

BORDEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Thursday 18th October 2018

Present:

Cllr J Bolas (Chairman); Cllr M Baldock; Cllr M Downes; Cllr J Emery (arrived 7:40); Cllr J Evans; Cllr E Harrison; Cllr J Hepburn; Cllr K Lainton; Cllr M Luxton; Cllr C Masters; Cllr M Millican; Cllr S Smith; A Smith (Clerk) and 15 members of the public.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs: Sims, Whiting and Hampshire. The chair welcomed everyone including Stephanie Ellis and Jeremy Dufour from South East Water.

2. PUBLIC TIME

a) Parishioners

The Chair explained the context of the Highways Report for the benefit of the members of the public. The council were presented with the draft traffic report at the last meeting and some inaccuracies have been addressed. The final report will be discussed at item 6a. The Chair will take no part in that discussion. Unfortunately, the Vice-Chair is unable to attend this meeting. Cllr Bolas will chair the procedures, but will not take part in the discussion and will not take part in any vote due to a conflict of interest. The rules for Communities and Local Government say that the chair may be in the room and may take part in the discussion, having declared an interest, but may not take a vote.

A resident related that a document from the Conservation and Design Manager had been put on Swale Borough Council's planning portal today, which had been produced in August, therefore the traffic consultant has not seen it prior to producing his own report. There was also a recommendation that the speed limit should be reduced from 30 mph to 20 mph through the village, although the traffic would still have an effect on the heritage assets. It was also mentioned that Swale Borough Council will be going out for re-consultation on this application.

b) County/Borough Councillors

Reports from Cllrs Whiting and Hampshire can be found at the end of this document.

Cllr Baldock reported that he visited settlements around the Cambridge area, none of which could be replicated in Swale as they were totally isolated from any existing community. There will be a vote next year, those being considered are 2500 in Bobbing, between 10,000 and 12,500 through Rodmersham and Bapchild, 2500 on Duchy land near Brenley corner and between 5000 and 10,000 along the A251 Faversham, near Sheldwich and a further one at Selling not being taken forward. A garden community takes away any planning control through the planning committee or the local council.

An update for the village green at Grove Park Avenue - The inspector has confirmed points that Cllr Baldock has raised, are valid. A reminder that there is still grant money left. The next Broadside is due in December, submission of yearly reviews would be appreciated.

c) Police/PCSO

No report

d) Borden Village Water Works Briefing by Stephanie Ellis and Jeremy Dufour.

An update from the briefing session held recently. The water main is reaching the end of its life and needs to be replaced. The work will start around the 14th January for 25 to 26 weeks,

which has been reduced from the original plan of 32 weeks. The main will be upsized to give the network flexibility and the drilling will be underground which is a neater way to do the work. The roads will be closed in phases. Drilling can sometimes be done off road but in this case, it is a distribution main and all the customer services would have to have been re-routed therefore it is easier to follow the road. Water mains leaks will be dealt with by this replacement, however, if there is a problem with drainage and flooding that is dealt with by Highways or Southern Water. The mains are about a metre deep and the new ones are plastic, fused together and are more flexible. The ground stratum is clay which is perfect for drilling. During the works access to the hall will not be affected. The new pipe gives resilience for any future developments. There will be a website giving information and updates.

3. MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 20TH SEPTEMBER 2018

The minutes of the 20th September meeting be accepted as a true and correct record with the following amendment:

Page 2 7 (a) Matters Arising from the last meeting; add – The decision was made not to use a consultant for the three-minute presentation at the planning committee.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Bolas and seconded by Cllr Downes. Carried

A further vote to accept the minutes as a true and correct record was taken. Proposed by Cllr Harrison, seconded by Cllr Masters. Carried with 1 vote against and 2 abstentions. The minutes of 20th September were duly signed.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Bolas declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6a.

Cllr Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8.

Cllr Baldock declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8.

5. FINANCE

a) To approve the accounts.

Deferred to the next meeting as they were not received in time for Councillors to examine. Proposed by Cllr Baldock, seconded by Cllr Downes. All were in favour.

b) To approve the cheques raised at the meeting

Approval of the cheques was proposed by Cllr Emery and seconded by Cllr Masters. All were in favour.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

a) Wises Lane Planning application:

Traffic Report

It was proposed by Cllr Downes and seconded by Cllr Harrison that Cllr Bolas continued to chair the meeting procedurally, in the absence of the vice-chair, having declared a non-pecuniary interest and, will not take a vote. Carried with 2 votes against.

