

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BRENCHLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JULY 2010 IN MATFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

### **Present**

Chairman M Mackenzie presided, Vice Chairman P Randall, Cllrs J Barsley, B Stanley, R Carter, I McEwen, R Dafter, C Woodley and Mrs C Cornford. Borough Cllrs A McDermott and Mrs M Callow. Clerk M Powell.

### **Apologies for absence**

None

### **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 on 7<sup>th</sup> June**

The minutes were confirmed as accurate and duly signed by the Chairman.

### **Public Question Time**

None

### **Planning Applications.**

**10/01871/FUL/JR** Tibbs Court Farm Tibbs Court Lane  
Brenchley  
Retrospective extension to fruit packing buildings  
Recommendation-Approval

**10/01971/HOUSE/CLC** Lime Tree Cottage Maidstone Road Matfield  
Erection of 3 bay garage and studio/hobbies room  
Recommendation-Approval

**10/02086/TPO/DMD** Brecknock Clump Dundle Road Matfield  
Self seeded sycamore trees-fell  
Recommendation-Approval

### **Decisions taken by TWBC**

**10/01234/CEU/KB2** Oast Meadow Horsmonden Road Brenchley  
Lawful development certificate Existing development residential dwelling subject to an agricultural condition.  
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

**10/01386/HOUSE/SEP** Little Dunks Farm Cuckoo Lane Brenchley  
Detached garage and log store  
Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval

**10/01706/HOUSE/CLC** Acorn House Windmill House Brenchley  
Orangery to rear elevation  
Recommendation-Refusal Decision-Approval

**10/01783/HOUSE/CLC** 2 Margaret Villas Maidstone Road Matfield  
Loft conversion including rear dormer and front Velux windows  
Recommendation-Neutral Decision-Approval

**10/01442/LBC/SEP**

Brattles Grange Tibbs Court Lane Brenchley

Listed Building Consent Single storey extension to kitchen in place of extension built in 2003

Recommendation-Approval Decision-Approval**Other Applications**

10/0Goldmere Fisheries Romford Road Pembury

Decision-Approval

Whilst not in our area of consultation the PC was concerned that water extraction was taking place to provide the fishing lake. The Clerk was asked to contact the Environmental Agency to express our concern.

**Other Meetings Attended****Chairmen's Meeting**

The Chairman attended a Chairmen's meeting. Items in discussion were next year's census, The Core Strategy and the amenity lorry.

The rescheduling of the amenity lorry to once a month will present problems emptying the bin in the playground which has previously been done to coincide with the lorry. Cory will charge £3.50 a visit on a fortnightly basis. It was proposed that the bin should be removed. Cllrs agreed to give this consideration as and when the current service changed. It was also reported that the amenity lorry would only accept combustible waste to deter its use for trade waste.

**Web Site Publicity**

Cllr I McEwen reported on a meeting with Cllr Stanley to discuss greater publicity for the web site. It was felt that the locals were beginning to appreciate the services available. What is required is to get local people to use the site as their main means of information on what is going on in the area. It was proposed a postal survey is conducted later in the year which would cost a modest sum to which the PC agreed in principle.

**KALC**

Cllr Randall had attended the first quarterly meeting of KALC.

**CHW**

Cllr Woodley reported he had attended the event day at Cinderhill Wood, which proved very popular.

**Decisions Taken by Clerk out of meeting****Playground**

The bark in the playground had become patchy and eroded. The Clerk has ordered 4m<sup>3</sup> which has been delivered and laid. The Clerk was thanked for his hard work in raking out the bark.

**Matters Arising****Audit**

The annual audit has been returned from the Audit Commission as satisfactory with no comments raised. In accordance with regulations the relevant sections have been publically displayed.

**War Memorial**

The restoration of Brenchley war Memorial is now complete. Cllrs McEwen, Dafter and Mrs Cornford were thanked for the amount of work entailed in the research of the names on the memorial. The Historical Society had also done significant amounts of research and it was hoped that next Armistice Day would be the target date for publication of the planned booklet.

**Matfield Green**

The rear of the Green is falling into disrepair and Cllrs have been asked to research ways of improving the situation. Cllr Barley had come across a substantial grid type of system but the costs were expected to be high in the order of £20,000. Cheaper and less

substantial systems were available and Cllrs Barsley and McEwen agreed to continue their research.

