

Bethersden Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mr Colin Tearle Sunny Lawns Densole Lane Densole CT18 7BL
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I hereby give you notice that a Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 1900hrs in Bethersden Village Hall.

All members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of considering and resolving the business to be transacted at the meeting as set out under.

Dated this 8th day of March 2024.

**C D Tearle
Parish Clerk**

AGENDA

Receive reports from County and Borough Councillors. Public questions and comments on agenda and non-agenda items (this section will be limited to 15 minutes or otherwise at the discretion of the Chairman).

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**

A Councillor who declares a DPI in relation to any item on the agenda will need to leave the meeting for the whole of the item and not be able to speak or take part, unless a relevant dispensation has been granted. A Councillor who declares an OSI will be able to speak on the item, but will be required to leave the meeting for the vote.

- 3. Minutes of the Meeting of the 14th February 2024**
- 4. Planning Applications**

a) To consider the following applications

PA/2024/0236-Land to the north west of Brook Meadow, Wissenden Lane, Bethersden. Erection of one detached dwelling and detached car barn with associated access, landscaping and biodiversification enhancements.

Bethersden PC recommends that ABC refuses to grant planning permission for another detached dwelling on the basis that if permitted it would be a materially isolated and unrelated siting of a building which would result in an unacceptable and visually intrusive form of development which fails to satisfactorily integrate with the prevailing character and appearance of the surrounding area causing significant and unacceptable harm to the character and appearance of the countryside.

This is reinforced by that of ABC when refusing the first attempt to develop this open field (re application 21/02014)

PA/2024/0068-Field west of Mudlark Cottage, Norton Lane, Bethersden.

The excavation of a 150m² wildlife pond to promote the breeding activity of local Great Created Newts populations, funded by Natural England District Level Licencing Scheme.

- 1. We recognise the benefit of creating a new wildlife habitat in the area, especially for a protected species such as crested newts.**
- 2. We recognise that the proposal is proposed to be undertaken in conjunction with Natural England.**
- 3. We formally ask ABC to ensure that the bunding to be created around the proposed pond shall only be formed by the excavated earth that will be dug out to form the proposed pond itself, and that no imported earth or material whatsoever should be used in the creation of the pond or the bunding. That said, if it transpires that *additional* material *is* required to complete the proposed work, that ABC ensures that only 100% bona-fide inert material is imported from properly recognised and licensed sources, to ensure no direct or indirect contamination of the surrounding area, new pond or any nearby watercourses or the water table.**
- 4. We ask ABC to liaise closely with the applicants for them to voluntarily accept responsibility to protect the highway verges (along the application site frontage, and entry point into the application site), from damage caused by overrunning plant, vehicles and/or machinery associated with the creation of the pond, and any damage that is caused shall be required to be made good within a strict timetable set by ABC.**
- 5. Finally, we also ask ABC to liaise closely with the applicants for them to voluntarily control any plant, excavation machinery and/or other vehicles associated with the creation of the pond from accessing the application site such that it does not pass either through the centre of Bethersden Village or the local Primary School in the interests of highway and pedestrian safety.**

PA/2024/0346-Lazy Meadow Fm, Smarden Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3HE

Erection of one dwelling with associated access, parking and landscaping, following the demolition of an existing agricultural building

PA/2024/0347-Low Wood Fm, Ashford Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3AP

Proposal to demolish Dutch barn and wooden barn, erect two detached houses with garages, access, landscaping and ancillary works.

PA/2024/0389-Vitters Oak, Old Surrenden Manor Rd, Bethersden, TN26 3DW

Erection of proposed garage

5. Chairman`s Report

6. Clerk`s Report

7. Finance

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

1st March 2024	£
Lloyds Bank – Treasurers Account	37,925.32
Lloyds Bank – George Field Account	14,231.69
Co-op Bank	21,128.01
Income	
Lloyds Bank (Int)	15.70
Bethersden Tennis Club	637.00

Expenditure	
C Tearle (Salary & Expenses)	1,281.01
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance	579.34
Chris Buckman (Village Handyman)	120.00
Timpson (Pavilion Keys)	19.90
Bethersden Village Hall (BVH-2024-24---15/03/24)	28.00
Bethersden Village Hall (BVH-2024-37)	28.00
Amazon (Fire Extinguisher Pavilion)	29.99
MMP Accounting Solutions (Payroll)	105.60

8. Recreation Ground

9. Councillor Training

To determine if we should run our own training course

10. Highway Improvement Plan

To discuss and make recommendations on the proposals submitted.

11. The George Field

12. Telephone Box

13. Bethersden Community Resilience Plan

Recently Cllrs A Boyd and P Buss accompanied with the Parish Clerk attended a meeting at the ABC offices to update the plan. A report will be given at the meeting. (Please see attached email)

14. Parish/Public Meetings

- a) 15th March 2024 (Hoad Wood) -To update Members on the attendees and arrangements.
- b) 10th April 2024 (The Annual Parish Meeting). To suggest items for discussion.

15. KALC Community Awards

16. Date of the Next Meeting

This will be on Wednesday 10th April 2024 in Bethersden Village Hall at 1900hrs.

17. Exclusion of the Public

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

18. Legal Matters

A verbal report will be given by the Parish Clerk.