

BEKESBOURNE WITH PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2020 at 19:30
(via Zoom)

PRESENT: Parish Cllr Andrea Nicholson (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Christine Ash
Parish Cllr Graham Duplock
Parish Cllr Christine Sladden
Parish Cllr Jill Thomas
Parish Cllr Mary Evans
Parish Cllr Emily Young
Parish Cllr David Sladden
Mrs Nicola Purcell, Clerk to the council.

There was 2 members of the public present: Mrs L. Turner and Mrs T. Fisher joined for the village hall update.

69. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Watt

70. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 14TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Minutes unanimously agreed.

71. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Ash raised concerns that the A2 slip road is still an issue; there appears to have been another accident there and the barriers have been left in a poor state. Clerk mentioned that twice in as many months there have been known episodes of people driving the wrong way onto the slip road at this junction. Clerk to continue to chase the matter with KCC.

72. MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PARISHIONERS COMMENTS

No comments

73. COUNTY/CITY COUNCILLOR REPORT

No reports received

74. REPORT FROM CCF OPTIONS MEETING WITH CCC ON 19TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Cllrs Nicholson, Thomas and the Clerk attended this meeting which was held online to discuss the options presented by CCC regarding the future of the Concurrent Function Funding. CCC have proposed that they will not alter the Grant for the next financial year after they received such a large response from parishes, going against the notion of removing it. Instead CCC intend to hold an audit to gather data regarding the use of the parish areas; in order to determine the best way of allocating the money to Parishes and how much this should be. No further details were given regarding how the audit will take place, other than it is to begin in December 2020. We will now wait to hear the next steps to be taken regarding the matter.

75. REPORT FROM THE TRANSPORT CONFERENCE WITH CCC HELD ON 21ST SEPTEMBER 2020

Cllr Nicholson and the Clerk attended this meeting. It was more of a workshop where attendees were split into smaller groups of five or six in order to determine our views and

suggestions for reducing congestion in Canterbury City Centre. CCC wanted to gauge views on proposed congestion zones, and bicycle incentives. Many parishes expressed their concerns that if congestion zones were implemented in the city, the traffic would simply be encouraged to use the surrounding roads in the villages to avoid the zones, increasing traffic and pollution in those areas. It was mentioned that more regular affordable public transport to and from the city would be beneficial. In conclusion no real answers were given at this stage.

76. PLAY AREA UPDATE

Cllrs Sladden and Young shared their feedback from their research conducted into the regeneration of the play area at the recreation ground. Cllr Young shared a presentation on screen for all attendees. After conducting surveys from residents earlier this year and from visiting other rural parks, the consensus was that a natural look, with wooden frames, would suit the Recreation Ground.

The following is information Cllr Sladden circulated prior to the meeting:

“We have estimates from 3 well established companies, all manufacturing their equipment in England. The company that did the playground which we really liked, and which was, we find, surprisingly cheap, did not respond to our repeated requests for a quote.

Only one firm quoted for exactly what we asked for, and the bottom line was £34,738.60. We could upgrade to a steel slide for £1,033 and a slightly more elaborate climbing tower for about £1,500. Given that the prices are similar across the 3 catalogues, getting what we would like may cost about £40,000, as there could be some hidden extras. VAT chargeable but can be reclaimed.

The decision will come down to what we think looks most suitable for the area, and the surfacing of the play area. Surfacing prices are very different.

	<i>Playdale</i>	<i>Wicksteed</i>	<i>Creative Play</i>
<i>Materials and guarantees</i>	<i>Laminated timber poles, 20 year guarantee when not fixed directly in ground. Stainless steel chains and shackles 3 year guarantee.</i>	<i>10-year guarantee on timber</i>	<i>Tanalith pressure treated poles. European pine, sustainable. 20-year guarantee. Chains 5 year guarantee</i>
<i>Existing surface</i>	<i>Leave as base</i>	<i>Leave as base</i>	<i>Remove, cost £3,900. Customer to level base and return to soil. Turfing £3,450. Think this could only work if turfed in autumn and equipment installed in spring</i>
<i>New surface</i>	<i>Bonded rubber mulch £12,350. Not guaranteed as not their subbase</i>	<i>Eco-tumble surfacing £4,175. Colour will fade, may be some colour transfer.</i>	<i>Grass possibly dead, with grass-lock matting, but they do a rubber mulch.</i>

<i>Installation and welfare</i>	<i>Assumes storage in pavilion and dry field.</i>	<i>Heras fence, welfare and storage £950</i>	<i>Site security and welfare £948. Optional Enduromats for access across field £1.998</i>
---------------------------------	---	--	---

Looking again at the ROSPA report I wondered if we should retain the Trim Trail and ask the contractor for a quote to replace the chains.

