

BPC Covid-19 Decision & Payments Log – 006

Cheques written	
VOID CHEQUE*** 3327	VOID CHEQUE***
Kent County Playing Fields Association 3328 - £20.00	Annual Subscription
Mrs F Gooch 3329 - £64.23	Expenses
3330 - £50.00 DATA PROTECTION REDACTED	Hire deposit refund
S Manser 3331 - £28.00	Expenses
David J Hadlum 3332 - £275.00	Barming News Print
SAS Property Maintenance	Cistern Fix at hall
VOID CHEQUE*** 3334	VOID CHEQUE***

Decisions made outside of meetings due to Covid-19 pandemic.	Actions	Further information
The Clerk has arranged an annual inspection of the play equipment to be completed by Wicksted	Order placed for £96.00 Craighene previously completed our inspections at a cost of £114.00	Hopefully the inspection will be carried out next week so we will be ready to open the play area when the relevant COVID-19 signage is printed and displayed.
On the 29 th June 2020 the Clerk circulated the risk assessment plan for the play area. Members agreed that we could not comply with the guidelines so we would keep the play area closed.	Cllr Gooch proposed to keep the play area closed, seconded by Cllr Parker with Cllr Manser and Cllr Muthana in favour. The Clerk placed a statement from BPC on the website for resident's information. Cllr Muthana purchased a new chain and padlock for the area and sent the Clerk photo's for insurance purposes.	The Clerk is in contact with the insurance company, MBC, the Clerk network, KALC and all other various organisations to keep an eye on advice and changes in guidance. Cllr Muthana to submit an expense form with receipts of the purchase. There has been numerous email traffic and work completed towards this topic.
Zoom meetings were all a success so the Clerk collated availability for the July Full Council Meeting.	Meeting set for Thursday 16 th July @ 6pm. Agenda, confidential briefing note, zoom guidance and zoom agreement sent to all members.	Members will be informed of any members of the public who contact the Clerk for meeting joining details.
Request from Cllr Manser for Mr A Doe to submit a quotation to crown lift the road side trees.	Cllr Manser proposed to accept the quotation of £150.00, Cllr Parker seconded.	The Clerk is waiting for one more vote in favour until she instructs Mr Doe to proceed.
KCC Budget Consultation 2020-21 review.	Circulated to members – Cllr Manser rightly stated that BPC has not previously commented on any of these consultations so does not wish to make any comments.	No further information.
Updated Risk assessments for Play Area	The Clerk finally received an email back from Came & Company which was circulated to all members. Cllr Gooch managed to get a copy of the MBC risk assessment which the Clerk used as a template. All documentation circulated	Members will discuss at the Full Council Meeting on the 16 th July.
The Clerk has been building the Hugofox website for BPC. There are slight concerns regarding a neighbouring parish website (provided by Hugofox) failing a recent accessibility audit even after the major update. The Clerk	The Clerk will continue to research accessibility platforms and domain names for the new website.	Members will be kept up regarding any future developments.

is researching possible widgets to use on the website to overcome the issues.		
The Clerk will be attending a local website accessibility training course after her annual holiday.	Dates to be confirmed.	Members will be updated.
Planning application	Tonbridge and Malling 20/502412/OUT Land off Oakapple Lane	Comment circulated by Cllr Gooch and submitted to the portal by the Clerk 2/7/2020 see below.
Planning application	5 Bull Orchard 20/502285/FULL Single storey rear extension.	Comments of no objections received from Cllr Gooch, Manser & Muthana. Clerk will submit comments by the 24 th July 2020.

Planning application comments:

Application 20/502412/OUT access: land north Rede Wood Road off Oakapple Lane (the pea field).

Barming Parish Council objects in the strongest possible terms to this proposal.

Planning permission for emergency vehicles / cyclists/ pedestrian access only onto Broomshaw Road exists by virtue of condition 22 of outline planning permission 13/2079 and subsequent approved reserved matters 18/506068 and 19/504464. This restricted access will enable, secure and safeguard the existing quality of life, sense of place and environmental amenity of the local community within the immediate vicinity of the Rede Wood Estate, both current and future, and will be commensurate with the existing network of pathways and cycle routes. It will facilitate sensitive integration of the new community with the existing community. Consequently, to reverse this restriction will have a substantial and significant detrimental and adverse impact on the locality for the following reasons:

1. It will cut across a very well used public right of way KM11, frequently used by passers through, dog walkers, families etc which will raise significant pedestrian safety issues;
2. Broomshaw Road is, and always has been, a quiet, narrow residential street, a cul-de-sac. It is not wide enough to accommodate a two-way traffic flow. Nearly half the dwellings are bungalows mainly occupied by senior / retired folk. The peace and quiet, the surrounding peaceful amenity that has been enjoyed since the estate was built, will be significantly disturbed to the great detriment of the immediate locality. Pedestrian safety and indeed residents' vehicular safety as they attempt to move their cars off their drives will be severely compromised by the movement of additional traffic that they have never been used to.
3. Similarly, Rede Wood Road is a narrow residential street, a mixture of houses and bungalows, young families, school children, old folk, all busy going to school, going to work, walking dogs. Their pedestrian and vehicular safety will be severely compromised particularly at the junction with Broomshaw Road, with the additional traffic that these local streets were never designed for.
4. Heath Road is wide enough to facilitate two-way traffic, leading to:
 - o North Street, the upper part of North Street is too narrow to allow free-flow two way traffic. The blind bend in its narrow section between no 62 and the Redstart Pub is already hazardous with many near misses, as is the pedestrian access a little further down at Barming School where accessibility is severely hampered by parent parking at peak times.

