

BIDBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE BIDBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL ON 17 MAY 2023 STARTING AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Collins, Eames, Hinds, Marriott, Stevens, Mrs Summers and Mrs Vidler

In Attendance – Neil Harris (Clerk) and Borough Councillor Curry

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillors Allen and Sankey

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosures.

3. Election of the Chairman of the Council

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Collins and seconded by Councillor Mrs Summers and it was **Agreed** that Councillor Mrs Vidler be elected Chairman of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2024.

4. Election of the Vice Chairman of the Council

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Vidler and seconded by Councillor Mrs Collins and it was **Agreed** that Councillor Mrs Summers be elected Vice Chairman of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2024.

5. Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 24 April 2023

It was **Agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2023 including the confidential minutes be approved as a correct record and signed.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2023

There were no matters arising.

7. Appointment of Finance Working Party

It was **Agreed** that Councillors Hinds, Marriott, and Mrs Summers be appointed to the Finance Working Party

8. Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies

It was **Agreed** that the following Councillors be appointed to the following outside bodies: -

- (1) KALC Area Committee – Chairman of the Council (Councillor Mrs Vidler)
- (2) Bidborough Sports Association – Councillors Eames and Mrs Vidler
- (3) Birchwood Association – Councillors Eames and Stevens

9. Appointment of Areas of Responsibility for Councillors

It was **Agreed** that the following Councillors be allocated the responsibility of the following areas of responsibility: -

Allotments – Councillors Hinds and Stevens
Cemetery – Councillor Stevens
Governance/Risk Assessments – Councillor Marriott(Lead) and Whole Council
Highways – Councillors Mrs Summers and Mrs Vidler
IT/Social Media/Communication – Councillors Stevens (Facebook), Mrs Summers (Website) and Mrs Vidler (Website and Newsletter)
School – Councillor Mrs Collins
Village Care – Councillors Mrs Collins and Stevens
Village Hall – Councillor Stevens.

10. Report of the Borough and County Councillors

Borough Councillor Curry introduced himself as the new Borough Councillor for the Parish. He indicated that the Boundary review for Tunbridge Wells had concluded and that there would be all out elections for the Borough Council next year. It was also noted that the Parish was in a different ward – Southborough and Bidborough.

11. Public Participation

The public had an opportunity to raise questions with the Council and for Councillors and the Clerk to respond where appropriate: -

- That the matter of fly tipping at Gate Farm Road was raised and the matter would be reported to TWBC.

12. Payment List

It was **Agreed** that the Payment List as circulated at the meeting and as set out below be approved: -

Name	Reason for Invoice	Net	VAT	Gross
NPower	Street Lighting Electricity costs – April	136.01	6.80	142.81

Mr Mower	Allotment Fence Works	1015.00	0.00	1015.00
Edge IT Systems	End of Year Support Package – Paid 27 April – Agreed 24 April	35.00	7.00	42.00
ICO	Data Protection Renewal Fee – Direct Debit 26 April	35.00	0.00	35.00
Thompson Tree Care	Allotment Tree Work	650.00	130.00	780.00
Thompson Tree Care	Birchwood Tree Work	180.00	36.00	216.00
CTP Consulting Engineers	Church Wall Supervision Works – Meeting with Contractor on site	451.25	90.25	541.50

13. Planning Application - 23/00910/FULL - 1 Clockhouse Mews, Swaylands, Peshurst Road, Bidborough

It was **Agreed** to raise no objection to planning application 23/00910/Full - 1 Clockhouse Mews, Swaylands, Peshurst Road, Bidborough.

14. Planning Application - 23/00911/LBC - 1 Clockhouse Mews, Swaylands, Peshurst Road, Bidborough

It was **Agreed** to raise no objection to planning application 23/00911/LBC - 1 Clockhouse Mews, Swaylands, Peshurst Road,

15. Planning Application - 23/00919/FULL – Garden Cottage, Old Farm, Peshurst Road, Bidborough

It was **Agreed** to raise no objection to planning application 23/00919/Full - Garden Cottage, Old Farm, Peshurst Road, Bidborough.

It was **Further Agreed** that the Clerk should investigate the opportunity of Planning Training for Members.

16. Calendar of Meetings

It was **Agreed** that the following Calendar of meetings for 2023/24 be approved: -

May – 17 May - Annual meeting
5 June - Council meeting (May meeting delayed due to Bank Holiday)
June – 12 June – Annual Parish meeting
26 June – Council Meeting
July – 31 July - Council Meeting
August – No Meetings
September – 25 September – Council Meeting

October – 30 October - Council Meeting
November – 27 November – Council Meeting (Precept Meeting)
December – No Meetings
January – 29 January – Council Meeting
February – 26 February – Council Meeting
March – 25 March – Council Meeting
April – 29 April – Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting

17. Financial Risk Assessment

The Clerk submitted a draft Financial Risk Assessment for approval by the Council.

It was **Agreed** that the Financial Risk Assessment as submitted to the Council be approved subject to a sections on insurance and the need to have a separate Bank Account when holding above the FSA compensation limit of £85000 being added to the document.

18. Brachers Advice

The Council considered whether the legal advice from Brachers on the Arthur Nicholson Recreation Ground could be made public.

It was **Agreed** that the legal advice received from Brachers reported to the Council should be made public.

19. Allotment Water Pipe

Councillor Stevens reported that there was a blockage in the water pipe in the allotments and that he was working with Andrew Dunn to resolve the problem.

It was **Agreed** that the support of the Council be given to resolving this issue and that if any expenditure was needed that Councillor Stevens approach the Clerk to release any necessary funding that he is authorised to within the Council's Financial Regulations.

20. Duration of Meeting

7.00pm to 7.21pm