It was proposed by Cllr Downes to submit the traffic report to Highways England immediately for information. Seconded by Cllr Baldock. Carried with 1 abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Baldock and seconded by Cllr Downes that further information is sought from the traffic consultant in respect of new information regarding heritage concerns, within the original set budget, which will be sent to Highways England and the Swale Planning Portal at an appropriate time. Carried with 3 abstentions.

Cllr Baldock proposed that if Highways England insist that the traffic report is placed on the Swale Planning Portal in order to consider it, Borden Parish Council will release it immediately. Seconded by Cllr Downes. Carried with 1 abstention.

Air Quality Report

It was proposed by Cllr Downes to budget £2500 for any further air quality report required. Seconded by Cllr Harrison. Carried with 1 abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Baldock to wait for any response from Professor Peckham following receipt of new documents on Swale's planning portal and consider his report at the November meeting of the Parish Council unless a planning meeting is convened ahead of that, in which case the Parish Council will submit whatever reports are received at that time. Seconded by Cllr Downes. Carried with 1 abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Baldock to appoint a replacement planning consultant. Two quotes are to be sought before the next meeting. Seconded by Cllr Harrison. Carried with 1 abstention.

Action Cllr Baldock and Clerk

b) Wet Pour – Update

Cllr Emery will get new quotes to include removal of the old surface. The Clerk will request a quote for repairing the items as per the RoSPA report. It was agreed to appoint a sub-committee for the Playstool. It will consist of Cllr Harrison, Cllr Emery and Cllr Millican who will report back their recommendations at the next meeting.

Action: Sub-Committee and Clerk

c) Review Emergency Planning Resilience (J Evans)

This item is deferred until the next meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

a) 20's Plenty – emails: 3/10/18 and 8/10/18

Cllr Baldock proposed a working group to be introduced to consider a 20mph limit in Borden. It would consist of Cllr Baldock, Cllr Sims and Cllr Downes. Seconded by Cllr Harrison. Carried with 1 abstention.

b) Borden Nature Reserve – email 4/10/18

It was proposed by Cllr Baldock that clarification is required about the land that is being referred to and request it shown on a map. Seconded by Cllr Downes. Carried with 1 abstention.

Action: Clerk

c) Wises Lane development – Green Spaces manager comments – email 20/9/18

It was proposed by Cllr Baldock to reply that no-one has approached the Council regarding this matter at all. Seconded by Cllr Harrison. Carried with 1 abstention.

Action Clerk

Councillor Baldock left the meeting at 9.10 pm

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – can be viewed on <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications/> and <https://cloud2.atriumsoft.com/KCCePlanningOPS/searchPageLoad.do>

a) Planning consultation 18/504638/FULL. Land adjacent to 3 Sunnyhill Cottages, Munsgore Lane, Borden. Change of use of two small fields adjacent to 3 Sunnyhill Cottages to a dog training/dog exercise facility.

It was proposed by Cllr Downes to support this application as being good for the business community. Seconded by Cllr Lainton. Carried with 1 abstention.

Action: Clerk

9. REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES Committees

Finance
No report.

Representatives

KALC
No report.

Borden Sport Association
No report.

Borden Parish Hall

A Hall finance meeting considered the quotes for refurbishing the paving surrounding the Hall for safety reasons. A repair is needed to one of the tall blinds in the main Hall as the chain has broken. The boiler has been re pressurised. A notice has been placed on vehicles parking overnight in the car park asking that they keep away from the rear of the Hall as it is a fire risk. They have complied with this request. The green waste bin has disappeared and a replacement will be requested.

Cllr Hepburn added that the car park lights have been repaired. There is a major project to replace the paving around the hall. A quote has been received roughly for £4000.00 and the committee may ask the Parish Council for a contribution. It is also being proposed to replace the lighting in the main hall with LED lights to include dimmer switches. This will be roughly £2500 to £3000.

