

**Minutes of a meeting between Trenport Investments Limited and
representatives from east bank councils on Wednesday 14 May at 6.00 p.m. at
Burham Parish Office**

In attendance:

TMBC Ward Cllrs. Roger Dalton (Cllr RD) and Dave Davis (Cllr DD)

Wouldham Parish Council: Cllr Richard Stone (Cllr RS) and Sarah Eggesden, Clerk

Burham Parish Council: (Cllr Roger Dalton) and Cllr Bill Stead (Cllr BS)

Aylesford Parish Council: Cllr Roger Gledhill (Cllr RG) and Neil Harris, Clerk

Trenport Investments Ltd. (TIL): Chris Hall (CDH), Nick Jackson (NBJ), Shirley Boards (SAB) and Steve Loader

BAM Nuttall (BAMN): Dave Collins (DC), Operations Manager

1. Introductions:

Cllr RD agreed to chair the meeting with SAB taking the Minutes. Attendees introduced themselves and explained their positions/roles.

CDH: as responsible for TIL planning and development on PV to date, he will no longer be leading the project. With commencement of the Peters Village (PV) project this month, the role will now be undertaken by NBJ, as TIL Construction Director. BAMN was appointed this month as principal contractor for the project's primary infrastructure.

DC: informed Members that Terry Crittenden will be Project Director and Rex Burgess will be Project Manager. Adele Dobson will be the Environmental Engineer on site and Julie Jenkins will be the Office Manager.

2. Apologies for absence:

Pam Saunders, Burham Parish Council. Terry Crittenden and Rex Burgess, BAM Nuttall

3. Newsletter/future communications (including day-to-day enquiries):

CDH: launch communications are underway and include the distribution of newsletters to homes and businesses in Wouldham, Burham and Eccles and to various outlets both sides of the river. Future newsletters will be issued as and when there is news to communicate. The website will be updated at minimum monthly intervals and include more detailed timetables, six-weekly forecasts, rolling news and images.

Helpline: SAB: will continue to run the Helpline until BAMN's site offices/phone lines are up and running. Day-to-day liaison with local councils will continue to be direct with her. **DC:** thereafter BAMN will operate a dedicated Helpline service, log all calls and responses and submit the information to TIL on a weekly basis. Any non-PV construction related enquiries received by BAMN will be referred to SAB. SAB will continue to be the contact during the construction period for any none PV construction issues. The BAMN helpline number will be listed on the project website in due course.

Cllr DD: stated that as the villages' elected representatives, Members act in the interests of residents and are keen to see smooth communications and continue the good working relationship with TIL and in future, with BAMN. CDH confirmed that TIL would continue to engage solely with the elected representatives of the local communities.

DC: BAMN's policy is to actively engage with residents and the company is keen to support community initiatives. The company plans to be on site within the next two to three weeks, is putting the design and build team in place and drawing up health and safety procedures.

4. Programme/general update:

NBJ: the site compound/offices will be located on land allocated for PV's playing fields. The current works, which started this week, comprise ecological and archaeological investigations in advance of construction.

Cllr RD: how does BAMN intend bringing vehicles and plant onto the development site and will BAMN give assurance that no construction traffic will use Wouldham High Street?

Cllr RS: a key concern to villagers is that the High Street is not used by construction traffic.

DC: all plant will enter via the existing and then the realigned Court Road until the bridge is open after which this will be the route. Site workers travelling to work in cars will travel to the site dependent upon where they live. BAMN is producing a detailed traffic management plan which will cover all these concerns and should be available within the next two weeks. The plan will be circulated to councillors.

CDH: as soon as the southern roads improvements are completed everyone will benefit from better roads.

Cllr DD: what is BAMN's remit?

NBJ: BAMN is contracted for the two year programme to build the new bridge and roads and all highway improvements. Work will also include site decontamination, rebuilding and strengthening of the river wall, on site cut and fill. All of the fill material for the bridge embankments will be sourced from the pit. The intention is to keep heavy vehicle movements to a minimum. The remediation strategy has been designed to minimise the amount of material exported from the site.

Cllr RD: ANL operates a voluntary speed restriction code of 25mph along the residential section of Court Road. Vehicles abusing this code have been dismissed. Will BAMN adopt this code?

DC: there should be no problem with adopting the same code along this section and BAMN will install warning signs and monitor traffic speeds.

CDH: realignment of Court Road and southern roads improvements are scheduled for completion in June 2015. TIL will keep Court Road residents informed of key progress and dates relating to the opening of the realignment when this detail is available.

Cllr RD: is the realignment and opening of the new Court Road section high on TIL's agenda?

CDH: this work is top priority and is scheduled to start as soon as main construction commences.

DC: do Burham councillors recall any problems when gas mains were installed at Court Road? The realignment works will be less disruptive than these works.

Cllr BS: there were no issues that he could recall from these works.

Cllr RG: The Bull Lane/Rochester Road junction can be very dangerous when heavy lorries are using this route, often travelling at high speeds. He is keen to see speed restrictions to address residents' concerns and safety.

DC: BAMN will include this section of road in the traffic management plan and all drivers not adhering to speed restrictions will be penalised.

Cllr DD/Cllr RD: both councillors raised concerns over speeds on Rochester Road and advised that they are campaigning and in consultation with Kent Highways and Kent Police with the aim to reduce speeds along this route, including the dual carriageway, from 60 to 40mph with a further future reduction to 30 mph.

Cllr BS: residents are concerned about the removal of Court Road trees at '17 Elms' and that this contravenes TPOs.

CDH: the removal of any TPO trees has been undertaken with the full knowledge and approval of TMBC under the terms of the approved Reserved Matters, such approvals effectively "trump" TPOs. The PV scheme's very detailed landscape strategy includes extensive hedgerow planting which will be interspersed with trees. CDH is happy to supply landscaping drawings if requested.

Cllr RD: confirmed that in the particular case of '17 Elms', Reserved Matters included the moving of a bridle way to create new PROW which would be of benefit to all local users, not just horse riders.

Cllr RD: Members appreciate that problems once construction starts will be inevitable but they are confident that these will be resolved.

5. Any other business:

CDH: the Wouldham Parish-owned street light has been removed from the construction site and is in safe keeping for delivery or collection when required.

The demolition of the houses in Hall Road will be undertaken later this week or next, now that the bat surveys are almost complete and a licence has been granted by Natural England.

Cllr DD: he understands that there has been vandalism in the area. Local councillors are working with community partnerships to reduce anti social behaviour. He asked TIL to report ASB issues around the development site or on its landholdings to the parish councils.

CDH: confirmed that despite the installation of strong locked gates, these were cut through and there had been extensive vandalism and theft at the Hall Road cottages, including the theft of a section of a Kent peg tile roof. 24/7 security was subsequently set up on site. SAB reports all incidents to the police and will continue to advise local councils of ASB incidents.

Cllr RG: in the past residents have reported the loss of nightingales near the development site. This is incorrect as he often hears them singing at night.

Cllr RD: Burham Parish Council has a successful working relationship with ANL and holds quarterly meetings where any problems can be aired. The three villages would welcome the same opportunity with TIL/BAMN.

CDH: in principle TIL is happy for regular meetings to be arranged as appropriate when there are matters that councillors wish to discuss face-to-face.

The meeting concluded at 7.15 p.m.

