

Bethersden Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mr Colin Tearle Sunny Lawns Densole Lane Densole CT18 7BL
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Minutes of the Bethersden Council Meeting held on the 12th April 2023 in Bethersden Village Hall at 1900hrs.

32/2023 Present

Cllrs A Boyd, E Allan, K Brannan, G Burnett, J Crannis, K Mitchell and C Tearle (Parish Clerk).

33/2023 Apologies

Cllrs S Buckman, P Buss and P Boyd

34/2023 Present

Six members of the public

35/2023 Declarations of Interest

K Brannan an OSI on Minute No: 37/2023 re:planning application PA/2023/0395.

36/2023 Minutes of the meeting of the 8th March 2023

It was resolved to approve and sign these.

37/2023 Planning Applications

To consider the following applications

PA/2023/0278-The Haven, Tile Kiln Lane, Bethersden, TN26 3BA Erection of new dwelling to replace dwelling/permission approved under Planning Permission 22/01000/AS.

It was resolved to approve this application subject to a planning condition that would permanently link all the properties on this site to prevent the disposal of any part of the property on its own.

PA/2023/0395-Ashford Golf Complex, Bears Lane, Bethersden, TN23 3BZ Erection of ten detached dwellings together with all necessary infrastructure.

It was resolved to recommend refusal as this is yet another blatant example of “planning creep into open countryside”. In the previous application 17/00469/AS, adjoining this site, it was stated in the planning meeting minutes “Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning Committee held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the 18th October 2017” that “This proposal was for a small, bespoke development of exclusive properties. There was a clear desire on the part of the Council to deliver, through the Local Plan, not only general market housing, but also a high-end portfolio of properties to cater for the ‘captains of industry’ on sustainable rural sites. This scheme was intended to respond to this need without setting a precedent” and “Although it was acknowledged that it was not the Council’s role to prop up businesses, allowing this development would provide funds to support the existing main leisure complex, which was an asset for

the community. This has proved to be totally wrong as the golfing business has never reopened.

This application is against the principle that the planning committee pronounced that this “small bespoke development” did not set the “PRECEDENT”. By allowing this new development the planning committee will go against its own established principle resolved as laid out in its decision on application 17/00469/AS.

If this application is permitted, this development is an addition development encroachment in the open countryside. It is over 2.14km from the nearest build development of Great Chart – the nearest village. Therefore, must surely be judged as additional impinging development and creeping development in the open countryside.

38/2023 Parish Clerk`s Report

We have been granted the S106 monies to carry out the planning requirements for the extension of the churchyard.

39/2023 Finance

It was resolved to approve the schedule of payments and bank balances

02/04/2023	£
Co-op Account	21,128.01
Lloyds Bank – Treasurers Account	38,320.37
Lloyds Bank – George Field Account	14,095.73
INCOME	
Bank Interest	
Bethersden Tennis Club (Floodlights)	875.00
Expenditure	
C Tearle (Salary & Expenditure)	1,198.66
HMRC (Inland Revenue)	809.40
Countrywide Grnds Maint (Rec Grnd)	250.44
Countrywide Grnds Maint (George Field)	328.90
C Buckman (Village Maintenance)	135.00
Amazon (Notice Board)	39.95
Zoom	15.59
KALC – Subscription 2023/24	750.30

40/2023 Bethersden WI

It was resolved to award a grant of £250.00 for the forth coming municipal year.

41/2023 The George Field

- a) Members considered plans to change the fencing between the George Field and The George Public House by the new proprietors. No objection was raised and further consent was granted for an access onto The George Field by a gate from the pub garden.
- b) It was resolved to give permission for Mrs Burton to install a memorial bench in the George Field as per the information recently sent to the Parish Council.

42/2023 Recreation Ground

- a) Members decided against slit tinning the recreation ground to help facilitate drainage.
- b) Approval was given to raise the canopy of the trees surrounding the recreation ground to help facilitate the repairs to the fencing.
- c) It was resolved to actively pursue the install a CCTV system at the recreation ground to help deal with the recent surge in vandalism which at present the authorities appear to be ignoring despite these incidents being reported by different people. Cllrs J Boyd and K Mitchell are authorized to carry out the required evaluation of this project

43/2023 The Coronation Celebration Plans

An update was received from the Chairman. (For the provisional plans please see appendix A.

44/2023 Village Plan Upgrade

An overview was given by Cllr K Brannan on progress to date.

45/2023 Date of the next meeting

This will be the Annual Council Meeting on Tuesday 16th May 2023 in Bethersden Village Hall at 1900hrs.

Appendix A

CORONATION PREPARATION LIST

SATURDAY 6TH MAY – CORONATION DAY

Live streaming of the coronation, time to be confirmed – RUN BY *Bethersden Community Cinema*

Funds to be allocated from sponsored KCC money to cover the costs of the live streaming and decorations.

Evening entertainment – Singalong with Tom Carradine

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

This event has been kindly sponsored by The Stubbs Family and is a FREE event for everyone to enjoy.

- HALL PREPARATION – STUBBS AND LAWS FAMILIES

SUNDAY 7TH MAY – THE BIG LUNCH

Church service at St Margaret's 9.30am – SONGS OF PRAISE FOR THE KING

STREET PARTY – 12.30pm to 4pm

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

- Street preparation – members of the Parish Council – i.e., notices and road closure, bunting, etc.
- Toilets to be situated on the George Field
- Tables and chairs – do we ask people to bring their own? OR
 - Can we borrow the village hall ones?
 - We will need manpower and trailers.
- We would like a BBQ and a BAR – can the George Community group help with this please? Sponsored KCC money allocated to subsidise food costs.
- Do we want tea and cake?
 - We will need people to run the tea and cakes stall.
 - Requests for cakes and for it to be free.