

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the meeting of Doddington Parish Council on Monday 14 September 2015

Present: Cllr Cuthbert (Chairman), Cllr Attwood (Vice Chair) Cllr Coates, Cllr Duckworth, Cllr Fraser, Cllr Haynes and Cllr Jones; and Mrs Licence (Clerk).
Also present was one member of the public

1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from SBCllr Prescott: apology noted.

2 Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. To Determine whether any items should be discussed in closed session

None were identified.

4. Vacancy on Parish Council for a Co-opted Councillor

Cllr Cuthbert informed Members that interest had been received for the vacancy. Cllr Cuthbert **PROPOSED** to co-opt Mr Kevin Fraser onto the Parish Council; **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Mr Fraser signed an acceptance of office in the presence of the Clerk.

5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 July 2015

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 July 2015 were considered. Cllr Cuthbert **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes as a true record; **SECONDED** by Cllr Attwood: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Cuthbert signed the minutes as a true record.

6. MATTERS ARISING

i. Meeting with James Freeman

Cllr Attwood reminded Councillors that James Freeman had agreed to a meeting and requested a date.

ACTION: Clerk to ask James Freeman for suggested dates.

Councillors considered issues to be raised including the Parish Council's response to the Foam Factory development; the application in Chequers Hill which was specifically for a family and the school site.

ii. Defibrillator

Cllr Cuthbert informed Members that he has spoken to the Doddington in Bloom Group about placing a flagstone under the defibrillator to aid access and this will be done in the autumn when the plants can be moved.

iii. Speeding Concerns

Cllr Coates told Councillors that he has contacted the Police Community Officer and the issue of speeding vehicles has been referred to the County Camera Unit. A risk assessment, which also considers priorities, was due after 17 August and Cllr Coates will monitor the situation.

iv. Grass outside Playing Field railings

Cllr Duckworth informed Members that, following the concern expressed by a resident at the last meeting about the grass, he had inspected the area where it runs over the edging and it is not a problem.

7. COMMUNITY WARDEN UPDATE

Cllr Cuthbert informed Members that Dave Osborn, the Community Warden, was unable to attend the Parish Council Meeting due to prior commitments. The Community Warden has visited the village and has not had any reports from the residents nor has he come across any issues.

The Swale Community Wardens are currently engaged in a project led by KCC Trading Standards regarding scam mail in the area. This involves visiting residents who may have been a victim of mail scams. During the visits Community Wardens offer help and advice

about how to stop these scams. A Community Warden colleague has visited a resident in Doddington.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE

Cllr Cuthbert read out the update from Mrs Jackson that fortunately there has been little to report in the last two months in Doddington, although a general message was sent recently with a link about scams which are now extremely common.

Between 4th and 5th of September, two wrought iron gardens chairs and a bench were stolen from Doddington Place. The furniture in itself is extremely heavy and there would have been more than one offender and a possible a mode of transport to load these onto.

There was also a report of as a tractor/trailer which was stolen from Ospringe between 1st and 9th of September.

Cllr Cuthbert expressed thanks to Mrs Jackson for continuing to update residents and the Parish Council and for the works she puts in as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The meeting was adjourned for the public question time.

#1- A resident reported that a neighbour had informed her about slippery leaves on Chequers Hill.

A- Cllr Jones had walked down the Hill and said it is not a problem at the moment.

ACTION: Cllr Cuthbert will inspect the area.

10. DEFIBRILLATOR

Cllr Coates informed members that a resident had contacted him because there was unusual flashing from the defibrillator cabinet and the unit was crackling. An electrician was called and replaced the fuse unit which has rectified the problem. Cllr Coates will continue to monitor the defibrillator.

11. PLANNING MATTERS

i. Any planning matters received by 14 September 2015

15/503257/FULL

Stuppington Cottages Norton Road Norton Kent ME9 0HB

Two storey side extension with front dormer

Cllr Cuthbert explained to Councillors that the Parish Council had no objections to the application but it was refused by Swale Borough Council. It has now gone to appeal.

No other Planning Matters had been received.

12. FINANCE

i. To receive contribution for War Memorial Insurance from Newnham Parish Council

Cllr Cuthbert advised Members that £127.50 has been received and banked.

ii. Councillors Expenses

There were none

Invoices for Payment

i. Four Jays: Portaloo for Funday

Cllr Cuthbert explained the Portaloo was on the Playing Field for four weeks during the Summer Holidays. £192 + £38.40 vat TOTAL £230.40 (Cheque number 1065)

ii. Commercial Services: Playing Field maintenance

Cllr Cuthbert informed Councillors that the original invoice received was incorrect and new invoices still had not been issued. Deferred to next meeting.

iii. Kent County Playing Fields Association:

Subscription renewal £20 (Cheque no 1067)

iv. Football net

Cllr Cuthbert advised Members that a receipt has not been issued. Deferred to next meeting.

v. Any other invoice for approval received by 14 September 2015

Cllr Cuthbert advised Councillors the half yearly invoice has been received for the hire of the village hall for meetings, including the extra session for defibrillator training. £118.50 (Cheque number 1066).

