

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Doddington Village Hall on Monday 13 February 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Kevin Attwood (Chairman), Cllr Philip Haynes (Vice Chairman), Cllr Steve Coates, Cllr Graham Cuthbert, Cllr Peter Duckworth and Cllr Kevin Fraser; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present were KCCllr Andrew Bowles, Community Warden Dave Osborne and one member of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr Attwood welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Colin Jones (holiday); apology accepted.

Apologies had also been received from SBCllr Colin Prescott; apology noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Attwood declared a pecuniary interest in item 10 (i) as landowner.

3. To Determine whether any items should be discussed in closed session

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that item 18. Staff Pension should be held in closed session.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 January 2017

Councillors considered the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Attwood.

5. Matters Arising

- Battle's Over 2018 Commemoration: Mr Oldfield has agreed to have a beacon in the park on the hill between Doddington and Newnham.
- Mud on Road: The owner of the woodyard will, as soon as conditions permit, build a bund of chalk across the exit from the field, where the barrier currently is. This will prevent anyone from driving out of the exit and will also stop any water or mud running from the field. When the ground is dry in the spring the drainage near the road in the corner of the field which has proved inadequate will be rearranged.
- Clerk's review: Cllr Attwood said the Clerk's next review is in March and that Cllr Jones had the paperwork so it would be appropriate for Cllr Jones to carry out the appraisal.
ACTION: Cllr Attwood to inform Cllr Jones he will carry out the appraisal.

6. Community Warden Report

Dave Osborne reported there have no issues in Doddington. In Ashford, there have been doorstep callers posing as workers from Dyno-Rod claiming that work has been carried out and that they need to check your water pressure. This is false and is an attempt to gain access to property. Residents need to be aware that after inclement weather there is often an increase in people knocking on doors to fix loose tiles so caution needs to be exercised.
ACTION: Details of scams to be included in Newsletter.

Cllr Attwood thanked Mr Osborne for his report and for attending the meeting.

7. Neighbourhood Watch

Mrs Jackson, the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator submitted the following report:

The only incident reported to me in January was via a local member, who had received a message from The George in Newnham where young men had been intercepted on the roof of the kitchen on 17 January. Unfortunately, they weren't caught, and it appeared they may have investigated neighbouring properties.

This didn't reach me via the police website, so may not have been reported through official channels. A message was posted on the local Doddington Facebook page. I have recommended this to the local Neighbourhood Watch group as it is a useful resource for information.

We have been notified of fraudulent cold callers posing as Dyno Rod workers, and that charities no longer permit cold calling.

There has been no response from Newnham Parish Council about linking with the Doddington NHW, but I shall suggest that my details can be posted on the local notice board in case residents would like to join the list.

Cllr Attwood thanked Mrs Jackson for her report.

8. Public Question Time

No matters were raised.

9. ENVIRONMENT

Environment Agency flood map

Ms Kathy Friend, a resident of West End Cottages raised concern about the Environment Agency flood map which shows that the road through Doddington to Newnham is an area of high risk of flooding. Recently, the sale of a house in West End Cottages fell through because of this information, although it has since been sold. The data on the Environment Agency website site is misleading and the risk is much lower than might be assumed from the map. The Environment Agency has been contacted but KCC is the Flooding Authority and it is their responsibility. Ms Friend said the Environment Agency document which she has obtained states the map has been produced to be consistent across the country and that it is not very accurate locally which is a specialist subject. The data is not valid in rural areas and there should be a legend on the information stating the maps are not accurate for individual properties. In 2013, KCC had to put a flood risk management plan in place and state this is a low risk area, there is disparity between KCC and the Environment Agency website. Both myself and Mr Jarratt, whose house was involved, have raised this with both bodies but have not received any response.

Cllr Fraser said a solicitor would look at the information and be alarmed.

KCCllr Bowles said that, although he is on the KCC Flood Risk Committee, he had no previous knowledge of this and asked for a copy of the presentation.

ACTION: Clerk to email presentation to Councillors and KCCllr Bowles.

Cllr Attwood thanked Ms Friend for bringing the issue to the Council's attention.

10. PLANNING MATTERS

i. Ref: 17/500511/TNOT56

Address: Down Court Farm Down Court Road Doddington Kent ME9 0AT

Proposal: Telecommunications application for installation of 1no. tower, 3no. antennas, 3no. equipment cabinets, 2no. dishes and ancillary development thereto.

Cllr Attwood left the room and took no part in the discussion or vote. Cllr Hayes took the Chair.

Cllr Haynes said there has been a letter from a resident requesting the mast to be camouflaged sensitive to the environment.

