

DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 14 September 2021
Waller Park Pavilion, Wood Lane, Darenth, Kent DA2 7RL

Councillor's Present: D Carey (Vice Chairman), I Gutteridge, T Hicks, T Prentice, D Risely, Y Seymour, S Watson-Holmes and N Weavis (Chairman).

In Attendance: E Mote, Parish Clerk

Visitors: Councillor J Kite, PCSO Midford and three members of the public.

There were two questions from the public:

- 1. Could the Green Street Green Road roundabout, at the junction with Trolling Down Hill and Gore Road, be cut-back and cleaned?*
- 2. Could the northern end of Green Street Green Road have weeds removed, litter cleared, and the road swept?*

With the Chairman's permission, the Clerk would report these matters to the relevant authorities.

52/09/21: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cook and Borough Councillor Kelly.

53/09/21: TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

None received.

54/09/21: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 JULY 2021

RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 21 July 2021 as a true record.

At the Chairman's discretion, the next item was brought forward on the Agenda:

58/09/21: TO DISCUSS NON-MAINTAINED HIGHWAY OFF B260 AT JUNCTION WITH SANDBANKS HILL

With these roads being under the ownership of the Parish Council, it was concluded that they are a matter for the Council to determine their designation. The KCC Councillor for Dartford Rural Ward informed the meeting that, with the lack of homes in the vicinity, the current description is a private street and therefore cannot be closed to the public.

No conclusion was determined.

55/09/21: MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting.

56/09/21: URGENT MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman reported that gutters and drainpipes at Waller Park Pavilion were in a poor state of repair due to their age. The Clerk will source quotes for the necessary work and report to Members at a later date.

57/09/21: TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, EXTERNAL AUTHORITIES AND AGENCIES

(a) Darenth Parish Council's Community & Facilities Committee

Councillors Hicks and Prentice had met with the tree specialist who would be providing updated quotes for planting in respect of the 2020 Tree Project. Any revised costings will remain within the grant budget of £5,168 and include tree purchase, planting and watering plan. Trees are to be planted on Green Street Green, to the west of Shellbank Lane with funding from our KCC Councillor's Combined Member Funding Grant. Councillor Hicks confirmed that consideration had been given to external factors such as mowing, meadow planting and the annual circus, when considering the location.

Councillor Hicks reported that details had been received in respect of the Queen's Green Canopy (QGC), a forthcoming tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. This invites people from across the UK to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'. Members agreed to discuss this project once more details are received.

(b) Councillor J Kite, Kent County Councillor for Dartford Rural Ward

Councillor Kite provided a verbal report including: The KCC Consultation on future booking for visits to Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres and the KCC Public Budget Consultation for 2022-23.

Councillor Kite also kindly provided the meeting with the following information from Dartford Borough Council: Waste bin collections and street cleansing were a particular problem currently due to a shortage of HGV drivers. The Borough Council aims to prioritise household, recycling and garden waste collections and will be looking at a possible reduction for these services in 2022-23; Grant funding of up to £250 is currently available for projects that improve the local environment; The Father Christmas 2021 Tour would be returning to the Borough and Parishes.

(c) Councillor M Kelly, Dartford Borough Councillor for Darenth

Members had previously received a written report from Councillor Kelly, including: Organisation of a litter pick for October/November (Councillors and residents welcome); All markets are up and running; The Orchard Theatre is open; Dartford Park Bandstand's last performance will be on Sunday 26th September 2021.

(d) Darenth Neighbourhood Policing Team

PCSO Midford had provided a written report to Council Members which the Clerk had distributed and uploaded to the Parish website. PCSO Midford also informed Members that the recent Community Engagement exercise at Waller Park had been very successful. PCSO Midford assured the meeting that patrols of Waller Park are made at every opportunity.

RESOLVED: To note external reports.

58/09/21: TO DISCUSS NON-MAINTAINED HIGHWAY OFF B260 AT JUNCTION WITH SANDBANKS HILL

This item had been moved to earlier in the Agenda at the Chairman's discretion.

59/09/21: FINANCE

(a) To agree Financial Statement as at 30 July 2021 and 31 August 2021

RESOLVED: That Members agreed the Financial Statements as presented.

(b) To approve Streetlights work to Parish owned streetlamps

Consideration was given to a report from the Parish Council's contractor that, due to its age, the concrete column in Gore Road (29) should be removed. This is the final remaining concrete post which serves no purpose as the whole area is illuminated by the new Kent County Council lights.

RESOLVED: To instruct the contractor to remove the disused post.

- (c) **To consider purchase of Mindray C1A Defibrillator for use at Waller Park Pavilion**
Members appreciated the need for a defibrillator at Waller Park as it is primarily used for sports all year round and regularly in use by members of the public. The location would need to be considered carefully prior to installation. Councillor Carey proposed approval of the purchase, and this was seconded by Councillor Hicks.

RESOLVED: To purchase a Mindray C1A Defibrillator for use at Waller Park Pavilion with appropriate siting to be determined.

- (d) **To consider additional operational inspections at Waller Park playground**
Following the Annual Playground Inspection Report on 29 January 2021, Members were asked to consider increasing visits to ensure the safety of ageing equipment used regularly by the public.

A full annual inspection determines the level of safety of the overall site, including play equipment; foundations; surfacing etc, along with compliance with EN standards. Operational inspections will check for excessive wear, structural strength, missing parts, and fixings etc.

Ralt Leisure Ltd, the current contractor, carry out annual inspections each January at a cost of £284.40. The proposed cost for a full year (1 x annual inspection and 3 x operational inspections) would be £657.00.

