

## **MINUTES OF DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

held on **MONDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2015**, at 13 Orgarswick Avenue, Dymchurch.

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

4 members of the public and parish clerk.

### **APOLOGIES:**

Cllr. Merlin Redding – away

Cllr. Ian Meyers - working

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Blackwell, that the meeting be adjourned for public session. Meeting adjourned at: 7.02pm.

### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

Mrs. Ochoa raised concern about the poor condition of bus stops in the village. Chairman informed a report has been sent to SDC outlining the condition of the bus stops and the parish council will write again to request they receive maintenance. Mrs. Ochoa said parking in Seabourne Way is a major problem and pavements are dangerous. Speeding in St. Mary's Road is also of concern.

Meeting resumed at 7.15pm

### **MINUTES:**

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Mullard, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, be approved. Carried.

### **MATTERS ARISING:**

Cllr. Blackwell mentioned the public session had raised the same comments as at the last meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

#### **Shepway District Council:**

1.Eight new litter bins are to be installed from The Redoubt up to Kingdom Hall along the seawall.

3.Notification received that SDC is reviewing its cemetery regulations at Hawkinge. The plan is to make the main avenue through the site one way, so funeral corteges can enter the main gates without being passed by vehicles leaving the cemetery.

#### **Kent County Council:**

1.A highway engineer is due to meet with the chairman and KCC Cllr. Carole Waters to discuss the issues of Eastbridge Road on 13<sup>th</sup> August.

2.Following concerns raised by members of the public at the last parish council meeting, KCC Highways was asked to consider the condition of the footway at Seabourne Way. KCC has advised that officers have walked Seabourne Way and found nothing that meets KCC's intervention levels (20mm deep). With regards to Mitcham Road, an order for patching works on the footway has been made.

Similar situation with regards to pot-holes on the A259. Patching work has been requested on the carriageway opposite Tesco Express but the work will need to be carried out when the road is closed, which is why it takes a bit longer to have the work done. The carriageway between High Street and Young's Builders has had some repairs done but the contractor missed some of the works which were on the order. The contractor has been asked to return to complete the works.

3. KCC Cllr. Carole Waters has informed she has been quoted £750 for a temporary speed check to be placed in Dymchurch and would like the parish council's view if a speed check is required. Council felt a speed check during summer would be fruitless as the village is too busy, also as no fines are issued from a temporary speed check, the value of it was questioned.

**Damian Collins MP.**

The parish council wrote to KCC and copied a letter to Damian Collins regarding Eastbridge Road and asked for his support. His response has been to send a copy of KCC's reply to the chairman.

**Orgarswick Avenue Doctor Surgery:**

Information received that Orgarswick Avenue Surgery patients will move across to the Martello Practice in Chapel Road. Patients who do not wish to transfer to Martello Practice will be registered at the Church Lane Surgery in New Romney. It is expected that a number of staff from Orgarswick Avenue will move to the Martello Practice.

Council expressed concern that patients had not been written to and asked the clerk to make enquiries with NHS England.

**R. Flisher Ltd:**

Following the chairman's letter sent to Mr. Flisher offering a donation towards a Christmas Tree in the village, Mr. Flisher has advised that he will put a tree in the village this year, but does not want a donation from the council. Instead, he has requested the sum be put towards other Christmas decorations in the high street.

Council agreed to arrange a meeting with Traders regarding Christmas Trees over Shops and Christmas festivities. Cllr. Redding was nominated to make arrangements with the Traders for a meeting to take place at the Village Hall.

**Tesco Express:**

Following the council's persistence with Tesco to try to obtain financial assistance with the cost of a speed sign outside Tesco Express, a response has finally been received stating it is not in a position to assist with funding.

**Kent Wildlife Trust:**

With approval from the EA, a Mosaic Day will be held on the seawall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August from 10.30am. Residents and visitors will be able to make a mosaic by the beach and have a chance of cutting and sticking flakes on to a pre-prepared board.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

Y15/0497/SH                      Temporary siting of mobile log home for 8 years.  
18 Kingsway.                      Approved by SDC.

Y15/0532/SH                      First floor side extension and detached garage.

108 High Street            Approved by SDC.

Y15/0568/SH            Two storey side extension.  
2 Eastbridge Rd.        Refused by SDC.

Y15/0596/SH            Erection of 2.4m high palisade fencing & hard standing with 5  
New Beach Holidays    storage containers and maintenance workshop facilities.  
Proposed by Cllr. Mullard, seconded by Cllr. Tillson that  
No objection be raised.  
Voting: For:7 Against:0 Abstentions: 0 Interest declared:0

Y15/0774/SH            Erection of a detached dwelling  
Land at                    Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Wilkins that  
24 Hythe Rd.            Objection be raised on the grounds of over intensive  
development of site and no material change from previous  
application.  
Voting: Unanimous

**ACCOUNTS:**

Clerk advised Barclays Hythe Branch is to close on Friday 6 November 2015.  
Discussions with the bank has identified that the parish council should consider online banking. Clerk highlighted security issues and ways of monitoring. Council agreed this was the way forward.

