

BARMING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th JUNE 2018 at 7.30pm

AT THE PARISH HALL, TONBRIDGE ROAD.

PRESENT: Cllr Gooch in Chair, Cllr Manser, Cllr Vizzard, Cllr Doe and Clerk Mrs N Attwood.

IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public.

The member of the public who was present enquired if any requests had been put forward to Golding Homes for local people to be considered for the social housing within the development opposite the Redstart. Cllr Gooch confirmed that no request had been submitted by the parish council and that social housing is usually awarded on a points basis. It was not a condition of the planning and the four social housing properties would have been allocated to a certain housing association. Cllr Gooch is happy to contact the planning department and feedback information; she will also find out about any mechanism for local people regarding the allocation of social housing.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Willson

2. **NOTIFICATION TO BE RECEIVED FOR INTENT TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH OR RECORD ANY ITEMS.**
No intent to record any items.

3. **COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS**

Cllr Manser declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7.3 (cheques to be signed)

Cllr Doe declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 5.5 (tree maintenance)

4. **MINUTES of the Meeting held on 9th May 2018**

The minutes were **Agreed** as an accurate record and the Vice Chairman signed off the official copy

5. **RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS**

5.1 Complaint received: Church Lane

The Clerk recently received a complaint regarding rubbish at the parish field, HGV's turning at the junction with South Street and the general upkeep of the area; including the boulders at the end of Church Lane.

When Cllr Gooch went to the parish field she found black bags of picnic rubbish had been emptied around the area by foxes. She cleared up the mess and other items (such as old balloons) and removed a sign from Church Lane. Cllr Gooch will put up a notice in the pavilion and on the noticeboard at the field reminding visitors and hirers to take their rubbish away with them as the wildlife can cause problems.

Cllr Gooch has logged a call with highways informing them of the safety risk of the tilting boulders but has unfortunately not had a response. Around 2003 BPC decided against applying to the Land Registry for ownership of the corner piece of land at Church Lane as members were against the cost of maintaining the area and taking on the added responsibility. The then owner of the adjoining property took over the land but Cllr Gooch is unaware of any legal covenant or agreement for the owner to maintain the area to a certain criteria. The owner had the boulders installed, probably to keep the bank intact and then the property was sold to the current owners.

With regards to the HGV's inappropriately using South Street (apart from the necessary farm traffic) in the mistaken belief that they can use Barming Bridge – it is a common problem. The South Street sign at the top of the road now shows the red T bar 'no through route' sign and KCC works closely with Road Haulage associations to use designated lorry routes but mistakes are still made due to sat navs.

The Clerk will inform the gentleman that the matters that he kindly raised were discussed at the meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

5.2 Parish Field: Deterring rubbish dumping in corners of field

: Use of BBQs

The far corner adjacent to South Street will be cleared and the fence maintained when the car park work is carried out. Cllr Gooch will speak to the football club regarding the other corner as BPC were led to believe that the football club wanted to move their container further in to the corner which would rectify the problem; Cllr Gooch will add this item to the annual meeting agenda with BYFC.

The Clerk read out the letter that has been sent to Mucky Munchkins regarding their extra storage request and now awaits response from the hirer.

The Clerk will contact the insurance company for advice regarding BBQ's. At present members of the public are having BBQ's at the field as there are no signs stating otherwise and yet hirers are being told that they are not allowed. Correct rules and regulations should be implemented for all.

Cllr Gooch will display a sign at the parish field informing members of the public that under no circumstances is metal detecting allowed; BPC does not permit metal detecting on any Parish Council owned land.

ACTION: Cllr Gooch, Clerk

5.3 Revised Standing Orders

Cllr Vizzard proposed the revised copy which was seconded by Cllr Doe with all members in favour. The document was then signed by the Chairman.

5.4 Seat Replacements

Members agreed that the next bench to be replaced would be the one next to the netball post on the hardstanding area at the pavilion. The other new plastic bench, that we have waiting to be installed, would go at the top of the path by the play area. Members were all in favour to remove the rotten bench by the conifer tree completely and not to replace.

Cllr Doe proposed to purchase plastic benches to replace the two in the play area and also the remaining one on the hardstanding so that the whole area is completed; this was seconded by Cllr Manser with all in favour. The Clerk will place the order once the contractor has installed the benches that are being stored.

ACTION: Clerk

Cllr Doe left the room for the next item on the agenda.

5.5 Tree Maintenance

Members discussed the quotation to top the Lawson Cypress by approximately a third; reduce and shape two Birch trees at the parish field and to crown lift the Lime tree and Oak on the land by Cedar Drive. Cllr Vizzard proposed to accept the quote which was seconded by Cllr Gooch with all members in favour.

Cllr Doe re-joined the meeting and was instructed to proceed with the work as soon as possible.

5.6 Barming Youth Football Club: Car park use

: Draft agreement

Members were in favour of the football club using the carpark for overflow parking but wish to inform them that hirers will also be using the carpark on the same day. Parking on the field will not be permitted due to a family event; Cllr Gooch will make the club aware.

