

**MINUTES OF A FULL MEETING OF BRENCHLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2012 IN
MATFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

Present

Vice Chairman P Randall presided, Cllrs B Stanley, A de Guingand, I McEwen, C Woodley, Mrs G Warner, Mrs N Marriott, and Clerk M Powell. Borough Cllr A McDermott. Three members of the public.

No Item

1 To accept apologies for absence

Chairman M Mackenzie for family commitments, Cllr R Berry for a prior arranged holiday.

RESOLVED: - to accept these apologies.

2 To approve Minutes of the last meeting

Approve minutes of the planning meeting of 21st August

RESOLVED: - to accept these minutes as accurate. They were then duly signed by the Vice Chairman.

3 To record declaration of Interests on any item on the Agenda

Members were reminded that anyone who had a *prejudicial* interest in an agenda item then this should be declared at the start of the meeting.

Personal interests could be declared at this point or, alternatively, could be declared at the time a specific item is being discussed if that member wished to speak on the item in which s/he has a personal interest.

In case of doubt about such an interest Councillors had been previously advised to contact the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.

No interests were declared

4 To adjourn to allow public participation- questions and comments

None of the public wished to speak, simply to listen to the planning applications.

5 To consider the following planning applications.

5.1 12/01973/FUL/CP3 Kippings Cross Oast, Hastings Road Brenchley
Retrospective Horse Barn Sand School, horse walker and hard standing including change of use to equestrian

RESOLVED:-To make a recommendation to refuse

It is within the AONB which it neither enhances nor improves.

5.2 12/02309/House/EA1 Matfield Grange Cottage, Sophurst Lane, Matfield
Two storey extension to west elevation. First floor storey over north elevation. Courtyard, reposition entrance with open porch and enclosed WC. Remodel dormer on first floor.

RESOLVED:-To make a recommendation to refuse

It was considered overdevelopment.

5.3 12/02262/House/CLC Pippins Furnace Lane Brenchley
Brick built two-car garage with loft dedicated for bat roosting. Five bar gate and side gate

RESOLVED:-To make a recommendation to approve.

5.4 12/02306/REM/TA1 Pippins Furnace Lane Brenchley
Reserved matters appearance and landscaping Replacement dwelling 10/00569 refers

RESOLVED:-To make a recommendation to approve.

5.5 12/02121/FUL/LS1 The Oaks Beech Lane Brenchley
Three bedroomed detached bungalow and detached single garage

RESOLVED:-To make a recommendation to refuse

It is within the AONB which it neither enhances nor improves.

5.6 12/02308/FUL/LS1 Friars Farm Maidstone Road Matfield
Change of use of converted farm building from B1 office and tourism accommodation to residential use

RESOLVED:-To make a recommendation to refuse.

6 To receive items for information

6.1 Decisions taken by TWBC

6.11 12/00655/House/CLC 11 Pixot Hill Brenchley

Erection of single storey extension to rear and part two storey part single storey extension to side/front
Recommendation-Refusal, Decision Approval

6.12 12/01707/House/CP3 1 The White House High St Brenchley

Single storey extension with catslide roof over incorporating a single bedroom and new conservation roof lights

Recommendation-Approval, Decision Approval

RESOLVED That the above items be noted

7 To receive reports of meetings attended by Councillors

7.1 Matfield Pavilion Group

Cllr Woodley reported that the application to Defra, for Commons Consent, had now been submitted. Cllr. Mrs. Marriott was thanked for co-ordinating the preparation and submission of the application. Notices have been displayed around the Green advising that the application may be viewed at TMS Ltd. in Paddock Wood, or via the Clerk.

A decision on the funding application to KCC has been delayed until late-September.

RESOLVED That the above report be noted

7.2 KALC Area Committee

Cllr Woodley reported that original plans for public transport to the Tunbridge Wells Hospital had proved too expensive and there had been a proposal to re-negotiate the arrangements. He has been asked by Members to write to the Chair and Chief Executive of the Trust to express disappointment on the failure of the original plans.

