

TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 20th May, 2015

Present: Cllr. A. Spicer – Chair
Cllr. L. Burgess – Vice-Chair
Cllr. R. Spencer
Cllr. I. Davison
Cllr. L. Fincham
Cllr. E. Senior
Cllr. R. Sills
Lynda Fisher, Clerk
10 Members of the Public

Public Time

A resident raised concerns regarding the School mobile application, crowding of the site and parking implications to the front of the old school and the village hall; the mobiles were supposed to be temporary but they have been there for 30/40 years? Also at the time of the planning application for the new site it was stated that the old site was not fit for purpose, but now it is?

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; Apologies were received from Borough Councillors Monique Bonney, Derek Conway and George Samuel due to clashing with a Borough Council meeting. County Cllr. Roger Truelove was not in attendance and has not been since May 2013, despite being advised of the meetings. The Clerk is still awaiting details of the appointment of a new PCSO.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllr. Senior declared an interest in Item 7.3. The Clerk agreed a new Dispensation to all Members on matters relating to Tunstall Primary School - so many members of the decision-making body have disclosable pecuniary interests that it would impede the transaction of the business – i.e. the meeting would be inquorate; the Dispensation to run from 20th May up to the date of the next Election in May 2019.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Davison and seconded by Cllr. Spencer, the Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting held on the 13th April, 2015, were agreed by Members and signed as a true transcript.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- WW1 Memorial** – Clerk to again chase Mark Cheverton, Property Services at KCC for a response regarding the old School Playing Field site. **Action: Clerk**
- School – Contractor/Tunstall Working Party** – The Chair advised that under a freedom of information request she had ascertained that the contract for the ground works was only signed 4/5 weeks ago but not the actual build. Clerk to contact KCC to ascertain whether the contract for the build has been signed. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr. Fincham will act as the Parish Council's representative on the Working Party; the Chair to e-mail James Sanderson, KCC, regarding recommencement of this. **Action: Chair**

The Chair referred to contractors' vehicles affecting the surrounding roads and in particular Woodstock Road and Cromers Road, with vehicles parking on the pavement and blocking roads waiting to get on site; the Banksman does not appear to be doing his job. People leaving the site are not using the recognised route; they go left instead of right. Clerk to write to KCC regarding this. **Action: Clerk**

Signs directing traffic on the agreed route has not been erected in the village or on Hollingbourne Hill. Clerk to contact Bredgar Parish Council to see if they have experienced increased traffic due to the development. **Action: Clerk**

KCC and the contractor had requested attending a Parish Council meeting to answer residents' question. Members felt it would be more appropriate for this to be undertaken by County as a separate public meeting (long promised) but the Parish Council would be happy to attend, distribute leaflets advising of the venue, date and time if desired. **Action: Clerk**

DHA mentions that liaison takes place between the School and local representatives; it would appear that regretfully this is not the case

3. **Parents' use of Village Hall Car Park** – Members again raised concerns regarding the use of the hall car park, in light of the present problems with parent parking and the proposed increase in September.

5. **Planning**

1. **KCC/SW/0108/2015** - Planning renewal of existing PTA store, double and single mobile classroom and proposed single mobile classroom and temporary playing surface, which is required to accommodate the additional reception class from September 2015. The retention of the mobile buildings are required until the school relocates to the new school site and the site is restored by the end of May 2016 – Tunstall C.E. Primary School, Tunstall, ME9 8DX – KCC/SW/0108/2015 - Planning renewal of existing PTA store, double and single mobile classroom and proposed single mobile classroom and temporary playing surface, which is required to accommodate the additional reception class from September 2015. The retention of the mobile buildings are required until the school relocates to the new school site and the site is restored by the end of May 2016 – Tunstall C.E. Primary School, Tunstall, ME9 8DX – Cllr. Burgess abstained and did not take part in the discussion; Cllr. Davison abstained; Five Members agreed that the Parish Council object on the following grounds:

- The facilities are not fit for purpose for staff and pupils and this raises health and safety concerns. This sentiment was strongly put forward in KCC's original argument for the new School.
- Concerns over lack of toilet facilities and drainage; we understand parents have advised that toilet times are allocated and breaks staggered to cope with the situation; this is totally unacceptable for young children who want to desperately use a toilet; this is the 21st Century not Victorian England. The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Education in their statement dated 26th July 2010 commented "the Government wants to enable new schools to open, good schools to expand and all schools to adapt and improve their facilities."
- As pointed out before, mobiles do not sit well within the Heritage Site. On the 5th January 2012 Swale's Planning Committee refused permission for SW/11/1451 – the renewal of planning permission for the PTA store with toilets, the single classroom mobile and the double classroom mobile – reason for objection "the renewal of planning permission for the three mobile units is an unsustainable solution to the issue of increased pupil numbers and a more permanent solution should be sought. The mobile classrooms are detrimental to the character of the Conservation Area and setting of a Listed Building, as well as resulting on on-street parking and raising highway safety concerns contrary to policies E1, E14, E15 and E19 of the Swale Borough Local Plan 2008.
- The application deals with both the renewal of the new temporary structures along with the extension buildings; should they not be considered separately as the new structures are a significant expansion of the already overcrowded school layout?
- The front of school garden area will not be able to accommodate the extra staff vehicles required; the area is already fully used and some cars park in the school playground. The parking on the school front lawn was refused by KCC Planning for six cars (highway safety being one reason as well as being detrimental to the conservation area and the setting of a Grade II listed building). The layby opposite the school provides six public spaces; these are not exclusively for the school although normally full with staff cars. Planning permission was refused for the temporary change of use of land from agricultural to car park associated with Tunstall School (ref: SW/12/1317) in March 2013 on the grounds of decrease in safety in the highway network due to a lack of visibility at the access onto the public highway, contrary to Policy E1 and T1 of the Swale Borough Council Local Plan, 2008; unacceptable landscape and visual impacts, contrary to Policy E6 and E10 of the Swale Borough Council Local Plan and indirect visual detriment to the conservation area and the

