

# Tunstall Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 2 March 2020 in the Village Memorial Hall, Tunstall.

Present: Cllr Mavis Hibben (Chair), Cllr Lee Burgess, Cllr Vivien Rich, Cllr Louisa Roberts and Cllr Sarah Stephen; and Mrs W Licence (Clerk).

Also present were Ward Member Monique Bonney, the Rev Alan Pinnegar and three members of the public.

Cllr Hibben welcomed everyone to the meeting and made everyone present aware of the emergency evacuation procedure.

## 1. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Clerk reported that she had received an enquiry and had sent details of the role of a Councillor to the resident.

## 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Susanne Earl (work); apologies accepted. Apologies had also been received from KCCllr Andrew Bowles (at another meeting); KCCllr John Wright (at another meeting); and Ward Member Paul Stephen (at another meeting); apologies noted.

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Burges declared that the applicant of planning applications 20/500404/FULL and 20/500405/LBC had sent out copies of the plans to the neighbours after they had been published asking for comments or suggestions, but he had not made any comment.

## 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2020

Item 15.ii. was amended to read "*Cllr Rich reported that...*" and "*..for example, the edging to the road at Grove End.*" was added to item 16 1)

Cllr Stephen **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes as amended; **SECONDED** by Cllr Roberts: **4 -FOR 1- ABSTENTION: MOTION CARRIED**. Cllr Hibben duly signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

## 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Hibben reported the hi-vis vests have been ordered.

Cllr Hibben said the Newsletters have been printed and mostly distributed. Cllr Hibben thanked the Clerk for her work on the Newsletter and everyone for help with distributing them.

Cllr Hibben informed Members that the Kent Wildlife Trust wants more information and are happy to come out to look at Coffin Pond.

*ACTION: Cllr Roberts to provide photo of the pond and to meet for advice.*

Cllr Hibben said the Annual Parish Meeting is on 27 April and the KALC Community Award will be presented at the meeting. The recipient of the award has been notified.

Cllr Hibben reported the hedging has been replanted at The Den.

*ACTION: Clerk to thank Lewis Monger, KCC Highways, for his help with soft landscaping matters.*

It was agreed to discuss future projects after the meeting.

## **6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

*The meeting was adjourned for the public time.*

*Concern was raised concerning the bird scarers which are very loud and go off every three minutes from 7am until it gets dark.*

SBCllr Bonney said Officers have been out and some have not exceeded the statutory threshold. The canons should go off four times an hour. SBCllr Bonney requested further information as to the location of the problem.

*The meeting was reconvened.*

## **7. VISITORS**

### i. Borough Councillors

SBCllr Bonney reported that she and SBCllr Baldock have put a Hedgerow Policy in place and that the Borough Council would like Parish Councils and residents to help log the hedgerows. Guidance will be provided and the information will be compiled into a database. There is legislation protecting hedgerows. Trees have TPOs on them and there has been an issue of management of the trees, the Order states what cannot be done but does not ensure owners take care of the trees.

Cllr Hibben thanked SBCllr Bonney for attending and for her report.

SBCllr Stephen reported that Council Tax Support has been changed from 25% to 20%. There is also an outreach worker to help with energy and water costs, there is 28% water poverty in Swale Borough. SBCllr Paul Stephen will be the next Mayor.

Cllr Hibben thanked SBCllr Stephen for her report.

## **8. WAR MEMORIAL**

Cllr Hibben said following on from an e mail from the Village Hall Chairman asking if the Parish Council would be willing to consider dedicating a plaque to remember the fallen of Tunstall during World War II and other conflicts with a plaque in the Village Hall grounds. Enquiries had been made with regard to the possibility of this request.

Rev Pinnegar said there is a memorial in the Church regarding the Great War but not World War II. Consideration needs to be given as to who is included, the Historical Research Group of Sittingbourne has been contacted and they have suggested four names for inclusion. There is room for a plaque on the pew under the existing memorial.

