

Minutes of a meeting of Bilsington Parish Council held at Bilsington Village Hall on Wednesday 12th April 2023 at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors; S Hudson (chairman), M Bilham, L Lawson and R Thompson.

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

Also present: Cllr L Harman (ABC)

945. Apologies for absence:

Cllr S Carrington and Cllr D Robey (KCC)

946. Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

947. Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd February 2023 were presented, agreed as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

948. Neighbourhood Watch:

No report received.

949. Ashford Borough Councillor's Report:

The street art that has appeared in Ashford has not been financed by the Borough Council but by way of a Government Grant for public works of art.

950. Kent County Councillor's Report:

- KCC remains under budget pressure
- We did manage to get £6m from the government for potholes, which means that we will carry on filling them. Having said that, underinvestment in highways over many years is largely responsible for the poor state of the roads, and there is no easy answer, and certainly not in the short term.
- I think that you are putting together a Highway Improvement Plan, and I am happy to help push this forward
- Please let me know if you have any more drainage issues and I will try and get these dealt with.

951. Planning:

PA/2023/0480 The Old Butterfly Farm, Stone Cross Road, Bilsington – removal of the side porch and erection of a replacement side porch, proposed rear balcony and 4 proposed rear roof lights.

Resolved: The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

952. Finance:

Schedule of payments:

Staff costs February 2023	£389.24
Staff costs March 2023	£373.76

Clerk's expenses	£36.60
KALC Annual Subscription	£208.42

Resolved: To authorise payment of the items in the schedule of payments.

953. Highways:

The Clerk has a meeting scheduled with Kent Highways to discuss the Highway Improvement plan, the outcomes will be circulated.

954. Coronation of H M King Charles III:

To celebrate the Coronation the Village Hall are organising a Brunch to take place on the 7th May. Alongside there will be competitions for the best dressed house, cake and coronation hat.

The event will take place in the grounds of the hall or inside depending on the weather. Flyers have been prepared for delivery to all households to promote the event.

Cllr Harman has an additional Ward Member Grant available for Coronation events and has agreed to provide £200 from this.

955. Village Hall:

Covered within the Coronation minute.

956. Defibrillator:

Cllr Lawson had been approached by a company who were offering a contract to undertake a 6 monthly check of the defibrillator and to advise of any replacement parts needed in the sum of £180.

It was agreed not to take this forward.

957. Other items for information:

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.25pm.