

BOXTED PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2018 AT THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Cllr McLauchlan (Meeting Chair),
Cllr's Collitt, Chapman, Pugh and Banwell. Cllr Damen joined the meeting later at item 18/135
Clerk - Karen Thompson

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Anne Brown (Essex County Councillor (ECC)) and Cllr Christopher Arnold (Ward Councillor for the Northern Gateway at Colchester Borough Councillor (CBC)) were in attendance.

18/0130 Chairman's Welcome

Cllr Damen, the Council Chair was not present at the start of the meeting and the meeting resolved that Cllr McLauchlan would chair the meeting which started at 19:40.

18/0131 Apologies for absence

Cllr's Maxwell and Oxford and had sent his apologies and the Council resolved to accept their apologies. Cllr Parrott was also absent.

18/0132 Declaration of Members Interests - to receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests relating to items on the agenda.

Cllr Chapman confirmed that he would abstain on planning matters as he may have a conflict of interest as a CBC councillor.

18/0133 Public participation session

There were no items to discuss.

18/0134 Minutes of the last meetings of the Council held on 14 November 2018

The minutes were agreed as a true account of the meeting.

18/0135 Planning

To consider commenting on the following planning decision appeal:

Proposal: Replacement of a former B8 storage building with a dwelling (in lieu of Prior Approval for a dwelling subject of application 162211). Resubmission of 171412.

Application No: 180005

DTLR Appeal Ref: APP/A1530/W/18/3209808

Appeal Start Date: 26/11/2018

Location: Poplars, Cage Lane, Boxted, Colchester, CO4 5RT

It was at this point that Cllr Damen joined the meeting.

The council resolved to comment on the appeal to say that the planning application fell outside the Settlement Development Boundary and the adopted Boxted Neighbourhood Plan did not support new housing in the countryside. The footprint for this application was significantly larger than that granted and was not to be encouraged.

18/0136 King George Field – play area and equipment

18/136.1 To receive the play area and equipment report and decide any work or expenditure.

Cllr Collitt confirmed that he had inspected the play areas and there were no visible faults.

18/136.2 To discuss the location of items on the playing field and the usage of the playing field.

It was resolved that this item would be discussed by a temporary working group with membership including:

Cllr's Damen, Collitt, Mclaughlan, Banwell, Chapman and Pugh.

And any recommendations for change to the current use of the playing field and where items are located and also any suggested improvements to the Community Hub building and changing rooms (see item 18/137) would be brought back to a full meeting of the Parish Council.

18/0137 Community Hub & Sports and Social Club

To discuss the changing rooms side of the building and usage.

It was resolved that this item would be included in the terms of reference for the appointed working group established at item 18/136.2.

18/0138 Traffic – Northern Gateway

To discuss any representation required on traffic issues concerning the Northern Gateway.

Cllr's Brown and Arnold were invited to join the discussion for this item.

Cllr Chapman explained that the development of the Northern Gateway was and would further impact on the traffic surrounding Boxted and other local villages. Cllr Chapman, Woods and Arnold explained that improved bridleways/footpaths coverage could provide safe spaces from traffic and that the road improvements would be needed to keep the area safe. In order to progress a campaign for these changes a survey would be required. Boxted confirmed that extended bridleway coverage formed part of the Boxted Neighbourhood Plan and that it fully supported campaigning for changes to ensure the road network was as safe as possible.

Boxted Parish Council resolved to contribute funds to the cost of the required survey.

The Parish Council also resolved to hold any funds from other sources, as ring-fenced funds, for the purpose of contributing to the cost of the survey and future road/bridleway/footpath safety.

Cllr Collitt made the suggestion that one footpath that currently ran through the centre of a field may be a starting point for enhancing the bridleway coverage by suggesting to the land owner that the path could be upgraded to a bridleway and re-routed around the edge of the field and this might be advantageous to the land owner. The Council resolved to approach the land owner with this suggestion.

18/0139 Future Events

To discuss parish council support for a Boxted Gala, a Boxtoberfest, a Boxted bonfire night and next year's Christmas tree event.

The council reflected on the popularity of the recent Christmas Tree Lighting event combined with the Boxted Silver Band Christmas Carols and agreed that to support further parish/community events. The plan for each event would be brought to a full meeting of the parish council before any commitment was made.

18/127.3 To approve the process for authorising Council, Sports and Village Hall payments needed in December 2018. The process proposed is whole Council notification to enable Councillors to query/stop authorisation and two Councillor email approvals for every payment. Audit trail to be included in the hard copy accounts folder. The Chair retains authorisation power for spend up to £1000 in exceptional/short time circumstances.

It was resolved that this would be the process in place to approve bills/invoices until January 2019.

18/0140 Items for the next meeting agenda

To consider items for the next agenda.

The following was requested to be considered at the next meeting.

- Final budget and precept request
- Village Hall hiring fees

18/0141 Meeting Closure & Date of Next Meeting

The meeting closed at 21:15

The next meeting is confirmed as Wednesday 9th January 2019.

Signed by Meeting Chair **on**