Chair expressed its disappointment that some plans were still unavailable but agreed to await the next meeting. The issue of demolition was discussed and the PC agreed that it was desirable to demolish promptly as there existed a danger to the public. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr J Keyhoe to ask if there was any reason why not to proceed before a planning application to replace the pavilion.

Localism Bill

Cllr Woodley attended a meeting held by KALC. It was felt appropriate to consider this at a later date when a Parish Plan was being considered as the two were linked.

Correspondence**TWBC**

Receipt of our request for the following year's precept of £55,000

KCC Footpaths WT 225

Advice of a mapping discrepancy leading to a Definitive Map Modification Order and the opportunity to object if the PC considers it appropriate. Cllr Barsley agreed to review the order.

TWBC**Elections**

Advice from Mr William Benson that after due consideration the count for the May elections will take place on the Friday and not immediately after the Thursday election.

Kent Fire & Rescue

An invitation to attend a meeting where the results of the consultation process of the authorities Integrated Risk Management Plan will be discussed. The meeting is in Tovil on 15th February. Attendees will not be able to make any comments, merely listen. No volunteers were forthcoming as it was felt that the PC had made its views felt and there was little point in listening to the outcome of the discussions which would be notified in good time.

Samaritans

A request for a donation had been received. It was agreed that all donations should be considered as a whole in line with agreed policy and this decision would be referred to a later date.

Residents

Several letters and cards from recipients of the Christmas parcels expressing their thanks and appreciation were distributed.

Affordable Housing

Further letters have been received expressing approval of the proposed affordable housing in Brenchley.

CPRE

Advice on a planning website showing routes on responding to planning applications viz:-

www.planninghelp.org.uk

Jubilee

A request had been received from Love Matfield Society for assistance with the Jubilee Celebrations. £1400 was available from TWBC for matched funding. It was discussed and agreed to make £700 available to Matfield and a similar amount to Brenchley if any organisation could propose a satisfactory proposal.

Resident

Several derogatory letters and emails had been received from a resident of Brenchley criticising both the PC and its Chair. The comments made have been of a personal nature and many of the statements inaccurate. The PC was asked for a vote of support for its Chairman which was given unanimously. It was agreed that these accusations were scurrilous and defamatory should be rebutted as they had the intention of bringing the PC into disrepute. It was noted by the PC that the writer had been defeated some years ago by the current Chairman in his attempt to be elected, which was though a possible cause for the vexatious and vindictive nature of the correspondence. The Chair would consider the matter and take further advice to see if the issue was worth the effort to defend.

Beacon

The Clerk confirmed that he had registered with the Queen's Pageantmaster regarding the lighting of Matfield Beacon although no reply had as yet been received. Cllr Barsley asked the Clerk for proof of this and to email him copies of correspondence.

Other Matters as maybe previously notified

Meeting 21st February

Arrangements were considered for when the Affordable Housing application is to be considered. It was thought that the ladies room could accommodate a reasonable number of visitors and if necessary the PC could move to the main hall.

CAB

It was felt that information relating to the reasons behind the closure was not altogether accurate and concern was expressed that a number of dissatisfied volunteers had left the organisation. Although their HO in London had no real power of intervention they were looking at the situation hoping for a fresh approach. It was agreed the £2000 budgeted would not be donated without a commitment being received to keep the Paddock Wood branch open.

Petteridge playing field

A reminder that Saturday 18th February is scheduled for a volunteer day to work on the playing field.

Broadband

Consideration was given to the PC assisting Brenchley Hall and possibly Matfield in installing broadband facilities. Cllr Barsley advised that there was no telephone line in Matfield hall and that there was no demand for broadband facilities. The PC agreed to consider it further with the possible intention of assisting the funding in setup and a contribution to operating costs for a while.

APM

Elections are on 3rd May and the AGM of the PC is necessary on the first meeting after this which is Tuesday 8th May. It was agreed that the 26th April was the most appropriate date subject to a hall being available. It was also discussed that the topics most likely to be of interest would be an address by William Benson, details of the Pavilion reconstruction and comments from the Police regarding local Policing. An input from any potential candidates for Councillor was also thought to be beneficial.

Vandalism

The ongoing vandalism throughout Matfield was causing considerable concern although it was thought that two of the perpetrators had been identified. The Chairman, the Clerk and others were planning to meet CI Bumpus shortly to discuss the plans the Police had for combating this petty crime.

Accounts for Payment

M Powell	Salary and expenses	£1229.23
Post Office	Tax and NI	£442.71
BT	Telephone	£213.07
LJ Marsh & Son Ltd	Brenchley Kerb Stones	£1680.00
J P Miles	Hedge Cutting Matfield Church, allotments	£307.20

Monies Received

Forestry Commission	Grant to KHWP	£575.00
---------------------	---------------	---------

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 21st February in Brenchley Memorial Hall.