

Minutes of the Great Burstead and South Green Village Council, held at  
South Green Memorial Hall, Southend Road, Billericay  
on Wednesday 7th June 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor M. Dear – Chairman.  
Councillor J. Dear  
Councillor Willingham – Vice Chair.

Also in attendance: - Martin Ainscough Clerk to the Council.

**17/91. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Chapman who was on holiday and Councillor Cottle who had been attending the EALC Police Conference earlier during the day.

**17/92. Minutes.**

The Minutes of the meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 were received and duly signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.

**17/93. Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

**17/94. Public Participation Session.**

**1. Enforcement Action – 2 Linkdale, Billericay extension of fencing onto the Greensward.**

The meeting was informed that further to Councillor Cottle bringing this matter to the attention of the Village Council at the May meeting residents had since highlighted the fact that the owner /resident of 2 Linkdale, Billericay had fenced an area of the Greensward and as a result had considerably increased the size of their plot.

The Clerk informed the meeting that having referred the matter to the Enforcement section at the Borough Council information had been received to indicate that the Borough Council was already aware of this breach and had written to the resident concerned giving them 19 days in which to return the greensward to its original state. However, information received immediately prior to the meeting indicated that the resident concerned had confirmed receipt of the enforcement letter and was in the process of taking legal advice. The Enforcement Officer has given an assurance that the Village Council will be kept informed of any developments on this matter.

**2. Southend Road Petrol Station – Proposal for card only payments & 24 hour opening.**

Following concerns from local residents concerning a proposal to convert the petrol station on the Southend Road into a 24 hour and credit card only payment facility, the Clerk was requested to contact the Borough Council to ascertain if any planning applications had been lodged seeking permission for such a change. It was noted that at the time of the meeting no such application had indeed been received, but given the nature of the proposal it might not be deemed to be a change of use and as such planning permission would not therefore be necessary. The meeting noted that a similar application in the town centre had been refused on the grounds that the site was within a conservation area and that the proposed hours of operation might prove to be intrusive to local residents living in the vicinity of the application site. Again the Clerk will liaise

closely with the Enforcement Section on this matter with any developments being reported to future meetings of the Village Council.

**17/95. The Greensward Opposite Billericay School – Update.**

The meeting noted the response from the County Council following the email sent by the Clerk.

However following further discussions on possible solutions to the problem the Clerk was instructed to write again to suggest single yellow lines along the length of the effected highway together with appropriate signs indicating no parking between set hours. The meeting also wanted to stress that the Village Council should be invited to and involved in any future meetings arranged on this matter.

**17/96. Planning Applications.**

17/00534/FULL	29 Highfield Road, Billericay, CM11 2PE.	First floor rear extension, rear dormer and front dormer alterations to cat slide roof. Enlarge porch and garage conversion.	No objections
17/00612/OUT	139 Noak Hill Road, Billericay,	Outline application for the demolition of 2 dwellings & construction of 9 two bedroom & 3 one bedroom apartments with 27 under croft parking spaces @ 139 & 141 Noak Hill Road, Billericay.	Object on the grounds of over development & increased traffic movements onto a road which already has high volumes.
17/00669/TEL	Land adjacent Scouts Association, Greens Farm Lane, Billericay	Prior notification of proposed installation of a 17.5m slim line street works pole supporting 3 no antenna, 1 no associated ground based equipment cabinet & ancillary development thereto.	No objections

**17/97. Annual Audit – 2016/17**

The meeting noted that the Annual Return for 2016-17 had been received back from Heelis & Lodge (Internal Auditors for the Council) as required by the audit process. This would now be sent off to the External Auditors (PKF Littlejohn LLP) to meet their deadline of 12<sup>th</sup> of June for the receipt of the completed return and the associated supporting information. A report for Information explaining the variance in Box 6 of the return, from last year to this, together with an indication of the Village Council’s contingencies allowed given the high level of reserves would also be included in the documentation to be sent.

## 17/98. Village Council – Fun Day Event 2017

The meeting noted the ongoing arrangements for the 2017 event and agreed the payments to be made in advance of the event as Councillor Willingham (an authorised signatory) is not able to attend the July meeting due to holiday commitments as indicated at **Minute 17/99. Finance Approved payments** below.

Once Councillor Willingham is back from her holiday she will arrange to meet with the Chair to finalise the layout for the event. In the meantime she had purchased a gazebo for the event at a cost of £40.98 which it was agreed would be reimbursed to her. In addition the Church had advertised the event in their newsletter. Confirmation had been also received from the Council's brokers that the Risk Assessment for the event had been approved. It was though noted that no confirmation of the cost of the provision of First Aid Cover on the day had been received from St. John Ambulance and the Clerk was asked to chase them.

