

Minutes of the Badgers Mount Parish Council meeting held on **Thursday 4th of January 2024** in Badgers Mount Memorial Hall

Meeting Started : 19:15 hours

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Grint (clashing SDC meeting)
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on December 7th, 2023. Approved
3. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS: To receive any disclosure by members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interests, and whether the member regards the interest to be prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. None declared.
4. PUBLIC SESSION: Email from TfL seeking response to the new TfL consultation on the A21. BMPC to respond to TfL as an organisation.
5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: No new reports
6. FINANCE AND STAFFING
 - 6.1. Approve Accounts for Payments: approved
 - 6.2. Approval for end of December 2023 Bank Reconciliations approved
7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
8. CLERKS REPORTS
 - 8.1. PSPO (Public Spaces Protection Order) for London Road. There has been positive response from residents supporting the move. Some residents have complained about the form & the format, but they are largely supportive of issuing the order
 - 8.2. 'Take rubbish home' signs on village gates: It was agreed that the signs on the village gates provide a gentle reminder for the traffic passing through to not through litter from their vehicles & therefore should stay. Following from this there was a discussion on simplifying litter collection especially the Dog Litter bins for which the Parish Council must pay SDC to operate. Should they be replaced by multipurpose litter bins which SDC can then clear on normal waste collection days making it more efficient and cost effective. Clerk to check with SDC on options & discussion to continue in the next meeting.
 - 8.3. New Independent Advisory Group for Kent Police. Cllr Dunlop & Cllr Lake have volunteered to attend the first meeting and provide information to the Council
 - 8.4. Report on the Carbon Footprint of Badgers Mount & actions to be taken to mitigate Climate Change at a local level: Statistics on Badgers Mount Carbon footprint was brought to the attention of the Council. Post a general consensus that the Parish Council needs to look into this further to discuss ways of mitigation and local level action plans that could be taken at a local level to prepare for Net Zero
9. AMENITIES/PROJECTS
 - 9.1. Response to SDC consultation on Plan 2040 – Regulation 18 Part 2 (deadline 11th January 2024). The Council believes that principally there is not much change to the response from the Part 1 of the Consultation
 - 9.2. KCC Flood Management Plan: consultation response to draft Local Plan deadline on 30th January 2024. To be discussed in the next meeting
 - 9.3. Response to application for Free Defibrillator from British Heart Foundation (deadline 25th March 2024). Council feels that we should apply for the Defibrillator. Old London Road could work well as an option for installing the machine should we be allocated one. Cllr Lake has volunteered his external house wall in Badgers Rise as one of the possible locations
10. PLANNING
 - 10.1. 23/03524/FUL Oak Tree Farm London Road Badgers Mount Halstead Kent TN14 7AB. Development: Change of use from single dwelling to HMO with 7 self-contained bedsits (deadline: 14th Jan 2024).

The Council is concerned over the implication of multiple occupation and that the area seems to be unsuitable for habitation given that the application is for 7 bedsits in the middle of a location that has no public transport links or any other amenities or even provision of local employment. The area also appears to be more industrial than residential and there for the bedsits may not be appropriate for this location. The Parish Council would therefore have objection to this Planning application.

Meeting ended: 21:15 hours