



Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council

<http://www.broomfieldandkingswood-pc.org.uk>



Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at
Broomfield and Kingswood Village Hall, Kingswood ME17 3PX on Monday 20 February 2023

Present at meeting: Cllr Tina Clark (Chairman); Cllr Gareth Davies; Cllr Chris Pink; Cllr Pearce,
Cllr Steve Lakin and Cllr Malcolm Clarke

Hayley Roberts - Parish Clerk/RFO

There were no members of the public present.

There were no declarations of intent to record the meeting by Councillors or members of the public.

Cllr Clark opened the meeting at 7:30pm

Min No	Item	Action
731.	To receive and approve apologies for absence Cllr Aimee Parker – childcare issues	
732. 732.1 732.2 732.2	Councillors Declarations of interest in items on the agenda Lobbying – None Personal Interest – None Prejudicial Interest (Councillor to leave meeting table whilst such item is under discussion) - None	
733.	Welcome by the Parish Council Chairman, Tina Clark	
734. 734.1	Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies Maidstone Borough Council – Ward Councillor – Gill Fort Traffic – The closure of Leeds Road due to the gas leak caused major problems, particularly as other surrounding roads were also closed. The knock on effect is that the potholes in our local area are horrendous and KCC need to fill these ASAP in order to make the roads useable again. Leeds Road – this road will be closed for six months to replace a water main although no details on dates has been received as of yet. Local Plan Review – The inspector found the local plan to be sound overall however has asked for more information in relation to certain areas. The inspector threw out the safeguarded area for the Leeds/Langley bypass, this means that the area will not be formally protected however it is a greenfield area. The Council are trying to submit further information to see if the safeguarding area can be put back into the local plan. Budget – the budget went to full Council on the 22nd of February and the key points are as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was a balanced budget and the Council are not in debt. - There will be a 3% increase on the MBC element of council tax - The biggest expenditure is due to the cost of living crisis and homelessness Waste Contract – the Biffa Waste contract was up for renewal and has been awarded to a new contractor. Service will be the same however the company will be using new greener vehicles. This change is due to take place imminently.	Amended
734.2	Kent County Council – County Councillor – Maidstone Rural East – Shellina Prendergast Apologies sent however report provided; 2022 was undoubtedly a difficult year for many of us and there is little doubt that many more challenges lay ahead – the cost of living crisis continues to bite residents and businesses, inflation remains high and global issues such as the invasion of Ukraine have had a huge impact on us all – including local government. Whilst KCC received a better than anticipated financial settlement from the government last autumn the reality is that this simply isn't going to be enough to keep pace with the rising demand and costs that are needed to deliver services – especially when it comes to the most vulnerable amongst us. KCC's draft budget for 2023/24 was considered and approved by Members at our Budget County Council meeting on 9th February and information can be found using this link https://news.kent.gov.uk/articles/budget-approved-by-members-of-kent-county-council KCC has had to look ahead and plan for how things can be done differently and still maintain an effective level of support for residents who need it. One of the proposals under consideration is looking at changes	

