

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Doddington Village Hall on Monday 12 March 2018

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

Also present were two members of the public.

1. Apologies All Members were present.
2. Declarations of Interest Cllr Attwood declared a pecuniary interest in item 16. Correspondence as some of the correspondence refers to the telecommunications mast and his property.
3. To Determine whether any items should be discussed in closed session None were identified.
4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 February 2018 Councillors considered the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2018 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Church Lane accident- Cllr Attwood reported the inquest found it was an accident and there was no culpability on either party. Kent Highways are due to publish a report and it is understood that it will recommend changing the signage at the junction. <i>ACTION: Clerk to contact Kent Highways for information.</i>
6. Community Warden Report Dave Osborne, the Community Warden was unable to attend the meeting and had circulated details of the latest scams.
7. Neighbourhood Watch Report Mrs Jackson, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, had sent apologies for being unable to attend the meeting and reported there have been no incidences in the Parish but reported the defibrillator in Lynsted had been stolen.
8. Public Question Time <i>The meeting was adjourned for the public question time</i> Mr Seyler updated the Council about the research he has carried out for the War Memorial regarding the names of the fallen from Doddington. There is a research team in Sittingbourne looking into the fallen from Swale. Cllr Attwood thanked Mr Seyler for all he has done regarding the project. <i>ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Mr Seyler and collate names and ascertain whether they are from Doddington or Newnham.</i> <i>The meeting was reconvened.</i>
9. War Memorial Cllr Attwood informed Members there needs to be a local consultation regarding adding or

amending names to the War Memorial and Listed Building Consent needs to be applied for before work is carried out.

10. Planning Matters

Ref: 17/506453/FULL

Address: Keepers Cottage Sharsted Wood Doddington Kent ME9 0JU

Proposal: Part demolition of existing building, including existing loft conversion, new loft conversion to create first floor level, creation of balcony to South-West elevation, installation of Velux rooflights and internal/external alterations

The application was refused by Swale Borough Council on 13 February 2018.

11. Finance

i. Councillors Expenses

None were claimed.

ii. Clerks pay and expenses Jan- Mar 2018

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mrs W Licence salary £657.50 and expenses £38.54, total of £696.04 (cheque no 1145).

iii. Invoices for Payment

a) It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mr N Swatland £200.00 in respect of the second instalment for playing field maintenance (cheque no 1146).

b) It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Tunstall Parish Council £10.00 being share of the Clerk's attendance at the KALC Governance Conference (cheque 1147).

12. Defibrillator

Cllr Coates reported he had alerted everyone to the theft of the defibrillator from Lynsted and urged Members to check the defibrillator when passing.

Cllr Attwood thanked Cllr Coates for his help with the defibrillator.

13. Speed Watch

Cllr Fraser informed Councillors that, due to the recent snow, there had only been three Speed Watch sessions. Two were in Doddington and the first recorded three vehicles which received a letter and the second session recorded four drivers who received a letter. There was also a session in Wychling and thirty-four vehicles were recorded speeding in one and a half hours, twelve letters were sent and a thirteenth was hand delivered meaning it was the fourth time the person had been caught. Repeat offenders are being recorded. Overall the numbers of speeding vehicles are falling both in Doddington and Wychling showing the sessions are effective.

Cllr Coates said he and Cllr Fraser have been invited to attend the Kent Police Speed Watch Conference.

Cllr Coates reported a malfunction of the battery charger for the Speed Watch equipment. The charging unit and cable will be returned to the supplier for repair or replacement.

Cllr Attwood thanked Cllr Fraser and Cllr Coates for their reports and excellent work regarding Speed Watch.

14. Playing Field

Cllr Duckworth reported inclement weather has prevented the moss on the safety surfaces from being treated. Cllr Cuthbert has trimmed the hedge and trees in the corner by the garage and done a sterling job. It is hoped the ivy will be cut down from the top tree when better weather arrives.

Cllr Attwood thanked Cllr Duckworth for his report and thanked Cllr Cuthbert for his work at the playing field.

15. Highways

Cllr Coates said he has received three reported issues from residents. Firstly, concern has been raised concerning the flooding in Ringlestone Road.

