

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL** held on  
**MONDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2015**, at 13 Orgarswick Avenue, Dymchurch.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Cllr. Roger Wilkins, Vice-Chairman Cllr. Russell Tillson, Cllr. Richard Blackwell, Cllr. Arran. Harvey, Cllr. Denise Meyers, Cllr. Terry Mullard, Cllr. Merlin Redding.

**APOLOGIES:**

Cllr. Paul Brownscombe – working  
Cllr. Ian Meyers - working

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Cllr. Redding declared personal interest in item referring to funding request from Dymchurch PTFA.

**PUBLIC SESSION:** - No members of the public present.

**MINUTES:**

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Blackwell, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 October, 2015 be approved. Carried.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Shepway District Council:**

1. Letter received advising that Jeremy Chambers is looking into issues of street lighting at The Oval. Chairman has offered to host a meeting at the parish council offices with SDC officers and residents of The Oval.
2. SDC officer Brian Feeney has conducted a thorough investigation into yellow lines at Seabourne Way and will be recommending they be approved at the next Joint Transport Board on 30<sup>th</sup> November.
3. Work at the public conveniences, central car park, has discovered the possibility of asbestos in the tank houses. This is being tested at the current time but will require, if positive, licensed contractors to remove the material and delays in completion.
4. Dave Illsley has suggested Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> to meet with Regeneris to discuss a plan for the village. Councillors agreed the date. Clerk to confirm time.
5. Funding arrangements to town and parishes for next year suggests that the Council Tax Reduction grant scheme may not be available after next year. Clerk read the report.

**The Local Government Boundary Commission:**

Final recommendations for an Electoral Review of Kent will be published on 19<sup>th</sup> January.

**Dymchurch and District Heritage Group:**

Letter received expressing interest in sharing the doctor's surgery if the lease becomes available and is affordable.

**The Marsh Academy:**

An invitation has been received to attend the upper school prize evening on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December, commencing at 6pm.

**New Romney Town Council:**

A letter has been sent to The Right Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Secretary of State for Health, expressing concerns of the lack of adequate NHS provision for New Romney and surrounding areas. Supporting documentation was sent with the letter.

**Dymchurch Village Hall Committee:**

AGM will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm. Cllr. Mullard to continue as nominated committee member and the chairman will represent the parish council at the AGM.

**Resident Letter:**

Clerk read letter from Mrs Curwood requesting a cycle path on the seawall. Cllr. Tillson agreed to raise the issue and vehicles on the seawall, at the next Beach Advisory meeting.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

Notification received from Shepway District Council:

Y014/0963/SH      Erection of a single storey side/rear extension.  
98 High Street      Approved by SDC.

Y14/1054/SH      Listed building consent for the above extension.  
98 High Street      Approved by SDC.

**ACCOUNTS:**

Clerk tabled a statement of accounts up to 31 October 2015 and presented a draft budget for 2016/7.

Proposed by Cllr. Wilkins, seconded by Cllr. Tillson, that the accounts be accepted. Agreed

Salaries:	2070.14
HMR&C:	478.08
Keith Rouse:	90.00
J.H. Young Ltd.	14.88
Shepway DC	522.84
Shepway DC	202.54
M. Wood	220.00
M. Coleman	156.00
Contract Security	294.46
Peter Faulkner	154.80
Guy Ashby Ltd	82.00
Peter Goddard	314.00
Veolia ES	114.38
Millennium Quest	3258.00

**DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:**

Nothing to report.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

Clerk tabled diary dates for DPC meetings in 2016.

Christmas Window Competition notices will be hand delivered to traders during November and the leaflet has been put on the trader network site.

Chairman to arrange for independent judge and will ask KCC Cllr. Carole Waters.

Clerk enquired if council required quotes for flooring at the pavilion. Council agreed to wait until confirmation of its required use is known before considering further.

Members of the public have questioned why the disabled toilet has been closed at High Knocke car park. Cllr. Ian Meyers has established that SDC decided it should be closed throughout the winter. Clerk has sent a letter to SDC requesting it be kept accessible to RADAR Key holders but this has been refused. Council requested a letter be sent to SDC challenging its actions under the Equality Act.

Notice has been served on the kiosk leaseholder and the kiosk will return into the council's possession as of 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016. This will enable council to establish what work needs to be carried out and reconsider its future use.

It is understood that Post Office Ltd., are planning to close the current Post Office and move it to a grocery store in the High Street. A letter has been sent to request a meeting with Post Office Ltd., to discuss the situation. Council agreed to support keeping the post office at its current location and will wait a further few days before Post Office Ltd., is contacted again. Resident from Burmarsh Road has made complaint that yellow lines have been installed along Burmarsh Road without consultation with residents. Clerk to write to SDC to challenge the parking enforcement.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Meeting held with KCC Cllr. Carole Waters regarding Highway issues. The outcome was explained later in the meeting.