### 17/99. Finance.

#### Approved payments:

Payee / Cheque number	Details	Amount
Martin Ainscough	May - salary	£ 525.31(*)
H.M.R.C. 022119	Income Tax - May	£131.40
Martin Ainscough 022120	May expenses – postage etc. plus broadband/telephone & office expenses contribution ( April, May, June 2017)	£10.55 £180.00 £190.55
Funday Entertainment Ltd 022121	Supply of attractions/stalls – Fun Day 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2017	£1,620.00
Mr. P.A. Donovan (1 <sup>st</sup> 2bounce) 022122	Supply of attractions/stalls – Fun Day 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2017	£800.00
Kerry Greenaway aka Professor Rainbows 022123	Supply of attractions etc. – Fun Day 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2017	£310.00
J. Peek (Professor Joe) 022124	Punch & Judy Show – Fun day 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2017	£150.00
The Tilbury Band 022125	Performance – Fun Day 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2017	£250.00
Eden Falconry Ltd 022126	Static & Flying display of birds of prey – Fun Day 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2017	£295.00
Billericay Nurseries 022127	Planting up & erection of hanging baskets, watering/weed control etc. – June 2017	£1,528.80

(\*) salary paid directly by bank transfer on 26<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### 17/100. Dead Trees on South Green Common.

It was noted that Basildon Borough Council had felled 3 trees on the Green at South Green due to the fact that 2 had died and another was deemed to be unsafe. Basildon Borough Council plans to replace these trees in the Autumn.

### **17/101. CCTV – South Green Parade of Shops – Update.**

The meeting was informed that the Council that had given permission for power to be taken from adjacent lamp posts columns as indicated by the CCTV companies previously was Thurrock. As this was a unitary authority they were able to give themselves permission and therefore were not relevant to the Village Council's project. It was though suggested that support might be forthcoming from the police for such a facility in this location and the Clerk was therefore requested to write to them to enlist their support for this initiative.

### **17/102. Virgin Media Network – Update.**

The meeting noted that since the last meeting no response had been received by the Clerk from Virgin Media in connection with concerns expressed by residents to the ongoing works in Gt. Burstead & South Green. In light of this it was agreed that a follow up letter should be sent to Virgin Media reiterating the points made in the first letter and that John Baron the MP for Billericay should now be contacted to bring pressure on the company to rectify the situation to the satisfaction of both the Village Council and local residents.

It was also noted that a control cabinet had also recently been installed on the Green and that this had been referred to the Enforcement Section at Basildon Borough Council for investigation,

### **17.103 Association of Basildon Local Councils Meeting.**

The meeting received a report from Councillor J. Dear following his attendance at the above mentioned meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The main points to note of which were as follows:-

**General:** - After seeking advice, the Billericay Town Council had removed fly posting from around the war memorial; this was done with the authority of Essex County Council rather than Basildon Borough Council.

**Financial:**-During the financial year ending 31 March 2017, the ABLC's income was £1485 and its total expenses were £845. It carried forward £4554.97.

**Conferences/Training Events:**-There is a police conference on Wednesday 7 June 2017, Foakes Hall, Great Dunmow, 9:45am - 3:30 pm. On Saturday 17 June, there will be non-contributory training for councillors at the Billericay Town Council offices. The session runs from 10.00am until 1.00pm and will focus on the role of councillors.

**Committees of the ABLC:** - Very little of note has happened recently on the committees that ABLC members sit on. The Standards Committee deals with few complaints at present and there have been many changes to the make-up of the committee. It was noted that 3 members of the Highways Committee were stepping down and that the committee will become more active after the elections on 8 June. David McPherson-Davis stated that the Planning Committee has nothing controversial on the horizon. A development at Ramsden Bellhouse was turned down recently, and changes to Billericay's football ground might come before the committee soon. Also, the EALC will meet in the week after the May ABLC meeting.

During a discussion about the ABLC AGM, Jim Devlin said that an update about the Local Plan might attract members of the public to attend this particular meeting.

**Future Meeting Dates:**- 20<sup>th</sup> July, 21<sup>st</sup> September, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 15<sup>th</sup> March and 17<sup>th</sup> May. The venue will be Billericay Town Council offices.

Finally, new data protection regulations are being introduced which will affect local councils. This might feature on the next EALC agenda.

### **17104. The Green at South Green – Fields of Trust Application.**

It was noted that the appropriate officer at the Borough Council had indicated that permission would have to be forthcoming from the Borough Council before the Village Council could take

this project forward. Unfortunately due to the recent elections the Borough Council was moving from a Cabinet style of decision making to a Committee Structure and until such time as the membership of those committees had been confirmed it was not possible to give approval. The indication was that the picture would be clearer in early to mid June after which hopefully the appropriate permissions would be forthcoming and the application could be progressed. The Clerk would email the appropriate officer at the Borough Council for an update on the situation to be reported at the July meeting.

**17105. Dates of Next Meetings.**

5<sup>th</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> October, 8<sup>th</sup> November, 6<sup>th</sup> December.

**17106. Close of Meeting.**

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Signed .....

Date .....