



## **BEKESBOURNE-WITH-PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7:30pm  
Bekesbourne Village Hall.

**Minutes to be formally agreed at the next meeting.**

### **1. Those Present**

Parish Cllr David Sladden (Chairman), Parish Cllr Joanne Watt  
Parish Cllr Christine Sladden; Parish Cllr Christine Ash  
Parish Cllr A. Nicholson

Mrs N. Purcell (Clerk/Finance Officer to the council)

There was 1 member of the public present.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Parish Cllr Mary Evans; Parish Cllr Mark Rhodes (Vice Chair); Parish Cllr Caroline Tuffey

### **3. Declarations of councillor interests relevant to this agenda**

Cllrs M.Rhodes and C. Tuffey declared an interest in item 13 as allotment tenants.

### **4. To confirm minutes of the previous meeting (*held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024*)**

**Resolved:** It was proposed by C. Ash and seconded by C. Sladden that the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024 are a TRUE and ACCURATE record.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

### **5. To report any matters arising (*from the previous meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda*)**

None

**The meeting is suspended for up to 15 minutes to allow discussion with members of the electorate of the parish of Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne present at the meeting.**

### **6. Public representation (*notified to the clerk in advance of the meeting, agenda items only*)**

None

**Parish Council meeting resumes**

*The chair moved agenda item 10.4 up the agenda.*

### **10.4 Speedwatch**

Speedwatch Manager Alan Watson attended the meeting and discussed with members present the Speedwatch scheme.

The Kent Speedwatch Scheme empowers local communities to address speeding concerns by allowing trained volunteers to monitor traffic speeds using portable speed detection equipment. The scheme is typically active in areas with speed limits of 20, 30, or 40 mph where speeding poses a risk to safety. Volunteers, working in teams, record the speeds of vehicles and note details such as registration numbers, vehicle types, and times.

The collected data is shared with the police and Kent County Council. Drivers exceeding the speed limit receive advisory warning letters from the police to encourage compliance. Persistent offenders may be targeted for further enforcement action. The program's goals are to raise driver awareness, improve road safety, and provide communities with a proactive role in tackling speeding issues.

## **7. External Reports**

### **7.1 County Councillor Reports**

Apologies received from Cllr Sole.

### **7.2 City Councillor Reports**

Cllr Castle gave the following local updates:

#### **1. Stodmarsh Nature Reserve EA Review**

The Environment Agency (EA) has completed its review of the Stodmarsh Nature Reserve. Following this, the updated catchment map now indicates that areas south of Polo Farm are no longer included in the catchment area.

#### **2. Bin Collection Issues**

There continue to be ongoing reports of missed bin collections. Cllr Sladden highlighted that Hode Lane, in particular, has not had its bins collected for six weeks. Efforts are being made to address these issues with the relevant waste management teams.

## **Parish Council meeting resumes**

### **8. Any s101 Delegated Authority items to be noted by council.-**

None

### **9. Any updates from representatives from external groups (if any)**

#### **9.1 Recreation Ground Management Committee**

The committee have been working hard on the Pavillion and pitch, with sponsorship being obtained toward some of the works.

- **Clubhouse Flooring**

The clubhouse floor has been refurbished, and new flooring has been installed.

- **Toilet Renovations**

The committee is actively working on improving the toilet facilities.

- **Key Issuance**

New keys have been issued to the football teams.

- **Pitch Marking**

Enquiries about pitch marking are ongoing. We need three marked pitches to qualify for FA funding.

- **Movable Goal Posts**

Movable goal posts are being purchased to enhance the facilities.

#### **9.2 Village Hall Management Committee**

See report received in Appendix A.

### 9.3 The River Group

The River is still flowing well. A meeting is scheduled for winter.

### 9.4 KALC

No updates.

### 9.5 A257 Traffic Management Group

No updates.

Cllr Nicholson gave an update that the funding for the extension of St Mary's church, which the Parish Council had previously supported, has been declined.

## 10. Highways Matters

### 10.1 Any updates

Following the resurfacing of Station Road/Bekesbourne Lane, the roundels that were newly painted have not been replaced. I have raised this with our Highways Officer, and this should be rectified soon.

### 10.2 20mph at Patrixbourne

Public engagement material has been drafted.

### 10.3 Any Updates

None.

## 11. Finance Matters

### 11.1 To note August/Sept payment schedule & approve any new payments.

#### August/September Payment Schedule

Payments Made in August/September as per financial regulations.

Date	Type	Payment	Amount
Aug 24	DD	Hugofox	£23.99
August 24	SO	Clerk Salary	As per salary Sheet
September 24	FPO	Ovenden All Works	£870.00

#### Payments Due for Approval:

Recipient	Detail	Amount
N. Purcell	HP Ink reimbursement Sept	£9.99
N. Purcell	Phone bill (Jun-Sept)	£20.00

**Resolved:** it was proposed by J. Watt and seconded by C. Ash to approve the August/September Payment schedule and all new payments.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

### 11.2 To Approve the Q1 Accounts

The Q1 Accounts run from April- June. Receipts and payments for the Lloyds Treasurers Account and Lloyds Bank Instant Access Savings Accounts were circulated to council

prior to the meeting to review. All receipts and payments for each month balanced with the bank statements.

**Resolved:** It was proposed by C.Ash and seconded by J. Watt that council approve the Q1 Accounts.

**Outcome:** all in favour, motion carried.

### **11.3 S106 Funding**

A detailed explanation of the s106 funding and what it can be used on was circulated as part of the agenda pack. Council noted the clerk's recommendations within the report. Next steps would be to involve the community by creating a questionnaire for distribution and liaise with the RGMC.

## **12. Planning**

### **12.1 To Receive Updates on previous consultee responses**

None

### **12.2 To Discuss any new applications**

None

## **13. Allotments**

### **13.1 Any Updates**

The fence has been fixed as agreed.

One long-term plot holder (Plot 5) has given up their tenancy. The tenant from Plot 8 has now swapped to this vacant plot.

The tenants of Plot 10 have expressed a desire to step away from their tenancy. The tenant of Plot 2 has shown interest in acquiring a second plot.

Currently, there is one (new) person on the waiting list for a plot.

**Outcome:** Council agreed that they would prefer tenants not to hold more than one plot.

## **14. Next Meeting Date**

Monday 11th November 2024

***Meeting closed 20:27***

**It was agreed that these minutes are a TRUE and ACCURATE record:**

**Signed.....(Chairperson)**

**Date.....**

### **Appendix A**

#### **Bekesbourne Village Hall Trustee Report – September 2024**

The hall is running well with the usual regular weekly bookings. We have taken on two new hirers. Tiny Talk is a class for baby/infant signing, and will be starting on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024. The Tutor Experience will be starting on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 24. A class to help back to school mums. Our home education class has been extended to include a Creative Writing class.

The Bridge Club decided to stop face to face games due to a lack of members attending. The Club will however continue online, as this is preferred by its members.

The Strawberries and Cream event went well, even though not as well attended as last year, we still managed to raise a good amount. The lack of attendance was thought to be due to other similar events taking part on the same day within the surrounding villages.

Our party bookings have remained steady over the last two months and bookings are starting to increase, as usual for the winter months.

The Coffee mornings remain popular and are doing well. The refill van will no longer be attending due to lack of customers.

BVH are holding a Quiz night on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 24 and bookings are going well, with only a few places now available. We will be once again hosting a pumpkin carving event for the local children and another Craft Fair in November, as well as a Christmas themed coffee morning in December.

BVH's finances remain steady.

**Bekesbourne Village Hall Management Committee.**