

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting  
held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30 pm.  
In Birchanger Village Hall**

**Present:** Angie Driscoll (AD) – Chair  
Sally Taylor (ST)  
Linda Pocklington (LP)  
Peter Sampson (PS)  
George Taylor (GT)  
Keith Edgeworth (KE)

0 members of the public  
Keith Williams (KW) – Parish Clerk

**1160. Chairman’s Welcome**  
The Chairman welcomed all those present.

**1161. Apologies for Absence**

Geof Driscoll (GD)  
District/County Cllr Ray Gooding (RG)

**1162. Declarations of Interest**  
None

**1163. Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.**

None

**1164. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record and were duly signed by the Chair.

**1165. Planning**

**UTT/23/2984-5/CLE – Unit 1 and 2 Duck End**  
Proposal for Office Use and Open Storage Use.

No objections

BPC draft response to the UDC draft Local Plan has been circulated to councillors.

**1166. Traveller’s encampment update**

The hearing at UDC took place on 16<sup>th</sup> November, attended by two members of the Parish Council, three representatives from the Residents Association and District Cllr Nick Church. The final decision will be made by 13<sup>th</sup> December.

**1167. A120/M11 roadworks**

AD has been in contact with Rissa Long of Sisk, who said that there is no point in having a new open day at this juncture, as the plans had not changed.

**[2023/270]**

Alexander Bedford, Senior Project Manager for Sisk, said the traffic lights would not be in operation until May 2024. He would be willing to attend an event in Birchanger to answer questions.

AD had asked Cllr Ray Gooding (RG) if there was any truth in the rumours regarding the planned removal of the Homebase roundabout. RG had no information but would check to see if there are any plans.

**1168. Touchpoint Xmas Kids Appeal donation**

A donation of £250 was agreed.

**1169. Finance**

a. **Account Balances (already circulated).**

**Noted**

b. **Invoices and payments for approval.**

**Approved**

**BIRCHANGER PARISH COUNCIL  
FINANCE AND PAYMENTS SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 2023**

**1. Account Balances b/f 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Unity Trust Bank	<b>26950.36</b>
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**2. Payments due for October 2023**

Ace of Spades	On line	249.60 (grass cutting September 2023)
Npower	DD	161.78 (electricity for September 2023)
NBB Recycled Furniture	Already paid	1518.00 (picnic tables)
Payroo	On line	6.00 (payroll services for September 2023)
Keith Williams	On line	483.70 (salary for October 2023)

**[2023/267]**

HMRC (Keith Williams)	On line	120.80 (PAYE for October 2023)
Keith Williams	On line	20.00 (office rent for October 2023)
TBS Hygiene	On line	142.56 (dog bin emptying October 2023)
A&J Lighting	SO	45.90 (lighting maintenance)
Diocesan Glebeland	On line	90.00 (balance of Glebeland rent)
Birketts	On line	732.00 (legal fees for Glebeland lease)

<u>Total payments for October 2023</u>	<u>3570.34</u>
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<b>Allotment rent</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Account Balance 31/10/2023</b>	<b>23380.02</b>

Notes: The payment to HMRC was made by the parish clerk and is being reimbursed.

**1170. Allotments/Recreation Ground**

**Allotments**

LP has arranged a meeting with Rissa Long of Sisk on 11<sup>th</sup> December to see what undertakings Sisk would be prepared to make for various Village projects, including clearing the allotments and footpaths.

**[2023/271]**

**1171. Reports from County and District Councillors**

**County Councillor Ray Gooding (RG) (in his absence)**

The drains at the bottom of Birchanger Lane have been cleared. The manhole in the middle of the B1383 near the junction with Birchanger Lane will be attended to by Thames Water and will require closure of the road.

**1172. Parish Clerk's annual salary increase**

Details of the agreed new pay schedules had been circulated by GT and the pay increase for the Parish Clerk was approved.

**1173. Closure of meeting**

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.27.

**[2023/272]**