

BARMING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th MAY 2017 at 7pm

AT THE PARISH HALL, TONBRIDGE ROAD

PRESENT: Cllr Gooch in Chair, Cllr Manser, Cllr Doe, Cllr James, Cllr Willson, Cllr Vizzard (arrived at 7.15pm) and Clerk Mrs N Attwood.

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 Member of the public and the KCC Community Warden were present.

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. NOTIFICATION TO BE RECEIVED FOR INTENT TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH OR RECORD ANY ITEMS.

Member of public had no intent to record any items.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

No nominations had been received.

Cllr Gooch nominated herself as Chairman this was seconded by Cllr James; all in favour.

Cllr Manser nominated herself as Vice Chairman this was seconded by Cllr Gooch; all in favour.

4. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

It was agreed with all in favour not to appoint any committees.

5. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Gooch nominated Cllr Doe as the Internal Auditor, which was seconded by Cllr James. All agreed.

Cllr Gooch proposed Cllr Manser as the Booking Clerk, which was seconded by Cllr Doe. All agreed.

It was agreed for the Clerk to continue to invoice allotment holders and liaise with Barry Plummer regarding the allotments, therefore no allotment representative was appointed and all members will share the responsibility. All agreed.

Cllr Gooch nominated herself to continue as the editor of the Barming News which was seconded by Cllr Willson. All agreed.

Cllr Doe nominated Cllr Gooch and Cllr Vizzard for the KALC representatives which was seconded by Cllr James. All agreed.

Cllr Gooch nominated Cllr Vizzard for the Medway Valley Community Rail Partnership Representative which was seconded by Cllr James. All agreed.

It was agreed with all in favour for the police meetings to be covered by all members depending on availability.

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION:

The member of the public present wished to thank Cllr Gooch for the tribute that she gave at the funeral service for Peter Hurrell; he was an extremely caring man and it was nice to learn a few more things about him including the start of the Barming News Leaflet.

There was an enquiry regarding the wooden beam that was removed from the play equipment last year due to rot. This item will be placed on next month's agenda for consideration to replace.

ACTION: Clerk

Dawn Riach-Brown, who is the KCC Community Warden, introduced herself and gave a brief insight in to the services that the Wardens offer to the local community; these range from a hole in the road to anti-social behaviour and safe guarding vulnerable residents. Leaflets will be given to the Clerk for distribution.

6. COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS

Cllr Manser declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 11.4 (cheques to be signed).
Cllr Gooch declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 11.4 (cheques to be signed).
Cllr Doe declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 11.4 (cheques to be signed).

7. MINUTES of the Meeting held on 12th April 2017

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

8. MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 19th April 2017

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

The Clerk will send a copy of the minutes to The Secretary of the Riverside Park Residents Association as previously requested.

8.1 Annual Parish Meeting – Actions arising

Cllr Gooch informed members that there had been a lot of further correspondence regarding the towpath and all comments had been sent to Colin Finch. A meeting will be arranged but no date has been set. Cllr Doe reported that he had seen motorbikes going along the new towpath; Cllr Gooch had been shown photos of tyre tracks but believed these were from push bikes. Now that there have been confirmed sightings of motorbikes, Colin Finch will be informed.

ACTION: Cllr Gooch

Cllr Gooch received a very informative email from Gallagher's following up the concerns raised regarding the dust levels. A dust suppression unit is used virtually full time due to the lack of rain and recent blustery wind and no issues have been raised by KCC.

9. POLICE MATTERS

Cllr Gooch reported that PCSO Kirsty Greaves had been informed of the issues with drug taking that is occurring at the parish field. We have been told to report any activity via the 101 service and keep a log of vehicle registrations, which will be done by residents. The PCSO will visit the area when she can as a police presence is needed. Members do not want to close the barrier to the car park any earlier especially with the summer evenings approaching.

10. RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

10.1 Resurfacing the Parish Field Car Park

Two quotes had been obtained by Cllr Doe but a further quote is needed to comply with our Standing Orders. This item will be deferred until our June meeting to give Cllr Doe time to receive the final quote.

ACTION: Cllr Doe

10.2 War Memorial Clean and Restoration

Cllr Manser is still waiting for the third quote therefore the item will be deferred until our June meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Manser

10.3 Rebound Fence and Super Goal

A meeting has been arranged with Playinnovation. Cllr Gooch and the Clerk to discuss the final details for the installation. The deposit cheque was then authorised and signed.

10.4 Insurance Declaration

The Clerk read out the declaration to members, which was accepted and duly signed.

10.5 MBC Local Plan Modifications

Members agreed for no comments to be made.

10.6 MBC Parish Consultation: Thin Applications

Members agreed that for smaller applications like extensions this would be acceptable, but for larger developments they would still like to see detailed reports. Cllr Gooch will complete the survey monkey on behalf of BPC.

ACTION: Cllr Gooch

10.7 Zebra Crossing, Tonbridge Road

A recent complaint regarding the effectiveness of the belisha beacons on the crossing has been received. The resident does not feel that the beacons are bright enough, is concerned that an accident will occur and asks BPC to investigate 'Zebrite' LED 'crowns' as seen in other areas outside Kent. Cllr Gooch gave a brief history of the crossing previously being moved to avoid confusion with the cross roads and the past petitions for the crossing to be converted to a pelican crossing; this did not happen due to no reported deaths so therefore KCC regarded it as low priority; so instead the white lines were re-marked and additional signage installed. Cllr Gooch had contacted the company who supply the 'crowns' to go around the beacons making them more visible, which she believes would be a great idea for our crossing. The company have yet to supply anyone in Kent and would welcome Barming to be the first. Unfortunately

KCC cannot provide funding but Cllr Gooch would be prepared to approach County Cllr Paulina Stockell for assistance with funding for the cost of the crowns (£3,650.00 +Vat) and liaise with Highways.

Cllr Doe did not think that the having the new crowns would slow people down but understands that people do not always see the crossing with poor visibility in bad weather. Cllr Doe suggested looking in to raising the crossing to slow traffic down (many villages have this type of set-up to combat this issue, e.g. in East Malling) Cllrs Manser and Cllr James were in agreement with this idea.

Cllr James did not think that the crowns would make people stop for pedestrians to cross and that this would not solve the problem.

Cllr Vizzard suggested pursuing KCC for funding and if this is achieved to go ahead. If funding is not received then the project would have to be added to the wish list. We cannot say that it will solve the problem but it would be an attempt to do so.

Cllr Willson agreed that it would be an attempt to tackle the issue but a very expensive one.

Cllr Gooch felt that important points had been made and will continue to seek funding. All comments made at the meeting will be published in the Barming News.

ACTION: Cllr Gooch

At 8.10pm, as previously agreed, Cllr James left the meeting.

10.8 Telephone Box, North Street

The Community Heartbeat Charity has taken over ownership of the telephone box at the bottom of North Street by the Bull Orchard store. Cllr Gooch recently contacted the charity as the kiosk is being used as a rubbish bin, has weeds growing around it, bill posting displayed on it and is generally making the area look unsightly. The old red phone boxes are usually converted into holding stations for defibrillators but as The Bull Public House has installed a defibrillator for the local community, another one is not needed. All were in favour for Cllr Gooch to pursue the charity and let them know this is not needed at this location, and what plans they have for its removal.

ACTION: Cllr Gooch

10.9 Wifi Installation at Parish Hall

It was agreed by all members that the need for wifi will increase if paper copies of planning applications are no longer received and the possible purchase of an overhead projector may be required. As we are willing to adapt to change then maybe Maidstone Borough Council could advise us. BPC will wait to hear the outcome of the Thin Applications Consultation and see what help will be offered to parishes.

