

## Birling Parish Council

### Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 14 March 2017 in Birling Village Hall at 8pm

**Present:** Councillors  
Mrs Westwood (Chair)  
Mr Hewett  
Mrs Spooner  
Mrs Walker

Also in attendance the new Clerk Mrs Michelle Rumble,  
County & T&MBC Councillor Matthew Balfour

#### **1 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

County Councillor Mrs Hohler, Cllr Grimmatt, Cllr Neville, Clerk Jenny Grimmatt

#### **2 Reports**

**County:** Cllr Hohler was not in attendance

**Borough:** Cllr Matthew Balfour was present and provided in Cllr Hohler's absence an update from KCC. On Education and the school allocation, 80% got their first place school and 90% got their first or second place school. He then spoke on the changes to the Arrive Bus Service but stated that Birling was not affected by these changes. There will also be some full and lane closures on Junction 4 – 6 on the M20 starting on Work is expected to start on Sunday 19 March 2017 until 15 May 2017, weather permitting. There is a break over Easter from 13 April until 16 April. The works will be undertaken 6 days a week, with no working on Saturdays, however Saturday evening will be kept for any contingency that may arise. Highways England are also undertaking cleaning up on the slip roads. A social media campaign to Keep Kent Clean is being launched. Kent police are to improve enforcement of traffic speeds where evidence is available through initiatives such as Speedwatch. Cllr Matthew Balfour then left the meeting at 8.20pm

**Crime:** A drill & lawn mower were stolen from a cabin in field in Snodland Road on 23/2

#### **3 Open Forum**

Nothing was raised under this heading.

#### **4 Approval and Signing of Minutes of Previous Month's Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 February 2017 be **APPROVED** and they were **SIGNED** by the Chair.

#### **5 Matters arising and last month's circulation**

**Actions from February's meeting:**  
**Spring Cleaning**

Cllr Walker gave an update and stated that there will not be an actual date set aside for a spring clean in Birling, but if any volunteers would like to do a litter pick then there is equipment which can be used available from Simon Houldsworth.

### **Traffic Survey**

Cllr Hohler was not in attendance at the meeting but it is confirmed that there will be a Traffic Survey in March but as yet no date is known.

### **John May Charity**

Cllr Walker had decided if she would become a Trustee due to other commitments. Cllr Spooner agreed to take this on in place of the outgoing Clerk. Jenny Grimmett will explain the role required and the way it works. It was **RESOLVED** by all members present that Cllr Spooner will take over from Jenny Grimmett.

### **Broadband speed**

Notification had been received from the Project Officer at KCC. BT Open Reach are to install a new cabinet in Bull Road between April and June 2017 to increase speeds up to 24Mbps. The Chair spoke on the Broadband issue and advised that George Chandler and Lucy Owen from Kent County Council had agreed to attend the Parish Council meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> May where a presentation will be given, and members of the public will have a chance to ask questions. To possibly generate interest for this it could be advertised in the Parish Magazine, a separate flyer could be posted through the parishioner's doors and also advertised on the website. The Clerk was asked to design a flyer for this. The Chair will also contact MP Tom Tugendhat to inform him that she has had email correspondence with George Chandler and that he will be attending the Annual Parish Assembly. The MP Tom Tugendhat had also sent a letter to all residents of Birling letting them know that there will be a meeting to discuss Broadband at Leybourne Village Hall on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> March starting at 7.30pm.

### **(b) Any other matters arising**

There were no further reports.

## **6 Parish Business for decision**

### **(a) Annual Parish Assembly**

It was agreed that Broadband was a good topic for the Annual Parish Assembly, The Chair sought approval to move the Annual Parish Assembly from 11<sup>th</sup> April to the 9<sup>th</sup> May. It was **RESOLVED** by all members present to move the meeting.

### **b) TMBC 2017 Holiday Activity Schemes for Young people**

This was discussed and it **RESOLVED** by all members that for year 2017/18 due to budget restraints the Parish Council was not able to make a donation to this scheme.

### **c) Any other Parish business**

Cllr Hewett spoke on the Parish bag which is passed around by the councillors and asked what the purpose of this was. It is now only really used for large documents as most correspondence comes through email that is forwarded by the Clerk to members. It was **RESOLVED** by all members to withdraw this bag and if there were any large documents then the Clerk would bring them along to the Parish Council meeting where members could view them.

## 7 Correspondence / Communications

There was nothing to report

## 8 Financial Matters

(a) Monthly reconciliation sheet, bank statements were signed. The March PAYE records will be signed in April. The Chair and the Clerk both signed the Monthly reconciliation sheet and the Bank statement.

**The Balances on the account were as follows:-**

NatWest balances as at 28 February 2017:

**Current** £18396.83

**Reserve** £100.46

**Secure Trust Bank** £17239.22

### (b) **Cheques to be signed**

The following cheques were **RESOLVED** to be paid and the cheques were signed.

Cheque no	Net	PAYMENTS MARCH 2017		Supplier	Description
		Vat	Gross		
1524	£374.14	nil	£374.12	Mrs Grimmett	Clerks Salary & Expenses
1525	£42.00	nil	£42.00	Birling Village Hall CT	Hall Hire
1526	£189.40	nil	£189.40	HMRC	PAYE
1527	£166.10	nil	£166.10	Mrs Rumble	Clerks Salary & Expenses
1528	£34.80	nil	£34.80	HMRC	PAYE
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£806.44</b>	<b>nil</b>	<b>£806.44</b>		

### (c) **Any other financial business**

Confirmation of the date to audit the 2016/17 Year End accounts will be provided in April.

## 9 Roads

### (a) **Any other roads business**

The Clerk had circulated prior to the meeting a notification from Highways England on roadworks due to take place on the M20 between Junction 4 – 6, Cllr Hewett asked if the details of the works planned could be clarified. The Clerk will make enquiries on this.

## 10 Planning

**New:**

**TM/17/00307/FL Langold House 285 Snodland Road ME19 5JQ**

Demolition of existing coach house, relocation and construction of new coach house with ancillary accommodation.

**BPC:** Objections The proposed building is taller, wider and longer than the existing building, making it materially larger. It would extend further along the boundary with the public right of way by

about 9.5m, and this is harmful to the openness of the Green Belt and to the character and appearance of the AoNB. It will appear more imposing when seen from the public right of way. No details are given of the restoration of the boundary wall along the track, which forms the rear wall of the existing building, following demolition.

**Decisions:**

**TM/16/03785/FL 3 Bull Road Birling ME19 5JR**

Demolition of existing conservatory, kitchen & bathroom & replace with ground floor family room & 1<sup>st</sup> floor bathroom plus internal alterations

**BPC:** No objections to plans provided that materials used are in keeping with the village.

**TMBC: Approved subject to approval of materials**

**Any other planning business**

Cllr Hewett queried whether T&MBC had provided a briefing note about Site Visits.

The chair thought this had been received and agreed to forward the report if found.

**11 Any Other Business**

The Chair and all the members wished to thank Jenny Grimmett for all her hard work as Clerk to the Parish Council for the last seven years.

**12 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> April commencing at 8.00pm  
There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm