

**MINUTES OF A REMOTE PLANNING MEETING OF BRENCHLEY AND MATFIELD PARISH
COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.30pm via ZOOM**

Present: Councillors K. Sparkhall (Chairman) presided, L. Butler, G. Warner, G. Stevenson, A. de Guingand, C. Brooks (Clerk).

In attendance: Non-Voting Members: Amanda Wells, Rose Harrild, Ellie Izzard, one member of the public

1. To accept apologies for absence

None.

2. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting

Draft Minutes from the meeting of 7th September 2020 were agreed as a true record after a small amendment and shall be signed in person by the Chairman at the next opportunity.

3. To record declarations of interest in any item on the Agenda

None.

4. To adjourn to allow public participation

None.

5. To consider appointment of a Non-Voting Member to the Planning Committee

Cllr Warner had met with Rose Harrild who has experience in the planning field and in particular in the parish and she recommended Mrs Harrild to the Council.

The Council unanimously agreed to appoint Rose Harrild to the Planning Committee as a Non-Voting Member. She would be asked to abide by the Code of Conduct.

6. Neighbourhood Development Plan Site Specific Policies.

Cllr Butler advised that the NDP Steering Group has expanded its policies on the TWBC allocated sites in Matfield to include details of policies that would be required on each of the sites, if planning approval was granted.

The TWBC Draft Local Plan currently has a set of policies for each allocated site but the Neighbourhood Plan has expanded on these policies to maximise the benefit to the community.

The current draft of the NP Site Specific Policies was discussed. The document includes the introduction to the Housing Policy section before the listing of the individual site policies.

Councillors expressed gratitude to the Steering Group for the work on these policies.

RESOLVED to approve the Site-Specific policies and that they may be discussed with developers/landowners during the early stages of a development by the NDP Steering Group. It was agreed that the content of any such meetings would be reported to the Parish Council.

7. The Tunbridge Wells Agreement

The KALC Area Committee had provided suggested amendments to Section 4: of the Tunbridge Wells Agreement, which is a commitment by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and its officers to respect the role of the Parishes and Town Councils in the government of TW Borough. Section 4 deals with planning applications and enforcement issues.

RESOLVED to approve the amendments to Section 4 of the Tunbridge Wells Agreement.

8. Proposed reforms to the Planning system

The Council discussed the two consultations on planning system reform, one on more immediate changes and the other on the longer term White Paper. We need to decide whether we want to respond as the PC or leave this to TWBC as the planning authority. If we do want to write, either

to TWBC or more directly, then we need to agree tomorrow night the key points that should be made, so that a response can be drafted.

It was agreed that the Clerk would seek to obtain the submissions from other parishes, particularly those that have rural designation. Information received would be circulated and Cllr Butler would consider whether a submission form BMPC was warranted to ensure our concerns were met. If a response was to be made this would be copied to Greg Clark MP.

In terms of the White Paper 'Planning for the Future', for which the consultation deadline is 29 October, it was agreed that the Clerk would obtain the KALC area Chairmen's draft response to the white paper to circulate so that the Council's own response, if any, could be determined.

9. Planning Applications

20/02202 Tong Farm, Marle Place Road, Brenchley, Tonbridge, TN12 7HS	Demolition of existing buildings, and the development of 5 dwellings, new accesses and associated landscaping. RESOLVED TO REVIEW THIS APPLICATION AT THE NEXT MEETING on 5th October 2020
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10. To be advised of urgent Business as may be previously notified

None.

11. Date of next meeting

Full Council Meeting 7.30pm, Monday 5th October 2020

Finance Committee Meeting 10.00am. Tuesday 13th October 2020