

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Doddington Village Hall on Monday 13 March 2017 at 7.30pm

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

Also present was Community Warden Dave Osborne.

1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from KCCllr Bowles (at another meeting); apology noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

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

None were identified.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 February 2017

Cllr Coates asked for item 10. Planning Matters to be amended to read "He was concerned " instead of "I am concerned..". It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as amended and the confidential minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 13 February 2017. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Attwood.

5. Matters Arising

Cllr Duckworth said Ms Friend had a response from the Environment Agency concerning the flood map which did not fully address her concerns. The matter is ongoing.

Cllr Attwood said the work to move the drain in Ringlestone Road is scheduled to start this week and KCC are chasing up the contractor.

6. Community Warden Report

Mr Osborne, the Community Warden, reported a resident had contacted him about a young man called James knocking on doors trying to sell dusters and claimed to have come from Rochester Young Offenders Prison. He was asking personal questions. Mr Osborne said residents must be careful if they decide to purchase any items as they are expensive and of a poor quality. The local PSCO has been made aware of this issue.

Cllr Coates said that it was significant that the person was asking personal questions and was very pushy.

Mr Osborne said the public are being warned to stay on their guard against phone callers who ask them: "Can you hear me?". The answer is recorded, and if you say "yes", your response will be edited to make it appear as if you've agreed to a huge purchase. People are effectively being tricked into signing a verbal contract, much the same as clicking 'I agree' to terms and conditions online. Voice signatures like these are legitimately used by companies doing business over the phone, but this is being exploited by scammers who have conned many Americans already. CPR Call Blocker has seen the scam rise in frequency and the company believes it's only a matter of time before the UK start being targeted too.

Mr Osborne reported that from 27 March, Royal Mail is changing its regulations so that items that items must not be sent if they contain scam mail or any other similar material, including but not limited to items or mail sent in furtherance of a fraudulent or criminal act, or which in its reasonable opinion is intended to deceive the recipient into parting with money or other assets.

Cllr Attwood thanked Mr Osborne for his report.

7. Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Attwood said a report has been received from the neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. *Here is a summary of events in and around Doddington for February and early March 2017. There was a report on 21st February, initially on the Doddington Facebook page, of a suspicious person purporting to be working as part of a charity scheme selling dusters in the village. His behaviour was very aggressive, so this was a general warning. I circulated the news to the local members, and separately also mentioned the high numbers of vehicle break ins which have been taking place in Faversham and the local environs. Then early in March, the small holding on Hopes Hill was targeted by thieves who stole equipment from the equipment shed and field shelter. They had broken through the stock fences, and it was only by good fortune that the owner made an extra early visit that morning and discovered the damage, otherwise livestock would have escaped onto the road. To my knowledge there has been no more news on either of these local matters. There will be a Community Awareness Event in the Market Square in Faversham on Saturday 18 March, with advice on security and local matters by police, from 10am - 2 pm. I discovered this on the on the Doddington Facebook page which is a very useful forum for local news.*

Report noted.
ACTION: Clerk to circulate to Members.

8. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

9. Planning Matters

No planning matters had been received.
Cllr Duckworth asked if the application for a telecommunications mast had been decided.
Cllr Attwood said the minutes of the Committee meeting had not been published yet.
ACTION: Clerk to circulate details when published.

10. War Memorial

Cllr Attwood reported the posts have been prepared and purchased. The gravel boards and fixings will be purchased before the end of the financial year. Work will not be able to start until the ground under the trees has dried out. Concern has been raised about a sycamore tree which overhangs the War Memorial and the steps, this will have to be a job for the autumn.
Cllr Cuthbert said that there needs to be amendments to the names on the War Memorial.
ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes for amendments to names.

11. Finance

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Clerk's Pay and Expenses 1 Jan 2017– 31 March 2017

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay the Clerk's salary- £621.68 and expenses- £33.42, a total of £655.10 (Cheque no 1111).

iii. Invoices for Payment

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay:

Newington Parish Council £15.32 Arnold-Baker on Local Council Administration 10th edition (1/5 share) (cheque no 1112)

Mr K Attwood £216.00 re-imbusement of invoice from FJ Williams for materials for War Memorial repairs (cheque no 1113)

Mr N Swatland £125.00 second instalment of recreation ground maintenance (cheque no 1114)

Landscape Services £175.45 + £35.09 vat= £210.54, second instalment for Playing Field Maintenance (cheque no 1115).

iv. Any other invoice for approval received by 13 March 2017

No other invoices had been received.

12. Defibrillator

Cllr Coates reported there had been a double fault in the defibrillator cabinet, details of which had been circulated previously for information. The problem is with the fuse carrier and the electrician said the fuse type was causing arcing. The fuse has been change and the problem resolved. There was also a problem with the strobe light and this has been resolved. The key message is that despite the problems the defibrillator is still working. The electrician's response was very good.

Cllr Attwood thanked Cllr Coates for his report and work with the defibrillator.

13. Speed Watch

Cllr Fraser reported there has been three sessions this month with three vehicles being recorded as speeding on the first session and two on the second session. None were recorded on the last session which may mean that the educational deterrent is working. Two sites in Wychling have been risk assessed and approved. The Chairman of the Parish committee has been contacted and asked if anyone wants to join the Speed Watch team.

Cllr Attwood thanked Cllr Fraser for his report and work on Speed Watch.

14. Playing Field

Cllr Duckworth reported that he and Cllr Fraser have cut back the ivy on some of the trees and will continue to work on the remaining trees. The area around the slide and the roundabout have been sprayed with moss killer and the other areas will be done if necessary. The benches need sanding and treating and this will be done after Easter.

Cllr Haynes suggested the benches could be cleaned with a pressure washer and then sanded down and treated.

Cllr Attwood thanked Cllr Duckworth for his report and for the work he and Cllr Fraser have done on the Playing Field.

15. Highways

Cllr Attwood said it has already been mentioned that the work to move the drain in Ringlestone Road is scheduled to start week commencing 13 March. There are numerous pot holes and the one in Down Court Road has been repaired.

Cllr Cuthbert said he has reported two pot holes in the village and also one near the Duke of Wellington which has been repaired.

Cllr Haynes said the thirty mile per hour limit sign going towards Lenham needs to be moved back as it is very difficult to cross the road where the public footpath meets the road.

Cllr Cuthbert said the traffic travels fast in the part of the road.

ACTION: Clerk to contact KCC to request the sign be moved back.

Agenda item for April.

16. Correspondence

1. 20.02.17- JTB agenda- circulated

2. 23.02.17- KALC Parish News- circulated

Cllr Cutherbert said some of the links in the newsletter did not work.

3. 28.02.17- Selling Parish Council requesting reciprocal grievance arrangement

Councillors considered the request from Selling Parish Council and agreed to decline the offer.

4. 09.03.17- Cllr Andrew Bowles's Newsletter- *circulated*

17. Any Other Business

Cllr Haynes said the steps for the footpath by the traffic calming on the Lenham side of the village needs to be looked at by Highways. Initially Highways said it would grass over but this has not happened so it needs to be addressed and a quarter of the steps are now overgrown and need trimming back.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.21pm.

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 10 April 2017

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

.....Chairman
Date: 10 April 2017