



Boughton Aluph & Eastwell
PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 5th May 2021
at 7.15pm (remotely via Zoom).

Present:

Cllr Spencer Phillips (Chairman)

Cllr Doreen Titmuss (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr Laura Atkins

Cllr Ian Brisley

Cllr Adrian Coles

Cllr Jane Hall

Cllr Jenny Li

Cllr Duncan Tennant

In attendance:

Clerk Mrs Rachel Girt, Borough Councillor Larry Krause,

Borough Councillor Winston Michael sent his apologies due to attendance at another meeting.

58/21. Election of Chairman

Resolved: to elect Spencer Phillips as Chairman

59/21. Resolved: to receive the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office at or before the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council

60/21. Election of Vice-chairman

Resolved: to elect Doreen Titmuss as Vice-chairman

61/21. Resolved: to receive the Vice-chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office at or before the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council

62/21. No adjournment for Members of the Public to Address the Meeting was requested.

63/21. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

None notified.

64/21. Declarations of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None declared.

65/21. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 April 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record and approved for later signature.

66/21. Election of Council representatives to committees and external bodies

Resolved: That the following Councillors be elected to the committees

1. Parish Council Finance Committee: Councillors Lee, Titmuss & Phillips
2. Parish Council Planning Committee: Councillors Atkins, Hall, Tennant, Titmuss & Phillips (ex-officio)
3. Kent Association of Local Council Ashford Area Committee: Councillor Coles
4. Boughton Lees Fayre Committee: Councillor Phillips
5. Iron Room Committee: Councillor Phillips

67/21. Appointments to working groups

Resolved: To appoint the following Councillors to working groups.

10.1 Highways Improvement Plan working group: Councillors Coles, Lee, Brisley & Phillips.

68/21 Finance

i. No new payments.

ii. Resolved: to adopt the updated Financial Regulations.

69/21. Planning Applications

i. None notified in the period.

ii Planning applications decided by Ashford Borough Council were noted

21/00507/AS (Permit)

Mole Hill, 250 Sandyhurst Lane, Boughton Aluph, Ashford, Kent, TN25 4PD

Removal of canopy area to the side and outbuilding; erection of part two storey/part single storey side extension

70/21. The 'no-mow' May proposal was discussed, it aims to increase biodiversity by not mowing verges and areas of open space. The idea was supported and ideas for further development of local wildflower areas were proposed.

Resolved: to work with Boughton & Eastwell Cricket Club to leave areas of the Village Green to grow longer and to allocate up to £250 of funding to an appropriate planting scheme as an extension to no-mow May.

Actions: Cllr Coles to speak to the Cricket Club groundsman regarding not mowing areas of Village Green not used for cricket. Clerk to contact Sandyacres Trust to invite them to join in the no-mow scheme. Research on further enhancing areas with planting schemes to be undertaken.

71/21. Correspondence received was noted.

Ashford Borough Council's response to the Government consultation on the NPPF and Model Design Codes has been provided to us (in Cloud server).

72/21. Information Items

- i. The legal challenge to the Government over the interpretation of the existing legislation and the cessation of remote meetings legislation for Local Councils was dismissed and therefore unsuccessful.

The Court has ruled that local authority meetings must be open to the public in a physical sense. References to a meeting being "open to the public" or "held in public" in the Court's view mean the physical attendance by the public. This means that the public can attend in person and councils have to provide such facilities. This should however be provided and managed in line with current restrictions and public health advice.

In practical terms, how to safely conform to all the legislation for the June meeting is being assessed (May having been brought forward to today). The advised course of action from KALC of having a robust scheme of delegation is already in place.

Local authorities are urged to turn their attention to the Local Authority Remote Meetings: Call for Evidence. The Clerk will respond.

- ii. Ashford Borough Council has now considered the contents of the Examiner's Report and have prepared a 'Decision Statement' setting out the actions to be taken in response to the recommendations of the Examiner.

The Decision Statement confirms that the Boughton Aluph and Eastwell Neighbourhood Plan, with modifications, can proceed to referendum.

73/21. Items to be considered for inclusion on future agenda
Future projects

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.