

GREAT BARDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11 JANUARY 2017

Present: Cllrs Dyson (Chair), Ruffle (Vice Chair), Graham, Kennedy, Hockley, Walsh, Slemmings

In Attendance : Mike Ringer, Kevin Scott (Bedlar Holdings) and Cllr Peter Tattersley

PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman welcomed the representatives of Bedlar Holdings who presented details of their revised proposals for the development of the Bardfield Centre. The Chairman thanked Mr Ringer and Mr Scott for taking the time to attend the meeting and confirmed the Council's support for the development of this brownfield site for residential use as outlined. The new proposals took account of issues raised previously, providing more amenity space for the properties which were reduced from 10 to 8. She explained that the item was on the Agenda and would be discussed at the appropriate time during the evening.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ruffle recorded her interest in that she was a business tenant at the Bardfield Centre.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Schwier.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 14 DECEMBER 2016

These were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Slemmings seconded Cllr Hockley.

4. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Tattersley had brought with him a large scale map of showing "areas of search" in regard to development in the district. It would appear that BDC favour the garden village development – which would come with appropriate infrastructure in the first phase – as opposed to ad hoc development tacked onto villages. There was a general discussion about the local plan and that the time frame for the new plan allowed the opportunity for many more speculative applications from land owners and developers.

He outlined the investment BDC were putting into additional surgeries at Braintree College and the Town Centre and said he was meeting with the Chief Executive of the Clinical Commissioning Group for further discussion.

Cllr Walsh had circulated his County report via the Clerk.

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 05/01/17		
	Treasurers Acc 17956560	£846.90
	Business Call Account 00195929	£74,056.89
	Special Projects Account 00655423	£6,437.74
	New Pavilion Account 00710238	£33,666.01

(b) Precept 2017/18

Details had been circulated prior to the meeting based on discussions at the December meeting; Members now had to finalise the figures and approve the Precept. It was agreed that a Precept figure of £30,809 be submitted which, together with the Localism Fund of £2,845.00, would provide an income of £33,654.00. This is an increase of 5.93% or £3.29 per annum per household and less than the increase in 2016/17. Proposed Cllr Walsh, seconded Cllr Kennedy and unanimously agreed.

7. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

16/01236/FUL PARK Hall Farm, amendment to grain store. There were no objections to this application which was a minor amendment to 16/01858, approved at the December meeting.

16/00392/TPOCON The Stables, Northampton Meadow. Cllr Walsh said he had no objection to this application which involved the reduction of a Maple tree.

Bardfield Centre : Outline Proposals: There were no objections and this was considered an interesting development to have within the village. The revised design provided more amenity space, a dedicated area for parking and refuse and the reduction in numbers to 8 properties gave a better appearance overall. Concern was raised however regarding parking in regard to the adequacy of the allocated spaces and, more importantly, how would these be 'protected' if there was an event at the High Barn. The Clerk was asked to raise these points with Bedlar Holdings.

8. PLAYINGFIELD/PAVILION PROJECT

Break-in: It was reported that there was an attempted break-in the evening of 6/7 January and the police had been notified.

Fence Protection: Reviewing the quotations for the protection of the new fence it was agreed that the work outlined by David Robson would be most suitable and least intrusive with the horizontal pieces sited close to the ground. The Clerk was asked to accept the quotation of £1044 and ask that Mr Robson liaise with Cllr Kennedy before commencing the work.

CCTV: The quotation from Abbey Security Solutions of £2163 was approved. Cllr Kennedy would liaise with a qualified electrician in regard to a relevant power supply; alternative means of fitting the equipment, as it was not possible to utilise the UK Power pole, had already been discussed. The Clerk had also re submitted the grant application as recommended.

The Chairman wished to record the Council's appreciation of the time and effort Cllr Kennedy and given to liaising with the various suppliers.

9. POLICE

Following the complaint regarding lack of action over recent months the Clerk had been contacted by Chief Inspector Craig Carrington and liaised with various other officers. Further contact confirmed there had been patrols in marked vehicles and it was intended to continue these. However the recommendation was to report incidents via the Essex police website unless urgent due to the reduction in resources generally.

10. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Road Closure Notice –Bridge End: The notice was received by the Clerk the day after the closure took place

Road Closure 16A Bus: It was reported that despite this bus picking up in Chelmsford indicating it was travelling to Wethersfield the driver (when arriving at Stebbing) said he was going no further than Great Bardfield due to the bridge being closed; this left a young passenger stranded in Great Bardfield. As it happens the road had been cleared at approximately 4.30 so the bus could have continued its journey. With appropriate communication between the bus company, Stephenson's, and the driver this could have been avoided. The Clerk was asked to report this and Cllr Tattersley asked if he could be copied in to the correspondence.

A120: Consultation on options for a new stretch of the A120 between Braintree and the A12 has been launched with events being held throughout the County. The local event will be at the Alex Hunter Academy, Braintree on 18 February and Cllr Ruffle said she hoped to attend this or one of the other events.

11. PIPERS MEADOW

The Clerk would check that the tree work approved at the December meeting was in hand and that the village handyman had made arrangements to clean the visitors sign.

UK Power have confirmed that the overhead cables that are causing problems will be inspected.

12. ENVIRONMENT

Litter Bin: Cllr Kennedy said he would store the new bin, presently with the Co-op, until arrangements had been made for its installation. The Clerk would check with the village handyman if there was any urgent requirement in the village and if not it would be located at the playingfields.

Dog Fouling Signs: The Clerk would source signs advising of the £1,000 penalty for dog owners who allow their dogs to foul.

New Street Light: It was confirmed that the intention was for this to be located on the green side of the white railings on the Causeway.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

Life in an English Village: An invitation had been received from the Braintree Museum to members of the Council to attend this Private Viewing on 28 January. A number of Councillors expressed their intention to attend,

Co-op – Community Funding: The Chairman would report details in her BT report for this funding open to community groups and registered charities.

14. ITEMS OF REPORT

Memorial Bench – War Memorial: Weather permitting, this should be installed on Saturday 14 January. (IG)

Cooker – An old cooker was partially blocking the fire exit at the Town Hall and Cllr Ruffle would speak to the caretaker regarding this. (PK)

Leak outside School: This had been reported to Anglian Water and dealt with (CR)

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This will be held on Wednesday 8 February 2017 at 8.00

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm