

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Doddington Village Hall on Monday 11 July 2022

Present: Cllr Steve Coates (Chairman), Cllr Colin Jones (Vice Chairman) and Cllr Graham Cuthbert:
and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present were PCSO Jessica Stocks, PCSO Katie Jordan and two members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Kevin Attwood (unwell), Cllr Peter Duckworth (personal), Cllr Kevin Fraser (holiday) and Cllr Alison Shaw (unwell): apologies accepted. Apologies had also been received from County Councillor Rich Lehmann (work) and Ward Member David Simmons at another meeting: apologies 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 13 JUNE 2022

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

5. MATTERS ARISING

Wicksteed site visit

Cllr Coates said the contractor will be in contact nearer the time and works are expected to start early to mid- August.

Car on verge at Northdown

Cllr Coates said there have been emails from Swale Borough Council and Kent County Council about this and no-one appeared to be taking responsibility for doing anything about it.

ACTION: Cllr Cuthbert to liaise with residents.

War Memorial

Cllr Coates said Newnham Parish Council has agreed to pay half the cost to replace the hedging although notes that this was not the time of year to be planting. Their preference is for a native hedgerow and not yew. They have suggested contacting the Woodland Trust to see if they have anything available.

ACTION: Cllr Cuthbert to liaise with Cllr Attwood and Newnham Parish Council Clerk regarding best type of hedge and also contact Trees for Farms, a voluntary group working in Swale.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

Cllr Coates thanked Sally Mills for her report which was circulated prior to the meeting.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Question Time

A resident asked if planning permission was required to sell agricultural land to residents for gardens. An area of land has been sold off and areas have been demarked.

Cllr Cuthbert said planning permission is needed for change of use and the Council has not received any notifications. Residents should contact the Planning Department at Swale Borough Council about their concerns.

A resident said she was pleased to hear the landowner has agreed to the archaeological dig at the Playing Field.

The meeting was reconvened.

12. PLAYING FIELD

This item was brought forward.

ii. To consider request for archaeological dig at the Playing Field

Cllr Coates said there had been concerns raised previously.

Cllr Cuthbert said safety is paramount, there needs to be a fence around the site, a Risk Assessment must be carried out and signage. The area will need to be reinstated to its original state.

Cllr Jones **PROPOSED** that the archaeological dig be permitted; **SECONDED** by Cllr Cuthbert: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Cllr Coates said this is a good addition to the Fete and the resident should now contact the Fete Group Chair to ask permission.

8. HIGHWAYS

i. To receive an update

Cllr Coates reported that KCCllr Lehmann has contacted the driving range regarding the HGVs and they have advised that they are looking to open the driving range from late July/early August. In the meantime, lorry movements will continue.

ii. Drainage and Flooding

Cllr Jones reported that KCC Highways were concerned about the funding of flood mitigation on the Old Lenham Road, two local land owners have said they will carry out the work. Flood mitigation does not work if the drains are blocked and KCC Highways has a programme to clean drains every six months and this has been added to the schedule, urgent cleansing will also be carried out. A CCTV survey of the drain near Sunnyside found roots are interfering with the drainage, more jetting will be carried out.

Cllr Coates thanked Mr Oldfield and Mr Attwood for their support with the project and also thanked Cllr Jones for his work.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Ref: 22/502491/LAWPRO Address: Nesfield The Street Doddington ME9 0BH

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed drive with vehicle access to include removal of front beech hedging and replacement of part existing lawn with permeable material.

Cllr Coates informed Members that a decision is yet to be made

10. FINANCE

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Clerk's Salary and expenses April- June 2022

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mrs W Licence: salary and expenses £992.08 (cheque no 1297).

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay HMRC PAYE £63.20 (cheque no 1298).

iii. Invoices for Payment

a. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Doddington Village Hall £164.00 for meetings hall hire and a Police Surgery (cheque no 1299).

b. Any other invoice for approval received by 11 July 2022

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mr S Coates £115.14 in respect of defibrillator pads (cheque no 1300).

11. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Coates said Speed Watch sessions continue in the village and all data is reported to the Police.

12. PLAYING FIELD

i. Cllr Fraser's monthly report

There was no report.

iii. To consider quotation for summer port-a-loo

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation of £203.00 from Fourjays.

iv. To consider quotation for play area inspection

Councillors considered the quotations.

Cllr Cuthbert **PROPOSED** that on checking the qualifications, to accept the quotation of £190.00 from Trevor Muller Playground Inspections Ltd: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 16.06.22- KCC Streetworks: Temporary Road Closure - Hopes Hill, Doddington - 12th July 2022
2. 23.06.22- KCC Highways; details of team restructure
3. 24.06.22- KCC Streetworks: Urgent Road Closure - Syndale Bottom Road and Endings Wood Road, Doddington - 28th June 2022
4. 24.06.22- Local Government Bulletin
5. 28.06.22- Office for National Statistics: first results from the 2021 Census published
6. 29.06.22- Local Government Bulletin
7. 29.06.22- Cllr Speed, Chairman Lynsted with Kingsdown Parish Council: copy letter regarding the re-location of the GP surgery in Teynham
8. 05.07.22- NALC CEO Bulletin
9. 08.07.22- Helen Whately MP: invitation for DPC rep to attend virtual meeting with regarding Operation Brock on 22 July
10. 08.07.22- Transport for the South East: consultation on draft Strategic Investment Plan. Closing date 12 September

Cllr Coates said that the Council had been copied into a letter from the Chairman of Lynsted with Kingsdown Parish Council to the NHS about the re-location of the GP surgery in Teynham to the Memorial Hospital in Sittingbourne. As a result, he had also written to the NHS to adopt the points made in the Lynsted letter, giving our full support.

Cllr Cuthbert said he will attend the virtual meeting with Helen Whatley regarding Operation Brock.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Coates asked if the Council wants the same type of poppy wreath as last year. This was agreed.

Cllr Coates said he had been asked to present the prizes at the Village Show.

Cllr Coates informed Members that the Swale Eastern Area Funding scheme is open again for grant bids.

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 12 September 2022

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 12 September 2022