Under the Local Government Act 1972, (Sch 2) It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay the invoices.

13. REPORT FROM MEETINGS- KALC

Cllr Haynes informed Members that neither he nor Cllr Jones had been able to attend the last Area Committee meeting. Natalie Millard has requested that Parish Councils notify SECamb when a defibrillator has been installed.

Cllr Coates advised that this was done when the defibrillator had been installed.

14. SPEEDWATCH

This item had been dealt with under Matters Arising.

15. PLAYING FIELD

i. Playing Field Update

Cllr Duckworth informed Members that the goal post net had deteriorated quicker than expected and that he and Cllr Coates have replaced the net. Cllr Duckworth and Cllr Cuthbert have installed the bench at the top of the Playing Field. Cllr Duckworth has cut back the brambles and overhanging branches but there is still more work to do. The grass has been cut by the gang mower and the small mower and strimmer are due soon. Mr Swatland has also been at work and has trimmed the overhanging bushes. The Doddington in Bloom group have cleared part of the grass around the trees. There is still a bench to be sanded and treated.

Cllr Cuthbert thanked Cllr Duckworth and Cllr Coates for replacing the football net.

Cllr Jones asked whether the signage recommended in the Play Area survey has been erected.

ACTION: Cllr Cuthbert to research signage costs.

ii. Request for a Geophysical Survey of the playing field

Cllr Cuthbert informed Councillors that he had received a request from the Doddington, Newnham and Wychling Archaeological Group to conduct a Geophysical Survey of the Playing Field. The Group is aware that there is a Roman Road going through the village and they are trying to locate it. Recent work at a house in the village uncovered a Roman Road and it now seems likely that the road runs closer to the existing road. A Geophysical survey is non evasive ground radar.

Cllr Cuthbert **PROPOSED** to give the Newnham and Wychling Archaeological Group permission to conduct a Geophysical Survey of the Playing Field: **SECONDED** by Cllr Duckworth: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ACTION: Cllr Cuthbert to contact the Group with decision.

16. HIGHWAYS

i. Highways Update

Cllr Cuthbert informed Members that there has been no response from Kathryn Lewis concerning the drain cleansing or resurfacing of Ringlestone Road despite several requests for updates.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Cllr Bowles as no response has been received.

Cllr Coates asked whether the problem of overgrown hedgerows could be raised.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the Highways Steward

Cllr Attwood reminded Members that problems can be reported on the Parish Portal.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 24.07.2015- KALC: Finance Conference- 22 October 9.30am-4.30pm

IT WAS AGREED for the Clerk to attend the Finance Conference, the cost of which to be shared among the Parish Councils.

2. 31.07.2015 PKF Littlejohn letter & Annual Return *Circulated and in Dropbox*

3. 04.08.2015- Faversham LEF request for agenda items *circulated*

4. 04.08 2015- KALC Area Committee minutes

5. 05.08.2015- Newsletter from Andrew Bowles *Circulated and in Dropbox*

6. 09.08.2015- Letter of thanks from CAB for donation *Circulated and in Dropbox*

<p>7. 13.08.2015- SBC; Swale Rural Forum agenda for the meeting on 25 August</p> <p>8. 14.08.2015- KCC Kent County Council Minerals & Waste Local Plan 2013-30 – Proposed Modifications Consultation- The consultation will be open for eight weeks from 17th August 2015 to 12th October 2015</p> <p>9. 18.08.2015- Sounding Board Questionnaire- <i>circulated</i></p> <p>10. 25.08.2015- KALC Area Committee Agenda-<i>Circulated to KALC reps</i></p> <p>11. 26.08.2015- Local Engagement Forum- request for agenda items- <i>Circulated</i></p> <p>12. 27.08.2015 - Swale Joint Transportation Board agenda- <i>Circulated</i></p> <p>13. 28.08.2015- KALC Parish news- <i>Circulated.</i></p> <p>14. 02.09.2015- RSN-: Rural Opportunities Bulletin</p> <p>15. 03.09.2015- Came & Co Council Matters- <i>Circulated and in Dropbox</i></p> <p>16. 03.09.2015 SBC Community Safety Questionnaire- <i>Circulated</i></p> <p>17. 04.09.2015- KALC Operation Stack impact information request- <i>circulated & in dropbox</i></p> <p>18. 05.09.2015- KCC: Invite to the Parish & Town Seminar 9am on 29 October at Ditton Community Centre- <i>circulated</i></p> <p>19. 14.09.2015- Helen Whately MP's Office- would the Parish Council like a like from the MP's Office.</p> <p>Councillors considered the offer and decided to decline ti.</p>
<p>18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS No other matters were raised.</p>

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 12 October 2015

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

.....Chairman

Date: 12 October 2015