

Dunkirk Parish Council – Full Council Meeting

Minutes of Full Council meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall 18 March 2024 at 7.00pm

Present:

Parish Councillors: Cllr K. Kemp (Chair), Cllr J. Tutt (Vice Chair), Cllr D. Brice, Cllr G. Hewett and, Cllr P. Barkaway. Cllr Gray was co-opted and joined the council on item 4. Cllr A. Gould (SBC)
R Parr (Clerk).

There were 1 members of the public for Item 5.

1. **Declaration:** Any Declarations of Interest by members present to be made at the commencement of the meeting
None.
2. **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for were received from Cllr R Lehmann (KCC & SBC).
3. **Minutes of the full council meeting of the 19th February 2024.** A motion to approve the minutes by all present was approved with unanimous approval from those that attended.
4. **Councillor Vacancy and Co-option**
The Clerk had received one application Ms Jean Gray, a resident in the parish. The council voted unanimously for Ms Gray to take her place at the council immediately. Cllr Gray then signed an acceptance of office.
5. **Public Participation**
 - A. DHA Planning consultants working alongside Nigel Taylor of Taylor Roberts Architects - early stages of considering the development of a mixed residential and commercial use scheme for the New House Nursery site in London Road, Dunkirk. – No attendees concerning this item attended the meeting. The Chair advised that he had been approached by the landowner with the Chair advising that no comment would be forthcoming until receipt of a full planning application.
 - B. PC Morris attended the meeting in light of the stabbing that had occurred in the village in order to answer concerns and gauge community feeling. No issues were raised other than ongoing speeding in the village and PC Morris' ongoing support with speed checks and the ticketing of lorries at Gate Services for which Cllr Kemp gave thanks.
6. **Planning:**
 - A. **Received Decisions:**
 - i. 23/503812/SUB | Submission of Details to Discharge Requirement 3 of The Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020 - Battery Safety, Phase 2 | Land At Cleve Hill Graveney Kent ME13 9EE - Refused.
 - B. **Consider Applications:**
 - i. None.
7. **Correspondence**
 - A. **Road Closures**
 - i. Hernhill Various 22nd April 2024. Possible until 26th April rolling across the village due to signage installation. 9am – 3pm - Hernhill School is aware.
 - ii. SBC Consultation on Draft Scrap Metal Dealers Policy 2024 – 2027 - 4th March 2024 and 26th April 2024
 - iii. SBC Consultation on Draft Sex Establishments Policy 2024 – 2027 - 4th March 2024 – 26th April 2024
 - iv. Food Friends – A local volunteer service offering to connect individuals through meal-sharing with extra home cooked food with a neighbour. The Council noted the good intention of the initiative but refrained from promoting at the current time due to food hygiene and health and safety concerns over refrigerated and reheated food. **Action:** The Clerk is to query with Environment health.

- v. The Chair mentioned that he had received correspondence concerning speeding on Dawes Road. The Chair had responded advising them that the road was being investigated as part of the DPC's new Highways Improvement Plan.

8. Matters for public concern:

A. Highways Issues

- i. The Clerk provided an update on TRO speed limit installation which had now been installed. Except for the 30mph roundel removed on Boughton Hill. The Clerk advised that the future joint HIP proposed discussions with other Parishes was provisionally on the evening of the 17th April. It was agreed for Cllr Kemp, Tutt & Barkaway to attend.
- ii. A councillor advised that a report had been made to KCC concerning water coming from a manhole cover on Horselees Road.

B. Speed Toolkits & stickers. The Clerk advised that no further requests for stickers had been received.

C. Footpaths, Verges & Hedges

- i. A councillor raised the issue concerning a missing dog bin at Bossenden Woods entrance which had been replaced by a non – standard bin and was now overflowing. Both the Clerk and RSPB had reported this to SBC but no response had been received. **Action:** Cllr Gould is to chase SBC for a replacement bin.
- ii. A councillor raised when the fencing at Bossenden Wood was going to be extended along the full length of London Road. **Action:** Cllr Brice is to enquire with the RSPB.

D. TPOs – The Clerk advised an acknowledgement had been received of the chaser emails from the previous month but still no full response received.

9. Finance

- i. Approve Finance Report - The Clerk read through the contents of the Finance Report for the end of February, which was approved by the Council and signed by the Chair.
- ii. Approve Payments: The Council voted to approve the following payments for March.
- iii. In March, the Clerk advised that £5k was transferred from the Treasurers account to the deposit account upon receipt of VAT funds to ensure monies were interest bearing. Another review of balances would occur in April upon receipt of the precept.

