

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Doddington Village Hall on
Monday 14 November 2022

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

Also present were County Councillor Rich Lehmann and Ward Member David Simmons.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Coates welcomed everyone to the meeting.
All Members were present.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Attwood declared a pecuniary interest in item 10 being the applicant to alter the Public Right of Way.

3. TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY ITEMS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

None were identified.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2022

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 (except those issues appearing under specific headings)

The Retreat

Cllr Coates reported that he and Cllr Jones had attended an informal meeting with representatives from Ospringe and Newnham Parish Councils. It was a useful meeting and Ospringe Parish Council has written to Swale Borough Council Planning Enforcement to request a meeting regarding the enforcement issues on this site.

War Memorial

Cllr Coates informed Members that the hedging has been ordered, expected delivery is November to December.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

Cllr Coates said that Sally Mills, the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator has reported that there were no incidents in October.

Cllr Coates said the PCSO report raised an issue with anti-social behaviour at St John's Church but the Church Wardens were unaware of any problems in the church yard.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Question Time

SBCllr Simmons said that he had attended the Remembrance service at Throwley Church, as well as reading out the names of the fallen the ages, place of burial and occupation were

given. This might be something which Doddington and Newnham may wish to consider and add to the service “roll call”.

Cllr Cuthbert said the research for Doddington and Newnham was carried out for the centenary.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate details to Members.

KCCllr Lehmann reported that Kent County Council had voted at the last Full Council meeting to implement the bus subsidy cuts meaning that the bus service will stop in Doddington in February. KCC will still have to pay for transport to school and KCCllr Lehmann is trying to establish if the cost of this is enough to keep the service running. Also, he will meet with Chalkwell and also look into the Kent Karrier service.

Cllr Coates thanked the Councillors for attending and for their report.

The meeting was reconvened.

8. HIGHWAYS

i. To receive an update

Cllr Fraser reported that Kent Highways contractors have patched from the Ringlestone Road to the Playing Field.

Cllr Cuthbert said the rest of The Street needs to be repaired as it is dangerous for cyclists.

Cllr Coates said the Clerk had reported the issue regarding the ROAD CLOSED signs and Gary Gibbs, KCC Highways Steward, says it is best to use the on-line tool to report this.

ii. Drainage and Flooding

Cllr Jones reported that the first stage of the flood mitigation works has been completed and the new ponds and bunds proved effective during recent heavy rainfall, there has been positive feedback from residents. The expansion of the Kings Acre lagoon will be the next project. There will be a similar programme of works at the lower end next year.

Cllr Coates said that this is a success story and it was important to publicise this.

Cllr Coates thanked Mr Oldfield and Mr Attwood for their generous help with the project and Cllr Jones for his endeavours in bringing this about.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

i. Ref: 22/504456/LAWPRO

Address: 1 Down Court Cottages Down Court Road Doddington Sittingbourne ME9 0AT

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate for proposed installation of 12 x Photo Voltaic panels to the south facing (rear) roof slope of the property.

Councillors noted the application and raised no objections.

ii. Ref: 22/505051/TCA

Address: Saddlers The Street Doddington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0BH

Proposal: Conservation Area Notification: Fell one poplar tree because large branches dropped off since being pollarded. Large growth of Ivy in the centre of the tree. Height of the tree currently is 85 feet which has the potential to go over in high wind.

Councillors noted the application and raised no objections.

iii. Any planning matter received by 14 November 2022

Cllr Coates reported that he had written to Swale Borough Council regarding the pause of the Local Plan and the effect on policy regarding the provision of Gypsy and Traveller sites (Action from last meeting).

10. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Planning Inspectorate ROW/3280233: Adjacent Victoria Bungalow, The Street, ME9 0BX

Cllr Coates said the Council had not been informed of the new hearing date, the order has been confirmed and the footpath will stay where it is. Concern has been raised by a member of the public today that the step to the gate has been removed and there is now a two-foot drop.

Cllr Attwood said that this constitutes an obstruction.

ACTION 1: Clerk to report

ACTION 2: Cllr Coates to provide photographic evidence

ACTION 3: Clerk to inform resident of action

Public Footpath ZR283 (Part), Doddington Proposed Extinguishment
Public Footpath ZR281 (Part), Doddington and Milstead Proposed Diversion -
PROW/ZR281/1610

Councillors noted the application and raised no objections.

11. FINANCE

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Invoices for Payment

a) It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Newington Parish Council £27.83 (cheque no 1310) being share of Local Council Administration.

b) It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Commercial Services £204.84 (cheque no 1311) in respect of grounds maintenance.

c) It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay KALC £60.00 (cheque no 1312) for planning training course.

Cllr Coates informed Members that the National Salary Award has been agreed and will be implemented from 1 April 2022.

12. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Fraser said Speed Watch sessions continue in the village and all data is reported to the Police.

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

13. PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Fraser reported that there is moss growth on all the surfaces except the new equipment, and this will be treated when the weather is dry. The play area inspection will take place on 9 January 2023. There has been petty anti-social behaviour with the swings being thrown over the top and this will be monitored. The goal post is yet to be repaired.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 11.10.22- letter of thanks from resident
2. 12.10.22- Kent Highways: Temporary Road Closure – Faversham Road, Wychling & Doddington – 31st October 2022
3. 13.10.22- NALC CEO bulletin
4. 14.10.22- Kent Highways: Forward Work Programme
5. 18.10.22- Kent Highways: Urgent Road Closure – Hopes Hill, Doddington – 24th October 2022
6. 18.10.22- NALC CEO bulletin
7. 21.10.22- National Highways: M20 Moveable Barrier and overnight closure
8. 24.10.22- NALC CEO bulletin
9. 26.10.22- Kent Highways: Emergency Road Closure – Lady Margaret Manor Road, Doddington – 25th October 2022
10. 31.10.22- NALC CEO bulletin

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">11. 02.11.22- KCC bus funding reduction consultation update12. 02.11.22- Kent Highways: Urgent Road Closure – The Street, Doddington – 9th November 202213. 07.11.22- NALC CEO bulletin |
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<p>15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p>

<p>Cllr Shaw said the facilitator of the planning training promised to send slides from the event.</p>
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<p><i>ACTION: Clerk to chase.</i></p>

<p>Cllr Fraser said he had been asked if the Christmas tree could be put up before the panto. Cllr Cuthbert said that it could be done if help were available.</p>
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<p>Cllr Coates thanked everyone for attending.</p>
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Date of next Meeting:- Monday 12 December 2022

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.08pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 12 December 2022