Cllr Rich said most War Memorials are at the church or village centre; the main memorial should be at the church although there could be a plaque at the village hall as well.

*ACTION: A meeting to be set up with the vicar at the church with Cllr Rich and any other councillors available. Date to be circulated.*

*SBCllr Bonney left the meeting.*

## **9. PLANNING**

### i. Ref: 20/500273/FULL

Address: 95 Sterling Road Tunstall Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1SW

Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and conservatory. Erection of single storey side and rear extension with external alterations and widening of access to create an additional parking space.

Councillors considered the application and had no comments to make save that neighbours' comments be taken into account.

*ACTION: Cllr Roberts to draft response.*

ii. Address: Tunstall C of E Primary School Tunstall Road Tunstall Kent ME9 8DX

Ref: 20/500405/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building consent for conversion of former school building to create 1no. dwelling, works to include part first floor extensions with insertion dormers windows and rooflights. Single storey extension to create side porch and infill to create boot room. Internal alterations and changes to fenestration and erection of a detached garage.

Ref: 20/500404/FULL

Proposal: Conversion of former school building to create 1no. dwelling, works to include part first floor extensions with insertion dormers windows and rooflights. Single storey extension to create side porch and infill to create boot room. Internal alterations and changes to fenestration and erection of a detached garage.

Councillors considered the application and agreed to support the proposal.

*Cllr Burgess to no part in the discussion of this matter.*

iii. Ref: 20/500386/FULL

Address: Oakwood House Ruins Barn Road Tunstall Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8AA

Proposal: Erection of a detached 3 bay garage.

Councillors considered the application and had no comments to make save that neighbours' comments be taken into account.

iv. Ref: 20/500618/FULL

Address: 82 Woodstock Road Sittingbourne Kent ME10 4HN

Proposal: Erection of an extension to laundry and the kitchen rear of the premises.

Councillors considered the application and had no comments to make save that neighbours' comments be taken into account.

v. Ref: 20/500745/FULL

Address: 36 Sterling Road Tunstall Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1SL

Proposal: Conversion of garage into habitable space with insertion of bi-fold doors, erection of porch and alterations to front bay window.

Councillors considered the application and had no comments to make save that neighbours' comments be taken into account.

vi. Any other planning matter received by 2 March 2020.

a. Ref: 20/500229/FULL Address: White Acres Hearts Delight Road Tunstall ME9 8JA

Proposal: Demolition of 2no. outbuildings and erection of a portal framed vehicle store.

Cllr Roberts reported that a decision is yet to be made.

b. Ref: 19/506270/FULL Address: 38 Sterling Road Tunstall Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1SL

Proposal: Part single storey part two storey side and rear extension and a loft conversion with front and rear dormers (Resubmission of 19/504385/FULL)

Cllr Robert informed members that the application has been permitted

c. Ref: 20/500242/FULL Address: 11 Roseleigh Road Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1RR

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear and side extension.

Cllr Roberts reported that a decision is yet to be made.

## 10. FINANCE

Chq No	Payable to	Reason	Amount
1444	Mrs W Licence	Salary and expenses	£474.32

1445	HMRC	PAYE	<b>£126.20</b>
1446	Mrs J Barnicott	Litter Picking	<b>£124.66</b>
1447	Swale Borough Council	Election costs	<b>£116.16</b>
1448	McCabe Ford Williams	Payroll fees	<b>£40.68</b>
1449	Mrs W Licence	Hi vis vests	<b>£31.53</b>

Cllr Burgess **PROPOSED** the signing of the cheques; **SECONDED** by Cllr Roberts: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### 11. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Roberts informed Members that she and Cllr Rich had attended the Local Plan Panel which considered the Government led housing needs.

Cllr Stephen said one of the problems is knowing the number of residents as Travellers and people living in mobile homes on the Isle of Sheppey are not on lists.

Cllr Rich said if more services will be needed if more houses are built.

