

TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 10th March 2014

Present: Cllr. L. Burgess – Chair
Cllr. P. Mitchell – Vice-Chair
Cllr. A. Spicer
Cllr. J. Mills
Cllr. C. Browning
Cllr. I. Davison
Cllr. R. Spencer

Lynda Fisher, Clerk
7 Members of the Public

In the absence of the Chairman, who was late due to a prior commitment over running, the Vice-Chairman Cllr. Mitchell welcomed visitors to the meeting. He explained that the first 15 minutes is set aside for public questions and discussion and asked if anyone had anything to put forward.

Public Time

A member of the public queried the renewal of temporary consent for the mobiles at Tunstall School what does this include – Members responded that it includes a single and a double mobile classroom and the PTA store.

No County or Borough Councillors were present and Members again raised their concerns at this absence; they should be present to listen and take on board issues raised by the people they represent. Apart from the November Meeting, when Cllr. Sylvia Bennett representing the Willicombes was present and the February meeting when County Cllr. Roger Truelove was present, both Borough and the County Councillor have not attended a Parish Council meeting since April, 2013.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman formally welcomed everyone. No apologies have been received from County Cllr. Truelove; the Borough Councillors or the PCSO.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest. A Dispensation has already been granted to all Members relating to Tunstall School.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Chairman arrived and took the Chair at this point. Proposed by Cllr. Browning and seconded by Cllr. Spencer the Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 10th February, 2014, were agreed by Members and signed as a true transcript.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **Clerk updates: ZR136 and flooding Bredgar Road/Hearts Delight Road** –Clerk has asked for the footpath to be cleared of vegetation. KCC Highways Engineers have been out and inspected the area that floods; there is the possibility that a soak away is silted up and they will arrange to have this cleared. They have also cleared away debris from gullies.

2. **Parish Newsletter** – The Winter newsletter has been delayed due agreement not being reached on an article. Members agreed that it is a ‘Parish Council’ newsletter, relating to work carried out and issues within Tunstall. It was proposed by Cllr. Spicer and seconded by Cllr. Browning that Cllr. Mitchell prepares the newsletter and then circulates to all Members for agreement (as before); all agreed. It was also proposed by Cllr. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr. Spicer that on this one occasion due to the proposed enlargement of the Parish Council, the newsletter includes the Ecclesiastical Parish – motion not agreed.

5. Planning

New Applications:

1. **KCC/SW/0042/2014 – Renewal of planning consent SW/11/1451 for the retention of a single and a double mobile classroom unit and PTA Store – Tunstall C E Primary School, Tunstall, ME9 8DX**
It was proposed by Cllr. Spicer and seconded by Cllr. Spencer, all agreed that the Parish Council objects to the retention of the mobiles on the grounds that the buildings are not fit for purpose and the children should not be educated in these conditions.

However, the Parish Council does recognise that there is a need for them to remain until a decision has been made on the new School application KCC/SW/0025/2014 and will therefore not oppose the mobiles remaining on a temporary basis on the proviso that should the new school application be refused, Kent County Council takes urgent action to find an alternative solution to this accommodation problem.

Should the new school application be refused, Tunstall Parish Council would like to work closely with Kent County Council, the Diocese and the School to explore all viable options to ultimately benefit the pupils and staff at Tunstall C. of E. School.

2. **SW/14/0085 – Proposed rear ground floor extension – 80 Sterling Road, Tunstall, ME10 1SL** – Members raised no objection to this application.

Determined Applications:

1. **SW/13/1494 – Erection of single storey rear annexe – Willow House, Tunstall ME10 1YG** – Refused by Swale Borough Council

6. Addressing Swale Borough Council’s March Planning Committee Meeting

The School proposal is not being considered at Swale’s March meeting. It was agreed that Cllr. Mitchell produces a draft statement at the April meeting. **Action: Cllr. Mitchell**

6. Finance

1. **Coffin Pond** – Clerk advised she has completed the Local Member Grants Scheme Form, accepting the offered grant of £600 towards the cost of repairing Coffin Pond. Despite e-mailing, the Clerk has heard nothing further from the contractor Graham Johnson. It was agreed to go out for tender again making sure that contractors are aware that they need to make provision for traffic lights. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Citizen’s Advice Bureau – Request for Donation** – Proposed by Cllr. Davison and seconded by Cllr. Browning, all agreed to donate the sum of £100.
3. **Action with Communities in Rural Kent – Subscription Renewal 2014/15** – Members agreed not to renew this subscription.
4. **Cheques raised at this meeting:**

The following cheques were signed and the accounts to the 28th February, 2014, approved.

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
10.03.14	0981	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax – Jan 2014	£44.60p
10.03.14	0982	L. Fisher	Expenses – Tele; home as office Feb 2014	£9.33p
10.03.14	0983	Tunstall PCC	Hire of Hall 10.03.14	£12.50p
Three Cheques in total				

Paid by Direct Debit – L. Fisher – Wages, February, 2014: £178.90p

6 Correspondence

1. **Christmas and New Year Storms** – Report from KCC noted.
2. **Swale borough local plan: part 2 - issues and options consultation for gypsy and traveller site allocations** – Requests for sites noted; no action.
3. **KALC; Sustainable Communities Act** – Noted with interest
4. **KALC: South and South East in Bloom** – Cllr. Mitchell to attend the workshop in Doddington.
5. **KALC - Sevenoaks Town Council Submission to Sustainable Communities Act (Ref 52f9f9e23c3c4) - needing local council support** – Agreed to support this initiative.
6. **KALC Repeal of S.150 Of The LGA 1972** – Noted the repeal of the two signature rule relating to cheques.
7. **Review of Polling Districts** – Arrangements noted.
8. **Local Audit and Accountability Act - Openness of Local Government Bodies Draft Regulations** – Noted. Members raised concern that the public might not be aware that they could be included in any videoing of meetings, plus that this could deter people from becoming Parish Councillors.

8. Any Other Matters Arising

1. Pothole repairs in Hearts Delight Road are programmed for later in the year.
2. The Clerk has received an e-mail from a resident, which was circulated to all Members, querying the delay in publishing the Minutes. This is due to the need for them to be agreed at the following meeting; Cllr. Mitchell to put an explanatory note in the Parish Council's newsletter.

11. Next Meeting(s)

The next Meeting will be on Monday 7th April, 2014, commencing at 6.45 p.m. in the Midwinter Room, St. John the Baptist Church, Tunstall.

The meeting closed at 09.35 p.m.