

# DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

Also present was Mr Dave Osborne (Community Warden)

## 1 Apologies

All Members were present

Apologies had been received from KCCllr Andrew Bowles (at another meeting) and Ward Member Colin Prescott (unwell); apologies noted.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared

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

It was agreed to consider the KALC Community Award in closed session.

## 4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 November 2018

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2018 as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Attwood.

## 5. Matters Arising

Church Lane junction- the Clerk said she was waiting for the photographs to send to KCC Highways.

Cllr Haynes said a caution sign from the Lynsted direction would alert drivers to the junction.

*ACTION 1: Cllr Cuthbert to re-send the photographs.*

*ACTION 2: Clerk to send photographs to KCC Highways and request a caution sign.*

Retention policy for emails- The Clerk said the Council's Retention Policy applies to all media.

Mobile phone mast – there has been no response to the letter sent to Graham Thomas, Area Planning Officer, Swale Borough Council.

*ACTION: Clerk to follow up.*

The Retreat- there has been no response from Swale Borough Council Enforcement.

## 6. Community Warden Report

Mr Osborne, the Community Warden reported that between 11 and 12 November, a domestic garage was burgled and several power tools including a Mountfield lawn mower were stolen, in Parsonage Stocks Road Faversham.

Between 24 and 26 November, the paintwork of a vehicle was keyed down to the metal in Northdown, Doddington.

Between 1 and 2 December, a maroon Ford Transit, reg. number: LD11 EUJ was stolen from Porters Lane, Ospringe

Over the last weekend, plant pots were stolen from a property in Church Lane.

Residents should call 101 if they see anything suspicious.  
Cllr Attwood thanked Mr Osborne for attending and for his report.

### **7. Neighbourhood Watch Report**

Mrs Jackson, the neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator was unable to attend the meeting and reported that she:

*had received a report from the Rural Division of the Kent police (RLT - Rural Liaison Team) which is dedicated to cracking down on all cases of rural crime from poaching, sheep worrying, trapping of wild birds through to fly tipping. Their team has now increased to 11 officers.*

*Poaching and hare coursing have been a particular problem in our district and officers recently discovered a burnt-out vehicle in a local wood which related to a previously reported Anti-Social Behaviour incident in Doddington, where the vehicle had been seen stuck in fields suspected to be hare coursing. The RLT are now able to serve Criminal Behaviour Orders on known offenders, which means that if caught again trespassing on farm land with dogs, with or without incriminating equipment, they can be sent to jail.*

*Sheep worrying is also part of their remit and there has been a sad case of this in Doddington. Officers attended and spoke to a sheep owner who confirmed that one sheep had to be put down due to injuries sustained and another has survived with a bitten neck requiring vet treatment. The sheep owner had caught the dogs in the act of biting a sheep and could provide police with photographic evidence of this. Forensic evidence was gathered from the scene including swabs from the sheep's injuries. It is suspected that the 2 dogs were also responsible for a livestock worrying incident in Blean where another sheep had to be destroyed due to the injuries sustained. The owner of the dogs has been interviewed and the investigation/prosecution continues.*

Cllr Attwood thanked Mrs Jackson for sending her report.

### **8. Public Question Time**

No members of the public were in attendance.

### **9. War Memorial**

Cllr Attwood said the Council was waiting to receive the quotation for the work.

### **10. Planning Matters**

#### **i. Ref: 18/505237/FULL**

Address: Old Oaks Farm Seed Road Newnham Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0NN

Proposal: Installation of a 6.6 kW ground mounted PV array in the grounds of Old Oaks Farm (approximately 140m from the house) consisting of 2 rows of 12 panels mounted in portrait mode, at an angle of inclination of 35°, giving an overall footprint of 12.3 m by 5.2 m (64 m<sup>2</sup> including gap between the rows)

Councillors considered the application and had no comment to make save that it be noted the site is within the Kent Down Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

#### **ii. Ref: 18/505502/FULL**

Address: Sharsted Lodge Sharsted Road Doddington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0JS

Proposal: Erection of single storey garden room

Councillors considered the application and had no comment to make.

#### **iii. Any other planning matter received by 10 December 2018**

Ref: 18/504774/FULL Address: 2 Stuppington Cottages Norton Road Norton ME9 0HB

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension. Loft conversion with one front and one rear dormer windows. New window to ground floor side of dwelling

Cllr Attwood informed Members that the application has been permitted.

Ref: 18/504562/FULL Address: Ellens Court Lady Margaret Manor Road Doddington  
Proposal: Alterations and extensions to existing residential care home to provide 12no. bedrooms and 2no. self-contained two-bedroom units with associated facilities. Erection of a single storey building to provide 4no. supported living self-contained apartments, a new work shop building and associated landscape works

Cllr Attwood reported the applicants have undertaken to carry out a traffic assessment.  
*Item for January agenda.*

## **11. Finance**

### **i. Councillors Expenses**

There were none

### **ii. Invoices for Payment**

a. Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Doddington Village Hall the half year hall hire of £162.00 (cheque no 1170)

b. Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Wicksteed Leisure Ltd £174.20 for the seat for swing (cheque no 1171)

## **12. Defibrillator**

Cllr Coates said there was nothing to report.

## **13. Speed Watch**

Cllr Fraser said Speed Watch continues to be pro-active although the previous week's session had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. Fifty-five vehicles had been recorded speeding in November and fifty-six in October. Traffic through the village is increasing., in one session two hundred and fifteen vehicles came through the village in one direction seventeen of which were speeding.

Cllr Jones said Lynsted Parish Council is pursuing Speed Watch after receiving advice from the Doddington Speed Watch Team.

Cllr Coates said Speed Watch policy is that sessions do not run if the road is wet, it was also covered in shingle.

## **14. Playing Field**

### **i. Cllr Duckworth's monthly report**

Cllr Duckworth reported Mr Swatland has carried out another cut although Landscape Services have not cut the main field. No further work is required on the corner by the garage. The new swing seat has been delivered and the chains from the old seat will be used. There has been moss growth on the safety matting and this will be treated when the weather is dry.

Cllr Attwood thanked Cllr Duckworth for his report and for his work on the Playing Field.

### **ii. To consider the quotation for playing field maintenance**

Councillors considered the quotation from Landscape Services and noted the work will be invoiced monthly.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quote from Landscape Services.

## **15. Highways**

Cllr Duckworth said the Flood Resilience Meeting held on 16 November was set out as a workshop with Parish Councillors and KCC on each table.

Cllr Coates said there has been very positive feedback from residents.

Cllr Duckworth said there was also help with insurance available for the victims of the flooding.

Cllr Haynes said KCC Drainage Team will be following up the gully cleansing in the village.

Cllr Haynes said KCC Highways could be asked to look into the problem of traffic volume in the village and also the state of the roads. A counter could be used to assess traffic numbers.

Cllr Cuthbert said the Old Lenham Road was jet patched a few months ago. The drains need to be cleansed now the leaves have fallen off the trees.

*ACTION: Clerk to ask KCC to cleanse the drains.*

#### **19. Correspondence**

1. 21.11.18- KALC SAC agenda
2. 21.11.18: Cllr Bowles' newsletter
3. 23.11.18: Kent Police & Crime Commissioner Restorative Justice newsletter
4. 23.11.18: KCC consultation on the draft Kent County Council Libraries, Registration and Archives strategy
5. 27.11.18: SBC Corporate Plan consultation

#### **20. Any Other Business**

No other matters were raised.

#### **18. KALC Community Award 2019**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 it was resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the KALC Community Awards.

**Date of next Meeting:- Monday 14 January 2019**

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

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Dated: 14 January 2019