

Minutes of the Great Burstead and South Green Village Council,
held at
South Green Memorial Hall, Southend Road, Billericay
on Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor M. Dear

Councillor J. Dear

Councillor Chapman

Councillor Willingham

Also in attendance:-

Martin Ainscough – Clerk to the Council.

County Councillor Twitchen

1 member of the public

17/56. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cottle who was away on business.

17/57. Declarations of Interests & Register of Members Interests.

There were no declarations of interests received.

17/58. Minutes.

The Minutes of 1st March 2017 were received and duly signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.

17/59. Public Participation Session.

South Green Memorial Hall – Roof Repairs.

It was noted that a letter from the Hall Trustees thanking the Village Council for their grant towards the roof repairs had been received.

ABLC – Update.

Councillor Chapman informed the meeting that the ABLC had indicated at their recent meeting that wanted to encourage Parishes to send 2 representatives to future Basildon Liaison meetings.

17/60. New Village Sign – Gt. Burstead.

The meeting noted that The County Legal Services Team had requested that the consent letter for the planting around the sign should now been signed and returned to them as permission had now been forthcoming from Basildon Borough Council for the erection of the new sign. The Clerk undertook to inform Alpha Signs that they could now start to construct the sign. However, it was noted that Alpha Signs would not in fact install the sign when finished. There was also potentially an issue with regard to storage prior to the sign being installed in the approved location. The Clerk would therefore contact Basildon B.C. to see if they would store the sign until such time as it could be installed and to also ascertain if they could recommend a reliable contractor to undertake the installation process.

17/61. Planning Applications.

17/00380/FULL	32 Bell Hill Close, Billericay, CM12 9QJ	Single storey rear extension.	No objections
17/00437/FULL	137 Passingham Avenue, Billericay, CM11 2TA	Part single, part two-storey side and rear extension incorporating the extension of the existing rear box dormer & new entrance canopy.	No objections
17/00436/FULL	90 Church Street, Billericay, CM11 2TS	Siting of prefabricated timber granny annexe in rear garden for ancillary residential use.	The Village Council is minded to object to the application on the grounds of the possibility in the future that the proposal might be considered to be two separate dwellings. If however, permission should be granted the VC would wish to see an absolute undertaking included which ensures that the dwelling permitted won't be considered to be a separate dwelling to the existing property.

17/62. Village Council – Fun Day Event 2017

Councillor Willingham brought the meeting up to date with the arrangements for this year's fun day event. It was noted that one of the stall holders had indicated that they wanted to hand out flyers advertising forthcoming courses that they would be running and would also be selling stamps for the making of greeting cards. It was agreed. It was also confirmed that the Church would be running a bric-a-brac stall. Posters for the website and the notice boards would also be produced to feature the new attraction of the Hawk Flying demonstration.

17/63. Village Councillor Vacancies.

No interest had been shown in the current Village Councillor vacancies. It was therefore agreed to raise a new notice for the notice boards and website which would be reviewed at the June meeting.

17/64. Christmas Lights 2017 – Important Announcement from Piggotts.

The Clerk informed the meeting that due to a change in business direction Piggott's festive lighting division had ceased trading with effect from 15th February 2017.

Piggott's had though recommended customers who had ongoing and upcoming requirements to contact Field & Lawn who were a specialist festive lighting and marquee company. Field and Lawn also had access to all existing decorations used in the Village Council's displays. Furthermore Piggott's would recommend Field and Lawn as a company that should be able to provide customers with a first class service with all the technical skills and expertise to meet the Village Council's needs. The Clerk was therefore instructed to contact Field & Lawn to obtain a quote for the Village Council's 2017 Festive lighting requirements.

17/65. Hanging Baskets – Quote 2017.

The meeting received and approved the quotation for the hanging baskets and associated maintenance from Billericay Nurseries for summer 2017.

17/66. Finance.

approved payments:

Payee / Cheque number	Details	Amount
Martin Ainscough	March - salary	£ 525.31(*)
H.M.R.C. 022108	Income Tax - March	£131.20
Martin Ainscough 022109	March expenses – postage etc.	£3.90
Billericay Nurseries 022110	To weed and turn over the two beds at Bell Bollards.	£72.00
Crystal Print 022111	Printing of Spring edition of the Village Voice	£248.30
Gt. Burstead PCC 022112	Distribution of the Spring edition of the Village Voice	£100.00

(*) salary paid directly by bank transfer on 26th of each month.

17/67. Greensward – Billericay School – Update.

The meeting received the up to date information regarding the proposal to turn the area of greensward in the vicinity of Billericay school into a car park. It was noted that this had long been a problem area with parents parking on the greensward and in the road to collect their children from school. County Councillor Twitchen informed the meeting of the up to date situation following the consideration of this proposal by the Basildon Highways Panel. It was noted that opinion of the Panel members was split as to how best to solve the problems associated with this piece of land. It would be as costly to ensure that the land was for parking as it would also be to deter parking, e.g. the installation of high kerbs etc. The decision was therefore taken to organise a site visit after the local elections, due to take place on 4th of May, after which the new Borough Councillors could come to a decision. It was further noted that following Councillor Twitchen's representations on behalf of the Village Council that the Village Council would be informed of the date of the site visit and invited to send two members to attend.

17/68. CCTV – South Green Parade of Shops – Update.

The meeting noted the following update since the last meeting. Both companies that had previously provided quotes had indicated that without a power supply it would not be possible to

install a CCTV system in this location. Clearview had though stated that they knew of councils that had managed to get permission from the County Council to take power from lamp posts for the purposes of CCTV and the Clerk was requested to ask them to provide their contact details.

17/69. Virgin Media Network Installation.

The meeting received an update from the Chair on the situation with regard to the Virgin Media Network installation in Gt. Burstead & South Green. It was noted that no prior written notification had been given to residents that this work was due to start neither had they thought to contact the Village Council in order that they could keep residents informed of the situation. In view of this there was agreement that the Clerk should write to the Chief Executive Officer of Virgin Media to ask why no prior notice was given of the impending works.

17/70. South Green Junior School Pedestrian Crossing Proposal.

The meeting noted that following the March meeting the Clerk had written to the school and had received a reply from the head teacher just before the start of the Easter holiday break.

Information in that letter indicated that while the school favoured a crossing in this location they wouldn't want to lose their existing lollie pop person. It was though unclear as to how this person was funded either directly by the County Council or alternatively by volunteers. The Clerk was therefore requested to contact the school again to find out how the crossing person was provided. It was also agreed that while a pedestrian crossing in this location might be feasible it was highly likely that if an application was successful the school may very well lose the physical presence of someone in the road. The implications being that a vehicle was more likely to stop in such circumstances whereby if there was just a crossing then there would be no incentive stop nor for that matter to even slow down.

17/71. The Green at South Green.

Councillor Willingham reported that following a land registry search there were no covenants or agreements in existence in respect of this piece of land, It was therefore agreed that in order to protect the Green from development pressures that an application for this piece of land to be registered with Fields of Trust should be pursued. Councillor Chapman informed the meeting that there was no costs involved in this exercise, but advice from the Field of Trust Charity indicated that the registration form when completed should be checked by a solicitor for which a cost might be forthcoming. Councillor Willingham agreed to ask her previous employer to look at the form when complete on behalf of the Village Council. The Basildon Borough Council would also be contacted to see if permission was required from them to register the Green with the Fields of Trust charity.

17/72. Dates of Next Meetings.

3rd May, 7th June, 5th July, 6th September, 4th October, 8th November, 6th December.

17/73. Close of Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.