

MINUTES of the Badgers Mount Parish Council are summoned to a Council Meeting to be held on **Thursday 5th of October 2023** in Badgers Mount Memorial Hall at **7.30 pm**

In attendance: Cllr Grint, Cllr Plumb, Cllr McCartney, Cllr Lake

Apologies: Cllr Dunlop

Present: Clerk, 1 parishioner

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Dunlop sent his apologies & its accepted.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 7th, 2023 approved
3. **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS:** No declarations made.
4. **PUBLIC SESSION:**

Questions were raised about the new access created by Bluebell Cemetery on Old London Road. The matter has already been reported to SDC & KCC by the Clerk. The Parish Council was also informed that the traffic on the M25 near Shacklands Road bridge was causing a loud booming kind of noise. It was advised that the resident should report this on the National Highways website in case of a fault on the motorway. The BMRA members have proposed that there are volunteers willing to 'adopt-a-planter' for the village planters which means that responsible individuals for each planter would maintain the plants by weeding, watering & general maintenance works on an ongoing basis. Named volunteers have been identified & once the plants are procured by the Parish Council then they would do the planting as well.
5. **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:** Cllr Grint informed the Parish Council that the next round of consultation (Reg 18) of the SDC Local Plan will go in for consultation over the Christmas period
6. **FINANCE AND STAFFING**
 - 6.1. Approve Accounts for Payments – Approved
 - 6.2. Approval for end of September Bank Reconciliations – Accounts reconciled & approved.
 - 6.3. Lengthsman Contract approved by the Personnel Committee.
7. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – Nothing new to report
8. **CLERKS REPORTS**
 - 8.1. Temporary Closure of the Gap in central reservation on A21 at the junction of London Borough of Bromley & Kent County Council – Public Notice has been issued by TfL. In relation to this a visit by Laura Trott & the Transport Minister was organised by Halstead Parish Council & some residents and representative from the BMPC were also present. The matter is now with the Minister & the PC will be informed when any further developments take place.
 - 8.2. Mini skip at the entrance of Oak Tree Farm – This new development has been noticed by the Parish Council. While the skip belongs to the business owner, it is placed on the verge on the highway, so Kent Highways should be informed & be involved to determine if this is a justified position
 - 8.3. ATC surveys on A224 Orpington Bypass & Old London Road – PC has not had the results back from Kent Highways
 - 8.4. Planning enforcement update on Land South of Sydmonton from SDC - The enforcement case relating to 'Alleged creation of hardstanding and alleged potential G&T plot' has been investigated and closed. The enforcement notice served was for the removal of hardstanding and resultant material from the land. The main reason the notice was issued was to ensure the material is removed from the land, the owner has removed the material within the time for compliance, therefore the case can be closed.
 - 8.5. Community Newsletters – It was decided that contributions to 'Parishes Together' Magazine will be made on a rolling rota – the first one to be written by Cllr Dunlop followed by Cllr Lake & then Cllr Plumb. Cllr McCartney would provide deadline reminders.
 - 8.6. Village Planters – Cllr Lake has already spoken to Polhill Garden Centre regarding donation of perennial plants for the village planters. Clerk to organise the logistics on designing, selecting & pick up of plants from PGC and also co-ordinate planting with the volunteers.

9. AMENITIES/PROJECTS

- 9.1. Parish Council representation to KCC towards bus service proposal from Sevenoaks to PRUH to go via Polhill, Badgers Mount & Knockholt Station had been submitted to KCC. PC awaiting final decision
- 9.2. Footpath on OBP – It has been noted that overgrown & encroaching hedges are obstructing the footpath close to Highpoint and needs clearing to make it safe for walkers. Relevant enforcement authorities are to be informed to get the hedges trimmed & footpath made safe.
- 9.3. Footpath next to Nesbit House – Action plan need to be developed to make that space more presentable. Nesbit House to be contacted to see if they would take up responsibility for ongoing maintenance.
- 9.4. Fly tipping on Land north of Hunters Retreat– No update available from Kent Highways.
- 9.5. Salt – Clerk to order salt for highways maintained by KCC in preparation for winter.
- 9.6. Adopt a Flower box proposal – Decision taken as per item # 8.6

10. PLANNING

No new planning applications

Meeting ended : 21:10