- o North Pole Road quickly narrows to a single track winding road, totally unsuitable for vehicular traffic.
- o Beverley Road is a bus route and traffic flow is regularly hampered by parent parking and by resident and visitor parking. It will not safely accommodate any additional traffic.

5. Opening up a secondary access at Broomshaw Road will not only release traffic from both Phases I and II but it will also facilitate traffic flows from the Orchard Fields Bovis estate whether heading toward Watlington, or to avoid Hermitage Lane/ Fountain Lane congestion, or both. This will create a rat run from Broomshaw Road to Rede Wood Road on to Heath Road, then via either Beverley Road or North Street to reach the A26. The impact and cumulative effect of this release will have a significant, substantial and unacceptable impact on local highway safety, on the local street network. It will also have a significant adverse impact on the local amenity, wellbeing and sense of place of local residents.
6. The A26 North Street / South Street cross roads does not have the benefit of traffic lights to enable side road traffic to egress the A26. Some years ago Kent Highways had to move the pedestrian crossing that was located there, further away for safety reasons because the crossroads has too many egresses with too much going on there. The impact and cumulative effect of the release of additional traffic on to this particular section of the A26 will have a significant, substantial and unacceptable impact on local highway safety.
7. There is no scope for compulsory purchasing for road widening to help mitigate the significant safety issues or to help ease the flow of traffic resulting from the opening of this access. All adjoining properties are in private ownership making the cost prohibitive and timescales unviable.
8. The Integrated Transport (Walking & Cycling) Strategy 2011-2031 contained a proposal to create a cycle route from Barming to Kingshill via the Medway Valley Towpath > South Street > North Street > North Pole Road (closure). Releasing additional traffic will significantly and substantially impede this proposal.

For the above reasons Barming Parish Council urges that this application be refused on the grounds that it is in total contravention of paragraph 109 of the NPPF and Local Plan policy DM21

If Members of the Planning Committee are minded to approve this application, the parish council requests as follows:

Because the surrounding PROWS and footpaths are inadequate to take this volume of additional wear in ground conditions as well as boundary overgrowth, the following will require upgrading in order to enhance and encourage connectivity:

- KM11 from the water tower up to where it meets KM12.
- KM13 from North Pole Road up to the water tower where it meets KM11

- KM12 from where it meets KM11, down to Heath Road.

In addition:

- The footpath leading from Wesley Close crossing KM12 to Banky Meadow should be adopted by Kent Highways in order to become an integral part of the Highway network, as part of the enhancement and encouragement of connectivity with the pedestrian network to Heath Road accessing shops, schools, bus stops, and beyond.

Other news:

CLlr Gooch managed to remove the graffiti from the bench at the parish field and her expenses were claimed – thank you for doing that for us Fay!

The Clerk has requested activity packs for families within the parish and will keep members updated as to whether she is successful in receiving any.

The Clerk has requested window stickers for the vulnerable/elderly residents to hopefully protect them from nuisance/cold callers and will keep members updated as whether she has been successful in receiving any.

The Clerk has contacted KCC regarding the possibility of receiving some donations of PPE and hand sanitiser for any elderly or vulnerable residents in the parish and will keep members updated as to whether she is successful in receiving any.

***** emailed the Clerk to inform her of the public dismay that BPC had not opened the play area (email circulated to members) The Clerk pointed him in the direction of the website statement which then clearly explained our reasoning and he thanked us!

***** informed the Clerk that ***** had posted on ***** Facebook group about the Banky Meadow footpath aggregate installation that BPC had organised – the Clerk did not comment as BPC does not operate a social media platform and it would be unprofessional to comment on this post which has nothing to do with BPC. The comments that he sent through were:

“Hate ragstone, stuff is a trip hazard with a walking stick and hurts my dog’s paws”

“does that include the footpath leading to Heath Road which at the moment is a rat run for cyclists coming from Hermitage Lane. I have had a couple of near misses on that path which incidentally backs into my house, from cyclists going too fast”

“it would be nice if Gallagher could donate to do all the footpaths around Barming. Looks so much better”

“sorry bit I think that is so wrong! These paths have been natural for years & the wildlife is great. Ragstone, concrete, tarmac is ok for towns but not in the countryside! Bikes will erode it & it will become an absolute mess.”

“As a regular user of that path, I appreciate not having to straddle mud and puddles. Thank you”

Emailed to members: 15/07/2020

To be signed off by the Chairman at the next meeting: