

## **Birling Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the MEETING of BIRLING PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Present:** Councillors Mrs J Westwood (Chair)  
Mr N Hewett  
Mrs H Walker  
Mr G Nevill  
Mr S Hirst

Also in attendance: Clerk Ms J Miller

**169. Apologies for absence**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr Wright and Cllr Yates. Apologies were received from Mrs Hohler, Cllr Boxall and Cllr Banks.

**170. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest**

There were none.

**171. Approval and signing of minutes of meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and approve the minutes of the meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**172. Reports**

(a) County Council – Sarah Hohler

Mrs Hohler had sent apologies, and a report was received.

(b) Borough Councillors – Paul Boxall and Bill Banks

Apologies were received and a report noted.

(c) Kent Police – There was no report. Cllr Nevill reported that the Rural Task Force had carried out a successful operation and engagement in general was vastly improved.

**173. Open Forum – Public Participation Session**

There were none.

**174. Matters arising and last month's circulation.**

i. **Ryarsh School**

To receive any update.

It was noted that OFSTED had visited the school and results are awaited.

ii. **Village Hall**

To receive any updates on availability of hall – ongoing maintenance continues.

**175. Matters for Information circulated to councillors.**

08/02 Training Bulletin

08/02 NALC Newsletter

08/02 E Watch 2154

08/02 KALC Bulletin

08/02 58&72 Bus Update

21/02 NALC Newsletter

21/02 E Watch 2155

21/02 Weekly Bulletin

21/02 E Watch 2156

21/02 NALC Events

21/02 Chief Executive Bulletin

21/02 E Watch 2157

21/02 KALC Weekly Bulletin

21/02 TMBC Parish Partnership Panel MS4N

21/02 E Watch 2158

04/03 E Watch 2159  
04/03 E Watch 2160  
04/03 The Rural Bulletin  
04/03 NALC Events  
04/03 58&72 Buses  
04/03 NALC Newsletter  
04/03 Chief Executive Bulletin  
04/03 E Watch 2161  
04/03 KALC News March 2024

**176. Meetings**

**(a) Meetings attended on behalf of the parish council**

There were none.

**(a) Future meetings**

- i. Snodland Asphalt Meeting 18/04/2024
- ii. KALC T&M Area Committee 18/04/2023 (in person)
- iii. KALC T&M Area Committee 11/07/2024 (Teams)
- iv. Parish Partnership Panel 30/05/2024
- v. Parish Partnership Panel 29/08/2024
- vi. KALC T&M Area Committee 03/10/2024 – AGM in person
- vii. KALC T&M Area Committee 12/12/2024 (Teams)

**177. Parish Business for Decisions**

**(a) Highways**

- i. To receive update from Cllr Hirst on Highways Improvement Plan.  
Cllr Hirst will collate feedback to challenge the incorrect assumptions made by KCC in their report and ask further questions.  
A petition from residents will be arranged.
- ii. To receive update on bank infringement.  
KCC are inspecting the bank this week.

**(b) Local Plan**

- i. To note update – there was no further update.  
The TMBC Open Space consultation was discussed and Cllr Westwood will provide further information on the parish.

**(c) Community Transport Grant / Bus Services**

- i. To receive update on KALC T&M parish council initiatives –  
It was noted that KCC may not fund the scheme and the parish council awaits.

**(d) Jubilee and Coronation**

- i. To receive update on visit to Gallaghers to choose stone – the clerk will liaise with Gallaghers for an appointment.
- ii. To receive update from Cllr Nevill on tree planting – this will take place next year.

**(e) Village Maintenance, Waste and Litter**

- i. To note litter pick taking place 24<sup>th</sup> March – noted.

**(f) Climate Action**

- i. To review and update the Climate Action Plan.  
It was noted that the minutes of the KALC T&M Climate Meeting had been circulated.

**(g) Strategic Plan Update**

i. To review updated strategic plan.  
Cllr Westwood will circulate the suggested changes for comment.

**(h) Annual Parish Meeting**

i. To consider format for meeting 14/05/2024  
It was **AGREED** to organise wine and nibbles with a petition to sign for a 20mph limit and opportunity to raise any issues. 7.30pm AGM with minimal agenda, 8pm Annual Parish Meeting.

**(i) Community Resilience Plan**

Cllr Westwood will circulate the draft plan for comment.

**178. Parish Business for Noting**

**(a) Website/Social Media platforms updates**

To note the following added to online platforms:  
Road Closures.

**(b) Parochial Church Council**

i. To receive regular update.  
The web site details will be circulated by Cllr Walker.

**(c) Resident Matters**

i. To note any recent local issues raised.  
It was noted that pot holes are being reported by residents.

**179. Correspondence**

There were none.

**180. Finance & Accounts**

**(a) To approve Bank Reconciliation February 2024**

Net Bank Balances as at 31/1/2024 £16,860.31

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Bank Reconciliation for January 2024.

**(b) To note budget position year to date February 2024**

The budget position as at February 2024 was noted.

**(c) To approve PAYE record February 2024.**

The PAYE record was approved.

**(d) BACS and DD to be approved and signed for March 2024**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Payee	Budget	Amount Gross	Amount Net	VAT	Description
Various	Staff Costs	£527.84			March staff costs
LASER	Streetlighting	£29.82	£28.33	£1.49	Streetlight energy costs
Waveney IT	IT Costs	£62.73	£52.27	£10.46	Monthly Mailbox Costs
HugoFox	IT Costs	£11.99	£9.99	£2.00	Monthly website costs

**181. Road**

**(a) To report any road issues**

It was noted that the salt bag had not been delivered and will be chased.

**(b) To note update on Stangate Road pothole**

it was noted that there is a new one on Snodland Road.

**(c) Road Closures – see website for details.**

ii. To note temporary road closures affecting Birling  
Birling Road; **Temporary Road Closure & Suspension of One-Way** - Birling Road, Leybourne - 11th March 2024 (Tonbridge and Malling District)

**182. Planning**

**(a) Applications to be considered** – there were none.

i. **24/00063/PA** 20, LEGGE LANE, BIRLING, WEST MALLING, ME19 5JH

Proposed single storey rear extension, part single, part two storey side extension and loft conversion.

*Cllr Nevill declared an interest in this item.*

It was **RESOLVED** The parish council as no objections to this application but would ask that the planners are minded to ensure the materials match and the style of the window in the gable end is in keeping with the style of the property.

**(b) Decisions by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council** - there were none.

**183. Matters for future meetings.**

The usual substantive items will be on the agenda. The church clock change for March will be addressed.

**184. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Future Dates – 11<sup>th</sup> June meeting has been changed to 18<sup>th</sup> June.**

**Meeting closed at 21:40pm**

**Signed..... Date.....**