

**MINUTES OF A FULL MEETING OF BRENCHLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 4th JULY 2016 IN
MATFIELD PAVILION AT 7.30pm**

Present

Chairman C Woodley presided, Vice Chairman R Wickham, Cllrs J Grant, D Batty, I McEwen, Mrs L Butler, Mrs G Warner, Mrs N Marriott. Borough Cllr A McDermott. Clerk M Powell.

No Item

1 To accept apologies for absence

Cllr de Guingand for being unwell.

2 To approve Minutes of the last meeting

2.1 Approve minutes of the meeting of 21st June 2016

Resolved: - To accept the minutes as accurate. The Chairman then duly signed them.

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

Members were reminded that if any have a *prejudicial* interest in an agenda item, 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 wishes to speak on the item in which s/he has a personal interest. In case of doubt about such an interest Councillors have been advised to contact the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.

4 To adjourn to allow public participation- questions and comments

None

5 Parish Plan

5.1 To hear reports.

The Chairman reported that the meeting of 28th June had some very positive results. The main recommendation was for the establishment of a co-ordinating group ideally structured with three volunteers from the working groups and three from the PC. He had subsequently circulated a note which set out one way in which such a group might be set up.

5.2 Proposal to establish a Parish Plan Co-ordinating group,

- In discussion, it was agreed that, while it was essential that the new group had a reporting link to the PC given the importance of Council support for the Plan, it was also important that the group should be established as a separate body. This would avoid any perception that the Council was trying to take over the Parish Plan, retain key links with the community and avoid any need for the group to seek frequent approval from the PC to take work forward
- It was proposed that the Council's Policy Group should produce a short note, which would outline the suggested structure and way forward for the new group and could be sent to the wide group of people involved in the PP, inviting volunteers as members of the coordinating group.
- It was agreed that Cllrs Mrs Warner, D Batty and Mrs L Butler would be the PC's members of the Co-Ordinating Group.

Resolved: That the Policy Group would produce a note on the new coordinating group which the Chairman could send out to members of the PP community.

6 To consider the following planning applications.

6.1 16/504638 Stable block north east of Matfield House The Green Matfield
Conversion of stable block to 3-bedroom house

Resolved: - To recommend approval

6.2 16/504658 Bankside Bungalow Maidstone Road Matfield

Retrospective new driveway and access off Maidstone Road to replace existing access. Double garage to replace existing dilapidated garage and carport. Close boarded fence alongside road to replace overgrown hedge

Resolved: - To recommend approval

- 6.3 16/504503** Cherrycroft Tong Road Brenchley
Demolition of rear conservatory with erection replacement single storey rear extension and erection of detached garages with living accommodation to first floor with insertion of dormers and roof-lights.
The decision was postponed to allow the planning sub-committee to research the application further.
- 6.4 16/504815** Kings Barn Gedges Hill Matfield
Erection of timber framed open fronted storage building to be used as a lambing shed
Resolved: - To recommend approval
- 6.5 16/504727** Parkwood Farm Cryals Road Matfield
Minor material amendment to 15/507552 to amend site plan and retain part of one outbuilding
Resolved: - To recommend approval

7 To receive items for information

7.1 Decisions by TWBC

7.11 16/503391 Parking area, Oakfield Road Matfield
Demolition of existing garages and erection of one affordable home with 2 parking spaces
Recommendation-Refusal Decision-Approval

7.12 16/503407 Orchard House, Crittenden Road Matfield
Triple garage with storeroom over
Recommendation- Approval Decision-Refusal

Reason (1) By virtue of its design, scale and massing the development proposed would be a substantially over-domesticated feature with would have a significant impact on the landscape character of the locality. The resultant building, in particular the three separate dormer windows in the front (south) elevation would be prominent in the landscape and in consequence it would be harmful to the wider area. The proposal therefore would be contrary to the principles and objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework, National Planning Practice Guidance, Core Policies 4 and 14 of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Core Strategy 2010 and Policies LBD 1, EN1, EN25 and H11 of the Local Plan 2006.

7.2 Allotments

SE Water have made an inspection of the allotments and have found the taps fail to meet current regulations. Two of the three taps require a check valve. These have now been purchased and it is hoped they will be installed by the 11th July when the plumbing will next be inspected. This appears mandatory.

