

BARMING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting

held on WEDNESDAY 8TH JUNE 2016 at 7.30 pm
at the Parish Hall, Tonbridge Road.

	IN ATTENDANCE Cllr Gooch in Chair, Cllr Greenwood (arrived at 8.15 pm), Cllr Manser, Cllr Doe, Cllr Vizzard, Cllr Hyndman.	
1.	APOLOGIES Received from the Clerk Mrs Attwood on special leave visiting Houses of Parliament.	
2.	NOTIFICATION TO BE RECEIVED FOR INTENT TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH OR RECORD ANY ITEMS No members of public were present.	
3.	DECLARATION BY MEMBERS Cllr Manser declared an interest in item 8.3 (cheques to be signed)	
4.	MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING held on 11th May 2016 These were agreed as an accurate record and the Chairman signed off the official copy.	
5.	POLICE MATTERS No matters had been reported.	
6.	RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS	
6.1	NEST Workplace Pension Scheme Following the Council's agreement at its February meeting to proceed with NEST (National Employers Savings Trust), the Clerk has set up an account in preparation for our staging date which is 1 st July 2016). Cllr Doe proposed, Cllr Manser seconded, and all agreed that the direct debit mandate be signed so that future payments can be made once auto enrolment is complete.	FG/NA
6.2	WW1 Commemorations A brochure was circulated. Cllr Doe suggested a commemorative bench and general discussion ensued regarding where this should be placed. Cllr Manser stated that 11 th November 2018 is a Sunday and put forward a list of possible activities for the day including: Memorial Service at St Margaret's Church; Coffee at The Bull Inn following the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial; Church Bells ringing out at 11am; Community sing song in the afternoon; maybe the school might delay their normal firework night to the Sunday to end off the day's festivities. Cllr Gooch suggested St Margaret's Band could be involved and said she would talk to the Church about it. Cllr Vizzard said it would be a good idea and a way of bringing the village together but that residents would not want the fireworks too late on a Sunday night. All Councillors agreed they were happy in principle to explore the idea further.	FG
6.3	KCC Consultation Active Travel Strategy It was agreed not to comment as nothing new could be added.	
6.4	Allotments Annual Visit	

	<p>It had been agreed previously that it is good for Councillors to view the allotments at different times of the year. Bearing that in mind, Cllr Hyndman advised that a visit had been booked with Barry Plummer on Saturday 16th July 2016 at 9.30 am. All Councillors to attend.</p>	ALL
6.5	<p>BYFC Annual Meeting with BPC and future fees</p> <p>Cllr Gooch advised that the Annual meeting with BYFC is on Wednesday 6th July 2016 at 7.30pm in The Bull at Barming and it would be helpful to notify them in advance of any rent increase.</p> <p>At last year's Annual meeting BYFC had accepted an increase from £675 to £700 for 2015/16. It was agreed then to hold it at that level for 2 years (2015/16 and 2016/17) to provide certainty and to assist with forward planning and budgeting.</p> <p>During discussions, Cllrs Gooch and Manser felt there should be no increase. Cllr Doe then proposed that the Council should hold BYFC fees for one more year 2017/18 and re-visit in 2017 for the year 2018/19. Seconded by Cllr Manser. All agreed.</p>	FG/NA
6.6	<p>Parish Boundary with Matterdale Gardens</p> <p>Cllr Gooch received a request from the manager at Matterdale Gardens for the weeds from the Council's land to be cut back. The Clerk has contacted Landscape Services for a quote to trim weeds, remove debris and re-seed or turf. Cllr Doe will obtain a quote for an alternative clearance method of digging out and to then keep cutting. Members will then consider both quotes and methods.</p>	AD/NA
7.	PLANNING	
7.1	<p>16/503786/OUT – Barming Water Tower, North Pole Road, ME16 9ER - Provision of a new access driveway to Barming Water Tower from driveway of no. 80 Rede Wood Road</p> <p>Members resolved to recommend that MBC refuse this proposal on the following grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The impact on this quiet cul-de-sac would be detrimental to the local amenity and would be jarring to the existing design of the street scene; 2. Creating an additional driveway and the consequent additional vehicle movements would impede the turning circle and vehicular use of the hammer-head, for which it was not designed; 3. It would lead to a loss of parking space at No.80; 4. It would create vehicular intrusion and negative impact upon the enjoyment of neighbouring gardens, and be out of character of the immediate area. <p>It was further agreed that members would wish this proposal to go to Committee if MBC is minded to approve it.</p>	NA
7.2	<p>Applications received prior to the meeting</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Cllr Manser reported that there had been no news regarding 39 South Street. Cllr Gooch to investigate.</p>	FG
8.	FINANCES	
8.1	<p>Budget Monitoring Report to 31st May 2016</p> <p>The Clerk will circulate when she has the figures.</p>	NA
8.3	<p>Income Received and Payments Made</p> <p>Cllr Manser asked whether the Council knows how much is spent on electricity at the parish hall and at the pavilion. Cllr Gooch will ask the Clerk.</p>	FG/NA
9.	MATTERS OF REPORT	