Proposed by the chairman, seconded by Cllr. Denise Meyers, that online banking be introduced.

Voting: For: 6 Against: 1 Abstentions: 0

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

Salaries	1946.74
HMR&C	447.68
Take One Media	720.00
Metcalfe and Sharp	150.00
Guy Ashby Ltd.	81.00
KALC	75.00
Contract Security	294.46
Peter Goddard	314.00
Keith Rouse	79.00
M. Coleman	156.00
Post Office	126.00
Affinity Water	299.25

**DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:**

Cllr. Wilkins informed planning issues in Elham Valley were continuing.

Cllr. Blackwell requested district councillor to enquire how much loss of revenue was caused by travellers taking over the car park for 2 days.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

EA has requested the newly erected village sign be moved to the west by about 1.5 meters. The sign was placed in the exact position identified by the EA, but it has transpired that EA

maintenance vehicles for the fall-out cannot get past the sign. EA will meet the cost of moving the sign.

KCC Cllr. Carole Waters asked if she could loan the skateboard ramp at the recreation ground for a month to see if it is used at Lydd. Cllr. Waters will arrange for its removal and reinstallation. Councillors agreed.

Clerk informed she will be away from 17<sup>th</sup> August for one week. The chairman will be away from 24<sup>th</sup> August for one week.

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

Chairman informed that former councillor John Wraight had passed away.

The Royal British Legion Dymchurch Branch is planning a street party next year to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Other local groups and organisations will be invited to join in the event. The chairman purchased a Romney Marsh flag for the village and it has been raised in central car park.

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

Cllr. Tillson attended the New Romney Training Session for Councillors, and he has been appointed to a New Romney Working Group to consider a Nuclear Waste Proposal. He also attended the Marsh Forum and reported a constitution is to be adopted.

Cllr. Denise Meyers, Cllr. Redding and Cllr. Brownscombe also attended the New Romney Training Session for Councillors.

Cllr. Mullard attended the Village Hall Management Committee meeting.

#### **WORKING GROUPS:**

##### **Beach Advisory Group:**

Minutes of the meeting were sent to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr. Tillson briefed councillors of the meeting and suggested the Asset and Amenities Working Group produce a report on options and responsibilities for providing entertainment during a summer season. All agreed.

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

Minutes of the meeting were sent to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr. Harvey informed that SDC officers attended the working group meeting to explain the Coastal Revival Fund process. Council agreed to involve Traders with the process of preparing a plan for the village and this shall be discussed at the meeting being planned with Traders.

At the meeting, councillors raised concerns about caravan parks and will meet with Damian Collins MP in September to raise their concerns.

##### **Assets and Amenities:**

Cllr. Redding has set-up a Face book page on behalf of the parish council.

#### **COUNCIL ASSETS:**

Council had an open discussion on its capital assets and were made aware that the pavilion and council offices are not Equality Act compliant. Any views on selling assets to meet the cost of improvements were deferred. An options paper will be commissioned and circulated in due course.

#### **CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS:**

Prior to the meeting the clerk distributed costs to councillors on a local company's fees and charges for festive lighting. The charges which include adaptations to lamp posts to

accommodate lighting will exceed £9k. Cllr. Tillson suggested that Christmas trees be erected above shops, as before, subject to Traders approval. All Agreed.

**DYMCHURCH AND DISTRICT HERITAGE GROUP:**

Clerk informed that SDC has given approval for a sign to be replaced at the corner of Orgarswick Avenue and that the sign will be incorporated in a licence that is currently being drawn up for the sign on central toilets and flag poles in the car park.

Council considered a payment towards the Heritage Trail sign.

Proposed by the chairman, seconded by Cllr. Tillson that £300 be granted towards the cost of a new sign. Voting: For: 6 Against:1 Abstentions: 0

It was agreed that the chairman be granted delegated powers for the Council to approve the design, when presented by the Dymchurch and District Heritage Group.

**FREE PARKING FOR COUNCILLORS AT BULLS FIELD:**

Cllr. Mullard presented his case for parish councillors to be granted free parking at Bulls Field and suggested that residents would expect parish councillors to be granted free parking as a thank you for the work they do.

Cllr. Harvey said it was totally unreasonable for councillors to have privileged free parking when the parish council has just raised the cost of a resident parking permit by 25%.

Proposed by Cllr. Mullard, seconded by Cllr. Blackwell that it is unreasonable for councillors to have to pay to use its own car park.

Voting: For: 1 Against: 3 Abstentions: 3

The motion was lost.

Cllr. Mullard questioned why the parish council employs a part-time car park attendant during the school holidays.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the next meeting of **DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL** will be held on **MONDAY, 14<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2015**, at the Parish Council offices, 13 Orgarswick Avenue, at 7pm.

## **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) Working Groups:
- 13) Jet – skis
- 14) Any other business (at Chairman's discretion)

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Clerk to Dymchurch Parish Council.