

BETHERSDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk

Colin Tearle

Telephone: 01303892621

07860322730

Email: parish.clerk@bethersden-pc.gov.uk

Sunnyslawns

Densole Lane

Densole

Folkestone

CT18 7BL

Minutes of the Bethersden Parish Council Meeting held on the 17th May 2021 at 1900hrs in Bethersden Village Hall.

PRESENT

Cllrs A Boyd (Chairman), E Allen, K Brannan, S Buckman, P Buss, G Burnett, J Crannis, K Mitchell and C Tearle (Parish Clerk).

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllrs J Blanford (ABC) plus 3 members of the public.

Reports

Please see Appendix A

31/2021 Election of Chairman

Cllr A Boyd was nominated and seconded, There being no further nominations he was declared elected and duly signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

32/2021 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr G Burnett was nominated and seconded, There being no further nominations he was declared elected and duly signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

33/2021 Apologies

Cllr P Boyd and Cllr A Pickering (ABC)

34/2021 Minutes of the Meeting of the 10th March 2021

It was resolved to approve and sign them.

35/2021 Declarations of Interest

Cllr S Buckman (OSI) – 34/2021

36/2021 Clerk`s Report

- a) Youth football is scheduled to restart on the weekend of the 10/11^h April. At the moment the first planned fixture is on the 18th April.
- b) Anti-social behavior at the recreation ground.
 - (i) Football goal nets have been stolen. They had been up for many years without a problem.
 - (ii) Criminal damage to the shutter and window of the away/storage room of the pavilion.
 - (iii) Alleged racial abuse directed towards a child whilst engaged in tennis.
 - (iv) Ladies playing netball the following day were barracked by the same group of youths.

- (v) A meeting has been held with an ABC Officer about waste bins, the type of bin, their positioning and emptying by the ABC contractor. All dog bins will disappear to be replaced where appropriate with normal waste bins.

Members also discussed the feasibility of putting a hard standing under the basket ball hoop at the recreation ground and to seek to get the hoop repaired. Estimates to be obtained. The goal areas will need reseeding during the summer months and in the meantime investigate whether artificial grass can be used in the goal areas.

Cllr S Buckman read a letter from the Chairman of Bethersden CC about the newly erected ball netting. Members regretted that the hedge was not now reduced in height.

37/2021 Planning Applications

a) Permitted Planning Applications

20/00859/AS-Barn 2, Stone Green Nurseries, Pluckley Rd, Bethersden

Prior notification for proposed change of use of existing barn and land within its curtilage to form two residential dwellings with associated operational development.

21/00175/AS-Barn 2, Stone Green Nurseries, Pluckley Rd, Bethersden

Prior notification for proposed change of use of existing barn and land within its curtilage to form two residential buildings with associated operational development.

21/00176/AS-Barn 1, Stone Green Nurseries, Pluckley Rd, Bethersden

Prior notification for proposed change of use of existing barn and land within its curtilage to form two residential buildings with associated operational development.

21/00509/AS-Mounts Farmhouse, Smarden Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3HE

Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling incorporating change of use of land to extend residential curtilage with proposed carport with ancillary accommodation above, proposed external swimming pool and pool room: alterations to access (revision to planning permission 19/01518/AS).

21/00504/AS-Honeyfield and Gadsby Woods, Bull Lane, Bethersden

Prior notification for the erection of 2 pole barns.

21/00510/AS-Lovelace Fm, Wissenden Lane, Bethersden, TN26 3AJ

Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural building for hay storage.

21/00637/AS-Vitters Oak, Old Surrenden Manor Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3DW

Discharge of Condition 3.

b) Tree Felling Licence

019/1355/2012-Lamberden Copse, part of, Lamberton Wood, Wissenden Lane, Bethersden.

To Raise No Objection to the application for a Felling Licence.

c) Applications that have been refused

21/00510/AS- Lovelace Fm, Wissenden Lane, Bethersden, TN26 3AJ

Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural building for hay storage.

21/00117/AS-Plot 3H, Lamberton Wood, Wissenden Lane, Bethersden.

