

BETHERSDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th September 2019 in Bethersden Village Hall at 1900hrs.

PRESENT

Councillors: A Boyd (Chairman), E Allan, K Brannan, P Boyd, S Buckman, G Burnett, P Buss, J Crannis, and C Tearle (Parish Clerk).

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr J Blanford (ABC) plus 20 members of the public.

Reports

Please see Appendix A.

89/2019 Apologies

Cllr K Mitchell

90/2019 Minutes of the Meeting of the 10th July 2019

It was resolved to approve them.

91/2019 Declarations of Interest

Minute number 92/2019 (19/00160/TC) – OSI Cllr P Buss

92/2019 Clerk`s Report

- a) Damage was done to part of the fence surrounding the football pitch overnight. This has been repaired.
- b) A car was deliberately driven into to part of the net surrounding the tennis court. A photograph of the car responsible was taken and its owner identified. The vehicle was not reported stolen and the incident has been logged with the police.
- c) During the storm of the 10/11th August part of a tree came down in the recreation ground car park. This was cleared up immediately.
- d) One weekend nitrous oxide canisters were found in and around the youth shelter. The authorities have been informed.
- e) Following these incidents, to stop vehicles using the car park in the recreation ground at night there is now a locking gate in position.

93/2019 Finance

- a) To approve the schedule of payments and the current bank balances.

Balances as at 1st July 2019

Lloyds Bank - George Field Account

Lloyds Bank – Treasurer`s Account

Co-op Account

£

28,414.47

46,028.74

20,038.59

INCOME

Lloyds Bank Interest 2.34

EXPENDITURE

C Tearle – Parish Clerk (July 2019)	1,050.18
C Tearle – Parish Clerk (Aug 2019)	1,050.18
C Tearle – Expenses (July 2019)	79.52
C Tearle – Expenses (July/Aug 2019)	247.23
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (July 2019)	286.91
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (July 2019)	218.46
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (Aug 2019)	286.46
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (Aug 2019)	218.46
K Beale (Small Works Contractor)	202.50
Business Stream	315.85
KALC (All Day Conference)	72.00
Kent County Playing Fields Ass.	20.00
MMP Accounting Solutions	126.00
Bethersden Community Cinema	500.00
Pinkies Tree Services (Recreation Ground)	200.00
South Downs National Park Authority (BNP)	168.48
K Beale (Small Works Contractor)	311.94
KALC (Eventbright Transport Conference)	72.00
Came & Co (Insurance)	1,219.61

b) Insurance Policy

It was resolved to pay the annual premium and to delegate to the Parish Clerk and the Chairman the task of undertaking a full review.

94/2019 Planning

a) Permitted Planning Applications

19/00535/AS-Beult Cottage, Ashford Road, Bethersden, TN26 3LB

Proposed new dwelling in lieu of application 18/01826/AS including demolition of two existing barns.
(Prior approval not required)

19/00581/AS-Etchden Court Farm, Etchden Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3DS.

Change of use of land to provide boarding kennels and proposed dog kennel building.

19/00617/AS- 4 & 5 Batemans Corner, Pluckley Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3DD

Replace 7x existing timber windows with similar windows.

19/00711/AS-Woodfield House, Pot Kiln Lane, Bethersden, TN26 3HH.

Construction of a swimming pool and associated single storey outbuilding.

19/00780/AS-Kitsbridge Fm, Ashford Rd, Bethersden TN26 3LF

Proposed part conversion of existing outbuilding to form extension to existing ancillary accommodation to form home office/annex.

19/00861/AS-Agricultural building at Madrona Nursery, Pluckley Rd, Bethersden

Prior approval for change of use from one agricultural building and land within its curtilage to two dwelling houses and associated operational development.

19/00929/AS-Farm buildings at Bull Lane Fm. Bull Lane, Bethersden, TN26 3HA
Prior approval for change of use from agricultural building to one dwelling house associated operational development (resubmission of 10/01039/AS).

19/01035/AS-Bridge Fm, Bears Lane, Great Chart, Ashford, TN23 3BW
Conversion of triple garage to annexe and external alterations to building.

19/01079/AS-Land at Chilmington Green, Ashford Rd, Great Chart.
Full application for the Community Management Organisation (CMO) First Temporary Premises at Chilmington Green.

b) Refused Planning Applications

18/01329/AS-Old Cottage, Ashford Rd, Bethersden TN26 3LF
Discharge of conditions 3,4,5,6&7.

c) Withdrawn by the Applicant

19/00092/TC-Union Chapel, The Street, Bethersden, TN26 3AD.
A .Bench Cedar, B & C Conifer – Minor reduction of the lower limbs, clean up dead branches within canopy, D. Silver Birch – Reduce by 30% lower long laterals. E. Beach – Reduce the lower three branches and smaller central branches. F, G & H Silver Birch – Reduce down by 30% for fork where there has been damage.

d) Discharge of Conditions

18/01066/CONA/AS-Land known as the Colt Ponds, Pluckley Rd, Bethersden
Discharge of condition 9.

