

Minutes of a meeting of Bilsington Parish Council held at Bilsington Village Hall on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors; S Hudson (Chairman), S Carrington, R Corbett, B Delmage and G Russell.

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

**528. Ashford Borough Councillor's Report:**

Borough Councillor J Martin submitted apologies for absence and did not submit a written report.

**529. Kent County Councillor's Report:**

County Councillor M Angell submitted apologies for absence and had nothing to report.

**530. Public Participation Session:**

There were no members of the public present.

**531. To receive apologies for absence:**

County Councillor M Angell and Borough Councillor J Martin.

**532. To receive any declarations of interest from Members:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**533. Minutes:**

The minutes of the meetings held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were submitted, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**534. Chairman's Report:**

The Chairman had nothing to report other than agenda items.

**535. Planning Matters:**

**Planning Application 17/1562/AS – Priory Home Farm, Priory Road, Bilsington – removal of condition 3 of application 04/01120/AS to allow for the use of the site for the hosting of equestrian events.**

**RESOLVED: to comment the Parish Council is concerned about the proposed removal of condition 3 as the road infrastructure has not improved since the 2004 application. Whilst the Parish Council wishes to support local businesses the Parish Council would be prepared to potentially accept a modification of condition 3 if further information was available.**

**536. Finance:**

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount
26/10/17	702 & 703	Clerks salary September	£361.65
26/10/17	704	Clerks expenses	£177.25
23/11/17	705	Kent County Council	£7,949.51
23/11/17	706 & 707	Clerks salary October	£383.13

**RESOLVED: To approve the payments in the schedule of payments.**

**537. Village Hall:**

Councillor Delmage reported that the recent Mantissa show was a great success forthcoming events: Xmas party 10<sup>th</sup> December, Wind in the Willows 6<sup>th</sup> January and a comedy evening 17<sup>th</sup> March.

The external cladding is due for installation at the beginning of December and will take about a week to week and a half to complete.

**538. Resident Survey:**

22 responses have been received and are being collated for further discussion at a later date.

**539. Speed Indicator Device:**

Each time the device is moved to another location the information captured is downloaded, this includes traffic volumes per hour as well as average speeds. This information will be retained and collated to establish any patterns.

**540. Parish Clerk's Report:**

The Parish Clerk reported that the Department for Communities and Local Government had confirmed that there will be no referendum principles for Parish Councils for the financial year 2018/19 however restraint should be exercised on any increase.

The manner in which the Parish Council is audited is changing in that under a £25,000 threshold there is no requirement for an external audit. There will be new audit forms which will be available shortly before the end of the financial year and the guidelines are scheduled for publication at the end of March.

The Clerk recently attended a KCC Highways seminar and advised that drains are no longer cleaned to a timetable in the rural areas only upon request, the Council need to be aware when drains become blocked and request clearance. Next years budget for rural bus services is likely to be reduced which will have an impact upon services.

The Clerk attended a Community Transport event organised by KCC which gave details of alternative schemes that can be operated in the rural area. It is likely that any such scheme would be too large and complex for a single Parish Council to operate the Clerk will undertake further research and report back at a future meeting.

**541. Correspondence:**

- a. **Spotlight on rural health**
- b. **Rural Network services – weekly news digest 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017**
- c. **Rural Network services – weekly news digest 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**542. Any Other Business:**

Broadband: following the last meeting County Councillor M Angell contacted the Broadband Project Manager at KCC who has advised that Openreach have confirmed that there are a number of unresolved data management errors to be resolved, as yet there has been no indication as to when these issues will be resolved.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.