#### **TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

Cllr. Denise Meyers attended a parish seminar at Canterbury hosted by KCC Highways. KCC does not have sufficient budget to repair Eastbridge Road. It has been placed on a Risk Register and is being monitored. Cllr. Meyers requested the roadside foliage be cut back to assist with vision. KCC expressed concern about St. Marys Road. All street lighting is to be converted and confirmation was sought that only 4kg weight can be installed on lamp posts.

Cllr. Redding attended a Trader meeting, but only 3 traders attended. Christmas lights were discussed together with bins overflowing during the summer season and cleanliness of the beach. Those traders in attendance queried the branding of 'Children's Paradise'.

#### **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS:**

##### **Planning and Strategy Working Group:**

Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 had previously been circulated.

Cllr. Harvey highlighted topics discussed at the meeting and proposed that

1. DPC writes to English Heritage and Romney Marsh Corporation requesting their facilities be opened to the public.
2. Communication be sent to SDC regarding the unacceptable condition of the bus stops in the village.
3. The parish council communicates with Post Office Ltd., to support the current Postmaster in his quest to retain the post office at its current location.

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Blackwell and unanimously supported by full council.

The Planning and Strategy Working Group offered full support to the provision of children's entertainment on the beach next August.

The next Strategy and Planning Group will meet on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at 10am.

**Asset and Amenities:**

Cllr. Tillson outlined a meeting with Children's Entertainer Tim Shephard that was held on 28<sup>th</sup> October. The entertainer has the appropriate insurance and CRB checks. A flexible programme of events during August has been proposed. The cost of entertainment for 16hrs per week, throughout August will be approximately £4K.

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Blackwell that Mr. Shephard be contracted for next season. Voting: unanimous.

Next meeting Asset and Amenities Group will be held at 9.30am on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2015.

**Beach Advisory Group:**

Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October and Minutes were circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr. Tillson highlighted matters raised at the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Denise Meyers, that the parish council requests M. Wood to put preservative on benches on the seawall. Voting: Unanimous.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:**

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for the time and effort it has taken to finally get approval from KCC to install Christmas lighting in the village.

The parish council has been in discussion with KCC for almost 3 years to seek approval to place lighting on lamp post columns in the High Street. Following several failed attempts, KCC has agreed that commando sockets, plugs and timers and one string of lights can be erected onto lamp posts, kept in situ all year and be installed by their chosen contractor.

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Wilkins that the increased revenue received from the pay and display machines at bull's field should be used to fund the cost of sockets, associated installations and Christmas braid lighting.

Voting: Unanimous.

**FUNDING REQUESTS:**

Romney Marsh Day Centre has requested a contribution towards its client's Christmas Lunch and Parties.

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Mullard, that £50 be granted towards Christmas Lunch and Parties.

Together Club has requested a contribution towards its members Christmas Lunch, all members live in Dymchurch and Burmarsh.

Proposed by Cllr. Blackwell, seconded by Cllr. Harvey, that £75 be granted towards Christmas Lunch.

Dymchurch PTFA. A donation of £250 has been requested towards an air conditioning unit in the schools computer room.

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Denise Meyers that £250 be granted towards the project. Voting: Unanimous. (Cllr. Redding declared interest)

Cllr. Mullard requested that DPC meet the cost of road signs for The Royal British Legion Remembrance Parade. The Chairman informed that SDC Officer Tamasin Jarrett is the co-ordinating officer for such matters.

**SPEED SIGN:**

Following a meeting with KCC Cllr. Carole Waters, several Highway issues were discussed. Clerk read the items discussed. Cllr. Waters has kindly offered to fund 50% of the cost of a

speed sign near the entrance to the village (Tesco Express end). The cost of a sign is estimated at £3K.

Proposed by Cllr. Wilkins, seconded by Cllr. Blackwell that the parish council meet the remaining 50% of the cost. Voting: Unanimous.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Cllr. Redding informed that DPC Facebook is attracting a number of likes.

Cllr. Mullard informed that he and Cllr. Tillson will be attending the Marsh Forum on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

Chairman informed he has advised SDC that 'car wash' signs have been erected on lamp posts outside the car sales garage in Dymchurch.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the next meeting of **DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL** will be held on **MONDAY, 14 DECEMBER, 2015** at 7.00pm, at the Parish Council offices, 13 Orgarswick Avenue.

## **AGENDA**

- 1) Receive apologies for absence
- 2) Declaration of Interest (*Councillors should disclose pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest/s in any item/s on this agenda. Councillors with a pecuniary interest must describe and give details of the interest. Unless the pecuniary interest amounts to a prejudicial interest, he/she may participate fully in the meeting.*)
- 3) Public Session
- 4) Approve the Minutes of the last meeting and discuss matters arising
- 5) Read Correspondence
- 6) Consider Planning Applications
- 7) Consider Payment of Accounts
- 8) District Council Report
- 9) Clerk's Report
- 10) Chairman's Report
- 11) To receive reports on meetings attended
- 12) To receive reports from Working Groups
- 13) Budget and Precept
- 14) Any other business (at Chairman's discretion)

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Clerk to Dymchurch Parish Council.