Heritage

BHG news for Borden Parish Council November 2018

We are looking forward to our AGM on November 1st 7.pm in the Forge – followed by an illustrated talk ‘Sittingbourne in the Past’ by John and Sheila Hepburn

On November 8th 11am in the Forge – David Harrison will tell us about ‘The Borden Bat’.

10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

An Arriva bus passed so closely by two horses that it snagged the stirrup of one at Danaway, travelling at about 50 mph, it has been reported to the Police and Arriva.

Cllr Millican reported that the hedges are overgrown opposite the Barn, 1 Homestead View which are impeding the footpath.

Cllr Harrison said thank you to the council on behalf of David Harrison for the certificate that was presented at the recent quiz evening.

Cllr Smith reported that the hedges are overgrown at the bottom of School Lane at the junction of Chestnut Street.

Cllr Emery reported that there were youths riding mopeds on the Playstool. Cllr Emery also said that proposals should be written down or time given for the Clerk to write them down in full.

Cllr Masters will contact UKPN regarding the missing light at the bottom of Woodgate Lane.

Street Lights will be added to the agenda for the November meeting. The hedge is encroaching the pavement at Chestnut Street, Sittingbourne bound by the spray shop.

Cllr Lainton also wanted clarification for proposals being made.

Cllr Bolas reported that he has repaired the hole by the gate in the Playstool.

11. NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD 15th November 2018

The meeting closed at:9.32 pm

Cheque List October 2018

Payee	Description	Amount £	Cheque No.
Steve Wakeling	Maintenance of Borden Playstool, 3 rd payment Invoice 13	£411.06	102757
McCabe Ford Williams	Quarterly Payroll Services Invoice: BOR5657/P7/848	£39.00	102758
Borden Parish Hall	Hire of Barrow Room 19/7/18; 16/8/18; 20/9/18	£49.50	102759
John England	Playstool Inspections 16/9/18 – 7/10/18	£40.00	102760
Fryer Cleaning & Maintenance Ltd	Monthly maintenance Sept 2018 Invoice: 5880	£445.20	102761
Swale Borough Council	Printing Broadside Newsletter Vol 3 Invoice: 7220209512	£186.00	102762
Streetlights	Lighting Repairs o/s 233 Borden Lane Invoice: 9838	£117.30	102763
Four Jays Group	Service of site toilet 11th, 19 th and 28th September 2018 Invoice: 438003	£64.80	102764
PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit for year ended 31 March 2018 Invoice: SB201802883	£360.00	102765
Came & Company	Local Council Scheme Insurance (3 year agreement) 1/10/18 – 30/9/18	£3981.56	102766
Mrs A I Smith	Salary and Expenses	£430.26	102767

Other Payments:

E-On Energy Supply	-	£51.84	Paid by Direct Debit
EDF Energy	-	£14.00	Paid by Direct Debit

Signed: J Bolas (Chairman)

Date:

REPORTS FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

KCC report, Borden Parish Council meeting, 18 October 2018

Please accept my apologies as I cannot attend tonight's meeting due to another engagement. However, it has been a busy time in Borden this month and I have been busy since your last meeting trying to address issues raised with me by residents and the Parish Council. Below is a summary for your convenience.

Lorry width restriction

I now have the agreement of officers they will extend the lorry width restriction from the existing line to Key Street roundabout and I have asked them expedite this. The extension of the restriction into Maidstone Road to Stockbury is more troublesome. My proposal is we leave things as they are that end for now, but highlight the width restriction at the earliest opportunity on the Stockbury roundabout and repeat it wherever there is the opportunity for lorries to turn around between

Stockbury and Chestnut Street. These proposals would prohibit the parking of lorries near to Key Street, which is the major cause of concern to members and residents, and help limit the number of lorries in Maidstone Road. I will ensure the police buy into a zero tolerance approach to any HGV parked overnight in Chestnut

Street. I would be grateful if your clerk could send me your thoughts on my proposal re Maidstone Road. The Key Street end will happen as a matter of course and I will inform members of the implementation date when I have it.

