

**BRABOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council**  
**Held at 7.00pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019**  
**at Brabourne Village Hall**

**1. Present**

Cllr Hickmott (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Tanner, Cllrs Spokes and Mayland, and Mrs Wood (Clerk). Eight members of the public were present.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Bewick and Cllr Mrs Young (prior commitments), and Cllr Howard (ward member).

**3. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**4. Minutes****Resolved:**

**That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> January and 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 be approved and confirmed as true records.**

**5. Matters Arising****5.1 Roads and Footways**

**5.1.1** Fingerpost at East Brabourne: The caretaker has carried out the repairs.

**5.1.2** Reduction in speed limit in The Street, East Brabourne [Viticulture Education Centre]: Cllr Clair Bell to be approached at the Annual Parish Meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup> re funding for the proposal.

**5.2 Local Needs Housing (LNH)** The Local Plan was adopted by ABC on February 21st. The need for LNH remains; the help of Action with Communities in Rural Kent will be sought in the search for possible sites.

**5.3 Village caretaker scheme** The caretaker will remove the dead beech tree on the Warren; it will be replaced by a copper beech. The scheme continues to work well.

**5.4 Community Led Plan Group (CLP)** The outdoor gym on the green will be installed in March/April.

**5.5 Phone box door repairs** The door closure mechanism has been replaced. The phone box will be repainted and reglazed by the caretaker when the weather permits.

**5.6 Tree sculptor** The sculptor used by Hastingleigh Parish Council is no longer carrying out this type of work. The trees will be felled and logged; logs will be left on site for collection. No charge will be made for the logs but vehicles and trailers must not be driven on to the Warren.

**6. Borough councillor's report**

No report in Cllr Howard's absence.

**7. Financial report****7.1 To agree payments in accordance with the Budget****Resolved:**

**That the following payments be agreed in accordance with the Budget.**

Details	£
S Wood	525.64
S Wood	525.64
Smeeth Parish Council [reimbursement – tree works]	91.55
J Noble [dip tanks – allotments]	691.94
B&S Playing Field Association [donation]	2100.00
B&S Village Hall Association [donation]	1750.00
D Ansley [24 hrs @ £7.83/hr]	187.92
Action with Communities in Rural Kent [subscription]	75.00
Katherine Barnes [VGA]	23466.12
S Wood [expenses]	642.94
Ashford Borough Council [printing – VGA]	24.76

Citizenship Award	100.00
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**Receipts**

Details	£
Lloyds Bank interest	0.37
Allotment renewal payments [cheques]	30.00
Allotment renewal payments [BACS]	510.00
ABC [loan drawdown]	20000.00

Balance £ 17858.43 (cheque and deposit accounts)

**8. Planning Committee**

16/00303/AS Land between Lees Road and Canterbury Road. The application for costs was refused.

Approved by ABC:

18/01433/AS Crow Corner, Pound Lane  
 18/01463/AS Pemsey Farm, Lees Road  
 18/01628/AS Fords Water Farm, West Brabourne  
 18/01852/AS The Downs, Scots Lane

Lawful Development Certificate:

18/01632/AS The Cowshed, Fairview Farm, Fiddling Lane

Decisions awaited:

18/01404/AS Applegarth, The Street, East Brabourne Supported by the Planning Committee  
 18/01454/AS Andrews Garage, Plain Road The Parish Council objected to the application  
 18/01676/AS The Plough Inn, Lees Road The Parish Council objected to the application  
 19/00037/AS East View, Lees Road No objection from the Parish Council  
 19/00156/AS 27 Mountbatten Way The Planning Committee had no objection  
 19/00216/AS 1 The Warren The Planning Committee had no objection

Application withdrawn:

18/01677/AS Land at rear of Plough Inn (variation of condition regarding access)

**9. KALC report**

The Ashford Area Committee met on 23<sup>rd</sup> January; the Minutes will be circulated. The Committee next meets on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**10. Allotments project**

Two plot holders have not renewed; payments for two plots remain outstanding. Notices to quit will be sent if payment is not received by 2<sup>nd</sup> April, given that payments were due in January.

Two dip tanks have been installed. Costs for additional water runs are awaited.

The annual inspection of the site will be carried out by the Chairman and Clerk in April/May.

