

BADWELL ASH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING BADWELL ASH VILLAGE HALL THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2017 7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Councillors Clive Hawkins (Chairman) (CH), Christopher Evans (CE), Ed Walsh (EW), Bim Patel (BP), Clive Morris (CM) and David Smith (DS)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Garman (Parish Clerk) (CG), District Councillor Roy Barker (RB) and 12 members of public.

1. PUBLIC FORUM

- 1.1. Concerns were expressed about Back Lane and signage, blocking of ditches and parking.
- 1.2. Concern was expressed about speeding along Hunston Road and the provision of a site for Community Speed Watch (CSW).
- 1.3. There was concern that Footpath 9 is not being kept clear. This has been reported to SCC.
- 1.4. A question was asked about progress with the permissive footpaths. In the October Broadsheet, people will be asked to come forward and give witness statements.
- 1.5. The report from the County Councillor had been previously circulated.
- 1.6. There was a request for an update of the former school site. This was deferred until the relevant agenda item.
- 1.7. RB made comments about the The Boltons planning application and was keen that the trees subject to TPO were protected.
- 1.8. RB made comments of the proposed Joint Local Plan and the consultation period.
- 1.9. There was a question to RB about proposed changes to school transport. Jane Story as County Councillor will be invited to attend the next meeting to outline the proposed changes as this is a SCC issue.

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

- 3.1. Some members are trustees of Badwell Ash Playing Field and Recreation Ground.
- 3.2. No requests for dispensations.

4. MINUTES

- 4.1. The minutes of the meeting held 3 August 2017 had been previously circulated.
It was resolved that these were an accurate record of these meetings.
- 4.2. There were no matters arising.

5. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1. Copies of correspondence had been circulated previously. It was considered no further action was needed.
- 5.2. Diane Donat's application to be a Parish Councillor was considered.
It was resolved to co-opt Diane Donat as a Parish Councillor.

6. ENVIRONMENT

6.1. BP gave a report on the progress with the SID's and locations for the CSW. BP will again ask for a location in Badwell Ash along Hunston Road for CSW. BP asked for funding for the hire of a speed gun at a cost of £420 for 6 months to trial before considering purchase.

It was resolved to hire a speed gun at a cost of £420 including VAT.

CG confirmed that an order has been placed for the SID at slightly increased cost of £3175 plus VAT.

It was resolved to proceed with the purchase at the increased price of £3175 plus VAT.

6.2. The new street light in Back Lane is now operational.

6.3. There has been no progress by SCC with resolving the issues with vehicles exiting Austin Close. SCC have been chased. Councillor Jane Story has been asked to get involved.

6.4. The relocation of the defibrillator is a challenge. The White Hart have declined. Other locations are being investigated e.g. village hall or shop.

6.5. Richard Pratt has offered land to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for a new church cemetery. It was noted that this is now a PCC project. However, the PCC have advised that the Parish Council will be asked to contribute towards maintenance costs. This will be considered when a formal application is received.

6.6. CM has now obtained a quotation from Patrick Bond for the making and installation of a new oak notice board for Long Thurlow to replace the existing notice board. The design and quoted cost of £800 met the approval of councillors. However, there may be extras depending on the fixing of the board and a name plate.

It was resolved to proceed and ask Patrick Bond to make the notice board at an estimated cost of £800.

6.7. The proposals from the Diocese for the former school site were considered. Previous concerns had been advised to the Diocese and the response was considered. The cost of a bench and memorial plaque less the £500 offered by the Diocese would be factored into the 2018/2019 budget.

It was resolved to advise the Diocese that subject to contract that the Parish Council accepts the offer of the gift of the land for the access driveway to the village hall subject to 50% of the maintenance costs being met by the new properties, that the drive be reconstructed and the brick building being demolished.

It was resolved that the Parish Council would be responsible for its own legal fees.

It was resolved to instruct solicitors to formally advise the Parish Council and to take forward as appropriate to completion.

It was resolved to accept the offer of £500 towards the cost of a memorial for the former headteacher.

6.8. The arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday were discussed. A wreath for the Parish Council has been ordered.

It was resolved to donate £25 to the Royal British Legion.

6.9. BP outlined plans for the new play equipment for the Recreation Ground. The expected cost is £41753 plus VAT. It was intended that this would be a Badwell Ash Playing Field and Recreation Ground project. However, as the land is owned by the Parish Council and with the advantage that the Parish Council can probably reclaim the VAT, it is considered best for the Parish Council to manage the project. The Parish Council has already earmarked £8000 for the project and BP is confident that grant funding is available for the remainder. It was considered that a planning application was not necessary as the land is owned by the Parish Council.

It was resolved to proceed with this project in the Parish Council's name.

7. PLANNING

7.1. The decisions on previous planning applications were noted.

7.2. CH reported on a meeting he attended concerning the proposed Joint Local Plan. There were discussions on how this might affect Badwell Ash.

7.3. CG advised that he had been approached by an agent for the owner of land off Hunston Road for a meeting to discuss, prior to a formal planning application, the proposals for development and to seek the Parish's opinions. It was agreed to facilitate a meeting and suggest 30 minutes prior to the next Parish Council meeting on Thursday 26 October 2017 at 7 pm. The public would be invited.

7.4. Planning application number DC/17/04089 relating to 7 Hunston Road, Badwell Ash and erection of

single story and first floor rear extension, demolition of chimney and insertion of window and door to side was considered.

It was resolved to advise MSDC that the Parish Council has no objections.

- 7.5. Planning applications number DC/17/04044 relating to Old Pit Cottage, Richer Road, Badwell Ash and erection of 3 bay garage following conversion of existing garage to accommodation incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling house was considered.

It was resolved to advise MSDC that the Parish Council has no objections.

8. FINANCE AND POLICIES

- 8.1. The following payments were considered:

£173.16 to Vertas Group Plc – grounds maintenance

£168.12 to Vertas Group Plc – grounds maintenance (from 2016/2017)

£90.20 to Sarah Brown – Badwell Broadsheet

£89.40 to Dean Clarke – Community Street Cleaner salary

It was resolved to issue or confirm the issue of cheques for all the above payments.

- 8.2. The consideration of a grant to Badwell Ash Playing Field and Recreation Ground for the village hall toilets could not progress as further information is needed.

- 8.3. Closure of the Barclays deposit account number 201612-00135305 and transfer of funds to Barclays deposit account number 201612-30223956 was considered.

It was resolved to instruct Barclays Bank to close deposit account number 201612-00135305 and transfer of funds to Barclays deposit account number 201612-30223956.

- 8.4. The renewal of the insurance provided by Zurich / Business Services at CAS Ltd at a premium of £297.09 was considered. The schedule of cover was reviewed and considered appropriate.

It was resolved to instruct Business Services at CAS Ltd to renew the policy for a further year at a cost of £297.09.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be Thursday 26 October 2017 at 7.30 pm, with the Public Meeting mentioned in 7.3 above commencing at 7 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Christopher Garman
Parish Clerk
16 September 2017