

Minutes of a meeting of Bilsington Parish Council held at Bilsington Village Hall on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors; S Hudson (Chairman), M Bilham, S Carrington, R Corbett and R Thompson.

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

Also Present: Cllr M Angell (Kent County Council), Cllr L Harman (Ashford Borough Council) and 3 members of the public.

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

Councillor Harman raised the issue of a neighbourhood plan and suggested that the Parish Council consider taking on such an exercise. It was acknowledged that it was a large project and it could be possible for a ward neighbourhood plan which could spread the cost. The Chairman agreed that the Parish Council would have an initial discussion within the Any Other Business section as it was not an agenda item and that a decision would not be made at this meeting.

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

Councillor Angell reported that there had been a full meeting of the County Council earlier in the day and that the main item on the agenda was the preparations for Brexit, the full report being available on the County Council website. HMRC are establishing a customs point for lorries at Waterbrook with vehicles scheduled to enter via junction 10a of the M20 if it is open. It is anticipated that there will be a lorry every 6 minutes. The estimated completion date for junction 10a is May 2020.

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

There were no apologies for absence.

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

Councillor R Thompson declared an interest in minute 715 Planning application for the White Horse Inn as the owner and did not take part in the discussion or voting on this item.

711. **INSURANCE:**

The Parish Council insurance is due for renewal on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 and the invitation has been received from the brokers however, checking the details it was discovered that the brokers had made an error on the quotation in that they had not recorded the fact that in 2018 the Parish Council agreed to a 3 year long term agreement with Inspire via Axa.

The broker has been contacted and they have admitted to the error and will forward a revised quotation based on the agreement in time for the meeting.

A revised quotation was received in time for the meeting in the sum of £337.76.

**Resolved: to renew the insurance in accordance with the renewal notice.**

712. **FINANCE:**

The Parish Council is asked to approve the schedule of payments:

Staff costs	July	£282.98
Staff costs	August	£307.02
Clerks expenses		£21.20
Information Commissioner	Data protection	£40.00
Came & Company	Insurance	£337.76

713. **FINANCIAL REVIEW:**

The first four months (33%) of the financial year have been completed and the receipts and payments for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> July are summarised against the budget.

Receipts	Budget	Actual	% of budget
Precept	4,405.00	2,202.50	50
council tax support grant	115.00	57.50	50
concurrent grant	280.00	140.00	0
interest		0.52	0
	4,800.00	2,400.52	50

Payments

	Budget	Actual	% of budget
Staff costs	3,500.00	1,102.06	31
Clerks expenses	150.00	42.00	28
Audit	50.00	50.00	100
Insurance	340.00	-	0
Subscription	220.00	190.51	87
General	290.00	-	0

Room Hire	250.00	-	0
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	4,800.00	1,384.57	29
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714. **VILLAGE HALL**

An application is being submitted for funds to enable the replacement of the floor.

715. **PLANNING MATTERS**

**19/01134/AS – WHITE HORSE INN, RUCKINGE ROAD, BILSINGTON** – Moving of existing shed and erection of new panelled fence to divide garden area; Erection of new palisade fence to continue existing fence around car parking (retrospective); Erection of a pergola.

716. **KCC Highways and Transportation:**

A meeting has recently taken place with Kent Highways regarding the crossroads an parking issues, an updated Highways Improvement Plan with possible solutions is awaited.

717. **New Regulations:**

Following the last Parish Council meeting contact has been made with the website provider as many of the apparent issues with accessibility relate to the contrast colours which are predetermined on the templates.

They have responded acknowledging that there are a number of issues and that they are currently working on a fix which will be available in good time for the Parish Council to meet the regulatory deadline.

Kent Association of Local Councils have advised that they have met with EIS, the service provider, who have stated that they will no longer be able to provide a free website with effect from September 2020.

The Information Commissioner's Office have issued some revised guidance notes for Parish Councils relating to the General Data Protection Regulation as the first year was for basic compliance, the emphasis is now shifting towards accountability and an evidenced understanding of the risks and how they can be mitigated.

Further research on the subject will be undertaken and a full update will be provided to the Parish Council at its next meeting together with costings for the provision of a website that is compliant.

718. **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:**

The National Association of Local Councils has issued a revised model set of Financial Regulations which comply with current legislation. The opportunity has been taken to review those used by the Parish Council, there are no major changes.

719. **SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE**

The Speed Indicator was placed on Bonnington Road during the recent closure of the M20 upon the request of Aldington Parish Council. The results for that weekend have

been shared with them as there was a marked increase in the flow of traffic through the village.

720. **BILSINGTON PEOPLE 2020:**

The way in which the decennial census is undertaken is under review with the emphasis on an online return for 2021, and the future under review.

Two local residents produced Bilsington People 1800 -1900 and Bilsington People 1900 – 2000 which brought to life the characters in the village and not just the statistics. It has been suggested that the first 20 years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century should be commemorated in the same way subject to the written agreement of the individuals concerned.

The matter will be considered further at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

721. **FUTURE PLANS:**

The Parish Council is asked to consider its activities over the next three years in order that costings can be prepared ready for inclusion in its budget making exercise at the end of the calendar year.

The VE day 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a possibility depending on other local events.

722. **Any other business:**

The Rev. Whateley retires on 27<sup>th</sup> October future services are Harvest festival 29<sup>th</sup> September, Remembrance Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November, Tree lighting and carols 8<sup>th</sup> December and the crib service 24<sup>th</sup> December.

723. **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.

724. **Ashford Borough Council complaint:**

**RESOLVED:** in the absence of a resolution the matter is to be taken to the next level.