**11. The Plough Inn**

An application to include The Plough on the register of Assets of Community Value has been submitted. A decision is awaited, together with an application for listing.

**12. The Warren: Masterplan for management of projects**

The gym will be installed in March/April.

The Chairman reported that requests have been posted on the community Facebook page for a 'youth shelter' on the Warren. He noted that a shelter of sympathetic design will cost approx £9000, exclusive of VAT and installation costs. An alternative suggestion of a shelter on the playing field was thought not to be practical because of space constraints. It was thought that a shelter on the Warren would be safer: there would be a lack of supervision on the playing field given that it is not overlooked. Siting of a shelter on the green would be less of an attraction to those who do not live in the village. The Chairman noted that S106 payments will accrue from the housing development in Church Road, Smeeth; these are paid for defined categories, eg cemeteries, outdoor play, so could possibly be used for provision of the shelter.

**13. Registration of land at the village hall as a village green**

Comments from the Hall Management Committee are awaited.

**14. Correspondence**

All correspondence has been circulated.

**15. Presentation of the Citizenship Award**

The Chairman stated that the Award is presented by Brabourne Parish Council in memory of Chris Goodall, a former parish councillor who was also involved in many other organizations and events. Councillor Goodall was a model citizen for the village. The recipient of the award is chosen by the Parish Council from nominations made by parishioners.

The Chairman stated that he had first met the recipient when he joined the Parish Council. The recipient has lived in the village for many years and, together with his wife, was very involved in village life. He was the Parish Clerk for many years, not only for Brabourne but also for Smeeth, carrying out his duties diligently and purposefully. In the days before the internet everything was posted or delivered by hand - the amount of paperwork was immense. Although retired he is still approached by parishioners about things in the village.

To applause, the Chairman presented the Citizenship Award to Peter Scotton.

**16. Open Session**

**Smeeth War Memorial:** George Taylor reported that earlier concerns have been allayed with the growth of daffodils and primroses around the Memorial. A safety barrier of wrought iron (from a blacksmith in Aldington) will be installed on the 2 exposed sides. Cllr Spokes congratulated George Taylor on the success of the restoration project, people now feel encouraged to visit. Cllr Mrs Tanner agreed, stating that the Memorial is now an attractive feature at the entrance to Smeeth and a focal point for the two communities.

**Youth shelter:** George Taylor welcomed the idea but felt that it would be used by all, and would therefore be a community asset. He noted the success of the War Memorial restoration project in applying for grants, and suggested that applications be made to, eg Age Concern and other funders. The generosity of residents was also acknowledged in support of the War Memorial, George Taylor thought that there would be similar support for the shelter.

Cllr Mayland agreed, and suggested that it be referred to as a village shelter. This was agreed, and examples cited of similar shelters used by communities elsewhere.

The Chairman asked if the project should be Parish Council or CLP led. The Clerk advised that the CLP can apply for grants which are not available to the Parish Council – funders take the view that Parish Councils can raise funds through the Precept.

**Plain Road:** The Parish Council was asked if it had any information on the forthcoming gas main works in Plain Road. The Clerk replied that the Parish Council had not received any notification of any works.

**17. Any other business**

**17.1** Potholes at the A20/Church Road junction and on The Ridgeway will be reported.

**17.2** An update was sought on the application to register Hospital Field as a village green. The Chairman reported that the inquiry was held at Penstock Hall over a 4-day period; the Inspector chairing the inquiry is a barrister specialising in open spaces and village greens. In support of its application the Parish Council submitted a number of witness statements, and five witnesses gave oral evidence. Gladman acted on behalf of the landowners objecting to the application. The inspector will submit a report to KCC, which (as the registration authority) will make the decision on the application.

**17.3** Cllr Mayland suggested that shelves be put up in the phone kiosk near the Five Bells, which could then be used as a library, noting the success of similar initiatives elsewhere.

**17.4** Possible abandoned car near Smeeth school. This will be reported.

**17.5** Parish Council elections: Cllr Mayland advised that he will not be standing for re-election. The Chairman thanked Cllr Mayland for his efforts on behalf of the community and his service on the Council.

**18. Date and time of next meeting**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7.00pm in Brabourne Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.