

Minutes of a meeting of Bilsington Parish Council held at Bilsington Village Hall on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors; S Hudson (Chairman), S Carrington (Vice-Chairman), R Corbett, B Delmage and G Russell.

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

**666. Ashford Borough Councillor's Report:**

The Borough Councillor did not attend or submit a report.

**667. Kent County Councillor's Report:**

The County Councillor submitted apologies for absence and had nothing to report.

**668. To receive apologies for absence:**

There were no apologies for absence.

**669. To receive any declarations of interest from Members:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**670. Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were submitted, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**671. Finance:**

Schedule of payments:

Date	Chq No	Payee	Amount
28/3/19	755 & 756	Staff costs	£225.68
28/3/19	757	Clerks Expenses	£19.40
28/3/19	758	Bilsington Village Hall	£50.00

**Resolved: To authorise payment of the items on the schedule.**

**672. Village Hall:**

Councillor Delmage reported that the recent comedy night only made a £9 profit, however many of the regulars were away. Plans are being made for another comedy night in either October or November. Box Tale Soup are performing Grimms Fairy Tales on 21<sup>st</sup> June. The Committee are currently recruiting new members.

The hedge at the front has now been removed and a new fence installed.

Restoration of the phone box is well under way, it was agreed to release the Council's contribution of £50 towards the cost.

**673. Planning Matters:**

**19/00258/AS – HILL FARM HOUSE, ASHFORD ROAD** – Proposed conversion of garage to games room with home off along with car port & secure store (variation to garage first floor roof design approved under application 18/00713/AS). Retention & no change to sunroom extension previously approved.

**Resolved:** The Parish Council unanimously object to the application for the same reasons as the previous application. That being the proposed car port & secure store with log store are excessively large, exceptionally close to the boundary and incongruous to the surroundings and the large bulk of roof facing the adjoining property.

**19/00291/AS – AGRICULTURAL BUILDING AT, HANS FARM, TAR POT LANE –**  
Prior approval for the change of use of an agricultural building and land within its curtilage to one residential dwelling and associated operational development.

**Resolved:** The Parish Council unanimously object to the application on the following grounds: the proposal is contrary to policy HOU5 of the Ashford Local Plan 2030 as it is in the countryside and not adjoining or close to one of the confines listed. This will be an isolated dwelling not within walking distance of day to day services. The application indicates that the building is in current use.

**18/00922/AS – THE PRIORY HOME FARM, PRIORY ROAD – Appeal Proposal:**  
Application to develop an outdoor sand school and to modify condition 3 of 04/01120/AS to allow a limited number of competitions at Bilsington Priory Equestrian.

**Resolved:** that no further submission is required.

**674. Village Entry Gates:**

Further to minute 660 an indicative quotation has been received from Kent Highways for the installation of a gateway feature on three roads into the village where the speed limit changes, these being Ruckinge Road, Ashford Road and Bonnington Road.

The estimated cost of these works being £8,000 subject to site survey and any utility diversion required.

**Resolved:** in view of the costs involved no further action is proposed.

**675. Speed Indicator Device:**

The Device is moved on a regular basis and the data analysed, there have been no unusual patterns.

**676. Ashford Local Plan 2030:**

The Local Plan was adopted by the Parish Council at its meeting in February, whilst there are no specific developments in Bilsington there are two proposed developments which are very close to the border these being at Bridgefield, one for 325 dwellings and one for 100 dwellings. At this stage no plans have been submitted for these sites.

**677. Any Other Business:**

A resident raised a question regarding the newsletter distributed by Borough Councillor J Martin.

In response the following statement was read:

*“My attention has recently been drawn to a letter dated 11 March 2019 from Cllr J Martin to Bilsington Residents in which comments and a statement are made regarding an investigation into a complaint by the PC and others against her. This letter and statement were circulated without my knowledge. Details of the complaint and investigation are not in the public domain as the process has not yet been concluded. As Monitoring Officer I have not yet reached a final decision on action to be taken following receipt of the Investigator’s report. Accordingly no conclusions should be drawn from the comments or statement contained in the letter of 11 March referred to above.*

*T. Mortimer  
Monitoring Officer  
28 March 2019 “*

**678. Exclusion of the Public:**

**Resolved:**

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**679. Code of conduct complaint:**

**Resolved that the Council would submit a code of complaint to the monitoring officer in respect of the Borough Councillor newsletter.**