

# DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Doddington Village Hall on  
Monday 10 September 2018 at 7.30pm

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

Also present were Mr Dave Osborne (Community Warden) and one member of the public.

## 1. Apologies

Cllr Attwood welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Peter Duckworth (personal); apologies accepted.

Apologies had also been received from KCCllr Andrew Bowles and SBCllr Colin Prescott apologies noted.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

No were declared.

## 3. To Determine whether any items should be discussed in closed session

None were identified.

## 4. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 9 July 2018

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2018 as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Attwood.

## 5. MATTERS ARISING

- Funday- Cllr Coates reported it was difficult to come to a conclusion about dogs being permitted on the playing field for the Fun Day as numbers were down due to the inclement weather.
- Church Lane junction- the Clerk reported there has been no response.  
*ACTION: Clerk to contact Kent Highways again.*

## 6. COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Mr Dave Osborne, the Community Warden, reported that on 21 August, a domestic garage was entered illegally and a padlock was stolen, in The Street Doddington. Residents should ensure that any valuable items are not on show in vehicles, including loose change for parking.

Doorstep criminals continue to target vulnerable residents using high pressure sales methods claiming that their pest-guards will keep solar panels free from pigeons and asks for an upfront deposit. A business flyer is also left with the resident.

There is also report of a tax calculation company asking for personal details to give a refund, this is a scam.

Cllr Attwood thanked Mr Osborne for attending and for his report.

## 7. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

Apologies had been received from Mrs Jackson, the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for being unable to attend and the following report was received:

*July was quiet but in 7/8 August two central heating boilers and a wine cooler, among other things, were stolen from The Tapster in Newnham.*

*There was a theft from a home in Lynsted when doors and windows had been left open because of the very hot weather.*

*On 22 August, there was what appeared to be preparation for intrusion at a private garage in Doddington's West End. The padlock was found to have been twisted off the main doors and a security light redirected, presumably so that someone could return at night. On that same day there were two cases of arson between Doddington and Lenham when haystacks were set alight. These caused huge fires but there was no chance of saving them and the fire brigade allowed them to burn out under controlled conditions.*

*During the last few weeks there has been a spate of scam telephone calls, mainly to landline numbers. Some purport to be from HMRC warning that the householder owes a large amount of money and is to be taken to court; others pretend to be from the Telephone Preference Service, saying that a subscription is about to expire. In both cases vulnerable people have already lost money by giving bank or card details. It is important to report all such calls to ACTION FRAUD, either on line or by telephone.*

## **8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No matters were raised.

## **9. WAR MEMORIAL**

Cllr Cuthbert said he had been contacted by a resident regarding the commemoration of the centenary of the end of the Great War and he was concerned that Newnham has arranged bell ringing and a beacon to mark the event and felt it should be a three-parish event. Church bells will be "Ringing Out For Peace" at 7.05pm on 11 November. In July 2019, there will be the centenary of street parties across the country.

*ACTION: Clerk to ascertain if Newnham has any events planned.*

Cllr Haynes reported a further quote has been requested from the stone mason who has indicated he is busy until at the end of the year. Another stone mason has been approached.

*ACTION: Clerk to ascertain if the details of the changes are needed before applying for Listed Building Consent.*

## **10. PLANNING MATTERS**

### i. Ref: 18/503177/FULL

Address: Pine Trees Doddington Lane Doddington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0AX

Proposal: Single storey rear extensions and addition of skylight to existing roof.

*Cllr Cuthbert left the room and took no part in the discussion of decision of this item.*

Councillors considered the application and had no objections to the proposals.

*Cllr Cuthbert returned to the meeting.*

### ii. Any other planning matter received by 9 July 2018

Cllr Haynes said he had not received any comments on the draft letter he had circulated. It was agreed for Cllr Haynes to sign the letter and for the Clerk to submit it.

## **11. FINANCE**

### i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

### ii. Clerk's Pay and Expenses 1 April 2018– 30 June 2018

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mrs W Licence salary £658.06 and expenses £38.10, total of £696.16 (cheque no 1153) and HMRC PAYE £5.00(cheque no 1154)

iii. To consider request for a grant from Carers Support

Councillors considered the request and decline to make a donation.

Invoices for Payment

iv. Any invoice for approval received by 19 July 2018

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay NALC subscription £17.00 (cheque no 1155)

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Village Hall for hall hire January-June 2018 £108.00 (cheque no 1156).

**12. DEFIBRILATOR**

There was nothing to report.

**13. SPEED WATCH**

Cllr Coates said one session was observed by a Councillor Lynsted and Kingsdown Parish Council.

