

**BADGERS MOUNT  
PARISH  
COUNCIL**

Clerk  
Geoff Dessent  
07452 886977

8 Hurst Green Close  
Oxted  
Surrey  
RN8 9AN

clerk@badgers-mountpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

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**DRAFT MINUTES of a MEETING of BADGERS MOUNT PARISH COUNCIL**

at Badgers Mount Memorial Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 from 7.30 pm

Present Cllr J Grint (JG)  
Cllr G Plumb (GP)  
Cllr T McCartney (TMC)  
Cllr A Dunlop (AD)

Also, present: 1 member of the public (Roger King)

Clerk Geoff Dessent (in attendance)

**1. Apologies for absence**

None.

**2. Minutes**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 7 June were agreed and signed and have been placed on the website.

**3. Declarations of Interests**

There were no interests declared by Councillors.

**4. Public Session**

A number of issues were raised:

- Roger King (RK) was concerned that the Council seemed to want to hold a number of sessions in private about the possibility of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. JG explained that he felt it important to get an agreed council view based on objective information first but reassured RK that once this view had been reached, there would be wide public engagement as is entirely right.
- RK still felt that the public should be engaged earlier and had understood that the Council was previously in favour of developing a Neighbourhood Plan. JG explained that this was an ever-moving issue, but that it was time to take a firm view and suggest a way forward in this area with residents' in the coming weeks.

## **5. District and County Councillor Reports**

JG made the following points from his District Councillor perspective:

- SDC would be producing their draft Local Plan for consultation on 18 July
- It was important that BM Parish Council made a formal response to this, by the 10 September deadline.
- JG and GP would work this up for agreement by Councillors at the 6 September Council meeting.

## **6. Finance**

All the accounts for payment submitted were approved. These have now all been paid. It was agreed that Arthur Evans would be put on payroll again following advice the Clerk had received from HMRC

## **7. Chairman's report**

JG had nothing further to add to his previous comments from his District Councillor perspective.

## **8. Environment and Amenities Committee**

Key points:

- 45 items for action listed already through the good works of GP and TMC
- GP was keen to prioritise things as High, Medium and Low, and once this has been done the actions list should be uploaded to the website (by the Clerk)
- Given the current consultation about bus services TMC felt it important to publicise this
- Concerns about speeding traffic – rumble strip were felt to be a good solution

## **9. Parish Councillors/Parish Clerk reports**

A number of reports were made and discussed as follows:

### **9.1 Planning Applications/Determinations**

There were no new planning applications and GP reported on some recent determinations.

### **9.2 Concerns about land use around Knockholt Station (Cllr McCartney)**

TMC reported that the majority of heavy vehicle traffic was to do with rail network workings, but there were still a concern about Travellers in this area which TMC agreed to keep an eye on.

### **9.3 Progress on External Audit (clerk)**

All well in hand. The external auditor explained that the period of public access to the accounts should have been announced the day before it was published but accepted this was a very minor point.

### **9.4 Draft Privacy Policy for BM Parish Council**

TMC suggested that the reference to credit houses was superfluous and asked instead that references to the bank and HMRC were included. This was agreed and the revised document has since been placed on the website.

### **9.5 Website, Publicity and Newsletter**

All agreed the website looked much better thanks to the Clerks recent efforts. It was agreed there should be a Newsletter issued towards the end of July, with content being finalised by 19 July. The content should include an update on Neighbourhood Planning, refence to the advice about Ticks risks, an update on the SDC Local Plan, Community Bus Services, an update from the Environment and Amenities committee, Broke Hill and the an update about the website.

### **9.6 Neighbourhood Plan**

There was a closed item around Neighbourhood Planning. Once the Council has come to a firm view on their preferred way forward on this, this will be discussed more widely to take on board residents' views.

## **10 Items for Future Council meetings**

TM suggested that the Council might approach John Collier a local trader to help ensure that the two local Bus Shelters which the Parish Council were responsible for were in a good state of report.

**Action:** Clerk to contact Paul Collier and seek a quote

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Local Strimming needed to be taken forward (see above the various ideas and options from the Environment and Amenities committee).

**Action:** Clerk to find out the cost of SDC removing strimming off cuts as this was not an insignificant task.