

BREDHURST PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting
Blacksmiths Barn
Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 6.30pm



Present:

Cllr Vanessa Jones (Chairman), Cllr Steve Bowring (Vice Chairman), Cllr Richard Collins, Cllr Sue Harwood, Cllr Claire Sharp, Cllr Lee Gooda and Cllr Dan Fifield
 Clerk and RFO – Mrs Wendy Licence
 Public – Five

855. Apologies for Absence

All Members were present.

856. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

857. Items to be taken in Closed Session

None were identified.

858. Minutes of 11th October 2023 Parish Council and Personnel Meeting

The minutes were **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** by Councillors and signed by Cllr Jones as a true record subject to the following amendments:

Page numbers to 197 to 200 inserted.

Item 848b – AP7 inserted.

Item 848e – AP8 inserted.

Page numbers were also incorrect for September’s minutes. Correct page numbers 193 to 196 noted.

a) Matter arising from the minutes:

Action Points from 11-10--23

Action Points	Actions	Clerk or Cllr	Completed or Minute Item
AP1	Discuss with outstanding work with Safeplay contractor	Clerk	864a
AP2	Meet with H&S contractor	Cllr Jones	864b
AP3	Meet with contractor re tree stump carving	Cllr Jones	864a
AP4	Send letter of thanks to KCC	Cllr Jones	Completed
AP5	Instruct contractor re Village Sign repairs	Clerk	866c
AP6	Obtain quotes to re-paint railings	Cllr Jones	866b
AP7	Submit response to Medway Council re LPR	Clerk	Completed
AP8	Submit planning response to Maidstone Borough Council	Clerk	Completed

859. Visitors

a) PC Mitch Hunt submitted a written report:

Over the past 6 weeks, officers from Maidstone Community Safety Unit have worked collaboratively with other teams such as the Rural Task Force, Road Safety Unit and Medway Community Team whereby all officers engaged with Op Buttercup. Op Buttercup was an operation created to target those using offroad bikes within the area. On the day, planned and targeted activity whereby multiple persons were stopped and engaged with, reassurance provided to the community and prohibited items such as drugs were seized from persons. One offroad bike was managed to be stopped and seized which has since been destroyed.

- b) Borough Councillor Jones reported that she had dealt with numerous fly tipping incidents and missed bin complaints. A meeting with the Maidstone Borough Council Head of Environmental Services is planned. Highway repairs across the Ward have been delayed due to inclement weather. It is hoped that work to Boxley/Lidsing Road will be completed this week. She is attending the Boxley Farm Cluster meeting tomorrow; feedback will be given next month. In her capacity as Borough Councillor and Chair of Bredhurst Woodland Action Group she has been working with Kent Down AONB Unit who have secured £80,000 for path restoration in Bredhurst Woods. Residents are encouraged to use the What3Words app when reporting faults on the Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council portals.

No reports have been received from Borough Councillors Heidi Bryant or Bob Hinder.

- c) No report has been received from County Councillor Paul Carter.

860. Planning

- a) The Main Modifications consultation period ends on 13 November. The Planning Inspector will decide whether the Local Plan is sound; if it is found sound, Maidstone Borough Council will then vote whether to adopt it or not. There has been a meeting with the Parish Council's Barrister who will draft a response.
- b) Bredhurst Parish Council has submitted a response to Medway Council's Local Plan Review which is in its initial stage.
- c) **23/504638/FULL:** 3 Kemsley Street Road Bredhurst Kent ME7 3LR. Erection of single storey rear extension, removal of door to side elevation and insertion of new window.
Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to support the application.

Public Participation Time

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to address the Council.

- d) **23/504691/TPOA:** Grove House Dunn Street Road Bredhurst Kent ME7 3LX. TPO application to fell one Yew.

The meeting was reconvened.

Councillors noted comments from members of the public.

Cllr Jones **PROPOSED** the Council objects to the application and call the matter into Maidstone Borough Council Planning Committee: **SECONDED** by Cllr Sharp: **4-FOR; 3- AGAINST: MOTION CARRIED.**

- e) **23/504886/FULL:** 3 Naylor's Cottages The Street Bredhurst Kent ME7 3LE. Erection of single storey rear extension

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to support the application.