10.10 Parish Hall Maintenance: Barge Boards at the side

Cllr Gooch has noticed that the barge boards underneath the eaves at the parish hall are deteriorating. If the boards were replaced the roof tiles will also need to be lifted so it will probably be easier and possibly cheaper to fit upvc cladding over the boards to protect them from further deterioration. Members were all in favour for Cllr Gooch to source quotes for the work to be discussed at the June meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Gooch

10.11 Barming Youth Football Club (BYFC)

It was agreed by all members for Cllr Gooch and Cllr Manser to discuss and arrange dates for the Annual meeting with the Football club.

10.12 Allotments

A provisional date of the 10th June was agreed for the Annual visit. Unfortunately the Clerk will not be able to make this date so will contact the allotment holder who wanted to attend at the same time to discuss matters with her and will arrange another date to meet.

ACTION: Clerk

11 FINANCE

11.1 Annual Report and Audit 2014/15

11.1.A The Annual Governance Statements were approved and signed.

11.1.B The accounting statements 2016/17 were approved and signed.

11.2 Budget Monitoring

The Clerk circulated the monitoring sheet to all members prior to the meeting.

11.3 Income received

The following payments received since the last meeting were noted:

Parish Hall Rent – April	£ 894.25
Pavilion Rent – April	£ 315.00
HMRC Vat Refund	£ 357.63
Barming News Adverts	£ 78.00
Natwest Interest	£ 0.70
Allotment Rent	£ 794.00

Confirmation of payments made

The following payments were agreed

DD - South East Water – Pavilion	£ 18.00
DD - South East Water – Allotments	£ 1.00
DD - South East Water – Parish Hall	£ 7.00
DD – EDF Electric Pavilion	£ 46.00
DD – EDF Electric Parish Hall	£ 64.00
SO – MBC – Parish Hall Rates	£ 640.75
DD – Nest Pension Payment	£ 11.67

11.4 Cheques for signature

All Councillors were in favour “that the Council approve the following payments”. This was **Agreed** and the following cheques were signed

2913 – N Attwood – Salary, Office Allowance & 28 hours overtime	£1259.67
2914 – E Whitehouse – Gate Duties	£ 60.00
2915 – Mrs F Gooch – Expenses	£ 55.05
2916 – S Manser – Expenses	£ 96.15
2917 – Came & Company – Insurance premium	£ 928.26
2918 – G Lawrence – Bench Installation	£ 85.00
2919 – Dusters – Cleaning Services	£ 168.00
2920- Playinnovation – Rebound Fence & Goal	£ 4792.00
2921 – Kent County Council – Fire Ext Maintenance	£ 49.80
2922 – Mrs N Attwood – Expenses	£ 37.78
2923 – S Manser – Expenses (Vat on Broadband)	£ 3.33
2924 – Kent County Playing Fields Association	£ 20.00
2925 – Mr A J Doe – Tree Work @ open space Cedar Drive	£ 450.00

12 PLANNING

12.1 17/502120/NMAMD – 42 Rede Wood Road, ME16 9HR – Extending rear extension to 4.2 metres instead of 3.30 metres from original application (16/501347/FULL) - Barming Parish Council has no objections to this planning application.

12.2 16/505427/FULL - Bell Farm, North Street - Submission of Details to Discharge Condition 4 (Construction Method Statement); Condition 5 (Cycle Storage and Refuse); Condition 8 (Bird and Bat Box Strategy); Condition 12 (Site Contamination and Remediation); Condition 16 Soft Landscaping and Tree Protection); Condition 21 (Boundary Treatments); Condition 22 (Site Levels); and Condition 25 (Recycling and Refuse).
Barming Parish Council made no comments on this planning application.

Cllr Gooch pointed out that there is a huge difference to ground levels at the southern site, so it will be necessary to use the northern entrance opposite Heath Road for building the site road and storage areas, and this is expected to take up to 10 weeks, which residents ought to be aware of. Taylor Wimpey are aware of the gas main replacement works that are currently taking place.