#### **Matfield Pond**

The PC considered the offer by Mr Birchall to do some planting in and around the pond to improve water quality. However after due consideration especially considering that we would be building in some long term maintenance issues it was agreed to not to proceed. The Clerk was asked to advise Mr Birchall to this effect and to offer to meet his reasonable expenses in visiting the site to survey it. Cllr Mrs Cornford agreed to speak to some of her volunteer contacts who had originally offered to remove some of the existing vegetation.

#### **Street Lighting**

Cllr McEwen had been asked to review the proposed draft contract with Direct Technical Services. He recommended there were issues which suggested we should not agree to the terms as the work is proceeding satisfactorily despite no contract being in place. This was agreed.

#### **Standing Orders**

Cllrs Woodley and McEwen reported that following them being asked to review our Standing Orders in light of the latest publication from NALC. They recommended that no changes were considered necessary and that the present orders were satisfactory. The PC agreed with this.

#### **Affordable Housing**

Cllr Barsley expressed concern that part of the culvert in front of the Matfield site in Chestnut Lane had been covered over and that sight of the plans would give an opportunity to review these in case a problem with access to the woodlands behind presented itself. The Clerk was asked to chase the availability of plans again.

#### **Correspondence**

##### **Action with Communities in Rural Kent**

An invitation to a Council Meeting of ARCK Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July in the evening at Lenham Community Centre. Formal notification will be forwarded by July 13<sup>th</sup>. No volunteers were forthcoming but the Clerk was asked if he could attend subject to diary constraints.

##### **CAB**

An invitation to their AGM on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 5.30pm in Matfield Village Hall.

#### **Accounts for Payment**

M Powell	Salary and expenses	£1218.50
Post Office Ltd	Tax & NI	£319.81
Audit Commission	Annual audit	£470.00
KALC	Honorarium	£30.00
Matfield Village Hall	Hall hire	£96.00
Penumbra Blinds	Blinds	£587.50
Burlite Ltd	War Memorial	£1494.13
Inn Store	Payment of KCC grant	£1000.00
E.ON	Electricity	£24.97
Direct Technical Services	Street light repair	£240.58

#### **Monies Received**

TWBC	Grant for Inn Store	£1000.00
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#### **Other Matters as maybe previously notified**

##### **Consultation**

Cllr Woodley reported that he had been asked to review various consultation documents. The issue of the rural aspects of the Core Strategy had been considered but for appropriate notice to be taken of any comments we may like to make we need to be specific. He recommended we look at this as one of the issues in our September strategy meeting when we look at forward planning.

Cllr Woodley had also been asked to consider three other documents. Firstly a draft statement on community involvement and how we will be consulted. This appeared straightforward and he would report back. Secondly was the Borough Town Centre allocation policy. The consultation process was closing on the 9<sup>th</sup> August. Cllr Woodley agreed to produce a short paper for consideration. Thirdly the publication was noted of the Kent Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment, to which the council had submitted a consultation response. No further action is necessary.

### **Cinderhill Wood**

Cllr McEwen reported he had received an email from Jane Frostick of KHWP regarding the creation of parish logos to put on a possible sign in the woods. The PC considered the issue and agreed it was happy with what it already had by way of the two village signs.

### **Village Plan**

Brg Cllr Mrs Callow asked if the PC had had any thoughts as to producing a village plan. The PC had but had agreed so far not to get involved. It was normally the case that it was an outside body which did the work and so far the PC had not had the resources or inclination to proceed. However it was something that could be considered in our September strategy discussions.

### **Potholes**

The Clerk advised that Cllr Woodley and he had toured the Parish to review the outstanding pothole issues. The Clerk was asked to communicate with Highways and remind them that once they had been made aware of any problems the potholes would be their responsibility.

### **Hollybank**

The Clerk was asked to remind the owners of Pound House of their agreement to reinstate the verge once building work was complete.

### **Mowing**

There was some doubt expressed that mowing was being performed in accordance to that agreed. The Clerk said he would obtain a schedule from KCC to allow monitoring of the work.

### **Borough Councillor**

Brg Cllr Alan McDermott reported that he was now on the Licencing committee and also the Rural Forum for the South east.

### **Bill Mills**

The Council noted with great regret the passing of Bill Mills. He had been a significant ally of the PC and was very involved with the building of the Matfield Hall. The Clerk was asked to write to his widow expressing our condolences.

### **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be a planning meeting on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July in Matfield Village Hall at 7.30 pm.