

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 5th December 2017 at 8.00 pm.
in Birchanger Village Hall**

Present: Ken Wheatley (KW)
Linda Pocklington (LP)
Alex Stewart (AS)
Maria Davy (MD)
George Taylor (GT)
John Revell (JR)

1 member of the public
Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)

Representatives from WSP/England Highways:

Anne Marie Cobb (Project manager)
Dan Ambrose (Interserve Communications Manager)
Mike Newport (Principal Engineer WSP)
Graham Hiley (Technical Manager)

370. Appoint Chairman

Maria Davy was proposed and elected chairman for the meeting.

371. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

372. Apologies and Reason for Absence

Sandy Dowle (SD) – ill health
Elizabeth Godwin (EG)– prior engagement (to arrive later)
Angie Driscoll (AD) - holiday

373. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

None

375. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 7th November (previously circulated) were agreed as a true and accurate record, and duly signed by the Chairman.

376. Recreation Ground Working Group/Allotments – Glebeland

a) Annual recreation ground inspect report from The Play Inspect Co (already circulated)

No issues were considered urgent other than repairs to the slide steps. This will be included in the work to be undertaken by Dave Debnam. AS will continue to monitor the play equipment.

b) Consider quotation from Dave Debnam for repair work (details already circulated)

AS will ask Dave Debnam (DD) to repair the steps and clean the shelter. The remaining work will be agreed at a later date. AS will advise DD accordingly.

The gatepost needs replacing. AS will get a quote for this. A replacement padlock is also required.

377. Parking enforcement in Birchanger

KW referred the council to the report he had already circulated. He had nothing further to add.

378. Finance

- a. Account Balances (already circulated).
- b. The payments were accepted and authorised to be made.

379. Birchanger pathway renewal and improvement scheme

Mike Newport (MN) from WSP gave full details of the intended scheme and the action taken so far. This information is contained in the report prepared by the parish clerk and already circulated to councillors.

There was considerable opposition to the intention to light the bridleway, and concern that the increased use by cyclists could increase the chances of accidents. MN had already passed on these concerns to Karl Brooks of Highways England. MN will investigate alternative methods of illuminating the bridleway such as reflectors, and also traffic calming methods. This information will be sent to the parish clerk.

380. Reports from County and District councillors

There were no councillors present.

381. Closure of meeting

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