Cllr Gooch has sent a copy of the draft agreement to the football club who have requested some amendments:

- A) The 'no smoking' condition to be included as a polite reminder for everyone.
- B) The pavilion to be accessible as it is a requirement for girl's football – BPC would require details of designated key holders from the football club who would be responsible for unlocking/locking the pavilion, turning on/off the water supply and BPC would not take any responsibility for any theft. With these conditions in place the pavilion could be unlocked.
- C) Mid-week training to be available (1st April to the end of the season) – members were in favour for these to be included in the agreement as it is included in the fees.
- D) Commitment from BPC for grass cutting to be maintained and extra cuts completed if required – Obviously this is weather dependent but as soon as the football club contact the council the contractor is instructed to perform extra cuts and this will continue to happen.
- E) Use of floodlights to be included – Unfortunately access to the undercroft (where the flood lights plug in) is now prohibited due to low level asbestos so therefore BPC cannot permit this item to be included due to health and safety.

Cllr Gooch will discuss all of the amendments at the annual meeting with BYFC.

6. PLANNING

6.1 Applications received prior to the meeting

18/502342/FULL – 33-35 South Street, Barming – Members are concerned at the proximity to the adjacent property and the inappropriate height of the outbuilding.

18/502661/FULL - 6 Roberts Orchard, Barming – No objections from 3 members and 1 abstention.

7. FINANCE

7.1 Budget Monitoring

The Clerk circulated prior to the meeting.

7.2 Income received

Payments received since the last meeting are as follows:

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|-------------------|----------|
| Parish Hall Rent | £ 727.20 |
| Pavilion Rent | £ 797.07 |
| Natwest Interest | £ 3.97 |
| Allotment Rent | £ 12.50 |
| MBC – PSS Payment | £1175.52 |
| Allotment Rents | £ 59.38 |

Confirmation of payments made

To authorise the following payments, made since the last Meeting:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| DD - South East Water – Allotments | £ 40.00 |
| DD - South East Water – Parish Hall | £ 10.00 |
| DD – EDF Electric Pavilion | £ 58.00 |
| DD – EDF Electric Parish Hall | £ 64.00 |
| DD – Public Works Loan Board | £863.20 |

7.3 Cheques for signature

To resolve that the following cheques in respect of payments due can be signed:

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|---|-----------|
| 3056 – Dusters – Cleaning Services | £ 210.00 |
| 3057 – S Manser – expenses | £ 46.62 |
| 3058 – Mr A Doe – Tree work on Tonbridge Rd | £ 350.00 |
| 3059 – Kent County Council – Consumables | £ 89.04 |
| 3060 – N Attwood – expenses | £ 90.66 |
| Total Staff Costs including pension payments & HMRC payment | £ 2235.83 |

8 MATTERS OF REPORT

8.1 County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Stockell was not present.

8.2 Borough Councillors/Chairman's Report

At the Annual Maidstone Borough Council meeting in May, Cllr David Naghi was voted in as the new Mayor and Cllr Marion Ring as the Deputy Mayor. The new Leader of Maidstone Borough Council is Cllr Martin Cox and Cllr Gooch was voted in as Deputy Leader.

Cllr Gooch was pleased to report that MBC has received £330,799 Government funding for initiatives to tackle rough sleeping in the borough.

Cllr Gooch praised highways for the way in which they have kept everyone informed regarding the major sinkhole on the Tonbridge Road. Some residents have been temporarily re-housed and no one is allowed to sleep in the affected properties overnight. The back filling has begun, but investigations are continuing on the surrounding ground.

KCC and Southern Water are collaborating to rectify the sinkhole in Broomshaw Road and are liaising with the residents directly affected.

The work on the heave at the pavilion is scheduled to commence in October, as soon as a start date is received the residents affected will be informed.

We are still waiting to receive quotes for the carpark work which has unfortunately been delayed due to personal circumstances.

The tarmac around the rebound fence and goal has been replaced and an excellent job has been done.

Cllr Gooch been informed that St Mary's Brass Band will be performing a concert in September for Remembrance; as soon as dates and further information is received, it will be circulated.

8.3 Individual Councillors Report

Cllr Manser informed members that one evening there was a car left in the parish field carpark until 10.30pm. This meant that the gate operative had to visit the carpark on several occasions and wait for the vehicle to move until the gates could be locked. Cllr Manser is to discuss with the gate operative a reasonable time that vehicles should vacate the carpark by (winter and summer times) and then a metal sign will be purchased and fixed to the barrier.

The gate operative has offered to check the pavilion each night to ensure that all doors and windows are locked, following a recent issue with it not being properly secured after use; this item will be added to the July agenda.

Cllr Doe informed members that he has received a complaint regarding the Manser seat on the Tonbridge Road. The seat appears to have been vandalised and there are health and safety concerns regarding the sharp piece of wood left on the bench. The Clerk has informed the contractor who is due to re-stain the benches around the parish and has asked for him to contact Cllr Manser and arrange the repair. The Clerk will chase the contractor and Cllr Gooch will put hazard tape around the bench in the meantime.

Cllr Vizzard informed members that he is due to meet with Mr Scott on the 18th June to discuss the 'Older People's Champion' initiative and he has also nominated himself as an officer for the 'Maidstone Dementia Friendly Town' initiative; he will keep members informed of both projects.

ACTION: Cllr Gooch, Manser, Vizzard and Clerk

8.4 Clerk's Reports

The Clerk read out the crime figures that had been sent in by PCSO Pay.

Members were informed that the Data Protection Officer was very happy with all of the work that has been completed.

The Clerk reminded members to add signatures to their emails and set up new Councillor addresses for BPC use only.

ACTION: All

9 CORRESPONDENCE

None

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Full Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th July 2018 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Tonbridge Rd.

The meeting was closed at 21.15pm