MINUTES OF THE BORDEN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 16TH MAY 2024 at 18:30

1. **CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**
   Cllr Jeremy Bolas as Chair Welcomed attendees to the Borden Annual Parish Meeting.

2. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
   The Chair read out his annual report **(Appx 1)**

3. **PCSO**
   The PCSO's report was read out **(Appx 2)**
   The Police representative in attendance gave information on My Community Voice. This is a messaging service that helps residents, businesses, and community groups keep in touch with their local policing teams. The service sends updates about your local area directly from the police officers themselves about information to the area where you live, you can also report back via that email directly to the local Officer about things that you have seen or concerns that you have.

4. **ANNUAL REPORTS FROM SWALE AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR.**
   County and Borough Cllr Baldock confirmed that he continues to report to the Full Council each month.
   Borough Cllr Cavanagh was unable to attend.

5. **BORDEN WI**
   The President of the WI gave an update and advised that they meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2.15 – 4.15 at the Parish Hall. They have a variety program of speakers, activities, and craft groups, including some of the following on this year's programme;-
   - The music & mirth of Harry Seacomb
   - Picnic in the Park in July
   - Golder days of variety in October – their 75th anniversary
   - Wandering in Flanders in November
   - Christmas afternoon with tea & games
   - Next year colour me confident
   - Card Making

   They are also involved in other things as part of the national WI.
   They welcome visitors and the membership fee is £48, with application forms available from the Treasurer.

6. **BORDEN UNITED CHARITIES (Appx 3)**
   An update on the Charities history was given and applications for grants are available for education, the needy, and Christmas at bordenunitedcharities@gmail.com.

7. **BORDEN PARISH HALL TRUSTEES (Appx 4)**
   An update was given which included;
   - The toilet refurbishment has been completed
   - There is a project to replace the chairs in the Barrow room, then all the chairs in the hall.

- The new booking system has been trialed and will come to fruition after the AGM.

Thanks were given to the Parish Hall committee and all those who have supported during the year.

8. BORDEN HERITAGE GROUP

The Heritage Chair read out their annual report **(Appx 5)**

An update was given including how from various walks, the 2 information boards were put in place.

There is a book for sale for £7.99

9. THE BARROW TRUST (Appx 6)

A report was sent before the meeting.

10. BORDEN SPORTS ASSOCIATION REPORT (Appx 7)

A report has been shared and the success of the football team was praised.

11. PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS

Details were taken of people who wished to be set up on My Community Voice.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2024

The Council has had a busy and constructive year.

I would like to thank: Teresa for her thorough and informed work, Nicola for her support as Vice-chair and representing us at the Western area Committee and all of you who have helped with ideas and actions over the last few years. I would also like to particularly thank our Borough Councillors and Community Police for their interest and attendance, the impetus of Clive on the convenience project, Nigel Sands who has freely offered his advice on the same project, the WLMG who are doing their best to keep us informed of progress on the new estate, the nature reserve volunteers for their continued input helping to support Borden's wildlife and biodiversity and everyone who helps to maintain parish community life and facilities.

We have seen some valued councillors leave and welcomed new members, who will bring new experience and a new perspective. To maintain a full or nearly full complement of Councillors is quite unusual at the moment and I appreciate the interest that so many parishioners show in contributing to our work.

The coming year is on track to see the Playstool equipment refurbished, the new convenience installed, the highway actions to improve safety put in place by us and KCC and hopefully the lease on the Nature Reserve renewed. Challenges will include ensuring, as far as possible, that development at Wises Lane and elsewhere respects our wish to minimise any adverse impacts on residents, roads and nature and that we continue to provide a good service within limited budgets.

The Council is in a secure financial position and the auditors content that we are compliant with requirements. Everything is however becoming more expensive and this will be monitored closely by the Clerk and Finance Committee. At some point soon, however, we will need to review again our ambitions against money available through precept and grants. Your input into our future priorities is always welcome.

To conclude, I would like to reiterate my thanks to all Councillors for their time and assistance and our parishioners for their constructive opinions, leadership, and support in running events and facilities.

Jeremy Bolas. Chair.

PS Chase Report May 2024 Annual Parish Meeting

Please find below as an update for Borden's Annual Parish meeting.

I had made a request to our traffic summons team regarding the number of deployments of speed camera vans however they are yet to respond. Following concerns raised at several locations within Borden Parish we have conducted numerous speed checks resulting in traffic offence reports being produced and words of advice being passed to those who fall foul of the speed restrictions. We will continue to work with residents to tackle these issues and encourage any information they may have of problem locations.

As you will be aware in June 2023 Kent Police went live with the new Neighbourhood Policing Model, I am pleased to say that our resources are now looking healthier and we will be at capacity by the end of September. Over the past couple of months we have welcomed 7 new officers to the team and have 1 impending at the end of May. There will be further officers arriving up until the end of September 2024 which will see the wards ownership dispersed amongst the staff and workload eased. This effectively means greater visibility of officers within Wards as the workload is shared. This will in turn lead to regular surgeries within the parish to hear the concerns of residents.

Swale's Child Centred Policing Team is now up and running. Child Centred Policing is a holistic approach to ensure every interaction the police have with a child or young person is an opportunity to engage, teach, listen and safeguard.

We continue to use My Community Voice (MCV) to engage with communities and would urge anyone not already signed up to do so. The PCSOs in attendance are great at sorting this so feel free to ask them. I recently sent a survey out canvassing members of the issues they perceive in their local area. This allows me to direct the Beat officers to common themes at certain locations meaning a bespoke service for our communities. As what is of concern to Borden's residents may not be on the radar of those that live elsewhere in Swale.

Borden United Charities

(Registered Charity No: 235130)

Borden United Charities is an amalgamation of five different donors within the ancient Parish of Borden and registered as an official charity with the Charity Commission since 5 May 1931.

Giving monetary grants to aid the elderly, sick infirmed and other persons in financial difficulties (both young and old) from the Parish of Borden, subject to the Trustees approval, it aims to help those in need.

Details regarding the Charity can be found on the Charity Commission website

Applications for grants should be made to bordenunitedcharities@gmail.com or

The Clerk 53 Springvale, Iwade. Sittingbourne ME98RX

BORDEN PARISH HALL ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024

The Hall occupancy has increased more than last year, and as a result income is at a reasonably high level to fund future projects.

The toilet refurbishment has been completed with the upgrade to all the toilets. This has improved the hall facilities which I am sure has led to an increase in lets and higher viewing levels.

A project to replace the chairs in the Barrow Room is underway.

Replacement of all the chairs is being considered and the type of chair is being carefully looked at due to the variety of uses the chairs are put to.

A new booking system is being trialed which will give access to all committee members so that there is a backup in place.

Thanks go to the Hall Committee and those who have supported the hall during the year.

John Hepburn - Chairman Borden Parish Hall

BHG Borden Heritage Group was originally an idea born from a discussion of Borden Parish Council members and was established as an independent group in July 2010 to ensure that Borden's history, its characters and events that have formed today's community are not forgotten and are available to all.
Our ongoing work includes encouraging the whole community to become involved, recording memories and interviews from our past and current residents, and creating an archive of historical documents and memorabilia. We welcome membership from supporters throughout the UK and beyond.

We meet in the Parish hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 10.30am unless otherwise notified and our membership fee has stayed at £5.

Our new website is now up and running and our records are gradually being added, we thank our archivist John Hepburn for the time that he gives to this project. We are always seeking new information for our records and welcome our local community and those who have moved away to take a look at bordenheritage.co.uk

In the past year we have gained many new members and our programme of events has included a fundraiser quiz, local visits and many local speakers and local subjects as well as some from other parts of the country. Our 2024 programme is published in the Parish Magazine, on notice boards in the Forge and the Parish hall.

Our 2025 programme is currently being put together and ideas for speakers, activities and future projects are welcome.

Eileen Harrison
Borden Heritage Group Chairman

Tel: 01795 470556
Fax: 01795 470769
www.thewilliambarrowscharity.org.uk
A Registered Charity No. 1172933

43 Park Road
Sittingbourne
Kent ME10 1DY

Date: 29 April 2024

Clerk to Borden Parish Council

Dear Teresa

Re: Borden Annual Parish Meeting

Further to our exchange of emails of Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, I spoke with the Trustees of the William Barrow's Charity and as much as they very much appreciate the invitation to attend the annual parish meeting at 6.30pm at The Pavilion, Wises Lane unfortunately neither myself nor any of the Trustees are available to attend. However, I would be extremely grateful if you could please present to any parishioners or interested parties present at the meeting the following background which they might find interesting and helpful.

The Objects of the William Barrow's Charity (Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Charity No. 1172933)) are as follows:-

1. The relief of persons, in particular but not exclusively, resident in the parochial parish of Borden who are in need, hardship or distress, in particular those aged 60 years or more, by:
   a. Making of grants of money to them; or
   b. Providing or paying for goods, services or facilities for them; or
   c. Making grants of money to other persons or bodies who provide goods, services or facilities to those in need.

2. To advance the education of persons under the age of 25 who are in need of financial assistance and are resident in the parochial parish of Borden; by:
   a. Offering support to local schools that is not provided by statutory authorities; and
   b. Awarding scholarships, bursaries and similar awards to those going into tertiary education.

Currently the Charity has 9 co-opted Trustees and an ex-officio Trustee being the vicar of the parochial parish.

I, through the offices of George Webb Finn, 43 Park Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1DY, act as Agent, Clerk and Receiver on behalf of the Trustees of the Charity.

Anyone who considers they are eligible under the Objects of the Scheme should contact me either by email; stuart@georgewebbfinn.com or telephone; 01795 470556.

In the Charity's last financial year ended 31 December 2023, grants were made to 13 parishioners, together with 4 disabled and 2 hardship beneficiaries.

Financial assistance was also provided to the Parochial Church Council for Borden; St Peter and St Paul for their use of The Forge to provide community facilities benefiting the residents of the parochial parish of Borden. Financial assistance was also provided to Borden Fete Committee.

Grants were made to 24 students attending College and University to assist with living expenses and further grants were made to Borden Church of England Primary School and Borden Grammar School.

Within the last year a member of the parish council has joined the Trustees for lunch to discuss matters relevant to the parish. The Charity also has a website on which further information can be obtained and further information can be obtained on looking at the Charity Commission website.

I hope this is of interest and if I can be of assistance to anyone within the parish, please ask that they contact me on the contact details provided above.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Mair
Clerk to the Trustees

Borden Sports Association

Annual Report May 2024

Borden Sports Association hosts both village football and cricket teams whom play at the Playstool sports field through their respective seasons.

Firstly, the continued selfless commitment of the small team of volunteers forming the sports committee must be recognised within this annual report. Roger Pudner, Kevin Smith, David Roche and Knocker Williams devote their free time to the running of this excellent facility. A special recognition is extended to Roger and Kevin who work tirelessly each week on the pavilion infrastructure and sports field ensuring the playing pitches are at the high standard required for their respective matches. Without the commitment of these gentlemen a sports programme at Borden would not be possible.

The men's football team have just finished third place in the Kent County League Premier Division title race. This complemented their league title winners position last year which was the highest position the club has held in the entire history of Borden Village Football Club. The entire squad played some thrilling games managed by Conner Twomey and Matt Rowe's stalwart dedication and managerial direction.

Full details of the coming season adult matches, once scheduled will be found on the website: - https://www.bordenvillagefc.co.uk/

The youth team played in the Medway District Youth League. They had a successful season reaching the cup semi-final in the under nines section. Managed by Sam Stone they play Sundays during the football season on the smaller Playstool pitch.

The Sunday league cricket side had an excellent hard fought season witnessing them ending 9th in the Kent Village League 2 table following last years promotion from league 3. This league is a challenging competition and Borden continues to strive in this more demanding arena. Kevin Smith's stalwart work in promoting and facilitating this sport is to be acknowledged.

The Saturday side continued with friendly matches and it is hoped that enough players will come forward to form a more competitive regular team able to compete in a cricket league this coming season.

The cricket statistics & club information particularly for new interested players can be viewed at www.borden.play-cricket.com

The 'Knit and Natter' group continue to enjoy the use of the pavilion facilities for their regular gatherings soaking up the countryside view during their Friday meets.

Other regular users of the pavilion and grounds include the ladies football team training during the week and playing the occasional match, the Wises Lane Liaison Group, the D-Day celebration committee, the Highways Group, and in particular the regular Fete Committee meetings who also use the pavilion and Playstool for the annual summer fete and Christmas Tree switch on festival both of which are led by Beverly Ward and her committee providing a fantastic boost to local morale.

The Parish Council is to be thanked for their continued support which is much appreciated.

Within this year the hot water tanks which supply the showers have been replaced to ensure an efficient working supply of hot water for players post games. At the same time the opportunity was also taken to install a cost saving kitchen water heating system for the benefit of the numerous users taking advantage of the kitchen asset.

The three main switches, one in each changing room and one in the kitchen that operate the hot water tank were replace with the support of a grant from the Queenborough Fisheries Trust. The switches were replaced with push button time operated controls. This will alleviate the anxiety of a scenario involving a switch being left on until discovered at the next pavilion use and is a utilities cost saving which also reduces our environmental carbon footprint.

The disabled toilet alarm system has also been renewed into working order.

The complete internal fabric of the pavilion has been refurbished during the year with a like for like décor of white and magnolia.

With the kind assistance of a National Lottery Community Fund Grant the complete floor area in the main room, kitchen, ladies and gents toilets has been renewed with a hard wearing Altro Walkway flooring. The grant also provides for continued maintenance of this area over the foreseeable future.

It is worthy of note that both the football and cricket sport committees receive regular comments on the high standard of the pavilion and sports-field facility that Borden is proud to offer. This excellent amenity is part reason for our sports successes where players feel privileged to be associated with such a recognised high standard pavilion and sports ground.

Finally, the committee continue to be fully committed to maintaining this excellent parish sports facility and with the continued grateful assistance of the Parish Council the future appears extremely positive.

Clive Sims
Chairman
Borden Sports Association