Signed _____

	<p>in the way buildings are used to deliver some of the community services – ranging from children’s centres and youth hubs, public health services for children and families, community services for adults with learning difficulties, the adult education offer and Gateways. The Community Services consultation - https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/community-services-consultation outlining these proposals was launched. I know it’s a hefty document to read – as one or two of you have already pointed out to me - but there are ways of navigating to information at relevant district/ward level and there’s also a list of drop in sessions where people can find out more and ask any questions.</p> <p>Finally, here is a link https://us8.campaign-archive.com/?u=7efcd0bedbc1757eb8a93cce4&id=8f3a65bf21 - to the latest edition of the e-newsletter which goes out on a regular basis to those who have subscribed to receive it directly into their inbox. It contains information about the Community Services consultation amongst other things.</p>	
	Cllr Gill Fort left the meeting at 7.51pm	
735.	<p>To approve the minutes of the meetings of Broomfield & Kingswood Parish Council Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 16 January 2023.</p> <p>The above minutes were approved as a true copy and duly signed by Cllr Clark.</p>	
736.	<p>To approve amendment to the minutes of the meetings of Broomfield & Kingswood Parish Council Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 19 December 2022.</p> <p>The above minutes were approved as a true copy and duly signed by Cllr Clark.</p>	
737.	<p>Planning Applications The following Planning Application to be considered and resolved:</p> <p>737.1 Application Ref: 23/500304/FULL Proposal: Erection of 4no. hotel room cabins along the edge of the Great Water. Works will include landscape, decking, single hotel room buildings and associated access works. Address: Leeds Castle Ashford Road Hollingbourne Kent ME17 1PL Following due consideration, Cllrs had no objections to this application. Cllrs did want it noted that increased traffic is a concern.</p> <p>737.2 Application Ref: 23/500501/FULL Proposal: Use of land for the stationing of 1no. glamping pod (retrospective). Address: The Finches Caravan And Camping Site Chartway Street East Sutton Maidstone Kent ME17 3DW Following due consideration, Cllrs had no objections to this application.</p> <p>737.3 Application Ref: 23/500109/FULL Proposal: Replace existing cabin with the erection of a detached reception/office building. Address: Go Ape Leeds Castle Ashford Road Hollingbourne Maidstone Kent ME17 1PL Following due consideration, Cllrs had no objections to this application.</p>	
738.	<p>Ratification of planning application; Application ref: 23/500337/FULL Proposal: Proposed replacement dwelling with basement (Revision of Planning Application ref: 22/505278/FULL) Address: The Meadow Chartway Street Sutton Valence Kent ME17 3JB Cllrs ratified decision to approve this application.</p>	
739.	<p>Planning Outcomes (for report only) Cllrs noted that MBC had not determined any planning applications since the last meeting.</p>	
740.	<p>Actions & Outcomes (for report only) Cllrs discussed outstanding actions.</p> <p>740.1 Clerk advised of the following updates...</p> <p>740.2 Cllr Pearce completed Broomfield Road litter pick as MBC did not complete this. Cllrs expressed their thanks to Cllr Pearce.</p> <p>740.3 The remedial work to the trees following the annual inspection has been completed at the Sports Field.</p> <p>740.4 The stone wall at Broomfield Green has been made higher and repaired as per residents request.</p> <p>740.5 The basket swing at the Sports Field has been repaired.</p> <p>740.6 A joint bus grant application with Boughton Malherbe Parish Council has been submitted to MBC in relation to the number 59 bus service. Await decision.</p>	
741.	<p>Finances and Payment of Accounts</p> <p>741.1 Bank reconciliation January 2023 This was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and agreed by all at the meeting. Signed by Cllr Clark and RFO.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Signed _____</p>	

741.2	Responsible Finance Officer's report January 2023 This was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and agreed by all at the meeting. Signed by Cllr Pearce and Cllr Pink.	
741.3	To approve the schedule of payments for February 2023 This was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and agreed by all at the meeting. Signed by Cllr Clark and Cllr Pearce.	
741.4	To ratify payments already made in December 2022 This was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and agreed by all at the meeting. Signed by Cllr Pearce and Cllr Pink.	
741.5	Reconciliation of invoices against cheques and ledger for December 2022 Councillors reconciled the invoices against the ledger and Cllr Pearce and Cllr Clarke initialled the invoices and ledger accordingly.	
741.6	To consider performance against the 2022/23 budget Cllrs noted the performance against the 2022/23 budget.	
741.7	To resolve to add all Cllrs as signatories on the UTB bank account Cllrs resolved to allow all Cllrs access to view and add all Cllrs as signatories on the UTB bank account. Clerk to arrange and have forms signed outside of meeting.	Clerk
741.8	To resolve to accept the quotation for grass maintenance in the Sports Field and Village for 2023/24 Cllrs discussed quotation and the fact that Cllrs have been unable to obtain two further quotations in previous years due to the job being 'too small' for companies to quote on. Cllrs resolved to accept the quotation from Steven Waring. Clerk to action accordingly.	Clerk
741.9	To discuss finalised Parish Service Scheme and S137 amounts for 2023/24 Clerk advised that it is proposed to increase the overall PSS grant by 3%, subject to Maidstone Borough Council agreeing at its meeting on 22nd February 2023 to increase Council Tax by this amount. Proposed grant for 2023/24 is £3,389. The S137 2023/24 amount per elector is £9.93.	
742.	Review of the month's Sports Field Inspection Sheets	
742.1	Clerk advised Pot holes are still being monitored. The matting under the basket swing appears to have sunk. Cllrs discussed and agreed for Paul Beaney to repair. Clerk and Paul Beaney attended Play Area Inspection Course. Very useful and Clerk and Paul to action new weekly inspection sheet and update risk assessment.	
742.2	To discuss quotations for replacement bench at Sports Field and resolve to accept one Cllrs discussed quotations, Clerk to research further and report back at next meeting.	Clerk
742.3	To discuss and resolve to accept recommendation of purchase of birch and apple trees Cllrs resolved to accept quotation for installation of replacement birch tree (Betula Jacquemontii 8-10 cm girth root ball) at the Sports Field, Clerk to arrange purchase of and installation of apple trees at the same time.	Clerk
743.	Policing	
743.1	Crime Figures Between 20:00 on Sunday 15th of January and 08:00 on Monday 16th of January in Charlesford Avenue. Somebody damaged a fence at a residential property. Crime Report No. 46/11836/23 - Posted 22/01/2023	
743.2	On Tuesday 17th of January between 16:30 and 20:30 in Charlesford Avenue. Somebody broke into a barn at a residential property and stole a quad bike. Crime Report No. 46/11367/23 - Posted 22/01/2023 Cllrs want to remind residents that <u>everything must be reported to the police</u> so that they can build a case. The following link can be used https://www.kent.police.uk/ro/report	
744.	Staff Committee To set a date for the next Staff Committee meeting as appraisals are due. Cllrs discussed and set a date of the 10 th of March.	
745.	To consider request from resident for a salt bin to be place at junction of Broomfield Road and Park Barn Road Cllrs considered request and agreed to the purchase of a fourth salt bin to be placed at the junction. Clerk to arrange. Signed _____	Clerk