There had been a suggestion that the car park behind the old Odeon site in Tunbridge Wells could be made available for temporary use by the public, pending redevelopment. However, that had been declined by the Leader of TWBC.

A co-ordinated approach to Neighbourhood Development Plans is being considered. Cllr. Woodley and Charles Mackonochie (Chairman of Capel) have been in discussion with TWBC and there is a proposal to establish a working party that would provide that co-ordination.

There has been concern over the impact on local councils of the Government's proposed changes to determining the tax base for principle authorities, which are included in the Welfare Reform Act. Recently the Government has published a consultation document setting out revised proposals for implementing those changes. They include a commitment to maintaining the current arrangements for the allocation of precepts to parish and town councils.

RESOLVED That the above report be noted

7.3 Youth Group

Following the brief discussion at the last Full Meeting, where it was suggested that the Youth Groups might amalgamate with the club that is organised by St. Luke's Church, Cllr. Woodley reported that the suggestion had been raised with the Youth Group. The Group has indicated that, for the present, it wishes to continue trying to re-establish The Base, in temporary accommodation.

Cllr. Woodley proposed that, as the Youth Group has been integral to the plans for the new pavilion (it was included in the applications to Sport England and KCC), the council should continue to engage with the Group. He would be willing to speak on behalf of the Council on the Group's Executive Committee.

RESOLVED- That the above report be noted and to maintain the PC's support of the Youth Group as a stand-alone group.

Cllr Woodley was thanked for his input and work in attending these meetings.

7.4 Matfield Fire Station

Cllr de Guingand reported that there were no proposals for its use that the PC could be assured of that would generate a solid income to finance the project. All the PC could do was to act as a facilitator if another party wished to make a proposal. The favourite idea at present was some form of accommodation for the elderly. Cllr de Guingand also advised he was going to contact the Chair of Rusthall PC who was considering a similar offer to buy their fire station.

RESOLVED- That the above report be noted and that the PC should not enter into a speculative purchase.

8 To receive and consider the following Correspondence

8.1 Playsafety Ltd

A safety report on Brenchley playground. The overall score rating for safety risk is medium with most items scoring low or very low risk. Exceptions are the level of bark which needs increasing and some corrosion on a swing cradle which theoretically could lead to failure.

AGREED That the Clerk should purchase some more bark and arrange for it to be spread and to source a new swing seat.

8.2 KCC

An invitation to bid for funding for a community transport scheme.

Cllr Woodley queried if this document had been circulated to existing transport suppliers.

8.3 Kent Highways

A newsletter detailing road closures and diversions during work on the A21.

9 To be advised of urgent Business as may be previously notified.

9.1 Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct as adopted by TWBC has been circulated. The PC needs to formally adopt this or another Code and subsequently complete and return their declarations of interests. A form to this effect will be circulated. Cllrs were reminded that they had 28 days from the adoption of the code to submit their declarations; failure to do so would be a criminal offence.

RESOLVED That the PC would adopt the Code of Conduct as defined by TWBC as the Kent Code and further that the code should be amended to include the definition that the Monitoring Officer referred to was the Monitoring Officer of TWBC.

10 Accounts

10.1 Accounts for payment

10.12	M Powell	Salary and expenses	£1631.18
10.12	Post Office	Tax and NI	£383.05
10.13	Playsafety Ltd	Safety Inspection	£100.80
10.14	Audit Commission	Audit	£1050.00

The Clerk reported that his expenses were higher than normal due to him having to pay for the Courier advertisement regarding the Defra application and the Audit Commission fee had increase from £400 to £875 due to the insurance income and that from the legal charge has put the PC into the over £200,000 pricing bracket.

RESOLVED To agree and pay the above accounts

11 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 18th September 2012 in Matfield Village Hall