Cllrs C. Sladden and Young expressed a preference for the company Playdale. This quote included all elements of equipment desired, the rubber mulch surface and the removal of the old equipment. Cllrs felt very confident in Playdale’s professionalism and knowledge. The representative spent some time discussing the best location for the equipment and listened to the needs of the parish. The toddler frame with slide would remain. The work could begin instantly and be complete in the spring.

Cllr Ash queried if this work would impact the village hall refurbishment funds? There are adequate funds available in the accounts following the sale of land at Aspinall Close.

Cllr Evans proposed that the council proceed with the quote from Playdale. Cllr Duplock seconded. All in favour, motion passed.

77. VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Cllr Duplock reported that it took quote some time for the architects to come back with an official plan drawing. When they did it identified a few elements that the VHMC were unhappy with. The VHMC therefore had a meeting with another developer to re-think options. A groundworks specialist visited the hall to discuss the relocation of the toilet block. His verdict was that there was enough space but a pump may be needed to assist in the removal of sewage. With this in mind, the VHMC propose to leave the location of the toilets at the front of the hall and fit the kitchen at the back of the hall. Cllr Duplock showed the amended drawings on screen.

Cllr Thomas expressed her disappointment that the VHMC were not proceeding with the plans that were voted and agreed at the previous Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Ash queried the need for a sewage pump, as the road naturally slopes, which should be sufficient for drainage. Cllr D.Sladden noted his reoccurring bad experiences with pumps failing and expressed his concern about the use of these at the hall.

With this revised plan the hall would be approximately 2m smaller in length inside, with the relocation of storage and a large entrance lobby. There will be large windows at the back of the hall overlooking the fields and the existing fire door is to be maintained.

Cllr Ash noted that the front of the building facing Station Road/School Lane does not look very inviting currently, and if the toilets remain in their current site it may not improve the aesthetics of the building, in comparison to the old plans, which included large windows at the front for the kitchen. T. Fisher (VHMC) commented that by the time the cladding is replaced, the buildings aesthetics will be significantly improved.

78. FINANCE MATTERS

To be approved-

September Salary: £461.50
October Salary: £464.50
Back pay: £42.03

(1st April- 30th Aug)

All in favour, approved.

79. CLERK'S REPORT/CORRISPONDENCE

An email was received shortly after the new website went live expressing concerns regarding the choice of photographs used on the website. The resident was upset that others had not been given the opportunity to demonstrate their photography skills. They also claimed that the wording on the gallery page which is there to credit the photographer accordingly was encouraging a business transaction, which should not be promoted on the parish page.

To resolve the issue Nicola changed the wording on the website, while still ensuring that the photographer is credited accordingly for the photographs used; especially as he has allowed us to use these at no charge. With the council's permission Nicola would like to open a public gallery section on the website, giving local people the opportunity to submit their own photographs.

No success as of yet with the A2 slip road, clerk will continue to push for results.

An unannounced road closure was reported by Cllr Ash on School Lane on the 26th October, lasting for 3 days. Nicola contacted KCC Highways as they sent out the notice after the road closure began. Highways claim that BT submitted the closure as an emergency, but upon speaking to the men on site it was a planned installation of cables for fibre optic broadband to an individual property.

Cllr Duplock contacted the clerk to see if we as a Parish Council could push for the installation of Fibre Optic broadband throughout the village, as there are some areas that are unable to access this facility, and we would like to identify the need for this facility, on behalf of the residents. Clerk to investigate process.

80. Planning

New Applications:

CA/20/02278	6B Bifrons Road, Bekesbourne, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 5DE, Single-storey side and rear extension.	Open to comments until 13 th November
-------------	--	--

For Information:

CA//18/02358	A Gomez and Co Distribution Services Ltd, Coldharbour Lane, Bekesbourne, CT4 5HL Details submitted pursuant to conditions 03 (external lighting) and 04 (external plant and machinery) of planning permission CA/17/02182/FUL.	Awaiting decision
CA/20/00447	The Barton Patixbourne Road Patixbourne Canterbury Kent CT4 5BP Application for listed building consent for external/internal alterations including insertion of rooflights in rear (east) elevation and replace existing glazed tiles at high level.	Application withdrawn
CA/20/01564	4 Chalkpit Cottages Chalkpit Hill Bekesbourne Canterbury Kent CT4 5EU	GRANTED

	Two-storey extension to south west elevation, following demolition of existing single-storey extension.	
--	---	--

81. AOB FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Cllr Ash noted that Mansfield’s Farm want to put in an application for 25 static homes on a site at Pett Bottom for farm workers. Cllr Ash feels that this will impact the local area and we as a Parish Council should be aware of this application, even though it is not directly within our parish.

52. TO SET A DATE FOR FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Next meeting to be held on **MONDAY 11th JANUARY 2021**, at 7:30pm via Zoom

Clerk to contact councillors to set a date for an extraordinary meeting to discuss and confirm the Budget for 2021, once the draft had been completed.

The meeting closed at 21.16

Signed(Chairman)

Date