Cllr Fraser expressed concerns about the need for a second mast and whether the existing mast in the village could be used. We are in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, I am concerned about the visual impact.

Cllr Haynes **PROPOSED** to support the application and request the mast be disguised; **SECONDED** by Cllr Cuthbert: **4 FOR, 1 ABSTENTION- MOTION CARRIED.**

ii. Any other planning matter received by 13 February 2017

No other planning matter had been received.

11. WAR MEMORIAL

Cllr Attwood informed Members a vehicle has hit the sycamore tree and if it is felled a stump must be left to help protect the site. The posts have been ordered, accoya wood has been

recommended for the gravel boards but this is expensive so tanted boards will be ordered as originally suggested.
KCCllr Bowles said that Newnham Parish Council has discussed the War Memorial and want to be involved in any deliberation about it.
The Clerk informed Councillors that she had invited a representative to attend the meeting but no one was available.

12. FINANCE

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Invoices for Payment

An amended invoice from Landscape Services still had not been received.

iii. Any invoice for approval received by 13 February 2017

Councillors **AGREED** to pay CA Traffic Ltd £1200.00 (cheque no 1109), re-issue of cheque no 1108 due to revised invoice.

Councillors **AGREED** to pay Mrs W Licence £41.78 (cheque no1110), re-imburement for the moss killer.

iv. Arnold-Baker on Local Council Administration 10th edition

Councillors **AGREED** to share the cost of Arnold-Baker on Local Council Administration 10th edition with the Clerk's other Parish Councils.

13. DEFIBRILATOR

To receive an update Cllr Coates informed Members there were no issues to report.

14. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Fraser said there have been four sessions with the new equipment and all volunteers have now used the equipment. Alan Watson, the Community Speed Watch manager had also attended a session and witnessed the volunteers being verbally abused, details of the vehicle were taken and reported to the Police. Mr Osborne, the Community Warden has undertaken training to join the team. Cllr Fraser thanked Cllr Coates for agreeing to store the equipment which is covered by the Parish Council's insurance.

Cllr Coates said he has spoken to a Councillor from another Parish Council about details of Speed Watch and has invited him to attend a session.

Cllr Coates said that Mr Watson has agreed that Speed Watch sessions can be set up in Wychling and more volunteers from the area may come forward.

Cllr Attwood thanked Cllr Fraser for his work on Speed Watch.

15. PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Duckworth said the moss is still growing but it has not been possible to treat it due to inclement weather. There were a lot of leaves on the field and Cllr Duckworth and two residents raked them up to allow the grass to grow underneath.

16. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Attwood said the issue of the drainage in Ringlestone Road still had not been addressed.

ACTION: Clerk to contact KCC again.

Cllr Cuthbert said that pot holes are beginning to open up again.

Cllr Attwood informed Members Down Court Road will be closed to repair pot holes.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 19.01.17- KALC National Fraud Intelligence Bureau alert- circulated

2. 27.01.17- KCC Freight Action Plan survey- circulated

Cllr Coates asked if anyone had completed the survey on behalf of the Council

3. 27.01.17 - Rural Kent Coffee and Information Project- circulated

4. 31.01.17 - KALC Rural Conference, 9 March 2017

Cllr Coates said he was available to attend.
ACTION: Clerk to send agenda to Cllr Coates
5. 31.01.17 - Joint KALC/KFAS Information Event - Tuesday 28 February 2017: Delivering Effective Partnership Working in Kent's Communities 2017- circulated
6. 31.01.17 - Rural Policing update - circulated
7. 09.02.17- Tree and Pond Warden activities, February and March- circulated
8. 10.02.17- KALC Event Announcement: Preparing for your Audit - Best Practice Workshop. Evening Event, 30 March 2017, morning event 1 April 2017 – circulated
9. 10.02.17 Cllr Bowles' newsletter- *circulated*
10. 10.02.17- Faversham Town Council: invitation to the Faversham and District Engagement Forum.
Cllr Cuthbert agreed to be the representative and Cllr Fraser to deputise.
ACTION: Clerk to notify Faversham Town Council.
11. 13.02.17-KSS Air Ambulance: request for donation.
Cllr Cuthbert said details should be included in the Newsletter for residents to be able to make donations.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
Cllr Cuthbert said Dr Sikdar is retiring and asked if the Parish Council will send a letter of thanks to him for the work he has done in the Parish.
ACTION: Clerk to draft letter for the Chairman to sign.
KCCllr Bowles asked if the Parish Council responded to BT's telephone box consultation.
Cllr Attwood said responses from the Council as well as from individuals have been sent.

18. STAFF PENSION
Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 it was resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of staff pension.

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 13 March 2017 at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

.....Chairman
Date: 13 March 2017