7.3 Sassoon Plaque

A plaque 200mm x 150mm in engraved stainless steel has been ordered together with a ground anchor to be installed at the base of the commemorative tree on Matfield Green. The inscription will read: -

“A Memorial to Siegfried Sassoon, 1886-1967. Son of Matfield. War poet and a beacon of light in our darkest hours”

8 Decisions required

8.1 Road Safety

The Chairman reported that growing concerns about crossing the road, particularly amongst the elderly, had been expressed to him and felt it appropriate to bring this to the attention of the PC. These concerns had increased following another accident in the

Maidstone Road. Whilst it was noted that this was deferred for the Parish Plan results the traffic appeared to have got worse. Residents had complained about parking particularly around the junction of Maidstone Road and Chestnut Lane with some parking on the pavements. Speed through the village was part of the problem and a reduction in limits was one solution. B/Cllr A McDermott advised that KCC had little money for 20mph speed limits. However, he would investigate whether the Borough's safety/camera car could patrol the area around the school to prohibit dangerous parking. The Co-Ordinating group (COG) would find out what has been done in this respect by the WG's.

The PC has been asked to support a request to KCC for a zebra crossing by the school.

Resolved: - To agree to support this request. Once provided with such a request to KCC, the PC the Clerk would write with a supporting letter.

9. Correspondence

9.1 Fields in Trust

An invitation to dedicate a recreational space in perpetuity to protect a green space if originally given or have an existing or planned link to World War 1. Cllr Mrs. Butler advised that the Memorial Hall Charity had looked into this but, as the Charity's land was leasehold with an unknown landowner, the Charity may not satisfy the ownership criterion of Fields in Trust. Discussions with Fields in Trust on this specific issue are continuing.

9.2 Brenchley Weekend event

A resident has emailed the Clerk to ask if the weekend of 2|3|4th September be brought to the attention of all the members of the Parish Council. In an attempt to bring the local community together, a weekend of events is planned on the Brenchley Memorial ground. There is a comedy night on the Friday and a party on the Saturday. Sunday is beginning with a open-air church service followed by a Village day with stalls, community art project, jazz band, cream teas, BBQ, games etc.

Agreed: - To note and applaud the initiative and to offer to advertise the event on the web site.

9.1 Allotments

Following the issue of some amended and new rules for the allotments after many years one of the 21 tenants has made comments regarding these. These were attached as a separate note together with the new rules agreed by the PC. The rules were posted to all tenants with their rent requests for the year with a note that the PC was always pleased to hear any comments or objections. To date with the exception of one tenant who wrote to say he thought them "fair and reasonable" no other comments have been received.

Agreed: - For the Clerk to reply that after due consideration of the residents comments the PC was not minded to alter the rules but to thank him for his interest.

10 Meetings attended and reports by Councillors

10.1 Commemoration of the Battle of the Somme.

Cllr Mrs Warner reported that the meeting on 1st July at the two war memorials were well attended with over 50 people present at Brenchley. The Chairman attended Matfield Memorial where some 20 people congregated.

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

None

12 Accounts for payment

12.1	M Powell	Salary & Expenses	1065	TFR	£1504.15
12.2	HMRC	Tax & NI	1066	TFR	£403.58
12.3	J P Miles	Mowing football pitch	1067	TFR	£96.00
12.4	Eon	Electricity	1068	TFR	£28.55
12.5	Siemens	Photocopier lease	1069	TFR	£122.40
12.6	Love Matfield c/o L Watts	HM's 90 th Celebrations	1070	TFR	£300.00
12.8	Brick Kiln Builders	Repairs to JV Garden Steps	1071	TFR	£190.00
12.7	Grays	Opening costs for celebrations	1072	TFR	£261.00

It was noted for item 12.7 that because of heavy rain the celebrations would have had to been abandoned if it were not for Grays opening to allow the band and partygoers inside. They incurred labour costs for staff but as most had brought their own food there was no business to be had. It was agreed that the PC would meet the cost of this labour from the grants obtained.

Resolved: - To accept the invoices and to pay them. The Chairman and Cllr McEwen agreed to authorise them.

It was also noted that apart from item 12.3 which was a normal budgeted item, as and when required, no expenditure was incurred by the PC at Cinderhill following the wake and funeral of Mr Ambrose Cooper. This was because the event had been fully compliant with the terms of the licence. The Clerk was asked to write to his son to thank him for his co-operation.

13 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 19th July at 7.30pm in Matfield Pavilion. **Please note a meeting of the finance sub-committee at 7.00pm will precede this meeting**