12.3 16/500254 - 39 South Street, Barming – New dwelling

For information: MBC advise that the site notice posted in February 2017 was due to the application not originally being advertised as affecting the setting of a Listed Building. It does not represent any amendments to the proposal, and all representations received will still be taken into consideration.
The comments were noted for information purposes.

12.4 Any other planning matters received prior to the meeting.

17/502200/TPO – 6 Matterdale Gardens ME16 9HW – To reduce dying limb by approximately 2 metres, 1 x Beech light reduction of crown on south side, 1 x Sycamore selective removal of 2 sub-limbs on south side –

Barming Parish Council has no objections to this planning application.

17/502309/FULL – 56 Beverley Road ME16 9JR – Erection of a single side and rear extension –
Barming Parish Council has no objections to this planning application.

17/501754/SUB – Barming Water Tower, North Pole Road ME16 9ER – Submission of Details to Discharge
Condition 3 (Acoustic Fence Details) Subject to 16/503786/OUT – Members would like to ask for the allowance in the fence for wildlife including hedgehogs, as previously required in the planning conditions.

13 MATTERS OF REPORT

13.1 County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Stockell was not present.

13.2 Borough Councillors/Chairman's Report

The borough is in the process of purchasing more properties to use as temporary accommodation for homeless people.

Increases to planning fees have yet to be passed by parliament therefore there will be no increase in income for the borough until after the election.

After a recent visit to the bus shelter outside The Bull pub, Cllr Gooch was surprised to see the shelter in such bad condition and logged a complaint regarding the graffiti, mould and missing glass panels. The shelter has now been cleaned and the glass panels have been ordered.

Due to the recent issue of rubbish at the parish field after hirers have used the premises, the terms and conditions for hiring will be re-visited. The Clerk will add to the June agenda. **ACTION: Clerk**

The rubbish by the Pea Field is in the process of being removed.

Cllr Gooch requested that the gents toilet cistern that has a faulty lid at the pavilion is replaced with a close coupled toilet and cistern; this will be placed on the June agenda. **ACTION: Clerk**

Residents in Rede Wood Road and Broomshaw Road have been approached by representatives from Taylor Wimpey asking if they would be prepared to sell their properties to enable access for potential development at the pea field. This has obviously caused concern to residents. Taylor Wimpey would have access from Oakapple Lane but are looking for a secondary access and the approach is part of their scoping exercise. Cllr Gooch will ask Paulina Stockell to confirm that secondary access means access for pedestrians, bicycles and emergency vehicles only. **ACTION: Cllr Gooch**

13.3 Individual Councillors Report

Cllr Doe has received a quote to replace the damaged gate post to the parish field car park: to supply and install an RSJ box post and align gate £475.00. Cllr Manser proposed to accept the quote and proceed with the work as soon as possible with delegated powers on the grounds of security and safety. This was seconded by Cllr Gooch with all in favour. Cllr Doe will arrange for the work to be done. **ACTION: Cllr Doe**

Cllr Manser reported that the Youth Club have yet to settle their final hire invoices. Cllr Gooch will send the correct email address to the Clerk and a polite reminder will be sent. **ACTION: Cllr Gooch, Clerk**

Cllr Vizzard has still not received from the Fire and Rescue Service any maps or information regarding the fire hydrants that he should be inspecting around the parish; the Clerk will chase. **ACTION: Clerk**

13.4 Clerk's Reports

The Cycle Tracks Order for the towpath has been received with confirmation of the notice which was circulated for members to view.

The furniture that needs to be removed from the pavilion will be placed on next month's agenda for discussion. **ACTION: Clerk**

The annual subscription for the Kent Playing Fields Association will be renewed this month.

14 CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence to circulate

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Full Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 14th June 2017** at **7.30pm** in the Parish Hall, Tonbridge Road.

DRAFT