

Little Bromley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Thursday 7th June 2012 at 7.30pm at the Haywain Public House, Little Bromley.

In attendance:-

Councillor S. Wilcox -	Chairman
Councillor R. Middleton -	Vice Chairman
Councillor M. Ashmore	
Councillor R. Christmas	
Mrs S Shute	Clerk
Ms A Spall	Amenity Committee Member
5 members of the public.	

44 12/13 Introduction and Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

For information of all in attendance the Chairman read a passage from the "Good Councillors Guide" which states that all Parish Council meetings should be held in public and the press may attend. Three clear working days notice of a meeting is to be given. Only items on the agenda may be addressed at the meeting. Topics which require a decision cannot be added to the agenda after the 3 day notice period, these items must wait to the next meeting.

45 12/13 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor Hatch and Carol Cordwell ,Amenity Committee member

46 12/13 Public Participation.

The public were reminded of the rules that state that the public can participate at this point only.

46.1. A member of the public informed the council that some "sickly looking" chickens had be found wandering in the road near the illegal scrapyard. The RSPCA were called and they have placed a notice on the gate of the scrapyard requesting the owners to contact them. No action is required from the Parish Council.

Item discharged.

47.1 Matters Arising

16 12/13 Planning.

Councillor Middleton reported that he had circulated a recent planning application to all council members for their comments and had responded accordingly to the District Council within the required time limit. This system worked very well and it was agreed to deal with future applications in the same way.

Item discharged.

16 12/13 Amenity Committee Mandate.

It was agreed that the mandate needs to be updated and the following issues should be included:-

Number of committee members (should be an odd number for voting purposes), spend limit, communication, payments and banking.

Action: The Amenity Committee.

5 12/13 Amenity Fund

The Chairman stated that at present there are four bank accounts. The precept account, a trust fund, the amenity account and a reserve account. He suggested that the accounts should be amalgamated into two accounts. A current account and a reserve account to maximise interest earned. A spreadsheet would be used to provide clear definition between the Amenity Fund from the Precept Account. (Minute 50 12/13 refers.)

Item continued.

9 12/13 Contract for Cleaning and Restoring the War Memorial

It was reported that Councillor Hatch was not satisfied that all work on the memorial had been completed. He had agreed to discuss his concerns with the Stonemasons.

Action: Councillor Hatch.

10 12/13 Clerk's Employment Contract.

All Councillors had seen the contract and no alterations made. The contract could now be signed.

Item discharged.

11 12/13 Dog Fouling.

Notices reminding dog owners of their responsibilities to clean up behind their dogs have been placed around the village. The feasibility of obtaining dog bins is still under investigation.

Action: Clerk

22 12/13 Standing Orders.

Approval of the Standing Orders from the EALC is still awaited.

Item continued.

25 12/13 National Planning and Policy Framework.

The Chairman reported that Tendring District Council have made provision in the Local Plan for 3 new houses to be built in Little Bromley within the next 10 years. Councillors present accepted the proposals without comment.

Item discharged.

26 12/13 Speed Review and Vehicle Activated Sign

Essex County Council will carry out a speed monitoring exercise and then consider a Vehicle Activated Sign and "build outs".

Item continued.

28 12/13 Bus Shelter.

It was reported that funding for the bus shelter will remain until March 2013.

The District Council have raised several concerns regarding the bus shelter e.g vandalism, access by disabled people etc. Councillor Hatch will be dealing with the issues raised and a reply will be sent to the District Council accordingly.

Action: Councillor Hatch.

30 12/13 Hedge opposite the War Memorial.

The County Councillor, Sarah Candy, had agreed to look at the legalities regarding the hedge and the visibility problems it is causing but to-date no response has been received.

Item continued.

48 12/13 Reports.

48.1 County Councillor Report.

No report received for this meeting.

48.2 12/13 District Councillor Report.

Report gracefully received.

In the written report received from Councillor Stock he stated that the flooding problem in the village has been brought to the attention of the Chief Executive Officer at Tendring District Council. He also stated that he intends to highlight the rural infrastructure deficit in little Bromley e.g. lack of mains gas, drinking water, drainage and sewerage.

48.3 12/13 Amenity Committee Report.

It was reported that the Diamond Jubilee events were well supported. The commemorative tree has been planted near the old Vicarage. The Commemorative plaque has been temporarily removed so that a secure, theft resistant fixing can be made.

48.4 12/13 Footpath Representative Report.

Councillor Ashmore said that he has walked some of the footpaths and has made contact with the Essex County Council Rights of Way Team.

48.5 12/13 Report from the Tree Warden.

Ms Spall said that the Tendring Woodland Trust is working with local people with a view to creating a jubilee wood. Investigations are ongoing to find suitable land for this purpose.

48.6 12/13 Speed Watch / Safety Team.

Councillor Wilcox said that the speed watch team continue to work on a regular basis. 4 speed watch sessions had been carried out since the last meeting.

49 12/13 Planning Application – April Cottage, Shop Road.

A planning application has been received for an extension to the rear of the building. There were no objections from the Parish Council and Tendring District Council Planning Department has been informed accordingly.

Item discharged.

50 12/13 Banking and Investment Strategy

Councillor Wilcox stated that currently there are 4 bank accounts and he said that the parish would benefit if all accounts, including the amenity fund were amalgamated into two accounts to maximise interest raised by the funds. Those present were assured that all income and expenditure between the parish council and the amenity fund would be accounted for separately and shown on separate spreadsheets. The Amenity Committee would be given regular updates of money held.

It was agreed that the accounts would be amalgamated. Barclays Bank will be approached accordingly.

Item continued.

51 12/13 Authorisation and payment of cheques.

The following payments were authorised and cheques written out:-

EALC Training Cllr Wilcox	£60.00	Cheque number 100417
Mileage expenses Cllr. Wilcox	£29.60	Cheque number 100418
EALC Affiliation Fee 2012 / 13	£76.50	Cheque number 100419
Mileage expenses Cllr Middleton	£29.60	Cheque number 100420
Mileage expense S Shute	£29.60	Cheque number 100421
Bromley Messenger Sponsorship.	£60.00	Cheque number 100422
e-on electricity Jan – Mar 2012	£ 6.83	Cheque number 100423
Stationery - Cllr Hatch	£12.60	Cheque number 100424
Haywain – Venue	£45.00	Cheque number 100425
PCC – Donation grass cutting	£300.00	Cheque number 100426
Stationery – A Downes	£21.07	Cheque number 100427

There being no further business the meeting closed to the public at 8.40pm.

The public were requested to leave the meeting and the following was discussed in private.(at the request of Tendring District Council)

52 12/13 Planning

A map showing the village envelope was accepted by all councillors on the understanding that the site of the illegal scrapyards is proposed for ribbon development in the Local Plan.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed Clerk Date.....

Approved by:..... Chairman Date.....