Cllr Roberts said Swale has the potential for flooding in the north of the Borough and also an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, leaving a slither of land to build on.

Cllr Rich said that at the end of the meeting Matthew Randall, Local Plan Manager Swale Borough Council, went through the Local Plan process, there will be a lot of work for Parish Councils.

*ACTION: Clerk to arrange a meeting between Matthew Randall, Cllr Rich and Cllr Roberts.*

Cllr Hibben reported that she had met PCSO Ryan Atherton at the Police surgery in Bredgar. PCSO Atherton informed her that there is not much crime in Tunstall although there have been some issues at Grove End Farm and this is being monitored.

### 12. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Hibben said the railings adjacent to the pond near the new school have been damaged and this is dangerous as it leaves the pond exposed.

Cllr Roberts said the matter has been reported, ref 491905.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact Alan Blackburn with Council's concerns regarding the danger to children.*

Cllr Roberts reported that the bus route obstruction has been completed; pot holes have been logged; blocked drains are under investigation; the drains by Pond Cottages have been logged; a crew attended the flood at the Kent Science Park by BBI Solutions and dug out grips and this seems to have worked. There is an issue with there being no drains for two hundred metres in one kilometer, water is still running down and gathering at Pond Cottages. The gullies at Pond Cottages have completely silted up again.

### 13. ENVIRONMENT

Cllr Rich reported that she, Cllr Earl and Cllr Roberts have considered an area approximately twenty metres long in Sterling Road which has been cleared by KCC. 10cm of bark could be laid to prevent the weeds growing back. Residents could be consulted regarding the area. There are services underneath.

*ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotations.*

Cllr Rich said the bed at the corner of Cranbrook Drive needs weeding.  
*ACTION: Clerk to request a one-off weed clearance from the contractor.*

### iii. Tunstall Litter Pick

Cllr Hibben said that Bredgar Parish Council has arranged a litter pick on 5 April in the village, but may extend to Grove End Farm and Ruins Barn from M2 to Bexon Lane. Tunstall Parish Council was going to hold a litter pick last year but there was no rubbish.

Cllr Hibben said she had reported the litter bin in the Bredgar Road as it was overflowing and it has been emptied.

## **14. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. 06.02.20- Invitation to the Swale Green Grid Forum and Visit Swale Familiarisation Trip  
Cllr Rich and Cllr Roberts to attend, Clerk to register the Councillors.
2. 06.02.20- KALC Newsletter
3. 07.02.20- Rural Kent: Invitation for Community Led Housing Event
4. 10.02.20- KALC Swale Area Committee newsletter
5. 10.02.20- KALC update on the M2 Brenley Corner traffic signal improvement and Toucan crossing installation.
6. 11.02.20- invitation for the Lord Lieutenant of Kent's Civic Service 17 March
7. 13.02.20- KCCLlR Wright: pot hole data
8. 24.02.20- Highways England - M2 J5 - Dormice Notification Letter
9. 24.02.20- KCCLlR Wright: pot hole data
10. 25.02.20- Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter

## **15. ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr Rich said that she has written a Home page and a village page for the new website.

*ACTION: Cllr Rich to circulate for comments.*

*ACTION: Clerk to ascertain if number of hits can be confirmed.*

The Clerk said the next edition of the Arnold-Baker Local Council Administration is out and the cost can be shared between the Parish Councils.

It was **AGREED** to purchase the book.

Cllr Hibben informed Members that Speed Watch will resume in April and there will be two sessions per month.

Cllr Hibben reported that she has been asked to put up posters for the Rotary Silent Auction and also for the Allotment Society to advertise its vacant plots. The notice board in Ruins Barn Road is in a poor state; the door is warped and difficult to open and there is so much condensation inside that it obscures the notices. Do people look at the noticeboard?

Cllr Stephen said there are lots of people using the playing field for football but they are not necessarily residents.

It was **AGREED** not to put notices in the noticeboard.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Monday 6 April 2020 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 9.05pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chair

Date: 6 May 2020