

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 7th July 2015 at 8pm.
in Birchanger Village Hall**

Present: Elizabeth Godwin – Chair (EG)
Michelle Mayz (MM)
Maria Davy (MD)
Linda Pocklington (LP)
Ken Wheatley (KW)
Matt Zych (MZ)
Alex Stewart (AS)

Ray Gooding (RG) County Councillor
Terry Farthing (TF) District Councillor

Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)
1 member of the public

028. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

029. Apologies and Reason for Absence

Received from:

Sandy Dowle (on holiday)
Angie Driscoll (on holiday)

030. Declarations of Interest

EG declare that her husband is a former partner/director of THP.

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

Members of the public made no representation to the council.

032. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, 2nd June were proposed and agreed as a true and accurate record with no amendments, and signed by the Chairman.

033. Recreation Ground Working Group/Allotments – Glebeland

LP reported that Debbie Crouch had informed her that the drug paraphernalia had been removed from the recreation ground.

The area behind the Old School House had been cleared.

LP expressed concern about the condition of the safety surface near the old slide. This will need to be looked at for possible repair or replacement. AS will investigate to see what is needed to be done.

The building protection fencing had still not been taken away. AS will telephone Gavin to ask for removal. LP asked AS if he would ask Gavin to look at the condition of the safety surface.

LP raised the issue of picnic tables and whether there was any means for securing these to the ground. The Parish Clerk will ask the suppliers if they have any suggestions.

A recreation ground inspection book would be provided and that AS would carry out a weekly inspection.

It was resolved that the main inspection is to be carried out annually.

034. Highways

KW remarked on the yellow lines on the road which were becoming illegible. The parish clerk is to contact Highways to report this.

035. Planning

UTT/15/1713/FUL-Rainbow Cottage

MD explained the location of the proposed site. It was pointed out that the proposed development was:

- a) in Green Belt
- b) there was no satisfactory reason for an exception to this development in Green Belt
- c) there was a problem for access to the septic tank

The parish clerk is to write to Planning to advise that this is an unsuitable development for the above reasons.

036. Finance

- a. **Account Balances** – as previously circulated
- b. **Invoices and Standing Orders** for payment – were approved
- c. **Bryan Reed** - It was agreed that the Chairman may use petty cash to present to Bryan Reed a suitable thank you for his work as internal auditor.
- d. **Income and expenditure report** – had previously been distributed to councillors. MZ made mention that some section 106 payments had been included under general expenditure. The parish clerk said he would amend the accounts to reflect this. All section 106 payments are exclusively for the Village Hall extension and Recreation Ground equipment.

037. Defibrillator

It was resolved that the parish council would purchase a defibrillator.

It was resolved that Thom Goddard would be asked to finance this out of his district councillor's allowance.

The parish clerk is to contact Thom Goddard to advise him of the council's decision.

038. Noticeboard

Dave Debnun had provided an estimate of £580 for replacing and cementing in a replacement notice board. He is to be asked to provide an itemised quotation explaining how the estimate has been calculated.

039. Milestone update

It was resolved to leave the milestone in it's present position.

040. PCSO

AS advised that we did not currently have a Police Community Support Officer and that it was unlikely that one would be appointed.

041. Donation to Home Start

It was agreed that there would be no donation.

042. Parish Plan questionnaire

MM distributed a revised questionnaire. This was accepted unanimously.
KW will talk to Eddie Gilbey about including the questionnaire in the next issue of the Village magazine.

043. Letter from PKF Littlejohn

The council authorised the parish clerk to respond to the queries from PKF Littlejohn.

044. Closure of meeting

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.55.