18/01339/AS-Farm Building, Darling Buds Fm, Tuesnoad Lane, Bethersden
Discharge of condition 2.

18/01835/CONA/AS-Melville House, The Street, Bethersden TN26 3AE.
Discharge of condition 3.

19/00475/AS-Parcel Q, Land at Chilmington Green, Ashford Rd, Great Chart.
Reserved matters (pursuant to outline planning application 12/00400/AS) for the development of 64 residential dwellings within Parcel Q, Main Phase AAP 1 including associated roads, parking, landscaping, open space and infrastructure.

e) To Consider the Following Applications

19/00858/AS-22 Millfields Place, Bethersden, TN26 3AA
Installation of garage door to existing car barn.

It was agreed to support this application

19/001021/AS-Brissenden Green Lane, Bethersden, TN26 3BE
Listed Building Consent – Removal of walling to first floor corridor to reinstate former gallery area over reception hall.

It was agreed to support this application.

19/01035/AS-Bridge Fm, Bears Lane, Great Chart, TN23 3BW
Conversion of triple garage to annex and external alterations to building.

It was agreed to support this application, but with the caveat that the building is tied to the house and may not be sold as a separate dwelling.

19/01242/AS – Star Fm, Wissenden Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, TN26 3EW

Replacement of decayed sole plate and rebuilding of facing brick infill of south east elevation.

It was agreed to support this application

19/01152/AS-Forgefield Oast, Church Hill, Bethersden, TN26 3AQ

Proposed replacement garage and link to property.

We consider that the replacement garage should remain detached from the Oast house.

Replacing the present sub-urban garage format with an appropriate structure in sympathy with the Oast gives the opportunity to greatly improve the overall setting of the Oast.

19/00160/TC-Union Chapel, The Street, Bethersden TN26 3AD

A – Lawsons Cypress – Crown lift to 3 meters growth. Not greater than 100mm.

B – Blue Atlas Cedar – Remove the two lowest limbs, and crown lift to 4 meters growth, nothing greater than 100mm. diam.

C – Lawsons Cypress – Crown lift to 3 meters growth, and 6 meters over road and nothing greater than 100mm diam.

D – Silver Birch – Fell and poison stump.

E – Copper Beech – Remove two lowest limbs, and shorten two low laterals over car park by 2 meters. Crown lift any growth not greater than 50mm to 3 meters and 6 meters over road.

F – Silver Birch - Fell and poison stump.

G – Silver Birch – Crown lift to 3 meters, nothing greater than 50mm, and lift to 6 meters over road.

H – Silver Birch – Crown lift any growth greater than 50mm to 4 meters.

I – Weeping Pear – Reduce back stem to 1.7 meters.

It was resolved to approve this provided it does not affect the street scene.

NB. Cllr P Buss declared an OSI and left the meeting after he had given his views on this application.

19/01231/AS-Holmlea, Ashford Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3BD

Erection of a replacement dwelling (revision to design to that approved on planning permission 15/01020/AS)

It was resolved to support this.

19/01258/AS-Woodfield House, Pot Kiln Lane, Bethersden, TN26 3HH

Formation of two wildlife lakes.

It was resolved to support this along with the diversion to footpath AW271.

19/01277/AS-Barn at Faggs Mount, Smarden Rd, Bethersden

Prior approval for the change of use of an agricultural building and land within its curtilage to one residential dwelling and associated operational development.

It was resolved to support this.

95/2019 Courtlands Drainage Plans

Members expressed concern that unless this stream maintenance work was done properly flooding issues would follow eventually. The Chairman has had conversations with personnel from the development and has learned that the stream below school Road culvert to School Rd Cottage will be cleaned out by the developer subject to the Environment Agency requirements to increase any subsequent flow. The Clerk was asked to write to Sue Head (ABC) and the Environment Agency expressing the Council's views.

96/2019 Defribulator Unit – The Street

It was agreed to purchase a box as the same type as the other units to fix on the wall of the hairdressers in The Street and connect to the power supply from that premises.

97/2019 Bethersden Community Cinema

It was resolved to approve “seed” funding of £500.00.

98/2019 Bethersden Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk is to request an update if any on progress.

