

MINUTES of the Badgers Mount Parish Council Meeting to be held on **Thursday 3rd October 2024** in Badgers Mount Memorial Hall at **7.00 pm**.

Meeting attended by: Cllr Plumb, Cllr Dunlop, Cllr McCartney, Cllr Lake

Meeting started: 7:00 pm

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Grint & Clerk
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 3rd October, 2024 pending approval
3. **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS:** To receive any disclosure by members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interests, and whether the member regards the interest to be prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct - None
4. **PUBLIC SESSION:** Including items emailed to the Clerk in advance of the meeting (up to 15 minutes)
5. **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:** No reports available for District Council. Cllr Plumb reported that following the recent Conservative selection process for a KCC County Councillor, Nigel Williams from Brasted has been chosen as the Conservative candidate for this area. Mr. Williams has stated that, if elected, he will attend all Parish Council meetings within his constituency.
6. **FINANCE AND STAFFING**
 - 6.1. Approve Accounts for Payments: agreed & approved
 - 6.2. Bank Reconciliation: Approved
 - 6.3. Review Grant Application: On going investigation and will be reported on further at the next meeting
7. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Nothing to report
8. **CLERKS REPORTS**
 - 8.1. Ordering & installation of new litter bins, flower beds & bench: A query was raised regarding the placement of the litter bin at the junction of Highland Road and Badgers Road, specifically:
"For DB1 to DB4 bins, replacement in the current positions is acceptable. However, DB5 (Badgers Rd/Highland Rd), located on a steep bank, shows low usage based on recent collection reviews. We recommend replacing this bin with a general-purpose bin positioned at the bottom of Badgers Road near the bench."
Councillors expressed a preference for retaining the current location of the bin as initially planned. They proposed clearing the overgrown laurel bushes to create additional space and improve sight-lines for vehicles entering and exiting Highland Road, thereby enhancing safety at the junction. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) reflecting these points. Councillors will also consider options for trimming or removing the laurel trees as necessary.
 - 8.2. Kent County Council: Local Transport Plan Consultation - Cllrs asked to read the Consultation and comment to the Clerk with anything that we would like to respond with. Deadline for responses is October 8th so Cllrs asked to respond no later than Monday, 7th.
 - 8.3. TFL LETTER FOR A21 JUNCTION CLOSURE – as per email circulated by Clerk. Another temporary 12 month extension granted to enable all stakeholders to be contacted.
 - 8.4. Kent Highways HIP finalisation: The Clerk and Cllr Plumb conducted a preliminary meeting in preparation for the submission of the Highways Improvement Plan (HIP). Key points discussed were as follows:
 - 8.4.1. **Road Surface Noise on Orpington Bypass:** A query was raised regarding the noise levels associated with the road surface on the Orpington Bypass.
 - 8.4.2. **Potential Pedestrian Crossing on Orpington Bypass:** The possibility of installing a Pelican pedestrian crossing on the Orpington Bypass was discussed. This will be investigated further, though a pedestrian survey will be required to assess demand and feasibility.

- 8.4.3. **Concerns about Traffic at Polhill Garden Centre:** With new padel courts soon to be installed, concerns were expressed about vehicles turning in and out of Polhill Garden Centre and the potential impact on traffic flow and safety.
- 8.4.4. **Proposal for Footpath Extension:** The suggestion of creating a footpath from at least the end of Highland Road to Shacklands Road was raised. This proposal will be added to the HIP for further consideration.
- 8.4.5. **Signage for Large Vehicles on Orpington Bypass:** A recommendation was made to install a sign advising drivers of large vehicles not to turn left into Highland Road from the Orpington Bypass. Instead, they should proceed around the roundabout and turn right to enter Highland Road.
- 8.5. **LETTER TO RESIDENTS ABOUT PARKING RESPONSIBLY** - Cllrs agreed that the toned-down version of the letter should be sent to all residents on Highland Road.
- 8.6. **SDC RECYCLING SWITCHOVER** – As per details in the SDC In Shape magazine for roll out of these across the district.
- 8.7. **Badgers Mount Community Newsletter – Winter Edition:** Content and contributions were worked out. Contributors to be informed and once they send their pieces, Clerk to put it together & get it printed
9. **AMENITIES/PROJECTS**
- 9.1. **REMEMBRANCE DAY PREPARATION** - Approval given to Cllr Lake to purchase further poppies for lampposts. Clerk to check if we need to re-submit request to put poppies on lampposts. Salt Bins & Salt
10. **PLANNING**
- 10.1. **AMENDMENT TO PADEL COURT APPLICATION** – due to changes to lighting following concerns raised. The Council has no issues with the amendments, so no need was felt to comment further.
- 10.2. It was noted that the previous application regarding Bluebell Cemetery roadways had been refused. An appeal has now been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, with a deadline for additional comments set for 01.11.24. Cllr Plumb proposed the following additional points for consideration: The impact of construction traffic on mourners: as the construction is complete, this may no longer be a concern. The necessity of separate entrance and exit points. Installation of concrete crossovers and dropped kerbs without prior permission. Cllr Plumb will also reach out to Halstead Parish Council to inquire if there are any additional points they would like supported in relation to this appeal.

Meeting Closed : 20:55 hours