Lawful Development Certificate – proposed – log cabin

Proposed Use/Development Not Lawful

d) To Consider the Following Applications

21/00074/FC-Lamberton Copse part of Lamberton Wood, Wissenden Lane, Bethersden

Felling License 19/1355/2021. As per schedule.

The Parish Council is concerned with what the application infers with the felling of oak trees which with the current environmental concerns of global warming should be seen as a retrograde act. It is content that underwood is cropped under normal forestry management practices.

21/00117/AS-Plot 3H, Lamberden Wood, Wissenden Lane, Bethersden
Lawful Development Certificate – proposed – log cabin

You have previously confirmed that an Article 4 Direction exists which should be enforced to stop this application. If not the application is strongly opposed as an undesirable intrusion and development into the countryside.

21/00504/AS-Honeyfield and Dadsby Woods, Bull Lane, Bethersden
Prior notification for the erection of two pole barns.

The Parish Council recommends approval.

21/00571/AS-Brimley House, The Street, Bethersden, TN26 3AG

Demolition of existing garage and shed; erection of a new garage and to provide a new driveway.

The Parish Council supports the application as it will aid the free flow of traffic in a narrow part of the road in The Street at Bethersden as it will reduce road congestion.

21/00599/AS-First Floor, Swift House, The Street, Bethersden, TN26 3AG

Prior notification for the change of use under Class O from Class B1(a) (offices) to Class C3 (Dwelling houses). (First floor office space to one bedroom residential flat).

The Parish Council objects to the proposal on the grounds that it as a unit can support employment in the village. The very reason it was originally granted planning status.

21/00606/AS-The Barn, Brissenden Ct, Woodchurch Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3BE

Proposed side extensions; proposed porch; alterations to the fenestration of the existing dwelling house.

The Parish Council supports this application.

21/00631/AS-Low Wood Fm, Ashford Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3AP

Prior notification of change of use of 2 agricultural barns and land within their curtilage to 2 larger dwelling houses and operational development.

The Parish Council supports this application as there is a precedent for giving consent for the conversion of old agricultural buildings to be made into dwellings. However attention needs to be given to the narrow access road to the farm as it is at the end of the lane which has quite a few dwellings along it.

21/00710/AS-Gable Hook Fm, Ashford Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3BQ

Proposed Residential Dwelling including demolition of existing agricultural storage building with link to and internal works to existing residential conversion (revision to prior approval 20/01307/AS)

The Parish Council supports this application.

21/00712/AS-Stone Green Nurseries, Pluckley Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3ET

Demolition of existing greenhouses/structures and erection of 5 dwellings including land change of use, associated ecological/landscape enhancements and garages/sheds.

The Parish Council resolved to support this application

21/00797/AS-Longberry Fm Glamping Ltd, Etchden Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3DS

Demolition and re-building of campsite utility block. Erection of covered patio area & Kitchenette (retrospective) and extension of car park. Decking platforms for tents (retrospective).

The Parish Council resolved to support this application.

21/00854/AS-Beacon House, The Street, Bethersden, TN26 3AE

Proposed bi-fold doors out to garden area; demolition of later flat roof boiler room and replacement single storey element to provide boot room space; installation of roof lights; landscaping alterations to extend driveway area to the front with associated LB application.

The Parish Council resolved to support this application.

21/00855/AS – Beacon House, The Street, Bethersden, TN26 3AE

Listed Building Consent - Proposed internal alterations to existing single storey element along with removal of fireplace to form open plan kitchen dining room. Proposed new opening to provide bi-fold doors out to garden area. Demolition of later flat roof boiler room and replacement single storey element to provide boot room space. Installation of roof lights. Internal alterations at ground and first floor level to include addition to partition walls/doors. Replacement like for like windows to match in style and character.

The Parish Council resolved to support this application.

37/2021 Planning Committee

The Council was asked to consider a request to re-instate the planning committee.

This proposal was rejected. Instead it will alter the way in which planning applications are dealt with.

The following will be implemented:

- a) Instead of all planning applications being sent to the Council Chairman which is a legal requirement, they will be sent as well to all councillors.
- b) Bethersden will remain divided into zones with 2 councillors responsible for each and they will report their findings the full Council who will make the final recommendations to ABC.
- c) The planning item will in future be item one on the agenda.
- d) Members of the public will be allowed to speak to a specific planning application when that application is about to be discussed for 3 minutes.