Cllr Coates reported he had been informed about ivy growing over the wall by the gas yard at Doddington Place and it has grown over the path.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Doddington Place to report the matter.

Cllr Coates said residents have expressed concern about the amount of vehicles parking on the pavement which makes it difficult for pedestrians. Previously the Parish Council has put notices on the car windscreens.

ACTION: Cllr Duckworth and Clerk to find the notice template.

Cllr Haynes reported he attended the meeting at the Lenham crossroads arranged by KCCllr Shellina Prendergast. KCC are putting a plan together which could reinstate the slip road; install an island near to where the old one was on the Ashford side; install lighting; reduce the speed limit and put double yellow lines on the corner. It was a very positive meeting.

Cllr Duckworth reported KCC had left a message that they had been out and sucked away the water by the water works on the Ringlestone Road.

The Clerk reported the drains in the Ringlestone Road had been inspected on 10 March and nine gullies around the area of flooding have been identified as being in need of cleaning and jetting. Currently Kent Highways are only able to carry out safety critical work until the end of the financial year. Photographs are being considered by the engineer to see if this falls into that category.

Cllr Duckworth said he is waiting for a call from KCC and will request a meeting.

16. Correspondence

Cllr Attwood left the meeting and Cllr Haynes took the Chair.

1) 16.02.18- Email from Tunstall resident regarding the HIF application by KCC and SBC

Cllr Haynes reported the email is concerning a Highways Infrastructure Fund bid by KCC and SBC to assist with infrastructure delivery including the proposal for the land south and east of Sittingbourne at the Kent Science Park. The letter is mis-leading as the current Local Plan runs out in 2031. The development could affect Doddington and make the village a rat run. If there is insufficient funding for infrastructure this could be a concern.

Cllr Cuthbert said good agricultural land would be lost. There would be issues getting to Sittingbourne as you would effectively have to go through a city to get there. It will impact on the hospital, there is currently insufficient beds; there are already restrictions on water coming into place this year; sewerage will also be an issue.

ACTION: Matter to be included in Newsletter report with a request for feedback to the Parish Council, HCA and Councillors Bowles and Prescott at SBC.

2) 22.02.18- letter from resident regarding the phone mast

Cllr Haynes said the Parish Council responded to the original application and requested the mast should be masked. Unfortunately, this did not form part of the condition of planning permission. The Parish Council has contacted Swale Borough Council and has expressed concern and will meet with a Planning Officer next week to discuss the matter.

ACTION: Letter to be sent to resident thanking him for his letter, his comments have been duly noted and the Council has already addressed the issues with SBC. Councillors would like to invite him, as the Village Correspondent, to come along to the Parish Council Meetings to understand how we work and decisions made and to see how we would assist with his role.

3) 05.03.18- email from residents regarding the telecommunications mast and Newsletter.

Cllr Haynes said the residents have been made aware of the Parish Council's approach to the planning application for the mobile communications mast and that the Parish Council has had ongoing concerns about the siting and design of the mast and is in dialogue with Swale Borough Council about this.

4) 12.03.18- further email from resident concerning the telecommunications mast and the Newsletter report

Cllr Haynes said the email had been received by the Clerk shortly before the meeting and circulated. Councillors duly noted the contents of the email.

Cllr Attwood returned to the meeting for consideration of the remainder of the correspondence.

5) 22.02.18- KALC Parish News

6) 23.02.18- SBC invitation to attend a briefing at Swale House regarding the first steps towards the next Local Plan

Councillors Duckworth, Haynes and Frazer are scheduled to attend on the 11th April

7) 07.03.18- KALC Swale Area Committee meeting agenda

8) 10.03.18- emergency item for the KALC Swale Area Committee

Cllr Attwood reported there had been emails from SBCllr Gerry Lewin and SBCllr Mike Whiting in response to the emergency item and these had been noted.

9) 12.03.18- KCCllr Bowles' Newsletter

17. Any Other Business

Cllr Jones asked that an item be put in the Newsletter to encourage residents to report pot holes to KCC.

Cllr Jones informed Members the Clerk's appraisal is due.

Councillors agreed that Speed Watch and the War Memorial be included in the Newsletter.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.34pm

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 9 April 2018

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

.....Chairman
Dated 9 April 2018