

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 4th August 2015 at 8pm.
in Birchanger Village Hall**

Present: Angie Driscoll – Chair (AD)
Elizabeth Godwin (EG)
Maria Davy (MD)
Linda Pocklington (LP)
Matt Zych (MZ)
Alex Stewart (AS)

Ray Gooding (RG) County Councillor
Thom Goddard (TG) District Councillor

Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)
1 member of the public

045. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

046. Apologies and Reason for Absence

Received from:

Sandy Dowle (on holiday)
Michelle Mayz (unwell)
Ken Wheatley (delayed at work)

047. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

048. Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

Members of the public made no representation to the council.

049. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 7th July were proposed by EG and agreed as a true and accurate record, with an amendment to note an apology for absence from Thom Goddard and that the presentation to Bryan Reed would be funded from petty cash, and signed by the Chairman.

050. Recreation Ground Working Group/Allotments – Glebeland

A budget of up to £700 was agreed for purchase of picnic tables.
AS is to obtain an itemised quotation from Dave Debnam for repairs to the recreation ground surface.

051. Finance

- a. **Account Balances** – as previously circulated
- b. **Invoices and Standing Orders** for payment – were approved

052. Noticeboard

A budget of up to £500 was agreed for purchase of a replacement notice board.

AS will get an itemised quotation from Dave Debnam for providing a replacement board. The parish clerk to check on line for ready-made board within the budget figure.

053. Discussion of proposed local plan.

Maps having previously been circulated, EG advised that one of the blue designated areas for potential development is centred over Birchanger. The areas are a response from local landowners to a Call for Sites. It was agreed that the parish clerk is to write to the relevant authority prior to the consultation, which is due to commence in the Autumn, noting the following reasons for objection to the plan;

- Danger of coalescence with neighbouring communities
- Birchanger Lane is virtually a single track in certain areas and could not support the increased traffic
- The development would be next to a county boundary
- The development is within metropolitan green belt
- Pressure on junction 8 of the M11
- The annual resolution of the Parish meeting with regard to any green belt development around the village

054. Closure of meeting

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.45.