Water works - Pond Farm Road

Further to complaints from a number of residents, I contacted Kent Highways about the proposal to use Munsgore Lane as a diversion route for three months during works by South East Water in the village. The lane is totally unsuitable and any such proposal is unacceptable. I have received assurance from Highways that the road will not be an official diversion route, and, while it is not possible to ban use of the road, South East Water will be required to ensure additional signs are placed, warning drivers not to use the lane. I have informed those residents who raised it with me. No firm date for the road closure is confirmed, though I understand January next year is likely. Also, KCC has agreed to repair a dislodged drainage pipe in Pond Farm Road at the same time the Water Company is closing the road. I had raised this on behalf of residents because of flooding issues. By doing this when the road is already closed will minimise disruption.

Oad Street

On behalf of residents, I have asked if KCC can do anything to lessen the noise impact of the traffic calming in Old Street. Drivers drive across the raised areas, which creates a noise for neighbouring properties. KCC can tarmac over the areas of concern which would lessen the noise but do nothing to slow the traffic down. It cannot put in build outs and bollards without lighting, which is expensive and they say they cannot justify that expense given the agreed scheme was implemented relatively recently. I have suggested to those concerned they informally consult their neighbours as to whether smoothing over the features, thereby reducing the speed-calming effect, would be acceptable - much as the Munsgore Lane residents informally consulted on the 20mph zone. It is inconceivable KCC would do anything in Oad Street unless it could rely on public support during any subsequent formal consultation. Again, I would welcome the Parish Council's view on this. I hope this is helpful, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance in these or any other matters.

Yours sincerely

Mike

COUNCILLOR MIKE WHITING

Member serving Swale West

Report from Cllr. Nicholas Hampshire (Conservative – Borden & Grove Park) Deputy Cabinet Member for Environment and Rural Affairs

Dear Members of Borden Parish Council,

Re: Councillor's Report to Borden Parish Council – 18 October 2018

Firstly, my sincere apologies for not being able to attend your meeting this evening. This is due to another conflicting meeting.

1. Extension of 6'-6" width restriction, Chestnut Street

It was clear to members and I at the last meeting, that the lorry parking occurring between the Key Street roundabout and Tudor Rose Public House was increasingly unacceptable to the community. In my view, it always has been from day one. You are aware that I have raised these issues on numerous occasions with the local Constabulary and Kent County Councillors over the years but to little avail – that is until now! I am delighted that our Kent County Councillor, Cllr. Mike Whiting, has been able to secure a written agreement to extend the width restriction at this stretch to Chestnut Street. This solution to the problem is long overdue and cannot come soon enough. Once installed, the Police will finally have the regulations in place to allow them to take a zero-tolerance approach to this issue; something they have been calling for too from Kent County Council.

2. South East Water planned works – Pond Farm Road/Wises Lane

I attended the community consultation event at Borden Parish Hall on Tuesday 25 September 2018 regarding the forthcoming upgrade works to the water pipes in this area. Villagers will be all too aware of the number of pipe bursts that have occurred in Borden with residents either having no water or low pressure. This is unacceptable. Such bursts have led to considerable flooding, in particular along Pond Farm Road; ultimately leading to the closure of the highway and key route for villagers. More recently, we have seen a series of road closures in Wises Lane also caused by similar water pipe bursts. Regardless where they occur, closures are often inconvenient for villagers wanting to travel from one part of the village to another.

I am deeply concerned about the length of time the work proposed by South East Water is expected to take but do thank them for the reduction from 33 weeks to 25 weeks and a phased approach to the works. However, I am conscious that this revised length of time will still cause much upheaval to residents and businesses in the area and hope South East Water continue to look proactively at how the work can be completed in the shortest period of time and with the least disruption.

3. Air Quality

Air Quality has been rising up the political agenda of late and I know it has been an important concern to residents also. Swale Borough Council will soon be consulting on its Air Quality Action Plan for 2018-2022 and will be inviting responses to the consultation on measures including but not limited to: “20 is plenty” zones, HGV “Clear Air Corridor”, pinch-point parking alternatives (red-route) and a Local LEV car-club.

4. Members Grant Scheme 2018-19

This is a reminder that the Members Grant Scheme for 2018-19 is now open and each Swale Borough Councillor has up to £2,400 to spend on community projects of their choice. Should you wish to apply for funding, please e-mail the ECS Coordinator, Jennifer Stringer: JenniferStringer@swale.gov.uk. Should you need to contact me on any of the above, or indeed raise any other issue(s) with me, please feel free to get in contact. I will try my best to help.