setting of the Listed Building by the retention of vehicle parking to the front of the school site, contrary to Policy E14 and E15 of the Swale Borough Council Local Plan.

- Concerns over the impact the extra 30 children will have on the use of the hall car park. Uncontrolled parent parking in the Memorial Hall car park impacts on the safe operation of the car park and complaints have been made to the School about the chaos. In addition to the on-site safety issues, there is also an overspill onto the surrounding roads causing an obstruction of the highway. Parents attempting to enter and exit the already full and gridlocked hall car park block Hearts Delight Road and Tunstall Road in both directions. Residents and the Parish Council have complained to KCC, the Police and the School about the danger of the situation.
 - The playground is already too small for the school; placing yet another new mobile classroom in the playground of what was quoted as a ‘non-viable school’ due to lack of space will reduce it to an unusable size.
 - Concern that the building of the new school could be delayed further.
2. **15/502829/COUNTY** - Tunstall Church Of England Primary School Tunstall Road Tunstall Kent ME9 8DX - Regulation 3 (KCC) Planning renewal of existing PTA store, double and single mobile classroom and proposed single mobile classroom and temporary playing surface, which is required to accommodate the additional reception class from September 2015. The retention of the mobile buildings are required until the school relocates to the new school site and the site is restored by the end of May 2016 – The same objections as above; Clerk has registered for a Councillor to address Swale’s Planning Committee; Cllr. Senior agreed to do this.
3. **15/502890/FULL** - Erection of side and rear extension with attached garage - Petergate Tunstall Road Tunstall Kent ME10 1YQ – Cllr. Senior withdrew from the discussion having declared an interest. Members agreed to object on the following grounds:
- On the grounds of over-intensive development of the site, to the detriment of both neighbours.
 - Concerns that this is not for family (possibly business) use due to the proposed alterations and size of additional structure.
 - Adjacent properties had planning permission refused for extending their property – SW/07/0451 and SW/07/1291 refers.
 - Due to the large scale of the design this would be out of keeping with neighbouring dwellings.
 - Closeness of development to adjacent properties and loss of privacy to neighbouring properties due to the height of the building.
 - Query whether the plans presented accurately represent the current size of the existing property; in particular the height and size of the roof is inaccurately shown as being higher and larger.
 - Query whether a public right of way runs on land included in this proposal

6. **Finance**

1. **Insurance Cover Renewal 2015/16** – Agreed to renew with Hiscox and tie in the Policy for three years at an annual premium for 2015/16 of £265.
2. **Bank Mandate** – Clerk reminded Members they need to take into Barclays their personal information so that the cheques signatories can be amended as soon as possible. **Action: All Councillors**
3. **New Councillor Induction** Members agreed for the Clerk to arrange training by KALC in September, at a cost of £20 per head.
4. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** – the following cheques were signed and the accounts to the 30th April, 2015, approved.

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
20.05.15	1055	L. Fisher	Expenses – Telephone, office use, Stationery - April	£22.07p
20.05.15	1056	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax – April 2014	£49.20p
20.05.15	1057	Tunstall P.C.C.	Midwinter Room Hire May	£12.50p
20.05.15	1058	Broker Network	Insurance Premium Renewal 2015/16	£265.00p
Four Cheques in total.				

Paid by Standing Order

Clerk's Wages – April £197.14p

7. Correspondence

1. **Pilot Local Warden Support Officer Scheme** – Members felt that although this is a nice idea it would in reality be impractical.
2. **Notice of submission of Bearing Fruits 2031: The Swale Borough Council Local Plan Part to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government** - submission noted.
3. **Swale Borough council Local Plan Part 1 Examination** – Noted.

9. Any Other Matters Arising

1. Cllr. Fincham advised that the area of Tunstall Road, between Woodstock Road and Cranbrook Drive, will be closed for four week in connection for statutory undertakers to carry out work in connection with the new School.

10. Next Meeting(s)

The next Monthly Meeting will take place on Monday 8th June, 2015, commencing at 6.45 p.m. in the Midwinter Room, St. John the Baptist Church, Tunstall.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.