Cllr Jones said the team is trying to demonstrate the impact Speed Watch has had and has asked for statistics, a full report will be given at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr Coates reported that the results to date since 1 April 2018 are that in Doddington there have been ten sessions, one thousand three hundred and two vehicles have passed through, of these there were seventy-four recorded speeding and twenty received first letters and two received second letters. In Wychling there have been three sessions, with five hundred and twenty-three vehicles of which there were ninety-six recorded speeding of which eighteen received first letters and three received second letters.

Cllr Jones said that drivers recorded are not being recorded twice.

Cllr Coates reported that the Police have been to Wychling with their equipment.

**14. PLAYING FIELD**

i. Cllr Duckworth's monthly report

Cllr Duckworth reported the swings still have not been painted even though the contractor had said it would be done week commencing 25 June.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact the contractor again.*

Cllr Duckworth said the date for the play inspection has not been confirmed.

*ACTION: Clerk to ascertain the date.*

Cllr Duckworth reported the moss was not a problem and the area will be monitored. The football net needs to be secured. The litter bin near Dully Hill is too small.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact Swale Borough Council to ascertain when the bins are emptied and if it is possible to have a larger one.*

Cllr Duckworth said the pruning of the bushes along the fence to the garage needs to be reviewed.

*ACTION: The contractor to be asked for a quotation to prune the bushes and remove the arisings.*

ii. To consider request to permit dogs on the Playing Field for the Funday

Councillors considered the further information submitted by the Funday Committee. Concern was expressed that if permission were given for dogs to go on the playing field it might set a precedent. Concern was also expressed about the increase in temporary blindness in children caused by contamination left on the ground after dog mess has been removed.

Cllr Haynes **PROPOSED** that provided there is signage on the gates as well, dogs will be permitted on the Playing Field for the Funday for this year only; **SECONDED** by Cllr Jones: **3- FOR, 1- AGAINST, 1 ABSTENTION- MOTION CARRIED.**

## 15. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS

i. Record Management Policy

ii. Data Protection Policy

iii. Subject Access Request Policy

iv. General Privacy Notice

v. Completion of Data Audit

Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Jones and the Clerk for attending a working group meeting to consider policies for the Parish Council. The General Data Protection Regulations is a huge subject and a common-sense approach has been taken to condense the policies which should be reviewed annually or as necessary.

Cllr Coates **PROPOSED** the policies should be adopted: **SECONDED** by Cllr Jones: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

## 16. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Haynes said he has complained to KCC Highways about the condition of the roads from Doddington to the M2, there is still debris in the village.

*ACTION: Clerk to ask Swale Borough Council when the roads will be swept.*

## 16. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 22.06.18- KCC Rural Transport consultation

2. 25.06.18- KSSAAT thank you letter

3. 29.06.18- KALC Parish News

4. 04.07.18- JTB Minutes

5. 04.07.18 – KALC SAC 20's Plenty

6. 04.07.18- KCPFA Newsletter

7. 06.07.18- Papers for the Faversham & District LEF

8. 06.07.18- KCC Consultation Draft for the Rights of Way Improvement Plan

## 17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Coates said he has received a complaint about the overgrown vegetation at the gas works.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact Doddington Place to request it is cut back.*

Cllr Coates said concern has been raised that signs on street furniture, advertising Eastling School Fete, have not been removed.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact school and request the signs be removed.*

Cllr Haynes informed Members that a letter has been received from SBCllr Colin Prescott: *I have to inform you that after due consideration I have decided not to offer myself as a candidate for the Borough Council elections in May 2019.*

*This has been a difficult and well thought out process. I first considered this many months ago but decided to continue as my love of the ward and my desire to help improve and also maintain rural life was paramount at all times.*

*I have been a Borough Councillor since 1986 when I was elected to Cherwell District Council until moving back to Kent in 1991. After a short break I became councillor for East Downs Ward in 1992, until the present day.*

*Representing this ward has been an immensely satisfying role. I have been able to build my electoral base each election, culminating in 2015 with the highest turnout in Faversham of 53.3%. and a personal percentage of the vote of 75.25%*

*This has only been achieved by diligence and commitment and I am proud that my personal and non partisan dealings within the ward have always been recognised.*

*This second term as the First Citizen of the Borough has been extremely satisfying, culminating in the largest ever sum raised for the mayoral charities, the second largest was during my first term in 2004-05. I have met many organisations and groups who have approached me to combine forces with them to help them in their voluntary work and the call is impelling. I have also been asked to consider a possible business venture within the Borough.*

*Recently I was installed as Vice President of Swale Lions and in the next few weeks I am joining several committees within the voluntary sector.*

*My decision therefore is to continue my commitment to aid and support the community as I have done in my 30 years as a Conservative councillor but in the future it will be in a more varied and useful way.*

*It has been an honour and a pleasure to represent the people of East Downs Ward for so long but rest assured that if I can be of any help to anyone in the future I shall assist in any way that I can.*

**Date of next Meeting:- Monday 10 September 2018**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.42pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Dated: 10 September 2018