746.	To receive an update on the Joint Village Hall Project Cllr Clark advised draft outline drawings are complete and will be taken to the VH Committee for discussion.	Cllr Clark/Cllr Clarke																
747.	To discuss Parish Council website Cllrs discussed and resolved that Clerk should obtain some quotations from different companies.	Clerk																
748.	To discuss Kings Coronation plans Cllrs discussed ongoing plans, further details to be announced to residents shortly.																	
749.	To discuss spending of £2,500 SEW donation and £100 donation from resident for footpaths Cllrs discussed and resolved to put the £2,500 donation towards the community event on the 8 th of May 2023 for the King's Coronation as this would benefit everyone (more details to follow). The £100 donation will be used towards the upkeep of the permissive footpath to ensure it can be used and enjoyed by all safely.																	
750.	To discuss KALC Maidstone Committee meeting held on Monday 30 January 2023 Cllr Clark provided feedback from meeting.																	
751.	To discuss request from Speedwatch Cllrs discussed request of the purchase of new equipment for new members and resolved to approve the request for £24.43. Clerk to action. Cllrs also want to extend their thanks to the Speedwatch team for their hard work and dedication. If any residents would like to volunteer please contact Hayley Roberts, Parish Clerk for further information.	Clerk																
752.	To discuss and resolve whether to comment on The Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill consultation Cllrs discussed and resolved not to comment.																	
753.	To discuss correspondence received in relation to EV Charging Points from KCC Cllrs discussed and due to lack of ownership of suitable land and there being no power at the Sports Field resolved this is not something the Parish Council can support. Clerk will discuss possibility of other sites in the village with land owners.	Clerk																
754.	To consider request from Maidstone Borough Council Emergency Planning and Resilience Team in relation to water distribution sites Cllrs considered request and resolved that the Parish Council does not have any land which would be suitable. Cllrs suggested contacting the Village Hall Committee and other local land owners. Clerk to contact.	Clerk																
755.	Residents' concerns To consider and resolve what if any action to be taken in respect of 755.1 Increase in HGV traffic using Broomfield Road Cllrs discussed information and photos provided and agreed to take this up at a meeting being held with KCC Highways in March. 755.2 Motorbikes and quadbikes in Sports Field Cllrs discussed and agreed this is a real issue currently. Cllrs will monitor and speak to PCSO.																	
756.	Any other information 756.1 Litter pick scheduled for the 12 th of March 2023 – all welcome! Pickers and bags provided and refreshments provided afterwards. 756.2 Speedwatch																	
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Details</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total Vehicle count</td> <td>12,074</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of offenders</td> <td>438</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of First offenders</td> <td>379</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of multiple Offenders</td> <td>33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of police visits to offenders</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High speed (over 45mph)</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Top speed recorded</td> <td>49 mph</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Details	2022	Total Vehicle count	12,074	Number of offenders	438	No of First offenders	379	No of multiple Offenders	33	No of police visits to offenders	5	High speed (over 45mph)	8	Top speed recorded	49 mph	
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729.	Items for next agenda 729.1 To discuss basic emergency plan/contact list 729.2 To receive an update on the Joint Village Hall Project 729.3 To discuss Kings Coronation plans 729.4 To discuss replacement bench at Sports Field																	

730.	<p>Parish Council Meetings The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for Monday 20 March 2023. The meeting will take place at Broomfield and Kingswood Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood ME17 3PX from 7.30pm.</p> <p>There was no further business, Cllr Clark closed the meeting at 10.08pm</p> <p>Signed _____</p>	
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