

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Doddington Village Hall on Monday 9 October 2017

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

Also present were two members of the public.

<p>1. Apologies In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Haynes took the Chair. Apologies had been received from Cllr Kevin Attwood (work), Cllr Graham Cuthbert (holiday) and Cllr Peter Duckworth (personal): apologies accepted. Apologies had also been accepted from KCCLlr Bowles (at another meeting) and SBCllr Prescott (at another meeting): apologies noted.</p>
<p>2. Declarations of Interest None were declared.</p>
<p>3. To Determine whether any items should be discussed in closed session None were identified.</p>
<p>4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 September 2017 Councillors considered the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2017 and AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Haynes.</p>
<p>5. Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Details have been received from HugoFox, they are committed to giving Parish Councils a free website. <p><i>ACTION: Clerk to ascertain HugoFox's commitment to a free website and if confirmed accept the offer.</i> Cllr Jones asked about the Clerk's hours for working on the website. The Clerk said she is keeping a record of the hours.</p>
<p>6. Community Warden Report Dave Osborne had sent apologies for being unable to attend the meeting and reported that he had received two reports of fly-tipping in the area in the last month. One fly-tip was on the Old Lenham Road and was a quantity of asbestos and this was reported by Cllr Fraser. The second case was towards Wychling reported by a resident. Both incidents had already been reported to Swale Borough Council for clearance</p> <p><u>Latest Scams</u> There have been a number of reports of residents in Swale being contacted by the Police who state that they are investigating a fraud and need help. They ask either for a large amount of money, i-tunes vouchers or other goods of value and arrange to meet the victim for the money to or goods to be handed over. The caller states that if you do not believe them to ring the Police on 101. The caller does not put the phone down therefore the line is not broken and the victim believes they are talking to the Police. Residents receiving such calls must report it to Kent Police but should wait five minutes or phone a friend to ensure that the scammers are still on the line.</p>

7. Neighbourhood Watch Report

Mrs Jackson, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, had sent apologies for being unable to attend the meeting and reported that between 19 and 20 September a compound on Chequers Hill, Doddington, where Vodaphone and other phone operators transmit from their masts, was entered illegally. The suspects burgled a Portacabin, property of Vodaphone and stole four Batteries

There was an attempted burglary at 3:45 pm on 19 of September of a Grade 2 listed building in Eastling Road Ospringe.

Also reported on Doddington Facebook posted on 24 September was a report of a missing blue floor mat and four seat cushions, presumed stolen, from Doddington Church. The cushions are approximately six feet long by one foot wide.

8. Public Question Time

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Question Time

A resident thanked the Parish Council for ensuring the plane trees at Sunnyside were thinned a few years ago, however the trees have grown and are now encasing the telegraph wires.

ACTION: Clerk to report trees to Optivo and BT.

A resident reported the roads are in need of sweeping and there are weeds growing in the road.

ACTION: Clerk to report to Swale Borough Council.

A resident expressed concern that The Street has been free of dog mess for a long time but recently there has been an unprecedented amount of dog fouling. A resident has cleaned the mess up.

ACTION 1: Clerk to write a letter of thanks to the resident.

ACTION 2: Item to be included in the newsletter report requesting dog owners to clear up after their dogs.

9. War Memorial

Cllr Fraser said Doddington in Bloom will be contacting Swale for funding for plants for the War Memorial. Mr Seyler has planted bulbs at the War memorial.

10. Planning Matters

Cllr Haynes reported the planning application for Woodstock will be going to Swale Planning Committee on 12 October.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Swale Borough Council and reiterate the Council's view.

11. Finance

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Clerk's salary and expenses July- September 2017

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay the Clerk's quarterly salary and expenses of £694.75 (cheque no 1135)

iii. To receive 2nd precept instalment

Cllr Haynes reported £4151.00 has been received.

iv. Invoices for Payment

Tunstall Parish Council £12.00 (share of clerks' conference)

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Tunstall Parish Council £12.00 being a share of the Clerks' Conference (cheque no 1134).

v. Annual Return

Councillors noted there were no comments from the external auditor on the Annual Return.

vi. Half yearly accounts for approval

Item deferred to next month as bank statements had not been received.

12. Defibrillator

Cllr Coates informed Members that he has checked the defibrillator and there are no issues to report.

13. Speed Watch

Cllr Fraser said the results of the Speed Watch sessions were very disappointing and one driver was recorded twice in forty minutes for exceeding the speed limit.

Cllr Jones asked if a sign indicating drivers are entering a Speed Watch area could be erected at either end of the village.

14. Playing Field

i. Monthly report

Cllr Fraser reported Mr Swatland has cut the rough grass areas and he has also cut back the bushes by the garage.

ii. To consider quotation to repaint swing frames

Councillors considered three quotes to repaint the swing frames.

Cllr Haynes **PROPOSED** to accept the quote from Mr Baker; **SECONDED** by Cllr Coates: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

iii. To consider playing field usage

Councillors considered whether to install a trim trail in the Playing Field and agreed to consult with residents through the village newsletter.

ACTION: Clerk to put item in the newsletter.

15. Highways

Cllr Coates reported there had been a serious accident at the Lenham Crossroads and the road was closed to traffic.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Lenham Parish Council to see if they have information regarding recent accidents.

Cllr Fraser said a resident has informed him the 30mph signs at the west end of the village are faded.

ACTION: Clerk to report to KCC.

Cllr Fraser informed Councillors he has reported a leak opposite The Retreat.

16. Correspondence

1. 12.09.17- Cllr Bowles' Newsletter
2. 18.09.17- Faversham Mayor's invitation to coffee morning on 18.11.17
3. 19.09.17- Swale Joint Transportation Board Minutes
4. 20.09.17- KALC Swale Area Committee minutes
5. 21.09.17 Rural Police report
6. 03.10.17- Faversham and District Engagement Forum Agenda for Tuesday 10 October
Cllr Fraser said he is unable to attend the meeting.
Cllr Coates agreed to attend on behalf of the Council.
7. 05.10.17- DCLG Consultation - Disqualification Criteria for Councillors and Mayors
8. 06.10.17- KCC invitation to community transport awayday

Cllr Fraser said he would liaise with Cllr Gunner of Newnham Parish Council to see if the event could be of benefit to the parishes.

17. Any Other Business

No other matters were raised.

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 13 November 2017

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

.....Chairman
Dates 13 November 2017