

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 5th July 2016 at 8.00 pm.
in Birchanger Club pavilion**

Present: Angie Driscoll – Chair (AD)
Maria Davy (MD)
Elizabeth Godwin (EG)
Linda Pocklington (LP)
Sandy Dowle (SD)
Alex Stewart (AS)
Ken Wheatley (KW)

1 member of the public

Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)

182. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

183. Apologies and Reason for Absence

Matt Zych (MZ) (work commitments)

184. Declarations of Interest

KW declared an interest as a neighbour of the property to be discussed under agenda item 8 (The Cottage, Birchanger Lane).

185. Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

There were no representations from the public at this stage. The member of the public present, who is the subject of agenda item 13 (Co-option of parish councillor), would address the meeting later.

186. Minutes of the last meeting

Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 7th June 2016 was proposed by SD and agreed as a true and accurate record, and duly signed by the Chairman.

[2016/043]

187. Recreation Ground Working Group/Allotments – Glebeland

a) Quotation for new slide.

LP said there is a problem sourcing a slide with a height higher than 2 metres, which was the agreed requirement. It was therefore agreed to retain the existing slide which could be re-painted at the same time as the other playground equipment. A quote for the work to be obtained from Dave Debnam.

b) Consider quotation of £230 for refurbishment of roundabout.

It was agreed to accept the quotation.

188. Highways

a) Report on visit of engineer.

AD presented her report, which is attached as Appendix A.

b) Road markings and renewal of old signage.

SD wanted to know if the road signs were re-painted periodically. The Parish Clerk will investigate and report back.

189. Planning application UTT/16/1620-1/HHF – The Cottage Guest House, 71 Birchanger Lane.

KW did not take part in the discussion.

The Parish Clerk is to write to UDC with the following comments;

- Objection to the proposed window which will overlook the adjacent property, 69 Birchanger Lane.
- No guest house or family residents parking on Birchanger Lane. All parking to be on site.
- Family parking to be in line with Essex County Council parking guidelines.
- Disabled parking to be provided and clearly marked.

190. Transport

- KW reported that the bus operator wishes to reduce the number of vehicles in use from 3 to 2. This would have an impact on Birchanger.
- The new service is due to be introduced in August 2017.
- There will be a consultation in August 2016. KW will submit his comments on the proposed plans after the consultation. The comments to be displayed on the noticeboard and in the village magazine.

191. Dog bins

a) Confirmation of approval from landowner to siting of dog bins.

For information.

b) Progress on purchase of dog bins

Green "Retriever 35" bin has been chosen and the Parish Clerk will order 3 as previously agreed.

192. Finance

a) Account balances

Previously circulated.

b) Invoices and standing orders for payment

Were approved.

c) The emergency payment was noted and agreed.

193. County/District Councillors reports

There were no county or district councillors present.

194. Co-option of parish councillor

Mr George Taylor of the Old School House, Birchanger Lane had applied for the councillor vacancy and addressed the parish council with brief details of his working history and membership of current committees, explaining why he had applied for the vacancy.

AD then asked Mr Taylor to leave the room whilst the council discussed his application and voted on his acceptance. On a proposal from EG, seconded by SD, the council voted unanimously to invite Mr Taylor onto the council.

[The Parish Clerk is to inform Mr Taylor of the decision and request completion of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.]

195. Closure of meeting

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.13.

[2016/045]