- f) **23/504887/LAWPRO:** 3 Naylor's Cottages The Street Bredhurst Kent ME7 3LE. Lawful Development Certificate for proposed single storey garage building to rear of site.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to support the application with the condition that the building be solely used for purposes of a garage or storage and not for any residential purposes.

- g) **23/504802/NMAMD:** Land at Dunn Street Road Bredhurst Kent ME7 3NA
Non-material amendment application to supersede plan nos. DHA_15100_04 A and DHA_15100_05 A with amended plan nos. DHA_31109_04 and DHA_31109_05 referred to in Condition 2 of 21/506626/FULL, for minor alterations to the proposed exterior of the conversion including altered and additional glazing form and placement, alterations to the proposed materials and minor alterations to the site layout of the purposes of ensuring safe and suitable access.

For information only

AP1: Clerk to submit responses to Maidstone Borough Council.

861. General Power of Competence

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that Bredhurst Council, having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, adopts the General Power of Competence until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

862. Scheme of Delegation

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to adopt the Scheme of Delegation.

863. Noticeboard Policy

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to adopt the Notice Board Policy.

864. Playing Field

- a) Check repairs to the play equipment have been carried out.
AP2: Cllr Jones to check.
- b) Lucanus Services have been instructed to remove a fallen tree.

865. Blacksmith Barn

- a) Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quote of £275 from Axeworks Arts to carve the tree stump into a flower planter.
AP3: Clerk to instruct contractor.
- b) Cllr Jones has met with the H&S contractor which is carrying out a revision of current practices.

866. Village Maintenance

- a) The temporary traffic lights required for work by Southern Gas Networks (SGN) at the end of Hurstwood Road will soon be moved to the end of Kemsley Street Road.
- b) Quotes not yet requested for painting of the railings. This will be addressed in the spring.
- c) The village sign repair is weather dependant. Hopefully, it will be completed soon.

867. Finance

- a) Councillors received and accepted the financial statement and bank reconciliation. Signed by Cllr Jones.

Unity Trust Bank Account as at 31-10-23	£44,083.68
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- b) To Payment's list: to consider invoices for payment.

Payments for authorising at meeting

Ref	Details	Amount	VAT*	Total	Auth
112	Waterhouse Group - Insurance	527.80	-	527.80	VJ/SB
113	All Kent Cooling Ltd - Air Con Installation	3,417.09	683.42	4,100.51	VJ/SB
114	Safeplay - Play Area Maintenance	2,930.00	586.00	3,516.00	VJ/SB
115	TEEC - Website Hosting (Annual Charge)	125.99	25.20	151.19	VJ/SB
116	Rachel Ford – October 7 hours	175.00		175.00	VJ/SB
117	Commercial Services - Grounds Maintenance	135.82	27.16	162.98	VJ/SB
118	Mrs Wendy Licence - Poppy Wreath	19.99	3.99	23.98	VJ/SB

* VAT to be reclaimed

Payments made out of meeting.

Ref	Details	Amount	VAT*	Total	Auth
104	Safeplay - Play Area Inspection	52.50	10.50	63.00	VJ/SB
105	Southern Water	23.99		23.99	VJ/SB
106	Helen Elstone - Salary			Redacted	SO
107	Mazars - External Auditor	355.00	71.00	426.00	VJ/SB
108	Managed Technology- 152959	1500.00	300.00	1800.00	VJ/SB
109	Bytes	8.77	1.75	10.52	DD
110	HMRC			Redacted	SO
111	One Comm SVS Ltd			75.00	DD

* VAT to be reclaimed.

- c) Maidstone Borough Council has requested a copy of BPCs Noticeboard Policy.
AP4: Clerk to supply.
- d) The Parish Council's half yearly audit will take place on 5th December. Cllr Jones and the Clerk to be in attendance.

868. Report from Parish Councillors

The church is not laying wreaths in the church yard this year. They will only be on display inside the church. The Parish Council wreath will be laid in the centre of the village next to 'Tommy'.

869. Correspondence

None.

Date of Next Meeting: 13 December 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting:



Chairman:

12/12/23

Dated: