



Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council

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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 18 September 2023

Present at meeting: Cllr Tina Clark (Chairman), Cllr Gareth Davies (Vice Chairman) and
Cllr Malcolm Clarke,

Hayley Roberts - Parish Clerk/RFO

Cllr Gill Fort – MBC Ward Councillor

There was one member 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
919.	To receive and approve apologies for absence	AMENDMENT
919.1	Cllr Simon Pearce – personal commitments	
919.2	Cllr Jon Whitcombe – abroad	
919.3	Cllr Chris Pink – work commitments	
919.4	Cllr Daren Moss – work commitments	
920.	Councillors Declarations of interest in items on the agenda	
920.1	Lobbying – None	
920.2	Personal Interest – Cllr Clarke item 16.	
920.3	Prejudicial Interest (Councillor to leave meeting table whilst such item is under discussion) - None	
921.	Welcome by the Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Tina Clark	
922.	Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies Maidstone Borough Council – Ward Councillor – Gill Fort Local Plan – there was a call for sites in rural areas however no sites were found suitable in Kingswood. The local plan details that small settlements could take 35 houses however the sites must be sustainable. Litter and Fly tipping – Fines are being looked at and are likely to increase. Proposals for the following fines; Dropping of litter £500 Fly tipping £1000 The café at Moat Park has been officially opened by the Mayor. Rail – an additional fast train will run from Maidstone to Charing Cross and an additional train will be scheduled on the Headcorn line. Haven Farm Development – new details have emerged (22/504692/HYBRID) and a retrospective application (23/503704/FULL) has been submitted. Details can be found on the planning portal https://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications/ Cllr Davies queried if the dustbin contract had been changed, Cllr Fort advised that the contract has been awarded but will not be effective until March 2024. BIFFA continue to make collections until this date.	
	CLLR GILL FORT LEFT MEETING 7.42PM	
923.	To approve the minutes of the meeting of Broomfield & Kingswood Parish Council Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 21st August 2023 The above minutes were approved as a true copy and duly signed by Cllr Davies. Signed _____	

924.	Planning Applications There was one Planning Application to be considered and resolved this month; Application Ref: 23/503871/FULL Proposal: Enlargement of existing porch to form entrance hall. Address: 4 The Walk Kingswood Maidstone Kent ME17 3QQ After due consideration Cllrs had no objections to this application.	
925.	Planning Outcomes (for report only) Two applications have been decided since the last PC meet: 925.1 Application Ref: 22/505522/FULL Address: Oakdale Pitt Road Kingswood Kent ME17 3NR Proposal: Change of use of land for the siting of 3no. holiday let lodges (resubmission of 22/500127/FULL). MBC Decision: Application permitted 08.09.23 925.2 Application Ref: 23/502825/FULL Address: Honeysuckle House 50 Chestnut Drive Kingswood Kent ME17 3PJ Proposal: Erection of front dormer with 2no front roof lights and alterations to fenestration. MBC Decision: Application permitted 24.08.23	
926.	Actions & Outcomes (for report only) Cllrs reviewed and discussed actions and outcomes. Cllrs noted the following... 926.1 - Sign has been moved in relation to Sports Field use 926.2 - New noticeboard has been installed at the Sports Field. 926.3 - Updates to UTB signatories complete. 926.4 - Silent Tommys purchased and delivered. Await installation. 926.5 - Basket Swing has been repaired as per annual inspection comments. 926.6 - Jet washing of MUGA complete.	
927.	Finances and Payment of Accounts 927.1 Bank reconciliation August 2023 This was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and agreed by all at the meeting. Signed by Cllr Clark and RFO. 927.2 Responsible Finance Officer's report August 2023 This was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and agreed by all at the meeting. Signed by Cllr Clark and Cllr Clarke. 927.3 To approve the schedule of payments for September 2023 This was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and agreed by all at the meeting. Signed by Cllr Clarke and Cllr Davies. 927.4 To ratify payments already made in August 2023 This was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and agreed by all at the meeting. Signed by Cllr Clark and Cllr Clarke. 927.5 Reconciliation of invoices against cheques and ledger for August 2023 Councillors reconciled the invoices against the ledger and Cllr Clarke initialled the invoices and ledger accordingly. 927.6 To consider performance against the 2023/24 budget Cllrs considered the budget performance for 2023/24 so far.	
928.	Sports Field 928.1 Review of the month's Sports Field Inspection Sheets Clerk advised that repairs have been made to pirate ship due to loose fixtures and fittings. 928.2 To discuss quotations for CCTV equipment and resolve how to proceed Cllrs resolved to defer until the October meeting due to third quotation still being outstanding. 928.3 To discuss car park and wooden bollards and resolve how to proceed Cllrs resolved to defer until the October meeting due to third quotation still being outstanding for CCTV and this is a linked decision. 928.4 To discuss BBQ stations at the Sports Field Cllrs resolved to defer until the October meeting due to awaiting further research with the Fire Brigade. <div style="text-align: right;">Signed _____</div>	

929.	Policing	
929.1	Crime Figures On Tuesday 5 th of September between 10:00 and 16:46 in Charlesford Avenue. Somebody stole a grey Nissan X-trail, LG67***, from a driveway. Crime Report No. 46/159905/23 – Posted 07/09/2023	
929.2	Cllrs resolved that Clerk should report car key issues faced by residents recently to PC Hunt. Clerk to also send details advising residents to remain vigilant and raising awareness of Crime Stoppers (an anonymous way of reporting crimes). A reminder that all incidents must be reported to the Police otherwise there is no record of the incident and no action can be taken.	Clerk
930.	To consider and approve GDPR policy Cllrs resolved to defer until the October meeting due to Cllr Pink not being present.	
931.	To receive an update on the Joint Village Hall Project Cllr Clark advised that they are currently jointly investigating the possibility of an informal meeting with the planning department.	Cllr Clark
932.	To receive an update on the SEW Leeds six month road closure as per public meeting on Thursday 14th of September 2023 Cllr Clark and Clerk attended the meeting which was sparsely attended in comparison to the last meeting in August. SEW advised that the road closures will not be changing however they continue to monitor these. One positive it that the SEW works are approximately a month ahead of schedule therefore the works will be completed in December at the latest! Notes from the meeting will be available shortly and the Clerk will circulate these once received from SEW.	Clerk
933.	To receive feedback from the number 59 Parish Councils bus meeting Cllr Clark and Clerk advised that the number 59 once a week service is well received and a good reliable service. Passenger feedback is that the driver is reliable and friendly. We want to encourage people to continue to use this service or there is the danger that it will be lost completely. The bus runs every Wednesday and timetables are available online and are displayed on the Parish Council noticeboards.	
934.	To receive feedback from Ward Cluster meeting Clerk provided feedback from the meeting, the main points are as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a new Waste Crime Manager - Fly tipping has increased, there has been an increase in fly tipping along Burberry Lane since the road closure. - The shift patterns of the Maidstone Neighbourhood Policing Team now include evenings and weekends therefore there should be more presence around the Parish. - Nuisance bikes – please continue to report any incidences. There are a lot of posts on Facebook however hardly any reports to Kent Police therefore action is limited. 	
935.	To consider donation request from Community Poppy Team Request received for a donation of £75 towards materials for this years Poppy display. Cllrs considered and agreed to make donation. Clerk to action.	Clerk
936.	To discuss Remembrance Day 2023 and resolve how to mark the occasion Cllrs resolved to purchase a wreath and more lamp post poppies as per last year. Clerk to arrange. It was noted that the poppies need to be displayed three weeks before Remembrance Day. Cllrs resolved to hold a ceremony on the 11 th of November, details to be confirmed.	Clerk
937.	To discuss damage to stone wall at Broomfield Green and resolve how to proceed with repair Clerk advised the stone wall was damaged by a vehicle and now requires repair. A quote for the repair has been received. Cllrs considered quotation and discussed whether to make a claim on the PC insurance policy. Due to the excess amount Cllrs resolved to pay for the repair and not make a claim. Clerk to arrange. Cllrs also resolved to repair the stone wall on the opposite side. Clerk to arrange.	Clerk
	CLLR DAREN MOSS ENTERED MEETING 8.51PM	
938.	Residents' concerns To consider and resolve what if any action to be taken in respect of:	
938.1	Bonfires – Cllrs wish to ask residents to be respectful when lighting bonfires. Perhaps light the bonfire at a time least likely to affect your neighbours e.g. not on a warm day when people will be in their garden and have windows open. Signed _____	

938.2	Planters – It has been noted that the village planters require some TLC. Cllrs resolved to have this actioned. Clerk to arrange.	Clerk																		
938.3	Overgrown vegetation and blocked drains – Cllrs ask residents to check that their trees and hedges are not overhanging and obstructing footpaths and ask that they politely cut back any problem areas. Please note that any issues can be reported to KCC who will investigate https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem																			
938.4	Sutton Valence Surgery – The Parish Council noted that residents have a number of concerns about the surgery. Cllrs are aware that a new online triage appointment system is being implemented to try and ease the problems being experienced by residents.																			
939.	<p>Any other information Speedwatch</p> <p>Speedwatch has been less busy with sessions over the school holidays, due to limited availability of volunteers. However there have been some productive sessions and we have seen significant increase in traffic as a result of the Leeds closure, this increase has been as much as 40%. Please see data below;</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>1 July to Date</th><th>Since Speedwatch started Feb 2022</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>No of Sessions</td><td>37</td><td>419</td></tr> <tr> <td>No of Vehicles exceeding speed limit</td><td>127</td><td>1018</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total No of Vehicles Observed in sessions</td><td>3866</td><td>26177</td></tr> <tr> <td>Maximum Speed</td><td>50</td><td>55</td></tr> <tr> <td>No of volunteer Hours</td><td>57</td><td>505</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		1 July to Date	Since Speedwatch started Feb 2022	No of Sessions	37	419	No of Vehicles exceeding speed limit	127	1018	Total No of Vehicles Observed in sessions	3866	26177	Maximum Speed	50	55	No of volunteer Hours	57	505	
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917.	Items for next agenda																			
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917.6	To discuss plans for ceremony on Remembrance Day																			
917.7	To discuss speed signs																			
918.	<p>Parish Council Meetings</p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for Monday 16TH October 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 9.03pm</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Signed _____</p>																			