9.1	County Councillor Not in attendance	
9.2	<p>Borough Councillor – no report</p> <p>Chairman: Cllr Gooch reported having received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> complaints about bags of rubbish being left uncollected at the corner of Heath Road/ North Street. She has asked MBC to ask the contractors to collect as soon as possible on the designated day and to move the collection point to over the road by the wall. complaints about the Redstart Pub's PA system at a recent event. MBC Enforcement were informed, and advised that the most effective way to deal with amplified intrusion is to ask the landlord to turn it down. complaints that traffic keeps going the wrong side of the war memorial when turning from Tonbridge Rd into North Street. KCC has been asked to provide an addition no entry sign that faces traffic turning from the A26 so that they are made aware. The current no entry sign faces down South Street. <p>Cllr Gooch had reported numerous pot holes along Church Lane, and KCC brought their jet patching machine along to fill them.</p> <p>The Chairman of the Maidstone Area of KALC (Kent Association of Local Councils) has written to all Parish Council Chairmen to say they have joined forces with CPRE, the Joint Parishes Group and the Bearsted and Thurnham Society to contest the soundness of the Local Plan at the forthcoming Public Inquiry. The letter asks whether the Council is progressing a Judicial Review, whether we could offer a witness, and whether we would be willing to contribute towards costs. Following discussion it was felt the Council's answers would be in the no.</p> <p>Cllr Gooch circulated the required additional quotes obtained by the Youth Club for the kick wall at the pavilion, which were more expensive. It was therefore agreed to inform Play Innovation that as the Council's preferred bidder we intend to give them our business on a no win no fee basis, as proposed by Cllr Greenwood and seconded by Cllr Vizzard. Cllr Manser expressed her dissent and said she had not agreed to the kick wall. Cllr Gooch reminded her that it had been agreed at the previous meeting under item 10.3</p>	<p>FG</p> <p>FG/NA</p>
9.3	<p>Individual Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Manser reported that plumber John Sedge quoted £130 for a new water heater in the pavilion kitchen. Cllr Vizzard proposed to let the Clerk arrange to have it fitted up to a maximum of £200, Cllr Hyndman seconded. All in favour.</p> <p>Cllr Manser stated that a resident had reported to her that he had fallen over on undergrowth by the zebra crossing and cut his face. Cllr Gooch said she will contact the manager of Clockhouse Farm about it.</p> <p>Cllr Manser reported that the new tables have been delivered at the Pavilion.</p> <p>Cllr Manser asked the meeting about offering a discount to hirers for using the halls for charitable purposes. Cllr Gooch declined as the subject was discussed last year.</p>	<p>NA</p> <p>FG</p>
9.4	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>In the Clerk's absence the updated Code of Conduct documents and Complaints Procedures will be brought to the July meeting for members to agree.</p>	NA
10.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Cllr Gooch advised that Dusters (the cleaning contractor for the Parish Hall) had written to advise they were increasing their prices from 1st July to £42 per session due to the minimum wage. Members were concerned at the short notice. Cllr Manser said they are very accommodating as they change the day when there is a bank holiday. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	NA

11.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 13 th July 2016 at 7.30pm	

DRAFT