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MINUTES of the Badgers Mount Parish Council Meeting held on **Thursday 1st October 2026** in Badgers Mount Memorial Hall at **7.00 pm.**

Present: Cllr Grint, Cllr Plumb, Cllr Dunlop, Cllr McCartney. **In attendance:** Clerk

Meeting commenced: 19:10

MINUTES

1. *APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE*: Apologies were received from Cllr Lake.
2. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES*: The Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meetings held on **16 July 2026** and **3 September 2026**. Both sets of minutes were formally 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- No declarations were made.
4. *PUBLIC SESSION:* A resident raised concerns about rumours suggesting that Retreat House and 7 Diner were being used to house immigrants. The Council confirmed this information was incorrect. Sevenoaks District Council has clarified that: Retreat House is currently operating as an HMO but is not being used to house immigrants. The former 7 Diner site has not been used by SDC since the Covid period. SDC further confirmed that any use of local accommodation for immigrants would require a formal request from the Home Office, and no such request has been received.
5. *DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:*
   5.1. Broke Hill Planning Application : The Development Management Committee refused the application and has referred the application to the Secretary of State, who now has 21 days to approve or reject it. The Parish Council wished to formally record its appreciation for the extensive work undertaken by **Halstead Parish Council** and **Halstead Futures Green Group**, expressing admiration for their efforts and achievements.
6. *FINANCE AND STAFFING*
   6.1. Accounts for Payments: The accounts presented were approved.
   6.2. Bank reconciliation: September 2026 reconciliation was completed and noted.
   6.3. Grant Application request by Sevenoaks Town Council - The Council agreed to provisionally approve the grant request, subject to receipt of the required supporting documents.
7. *CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:* No additional items were reported.
8. *CLERKS REPORTS*
   8.1. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule Review Consultation – BMPC's response has been submitted to SDC. The Council did not object to the proposed changes but recommended adjustments to make the schedule more workable for smaller parishes.
   8.2. LGR Update: The process has been placed on hold indefinitely. Regular elections are expected to go ahead in May 2027.

8.3. Proposed appointment of part-time gardener by BMRA : The Council supports BMRA's intention to appoint a part-time seasonal gardener to undertake emergency works in areas not covered by Kent County Council and will provide monetary assistance annually. BMPC emphasised the importance of hiring someone with appropriate equipment, insurance, and safety standards to ensure the protection of both workers and residents.

9. AMENITIES/PROJECTS/SAFETY:

No additional items were raised.

10. PLANNING:

10.1. 26/02289/FUL- Bluebell Cemetery Old London Road Badgers Mount Kent TN14 7AE. Development: Provision of a new exit road and associated vehicle crossover onto Old London Road to facilitate a one-way circulation system within the existing Bluebell Cemetery site. BMPC continues to oppose this retrospective application on safety grounds.

10.2. Planning decision notices: **Noted. Maytree Cottage** – Withdrawn; **30 Old London Road** – Refused; **30 Old London Road (rear canopy)** – Approved

Meeting ended: 9:00