

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Doddington Village Hall on
Monday 3 April 2023

Present: Cllr Steve Coates (Chairman), Cllr Kevin Attwood, Cllr Graham Cuthbert, Cllr Kevin Fraser and Cllr Alison Shaw:
and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present were County Councillor Rich Lehmann, Ward Member David Simmonds and one member of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Coates welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Apologies had been received from Cllr Peter Duckworth (unwell); apologies accepted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Attwood declared a pecuniary interest in item 9.ii as owner of the adjoining property and item 9.ii as owner of the neighbouring property.

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 MARCH 2023

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
Cllr Coates duly signed the minutes as a true record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Coates said a resident had raised an issue about a leak in Lady Margaret Manor Road. The matter has been reported and the resident informed. Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Attwood for his assistance.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

Cllr Coates said there had been an accident in The Street involving a drunk driver.
Cllr Cuthbert said purses are being stolen in Sittingbourne.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Question Time

SBCllr Simmons reported that the Appeal for Horseshoes Farm Elverland Lane was dismissed by the Planning Inspector. Hopefully this will enable enforcement on other temporary permissions and will help protect the AONB. SBCllr Simmons said that the Planning Inspector had been given very thorough evidence at the appeal hearing. Problems with missed bin collections have been raised and there will be a meeting with officers after Easter. Concern has been raised regarding litter in the village, this was reported and the officer said it was relatively not too bad.

Cllr Coates thanked SBCllr Simmons for attending and for his report. A resident had previously organised a litter pick in Ringlestone Road and Councillors pick up rubbish when they see it. Cllr Coates and Cllr Jones have been liaising with Ospringe Parish Council and

Newnham Parish Council regarding issues in Elverland Lane and would try to set up another informal meeting to discuss common issues.

KCCllr Lehmann said he was conscious of the issues with pot holes and road surface condition in the village. Everyone should report faults on the KCC Highways portal, the more reports lodged the more likely things will be done. Kent County Council has been allocated a fraction of what is needed for highways repairs.

Cllr Coates thanked KCCllr Lehmann for attending and for his report.

The meeting was reconvened.

8. HIGHWAYS

i. To receive an update

Cllr Jones said the Council carried out its own survey of The Street and the Clerk logged the faults on the portal. We have suggested to Alan Blackburn, Kent County Council Highways Manager Swale, that rather than patch the road it would be better to resurface the whole road.

Cllr Cuthbert said the repairs were of poor quality.

Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Jones and Cllr Fraser for their help in conducting the survey.

ii. Drainage and Flooding

Cllr Jones said the next scheduled work will take place in the summer. He and Cllr Attwood met Helen Whately MP on her site visit, she was very impressed with the work which had been carried out to date.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Cllr Attwood left the room and did not take part in the discussion or decision of these items.

i. Ref: 23/501035/FULL

Address: Temple Lodge Frangbury Doddington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0NX

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension and loft conversion including 2no. rooflights to the front elevation and 2no. rooflights to the rear elevation.

Councillors considered the application and had no objection to the proposal.

ii. Ref: 23/501189/LBC

Address: Solomons Temple Old Lenham Road Doddington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0NX

Proposal: Investigation and opening up works to Grade II listed building.

Councillors considered the application and had no objection to the proposal.

iii. Any other planning matter received by 3 April 2023

Ref: 23/500529/FULL Address: Hill Crest Dully Hill Doddington Kent ME9 0BY

Proposal: Erection of a single storey front and rear extensions and changes to fenestration.

Cllr Coates said a decision is yet to be made.

10. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

There was no update.

11. FINANCE

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Invoices for Payment

There were none

iii. To consider donation to Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance Trust

Councillors considered the request and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to give £100 to the Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance Trust.

12. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Fraser reported that the Police Inspector responsible for Community Speed Watch visited the team during a recent session and was pleased with what the Speed Watch team does.

13. PLAYING FIELD

i. Cllr Fraser's monthly report

Cllr Fraser reported that he had completed the repairs to the toddler tower following advice from the contractor adjusting the gate. The western gate has been dealt with but there is still a minor issue with the eastern gate, the dampener may need replacing next year. The trees which have been flagged up in the arboricultural report are scheduled for action. One of the trees which overhangs the pavement may not be on Parish Council land. The repairs regarding a trip hazard at the eastern gate have been carried out although there may be further work to be done as this issue is more than was expected.

Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Fraser for his report and sterling work.

ii. To consider quotations for Playing Field peripheral maintenance

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation of £420 from Mr Nick Swatland for the peripheral maintenance of the Playing Field.

iii. Playing Field gates

A quote from GB Sports had been accepted. Subsequently Maylow Construction Ltd tendered £348.00 to adjust gates and repair footpath trip hazard. This was circulated and it was agreed to cancel the order with GB Sports and to accept the second quote.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 15.03.23- KCC Highways: Urgent Road Closure - The Street, Newnham - 13th March 2023
2. 16.03.23- NALC: Newsletter
3. 20.03.23- Kent Local Authority Chief Executive's Weekly Policy Round Up
4. 22.03.23- NALC: Newsletter
5. 23.03.23- NALC: CEO bulletin
6. 27.03.23- Kent Police: Violence Against Women and Girls Community Engagement Event
7. 27.03.23- Kent Local Authority Chief Executive's Weekly Policy Round Up
8. 27.03.23- NALC: CEO bulletin
9. 28.03.23- KCC PROW: notice of temporary footpath closures
10. 29.03.23- KALC Swale Area Committee: draft minutes
11. 29.03.23- NALC: Newsletter

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Information Items only

Cllr Coates reminded everyone that nomination forms need to be taken to Swale House by 4pm Tuesday 4 April. All candidates have to complete an election expenses form even if there is not an election.

Cllr Coates said the June meeting needs to be changed due to holidays.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to change the meeting to 5 June

Cllr Shaw circulated a report on the traffic calming beds in the village.

Cllr Coates said his initial approach to the school had not been successful and that he will try again.

Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Shaw for her report.
16. CLERK'S ANNUAL APPRAISAL Deferred to next meeting.

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 15 May 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 15 May 2023