38/2021 Finance

The schedule of payments and the current bank balances were approved (Appendix A)

Appendix A

Balances as at 30th April 2021

	£
Lloyds Bank – George Field Account	21,125.73
Lloyds Bank – Treasurers Account	113,315.55
Co-op Account	20,038.59

INCOME

Lloyds Bank Interest	0.20
Bethersden Tennis Club (Floodlights)	580.00
ABC Members Grant Cllr J Blandford (Carpark)	750.00
ABC (Part Precept & Grant)	20,047.00
ABC Section 106 Monies	42,901.84

EXPENDITURE

C Tearle (Salary Mar)	1,102.39
C Tearle (Salary Apr)	1,164.78
HMRC – PAYE	815.20
C Tearle (Expenses Mar)	105.20
Countrywide (G/Field Apr)	295.51
Countrywide (G/Field May)	295.51
Countrywide	225.01

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All Clear Services	256.17
All Clear Services	234.00
Lenham Oak Ltd (Village Sign)	152.50
KALC (Annual Sub)	699.72
Doidge Ltd (Football Goal Nets)	72.58
Net World Sports (S106 Bethersden CC Safety Net)	15,448.79
Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd (Accounts Package)	672.00
Zoom Meeting 14/04/21	14.39
C W Breakell Rolling Football Pitch)	54.00
Best Host (Annual Hosting Package)	102.00
Grahame Duell (S106 Bethersden CC)	10,300.00
Barcombe Electrical Services (S106 Bethersden CC)	999.20
All Clear Services	416.14
Glass "N" Glaze (T/Club Pavilion)	126.00
Satswana Ltd (Data Protection Officer)	180.00

39/2021 Twinning with Gruson (France)

The Council resolved to go ahead for the proposed twinning with Gruson (France) and voted through an initial budget of £1000.00.

It would also like to have the English signing ceremony during the first weekend in June 2022 when the Queen's Platinum Jubilee is being celebrated. The Clerk was asked to convey this proposal to Gruson.

40/2021 A28 Working Group

Cllr G Burnett updated Members on the progress to date.

41/2021 Water & Waste Water Accounts

It was resolved to merge the two accounts with Business Stream.

42/2021 Childrens Play Area

A final presentation will be given to the Parish Meeting on the 24th June 2021 in Bethersden Village Hall for public consultation from Cllrs E Allen and S Buckman.

43/2021 Tennis Club Pavilion

The Council considered and rejected the idea of CCTV at the Pavilion.

44/2021 Newtown Drainage Issues

The Council authorized the spending of £350.00 which is 50% of the cost of dealing with the cost of cleaning out the stream.

45/2021 Recreation Ground

After several years of inattention some reseeding and leveling is needed. The Parish Clerk was authorized to organize it as speed was necessary.

46/2021 Date of the Next Council Meeting

This will be on Wednesday 9th June 2021 in Bethersden Village Hall at 1900hrs.

47/2021 Annual Parish Meeting

This will be on Thursday 24th June 2021 in Bethersden Village Hall at 1800hrs.

48/2021 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.

49/2021 Matters Pertaining to the Information Commissioner Office and Appeal Tribunal
Chairman and the Parish Clerk updated Members on the conclusion of the case. The final Decision Notice was read out and both the Chairman and the Clerk were thanked for their work on this difficult case.

Appendix A

Cllr J Blanford ABC

Welcomed the twinning initiative with Gruson (France).

The planning committee will revert to having live meetings again starting this week.

The new Mayor of ABC has expressed the wish to visit every town and parish during his term of office.

Mr R Draper

Thanked the parish council for cutting the precept this year. He also reminded Members of the unrepaired potholes in The Street.

Mr M McBrien

Pointed out that there was a problem with the new cricket club safety netting which needed to be resolved.

Mr Mitchell

A member of the public has volunteered to maintain the Jubilee Memorial at the Mill Rd Junction. It was agreed to pay for the reasonable costs of providing plants etc.