A/C Name	Invoice No.	Chq No	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
R Parr		L - Online	Salary 2/24- 03/24	777.40	0.00	777.40
HMRC		L - Online	TAX - HMRC	24.40	0.00	24.40
Rebecca Parr			Net Pay	753.00	0.00	753.00
Rebecca Parr	Advice only	S/O	Office Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
Rebecca Parr		L- Online	Expenses - eSim	15.44	0.00	15.44
Rebecca Parr Total				788.44	0.00	788.44
HMRC NI		L - Online	Employer Contribution NI	2.68	0.00	2.68
Total HMRC Contribution		L - Online		27.08	0.00	27.08
R Parr		L - Online	Expense for Smartwheelie.co.uk	119.00	0.00	119.00
SSE		L - Online	Streetlights January 2024	183.36	14.77	198.13
G Doy		L- Online	Grass Cutting - January	70.00	0.00	70.00
Total				1163.48	14.77	1178.25

- 10. **Swale Borough Council – Planning Enforcement Strategy** – Consultation - 26 February 2024 to 21 April 2024
Draft Planning Enforcement Strategy is available to view online at www.swale.gov.uk/pes
The councillors need more time to review the proposals and agreed to revisit at the full council meeting in April.

- 11. **80th DD Beacon event – preparation 6th June lighting 9.15pm**

The council discussed the event. **Action:** The clerk is to prepare risk assessment. Cllr Hewett will prepare a poster to advertise the event. Cllr Kemp can provide the gas cylinders. Cllr Clifford can provide the hi-viz vests. Cllr Kemp will also provide a fire extinguisher / water bucket. As the event is a commemoration and not celebration the council discussed about holding it in the churchyard close to the war memorial. **Action:** The Clerk is to enquire with the PCC and the house owner.

12. Parish Council Domains Helper Service – Update and decide next steps

The council discussed and resolved to apply for the Government grant of £100 + VAT towards a new domain.

- i. The council resolved for the Clerk to ask for a new domain name of @dunkirkpc.org.uk.
- ii. The Clerk had provided a comparison table of 3 domain providers for domain, website and email provision. The Council resolved for Cuttlefish to provide the new domain being on the Government's shortlist scheme as well as the website provider.
- iii. The Council also resolved for Cuttlefish to provide new gov.uk emails given that the present supplier Namesco's contract will expire at the end of June 2024.
- iv. The council resolved to agree to pay Cuttlefish's migration costs of £100 for existing emails into the new mailboxes.
- v. The council resolved to continue to pay for old domain name @dunkirkpc.org.uk.

13. Common Land – Preservation and protection – The common land at Rhodes Common has a private landowner and the Council would need their permission regarding any proposed works to improve the land. The Council discussed and are keen to improve the landscape at the site. **Action:** Cllr Clifford is to speak to the owners.

14. Bossenden Wood Memorial Stone – Update

The stone has been repaired although it is noted the stone is soft and the same damage is likely to happen again. **Action:** Cllr Clifford is to discuss the situation with the stone's original donators.

15. Community Youth Forum - Update

Cllr Hewett provided an update in that the new vicar is also involved. IT was resolved to bring back to the council meeting when more information is forthcoming.

16. Church Yard Maintenance – Update 24th March

The Clerk advised that she had liaised with the PCC representative and the works had been set to start at 12:30pm with the churchyard contractor supervising the works.

17. Milestones - update

This item is to return to the next full council meeting.

18. Annual Parish Meeting Speaker – Update and finalise details

Following the previous full council meeting, Cllr Brice had arranged a speaker from the Whitstable Maritime Trust in exchange for a £50 donation. The Clerk advised that the meeting would start at 7pm. **Action:** Cllr Tutt is to liaise with KALC regarding the provision of the certificate to be awarded that had been submitted by the Clerk to KALC.

19. Councillor's Reports

- i. In his absence, the Clerk read out an update from Cllr Lehmann. Topics include the new waste contract starting on Monday 25th March. Residents should all have received a letter from the council letting them know what their new collection days will be. SBC consultation on the proposed draft of our Corporate Equality Scheme. This consultation runs until 10 April. <https://swale.gov.uk/news-and-your-council/news-and-campaigns/latest-news/draft-corporate-equality-scheme>.
- ii. Cllr Gould highlighted the SBC local plan was restarting with a potential timescale of regulation 18 in Q4 2024 and regulation 19 in Q1 2025. With a final potential deadline of December 2025.
- iii. Cllr Barkaway advised that following a recent bereavement, that he would now become Treasurer of the village hall.

- iv. Cllr Tuff provided an update on the local KALC Swale Area Committee. And issues regarding the use of Swale House as a venue.

20. Parish Pollinator Project

Nothing to report.

21. Administration/ Clerk's

- i. The Clerk provided a reminder of the meeting time changes for April- October to 7.30pm
- ii. Streetlight Maintenance issues and contract update – The issue remains unresolved and is still ongoing concerning 9 lights in Courtenay Road, which may appear to be KCC. The Clerk is continuing to discuss the position with Prime One and KCC.
- iii. The Clerk confirmed that the annual VAT Reclaim had been made and £3881.17 had been received.

It was resolved under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business due to the confidential nature of the business. The Council went into closed session

21. Planning Enforcement

A number of different cases were discussed.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.53pm

Date of next meetings:	Extraordinary (if required) :	2 April 2024
	Full Council Meeting:	15 April 2024

Rebecca Parr,
Clerk to Dunkirk Parish Council

Signed
Chair

Signed
Vice Chair

Date

Date

PLEASE VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS IN AND AROUND THE VILLAGE: www.dunkirkpc.org.uk