

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held in Doddington Village Hall on Monday 12 May 2025

Present: Cllr Colin Jones (Vice Chairman) Cllr Kevin Attwood, Cllr Graham Cuthbert. Cllr Kevin Fraser, and Cllr Linda Lumsden; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Jones took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Steve Coates (holiday) and Cllr Kirsty Clark (personal), apologies accepted. Apologies had also been received from County Councillor Rich Lehmann Thompson (at another meeting) and Ward Member Terry Thompson (at another meeting): apologies noted.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Jones **PROPOSED** Cllr Coates to the office of Chairman; **SECONDED** by Cllr Fraser: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Coates will sign his Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Cuthbert **PROPOSED** Cllr Jones to the office of Vice Chairman; **SECONDED** by Cllr Fraser: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Jones signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

4. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO EXTERNAL BODIES

i. To confirm - Representatives at KALC Swale Committee Meetings

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that Cllr Coates be the KALC Swale Area Committee representative.

ii. To confirm – Representative of Swale Eastern Area Committee

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that Cllr Fraser be the Swale Eastern Area Committee representative

iii. To confirm and update - Councillors areas of Interest

Councillors' areas of interest were **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** as follows:

Finance- Cllr Coates (Chairman), Cllr Cuthbert and Cllr Lumsden

Planning- Cllr Attwood and Cllr Coates

Playing Field- Cllr Fraser and Cllr Clark

Highways- Cllr Jones

Defibrillator- Cllr Coates

Speed Watch- Cllr Fraser (Lead Member), Cllr Coates and Cllr Jones

HR Manager- Cllr Lumsden

5. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Cllr Jones **PROPOSED** that Doddington Parish Council, having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General

Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, adopts the General Power of Competence until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Parish Council: AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.
6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr Attwood declared a pecuniary interest in item 13.i. Proposed Highsted Park development as landowner within the application a pecuniary interest. It was agreed to move the items to the end of the meeting.
7. TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY ITEMS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION None.
8. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 APRIL 2025 It was AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting. Cllr Jones duly signed the minutes.
9. MATTERS ARISING All matters on agenda
10. POLICE REPORT PC Chittim was unable to attend and submitted a report on current frauds. <i>ACTION: Clerk to submit the report to the Newsletter.</i>
11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME No members of the public were in attendance.
12. HIGHWAYS Cllr Jones reported that the road markings at West End have been refreshed. Cllr Fraser said the Highways portal shows the 30mph sign, from Wychling, has been replaced, the sign had faded. <i>ACTION: Cllr Fraser to check.</i> Cllr Jones reported that a road sweep requested on 9 January still has not been carried out, KCCllr Lehman is chasing this; Swale Borough Council chased Suez on 8 May and is disappointed this has not been carried out. Cllr Jones said an email has been received regarding chalk from trailers falling onto the road. <i>ACTION: Cllr Attwood to follow up.</i>
13. PLANNING MATTERS i. <u>Proposed Highsted Park</u> Ref: 21/503914/EIOUT Location: Land South And East Of Sittingbourne Kent Ref: 21/503906/EIOUT Location: Land To The West Of Teynham London Road Teynham Deferred to end of meeting. ii. <u>Any planning matter received by 12 May 2025</u> 23/503908/FULL Southdown And Periwinkle Cottage Chequers Hill Doddington ME9 0BN Proposal: <u>Conversion of existing dwelling to 4no. residential apartments including part demolition and erection of a single storey side extension and a two storey rear extension, erection of two storey extensions to either side of existing cottage, and erection of 4no. new residential dwellings, with associated parking, biodiversity and landscape enhancements.</u> Awaiting decision.

25/500835/FULL The Granary The Street Doddington Kent ME9 0BH

Proposal: Erection of a single storey side extension to boot room and installation of roof light

Awaiting decision.

24/503017/FULL Solomons Temple Frangbury Doddington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0NX

Proposal: Erection of a single storey side extension, erection of a new replacement double garage with garden/log store, shower and home office above Loft conversion with roof lights including replacement windows and changes to fenestration. Erection of a boundary wall with pedestrian gate a vehicle entrance gate including widening of existing driveway and creation of a courtyard garden.

Revised details - Amended plans and change of description

Awaiting decision.

14. FINANCE

i. Parish Council Allowances: To agree allowances for the year

It was **AGREED** that mileage be 45p per mile.

ii. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

iii. Precept - To confirm receipt

£4695- 1st instalment received

iv. Invoices for Payment

a. KALC subscription

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay the KALC subscription of £299.80 (cheque no 1408).

b. HugoFox: website

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay by Direct Debit, £143.86

v. To consider Insurance quotation

The Clerk reported that she was waiting for further quotations.

It was agreed to review this when quotations have been received.

vi. To consider request for a grant from CAB Swale

Councillors considered the request and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to make a grant of £100 to CAB Swale which helps residents in the parish (cheque no 1410).

vii. To consider request for a grant from Swale Pride.

Councillors considered the request for a grant and noted the application did not fulfil the Council's grant making criteria.

15. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Fraser reported that the Speed Watch sessions continue in the village and thanked the volunteers for their support throughout the year.

16. PLAYING FIELD

i. Cllr Fraser's monthly report

Cllr Fraser said there was little to report. The play area repairs had not been carried out.

ACTION: Clerk to chase.

Cllr Jones thanked Cllr Fraser for his work at the Playing Field.

ii. To consider request from Fete Committee to allow dogs on the field during the Fete
Cllr Jones **PROPOSED** that provided the Fete Committee continues to meet the criteria set down, dogs will be permitted on the field during the Fete without the need for further annual requests: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 16.04.25- KCC Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Hopes Hill, Doddington - 15th April 2025
2. 17.04.25- NALC CEO bulletin
3. 24.04.25- Maidstone Borough Council: Heathlands Garden Settlement Drop In Sessions
4. 24.05.25- NALC CEO bulletin
5. 24.04.25- Emergency Road Closure - The Street, Newnham - 23rd April 2025
6. 01.05.25- NALC CEO bulletin
7. 08.05.25- NALC CEO bulletin
8. 12.05.25- resident concern about chalk falling off trailers onto road.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Jones informed Members that The Queen's Regimental Riders Association is holding the formal opening of the Horticultural Rehabilitation Centre in Kennels Field and Cllr Fraser will be the Council's representative.

Cllr Fraser said it is an open day for the local parishes and residents are welcome to attend.

Cllr Jones reported that there had been no formal approach to use the Playing Field for yoga classes.

13. PLANNING MATTERS

Cllr Attwood left the meeting and did not take part in the discussion of this item.

i. Proposed Highsted Park

Ref: 21/503914/EIOUT Location: Land South And East Of Sittingbourne Kent

Ref: 21/503906/EIOUT Location: Land To The West Of Teynham London Road Teynham

Cllr Fraser reported that the Public Inquiry continues.

Cllr Lumsden suggested another public meeting be held to update residents.

ACTION: *Cllr Fraser will raise this with the wider group.*

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 9 June 2025

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 9 June 2025