

**MINUTES OF A FULL MEETING OF BRENCHLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY
4th JANUARY 2010 IN MATFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

Present

Vice Chairman J Barsley presided, Cllrs R Carter, I McEwen, P Randall, R Dafter, C Woodley and Clerk M Powell.

Apologies for absence

Cllrs M Mackenzie, B Stanley and Mrs C Cornford for family commitments

Declaration of Interests

Members were reminded that if a member has a *prejudicial* interest in an agenda item, this should be declared at the start of the meeting.

Personal interests may be declared at this point or, alternatively, can be declared at the time a specific item is being discussed if that member wishes to speak on the item in which s/he has a personal interest. In case of doubt about such an interest Councillors are advised to contact the Monitoring Officer before the meeting or declare the interest anyway.

Confirm Minutes of the full meeting of 7th December 2009

It was noted on page 1481 under Public Question Time that the PCSO had presented a case for "restorative justice". It was discussed that the PC had agreed to this proposal and the minutes should reflect this. They were amended as such and then duly signed as correct by the Chairman.

Public Question Time

The Clerk had received a written question from organisers of the Brenchley Ball. In order to promote the ball to raise money for charity they would like to include the details on the parish web site. The PC agreed that in principle they would welcome it and Cllr McEwen agreed to discuss the matter with the organisers if they contact him. The Clerk was asked to pass this on.

Planning Applications.

09/03797/House/ARJ Matfield House The Green Matfield

Erection of access ramp to east elevation

Recommendation-Approval

Recommend the approval to be on a temporary basis for as long as may be required.

09/03929/House/TA1 Byways Brenchley Road Matfield

Single storey extension

Recommendation-Refusal

On the basis the fenestration is excessive and out of character with the rest of the building and nearby properties

09/03787/FUL/GM Bassetts Hastings Road Brenchley

Erection of fence and gates- retrospective

Recommendation-Refusal

On the basis of undesirable and increasing industrialisation in a semi rural environment, further that we do not see the rationale for acoustic fencing in that location.

Decisions taken by TWBC

09/03059/FUL/SEP Gedges Lodge, Gedges Hill Matfield

Single storey side and rear extension to replace existing conservatory

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

09/03134/FUL/CLC Land rear of the Clays & Margaret Villas, Maidstone Rd
Matfield
One dwelling
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Refusal

09/03299/House/TA1 Moatlands Manor Watermans Lane Paddock Wood
Removal of existing marquee and erect a single storey extension
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Refusal

09/03397/House/GM2 Chestnut Cottage Foxhole Lane Matfield
Demolition of existing garage and erection of attached garage, open sided carport and log store
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Refusal

09/03436/House/SEP Halfway Cottage Horsmonden Road Brenchley
Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of new larger outbuilding
Recommendation-Refusal Decision-Approval

09/03104/FUL/ARJ Far Far Away Beech Lane Brenchley
Construction of equestrian sand school for private residential use
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

Decisions taken by Clerk out of meeting

Salt Bins

The salt bins, despite advice having been received that they had all been checked and refilled were either not refilled or emptied very quickly. The one at the top of the surgery entrance in Brenchley had not been filled at all. The Clerk advised he had written to KCC to point this out and advise of the dangers for patients needing to walk from the road across compacted sheet ice. He was asked to write again to deplore the lack of effort in keeping the footpaths safe.

EDF

Advice has been received that the pricing structure that we pay for electricity is changing. The Clerk has written to EDF to ask how this will affect the amounts we pay and what alternatives we have.

Drainage

The Clerk has written to KCC to advise of poor drainage and subsequent flooding in Bramble Reed Lane, the corner of Chestnut Lane and the S bend in Pixot Hill

Other Meetings Attended

None Advised

Matters Arising

Precept

The recommendation of the Finance sub committee at the last meeting was £55,000 for the coming year. The PC discussed this, it was proposed, seconded and duly resolved to ask for this amount.

Donations

The PC has not as yet made any donations in this financial year. Our priorities have been agreed as CAB, Hospice in the Weald, Air Ambulance and Samaritans. It was discussed and agreed to give £400 to each of the first two and £200 to the Air Ambulance in the near future.

Cats Eyes

The Clerk has written to KCC to advise of missing cat's eyes and to ask if they have a regular schedule of inspection and replacement.

Matfield Pond Management

The Clerk had been asked to enquire of Mr Birchall of what exactly was proposed for the filter beds and any future expected maintenance costs. The reply received was deemed acceptable and the Clerk was asked to advise Mr Birchall the PC would like him to proceed.

Fences

The Clerk had been asked to enquire at what height fences need to be before planning permission is required. The following is the answer taken from TWBC web site

Planning permission is required if you wish to erect or add to a fence, wall or gate and:

- it would be over 1 metre high and next to a highway used by vehicles (or the footpath of such a highway); or over 2 metres high elsewhere; or
- your right to put up or alter fences, walls and gates is removed by an article 4 direction or a planning condition; or
- your house is a listed building or in the curtilage of a listed building.
- the fence, wall or gate, or any other boundary involved, forms a boundary with a neighbouring listed building or its curtilage.

Correspondence**TCHG**

A letter had been received from TCHG in response to our enquiries on the finance of affordable housing projects. The advice is that the sale of the Old Palace amounted to £1,774,800, which after debt repayment left an accounting profit of £1,302,961. Therefore TCHG propose to invest this amount with Matfield receiving £599,392 and Brenchley £703,569

CPRE

Various pieces of literature etc following our joining the organisation were distributed.

KCC

Copies of "Explore Kent" were distributed

Cabinet Office

Following our advice that Jack Wish had died they advise that meritorious awards are only given posthumously for acts of bravery and consequently the consideration of an award for him will be discontinued. However they express their sympathy to us and to Mr Wish's family

Accounts for Payment

M Powell	Salary and expenses	£1220.79
Post Office Ltd	Tax & NI	£320.01
Marks Plants	Pollarding of trees in The Avenue	£201.25
KCC	To replace previous chq for KHWP	£4752.32
Roundabout	Advertising	£200.00

Other Matters as maybe previously notified**Damage to verges**

Considerable damage has been experienced to verges by vehicles. This was discussed and decided to ask Mrs Sue Bickerstaff-Highways liaison officer for TWBC to visit the Parish to see the problems first hand. Cllr Woodley agreed to make contact and arrange a mutually convenient date when he and the Clerk could accompany her.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be a planning meeting on Tuesday 19th January in Matfield Village Hall at 7.30 pm.