Members proposed one annual inspection only and intend providing the Grounds and Facilities Warden with appropriate training.

RESOLVED: To continue with one annual playground inspection rather than increase to quarterly investigations.

60/09/21: TO APPROVE POLICY FOR NEWLY INSTALLED CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION EQUIPMENT AT WALLER PARK PAVILION

Following the extensive upgrade of closed-circuit television equipment at Waller Park Pavilion and grounds, Members considered the approval and adoption of a CCTV Policy and associated documentation. Councillor Hicks proposed to approve and adopt the policy, and this was seconded by Councillor Seymour.

RESOLVED: To approve and adopt the CCTV Policy and associated documentation for compliance and Data Protection purposes.

61/09/21: PLANNING

- (a) **To consider new applications**

Members noted the details as presented:

DA/21/01369/FUL - 61 Darenth Park Avenue Darenth Kent DA2 6LX

Erection of a single storey rear extension

Observation: Members noted the application

- (b) **To note applications received during the summer recess**

Members noted the details as presented:

DA/21/01168/TPO - 24 The Green Darenth Kent DA2 6JS

Application for Sycamore (T1) - reduce crown height by 2m and radius by 1.5m, thin by 30% (estimated finished dimensions is approx. 10m and finished spread of approx. 6m) and Lime (T2) - Pollard (see annotated photo) subject to Tree Preservation Order No.1 1995

Observation: Members noted the application

DA/21/01003/FUL - Darent Valley Hospital Darenth Wood Road Darenth Kent DA2 8DA

Erection of a new 18 bed modular isolation ward building with associated mechanical plant, bin store and access ramp. As well as the demolition of an existing bungalow building and reconfiguration of pedestrian and vehicular access arrangements, car parks and refuse storage area within the site.

Observation: Members noted the application

DA/21/01147/FUL - 72 Watchgate Darenth Kent DA2 7JY

Installation of 3 No. external condenser units to serve commercial unit.

DA/21/01150/FUL - 72 Watchgate Darenth Kent DA2 7JY

Demolition of existing 'car port' style roof to side of building and erection of a single storey roof with timber screen and door to front and rear.

Observation: Members noted the application

DA/21/01243/COU - 72 Watchgate Darenth Kent DA2 7JY

Change of use from existing use Class Sui generis (Betting office) to proposed use class E (Shop) (retrospective application)

Observation: Members noted the application

DA/21/01265/FUL - 5 St Margarets Close Darenth Kent DA2 6JW

Erection of a single storey front/side extension

Observation: Members noted the application

(c) To note recent decisions made by the Planning Authority

Members noted decisions as presented:

DA/20/00837/FUL - Braeside Roman Villa Road Darenth Kent

Erection of detached outbuilding (alternative to that deemed lawful under reference 13/00094/LDC)

Decision: REFUSED TO PERMIT

DA/21/00365/FUL - Land Between 96 And 119 Ladywood Road Darenth Kent

Erection of a 1.8m palisade fence and RADAR gate along the northern and eastern end of Ladywood Road (retrospective application)(revisions to previously approved planning permission DA/20/00765/VCON)

Decision: PERMISSION GRANTED

DA/21/00496/FUL - 190 Coombfield Drive Darenth Kent DA2 7LH

Erection of a part two/part single storey rear extension, extension of existing rear dormer window and conversion of garage into habitable room with associated alterations to front elevation

Decision: PERMISSION GRANTED

DA/21/00553/FUL - The Manse Green Street Green Road Dartford Kent

Erection of a single storey side/rear extension

Decision: PERMISSION GRANTED

DA/21/00845/FUL - 31 Coombfield Drive Darenth Kent DA2 7LE

Demolition of existing rear conservatory, erection of a single storey rear extension and a part garage conversion

Decision: PERMISSION GRANTED

DA/21/00966/P3Q - Downs Farm Green Street Green Road Dartford Kent DA2 6NR

Application under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 as to whether prior approval is required for change of use and conversion of existing barn from agricultural building to provide a single residential dwelling with associated alterations to elevations. As well as associated parking provision

Decision: PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED AND APPROVED

DA/21/00746/FUL - Pheasants Field St Margarets Road Darenth Kent

Demolition of existing stable block and erection of a stable block and barn store with associated hardstanding area

Decision: PERMISSION GRANTED

DA/21/00474/TPO - 19 The Green Darenth DA2 6JS

Application for (T2) Lime: fell to ground level subject to Tree Preservation Order No.1 1995

Decision: CONSENT REFUSED

DA/21/00940/FUL - 186 Coombfield Drive Darenth DA2 7LH

Erection of a first-floor side/rear extension

Decision: APPLICATION PERMITTED

DA/21/01072/TPO - Adjacent 35 The Green, North Of Recreation Ground Darenth Kent

Application for T1, T2 & T3 (Sycamore Trees) to be reduced by 2.5m, cutting back overhanging branches to the boundary fence (intended finished dimensions for all three height of 12.5m approx. and a width of 7.5m approx.) subject to Tree Preservation Order No.1 1995

Decision: CONSENT GRANTED

(d) To consider new applications/recent decisions received after agenda publication

Members noted the details as presented:

21/01406/TPO - Adjacent 1 Darenth Park Avenue Darenth Kent DA2 6JN

Application for Lime tree (T1) - Re pollard to previous pruning points and cut back to leave a clearance from the building by 3m subject to Tree Preservation Order No.1 1995

Observation: The Parish Council had no objection to the application

62/09/21: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted the proposed date for the next meeting of the Council would be Wednesday 20 October 2021.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(Chairman)