99/2019 Recreation Ground Waste Bin

The Council resolved to purchase a new waste bin to put next to the youth shelter in the recreation ground.

100/2019 Tennis Club

- a) The new lease

The Clerk reported that it is still not good enough to progress to a meeting with the Tennis Club.

- b) The MUGA court

The Council agreed to go ahead with the purchase of a new net and posts. It also learned that the Notice board attached to the tennis pavilion had been vandalised.

101/2019 Town & Parish Councils VE Day 75

Following on from an inaugural held meeting of interested parties the Council has resolved to support this project which will be held in the George Field on the Friday 8th May 2020.

102/2019 Village Sign

The renovation is being handled by Cllr P Buss.

103/2019 Bus Shelter Siting and Planning Application

Cllr K Brannan is awaiting the information from ABC before being able to proceed any further.

104/2019 Playground/Recreation Ground Working Group Report

- a) A report was given by Cllrs Allen and Buckman and a recent meeting with a play equipment representative. They will be inviting him to give a presentation to Council in October and also inviting the relevant ABC officer to be present.
- b) It was resolved to purchase five signs for the George Field and the recreation ground pointing out that dogs are to be kept under control and the motorcycles and cycles are prohibited.
- c) It was agreed that the newish football nets stored in the pavilion should be put up on the goals.

105/2019 Matters of Interest/Items for the next Agenda

1. Speed limits and interactive speed signs.
2. 3D speed humps on the A28.
3. Dedicated area for dog walkers.
4. Painting the youth shelter
5. Applying for the KCC Bus Shelter Grant.

106/2019 Date of the Next Meeting

This will be on Wednesday 9th October 2019 at 1900hrs in Bethersden Village Hall.

107/2019 Exclusion of the Public

It was resolved to exclude the public and the press from the meeting for the following item of business by virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

108/2019 S106 Funding and Associated Projects

It was resolved to approve the comprehensive report about the villages facilities and what needs to be done. Furthermore it authorized the use of some of the accumulated S106 funds in association with ABC for the following projects:

1. Recreation Ground
2. Footpath to the pavilion and tennis courts
3. Recreation Ground car park renovations
4. Bethersden school community wildlife garden
5. Cemetery extension in St Margarets Church

109/2019 Legal Matters

- a) A report was given on the recent damage done by a vehicle to the tennis club fence and the ensuing correspondence with the owner of the vehicle. Authorisation was given for a course of action to be followed.
- b) The Clerk gave a comprehensive report on his recent dealings with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO). The Council again endorsed the actions taken by the Clerk and the Chairman.

Appendix A

Cllr J Blandford (ABC) reported the ABC had produced a comprehensive energy saving plan. Water levels are reported to be high this year and Waterbrook to be enlarged from 300 to 600 dwellings.

Cathy Carter (Community Warden)

August 2019

I know it is ages ago now, but I would like to thank all the kind residents who turned up in April to help Joyce Crannis and myself in a litter pick around Bethersden. They worked extremely hard.
Drugs Litter – All reports of drugs litter found around Bethersden have been forwarded to the PCSO.
Youth – It was arranged for a youth worker to come to Bethersden on a Tuesday with various activities. Only two girls have been turning up, so I have asked Ian Brooks to cancel this and just come out to Bethersden when he and the youth bus are up and running again.
Football Team – I was approached by a couple of boys (17yrs) who are really eager to start up a football team in Bethersden. If anyone knows of any youngsters who would like to be part of this, please let me know and also any volunteers who would be willing to help with training etc.

September 2019

Youth Bus – I have emailed Ian Brooks to see if he is willing to come out to Bethersden for six weeks.
Football Team – Everytime I go to the recreation ground there are always a few lads playing football, and they would be really interested in having a football team set up. Getting players is no issue, its just the volunteers and coaches.
Any other issues are passed onto the police, Country Eye, Housing and Highways.

Mr Gawthorp the headteacher of Bethersden Primary School gave an overview of the Community Wildlife Project seeking support from the Council. This project is being done in association with the Courtlands development.

Cllr W Nash of Woodchurch Parish Council gave a presentation on a community bus project (mini-bus) which is being run as a pilot scheme and currently underwritten by ABC. This facility is available to all the villages surrounding Woodchurch. The scheme is run from the Hub in Woodchurch under the guidance of Woodchurch PC.

Karen Thompson spoke about the problem of out of control dogs being exercised in the George Field and asked if the Council could provide a dog exercise area.

David Robins asked the ABC Councillor if Ashford could be re-established as an International Station. Cllr Blandford (ABC) responded that this would happen when some technical issues are resolved.