

# DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Doddington Village Hall on  
Monday 9 December 2019

Present: Cllr Kevin Attwood (Chairman), Cllr Steve Coates (Vice Chairman), Cllr Graham Cuthbert, Cllr Peter Duckworth, Cllr Kevin Fraser, Cllr Colin Jones and Cllr Alison Shaw; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk)

Also present was Ward Member David Simmons.

## 1. APOLOGIES

All Members were present.

Apologies had been received from County Councillor Andrew Bowles (at another meeting); apology noted.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

## 3. TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY ITEMS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

None were identified.

## 4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2019

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting. Cllr Attwood duly signed the minutes of the meeting.

## 5. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Attwood reported that a second letter had been sent to the owner of the Land on The Street, there has been no response.

Cllr Duckworth said the matter could be considered at the next meeting.

Cllr Attwood said Lenham Storage has responded that they have briefed their HGV drivers not to use Faversham Road as a route between the Faversham area and back to the depot. They will continue to monitor the data they receive from their own fleet and advise drivers accordingly. Their drivers are instructed not to use their own navigation systems.

Cllr Jones said the company should be thanked for its response and the invitation to send registration numbers of their fleet.

Cllr Fraser said the problem is not with the Lenham Storage fleet but with its suppliers and subcontractors, signage in different languages could be put up at the depot.

*ACTION: Clerk to thank Lenham Storage for its response and request that notices in foreign languages be put up at the depot to inform suppliers and sub contractors of the request.*

Cllr Attwood informed Members that survey strips on the road towards Newnham are nothing to do with Newnham Parish Council and the survey is possibly being carried out by a developer.

## 6. COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Community Warden Dave Osborne was unable to attend the meeting but had highlighted the latest scams and reported the following incidents:

*Between 4 and 4:30am on 9 November, criminal damage was caused to property belonging to Southern Water, in Eastling Road Eastling Faversham.*

*Between 21 and 28 November, all four tyres were slashed with a Stanley knife in Sunnyside, The Street Doddington Sittingbourne.*

*Please be careful when disposing of rubbish over the festive period so not to advertise and alert burglars to what presents you and your family received for Christmas.*

Cllr Attwood thanked Mr Osborne for his report.

#### **7. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT**

Cllr Attwood informed Members that Mrs Sally Mills as taken over from Mrs Jackson as Co-ordinator and thanked Mrs Jackson for her sterling work as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

Mrs Mills was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following report:

*46/227582/19: Between 21st and 28th of November, all four tyres were slashed with a Stanley knife in Sunnyside, The Street Doddington Sittingbourne.*

*07.12.19- 2 Report of suspicious looking lads apparently filming houses along The Street in Newnham.*

Cllr Attwood thanked Mrs Mills for her report.

#### **8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No matters were raised,

SBCllr Simmons asked for a copy of the Community Warden report.

*ACTION: Clerk to send report to SBCllr Simmons.*

#### **9. WAR MEMORIAL**

Cllr Attwood said concerns had been raised about volunteers working on the banks near the War Memorial. The War Memorial Risk Assessment states that volunteers should not be on the bank if the ground is unsuitable and that a car should be parked on the road at the base of the steps and cones be placed in the road either side of the car to indicate to traffic that there is a potential hazard.

Councillors considered a request for heavy wire strands to be stretched across the bottom of the banks as a safety grab stopping people working on them ending in the road, but it was felt that this could cause harm and that there is an alternative safety measure.

#### **10. PLANNING MATTERS**

i. ref: 19/505768/ENVSCR

Address: Ellens Court Lady Margaret Manor Road Doddington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0NT

Environmental Screening Opinion: Alterations and extensions to existing residential care home to provide 12no. bedrooms and 2no. self contained two bedroom units with associated facilities. Erection of a single storey building to provide 4no. supported living self contained

apartments, a new work shop building and associated landscape works

Cllr Attwood informed Members that the item is for information and that Swale Borough Council will advise the applicant if there needs to be an environmental impact assessment.

ii. Ref: 19/505772/ENVSCR

Address: Land At Homestall Hill Homestall Road Doddington Kent ME9 0LB

Environmental Screening Opinion: Erection of a veteran's horticultural rehabilitation, social and community building.

Item for information.

iii. Any planning matter received by 9 December 2019

Ref: 19/504932/FULL

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

Proposal: Erection of a grain store with lean-to's and construction of screening bund and associated landscaping.

Councillors were informed that a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 19/505148/LDCEX Address: The Manor House Lady Margaret Manor Road  
Doddington ME9 0NT

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate (Existing) for the retention of 3no. outbuildings for use incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling house

Cllr Attwood informed Councillors that the application has been permitted

## **11. FINANCE**

### i. Councillors Expenses

There were none

### ii. Invoices for Payment

It was agreed to pay Newington Parish Council £10.00 (cheque no 1205), share of Clerks' Conference

It was agreed to pay Commercial Services Trading Ltd £30.95 (cheque no 1206), Playing Field grass cutting

Cllr Attwood said there needs to be a budget meeting to be able to set the Precept in January.

Cllr Attwood, Cllr Fraser, Cllr Shaw and the Clerk will meet to consider the budget for 2020-21.

## **12. DEFIBRILATOR**

Cllr Coates reported that there were no issues with the defibrillator and the pads will need to be replaced within the next three months.

## **13. SPEED WATCH**

Cllr Fraser reported that the Speed Watch sessions continue in the village. A motor bike has been recorded on several occasions speeding through the village, the motorcyclist has received two Police notifications and is now under investigation.

## **14. PLAYING FIELD**

### i. Cllr Duckworth's monthly report

Cllr Attwood said the play area inspection will take place on 16 December.

Cllr Duckworth reported the nothing of any significance came down during recent high winds. The grass has grown but it will have to wait until the ground improves before the grass can be cut.

Cllr Fraser reported that there had been reports of a rough sleeper at the top of the playing field.

Cllr Shaw said the appropriate charities should be informed.

*ACTION: Cllr Shaw to send details of charities to the Clerk.*

### ii. To consider quotations to fell sycamore tree

Cllr Duckworth said he had met a contractor to give a quote to fell the tree.

Cllr Attwood said five contractors have been contacted and only two quotes have been received so far.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact contractors again for a quote and seek further quote.*

### iii. To consider quotation to cut the Playing Field

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation from Landscape Services for £345.26 for thirteen cuts of the Playing Field.

**15. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Duckworth reported a series of eight-wheeled trucks had been going through the village every day.

Cllr Fraser said the lorries are tipping what they are carrying at Tonge Farm Golf Club and using the valley road through Doddington, Lynsted and Teynham.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact the company to request details of the duration of the work.*

**16. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. 18.11.19- Andrew Bowles's newsletter
2. 18.11.19- KCC Consultation on the Proposed Modifications to the Minerals Sites Plan
3. 26.11.19- Query regarding safety issue at the War Memorial.
4. 28.11.19- KALC Swale Area Committee Newsletter
5. 02.12.19- Request to support the Local Electricity Bill
6. 05.12.19- KCC Highways: Parish seminar PowerPoint presentation slides
7. 09.12.19- Wychling Parish meeting minutes

Councillors agreed not to support item 5, the request to support the Local Electricity Bill.

**17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other matters were raised.

Cllr Attwood thanked SBCllr Simmons for attending.

**Date of next Meeting:- Monday 13 January 2020**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman:

Date: 13 January 2020