

Dunkirk Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 15 September 2014

Present: John Peto, Jeff Tutt, Vaughan Howland, Sandra May, Phillippa Clarkson
Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)
16 members of the public
PCSO Adam Sparkes + colleague (Kent Police) for item 3.

Declarations of Interest: None.

1. **Apologies:** Don Coles, Paul Mellett, Andrew Bowles, George Bobbin
2. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** Apsley Trust
3. **Crime and Police Issues**

PCSO Adam Sparkes explained his role and gave an update on crime in Dunkirk during the last month. He stressed the importance of reporting all crime which enables the police to gather as much information together as possible to help in tracking down culprits. He also talked about crime prevention and gave examples of how owners can protect their property and outbuildings, such as shed alarms, lighting and marking of property. The website www.police.uk gives details of crime in the area by searching by postcode.

PCSO Adam Sparkes and the members of the public left the meeting.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 18.8.14 and the Planning Committee on 1.9.14 had been previously circulated and were signed as an accurate record.

5. **Matters arising from the previous minutes**

- (a) Village Sign
Jeff Tutt had discussed the option of using the old school sign post with KCC Highways. Waiting for them to confirm whether this is possible.
- (b) Neighbourhood Plan
JP/JT gave an update on the current position. External planning consultants have been approached to submit a proposal for professional planning advice to help put the neighbourhood plan together. Areas of land available for development need to be identified which can be included in the plan. The Housing Needs survey is in its final stages and should be issued in the next few weeks.
- (c) Lorries at Gate Services
A response had been received from the Highways Agency saying that the lorries parking on the kerb was an enforcement issue and had been passed to the police. However it is difficult for them to enforce this due to resources. It was not possible to install bollards as this would then result in the footpath being obstructed and not wide enough for wheelchair or a buggy.

6. **Matters for public concern**

- (a) Tree Preservation Orders
The clerk to inform the Tree Preservation Officer that the landowner had been approached by two separate people with a view to purchasing the woodland, which would then put it at risk.

- (b) Hedge Cutting
The majority of hedges which had caused problems had been cut or were in the process of being cut back.
- (c) Enforcement Cases
Brotherhood Wood – Enforcement had visited the site and confirmed that the boundary fence had not been moved and trees had not been cut. No update on the other enforcement cases.
- (d) Apsley Trust
Nominations for this year were discussed. Nominations need to be submitted by end of October.

7. Planning

(a) Receive Decisions

SW/14/0225: Forewood – Retrospective permission for change of use to woodyard - Approved. Temporary consent for 3 years (expires 30/8/17). Non residential with restrictions on working hours and equipment used.

SW/14/0379: Worcesters – Detached two bedroom bungalow - Approved. A Unilateral Undertaking between the owners and SBC had been agreed. This deed includes covenants that the land and dwelling form a single planning unit and cannot be let or sold separately.

SW/14/0541: Land at Dunkirk Road South - Change of use of agricultural land to gypsy site - Refused

(b) Consider Applications

SW/14/0391 - Land adj Acorns, Butlers Hill, Dargate - Proposed dwelling to replace former cottage - Appeal lodged. No comments to make.

SW/14/0393 - Former RAF Mast - Erection of Data Storage Facility & Historical Exhibition – we had been verbally informed that this application was no longer subject to appeal and a process of re-consultation would be taking place.

(c) Mid Kent Planning Portal

A response had been received from James Freeman regarding the difficulties with the new planning system. A joint partnership letter between the MKIP LPA's was due to be circulated to all Parish Councils. The service is still currently dealing with a significant backlog of work and although there were plans in place to resolve the issues there was not expected to be a significant improvement until the New Year.

8. Finance

- (a) Finance Report: The report and monthly cash account had previously been circulated and were taken as read.
- (b) Payments: The following payments were approved.

Cheque 1099	HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£114.00
Cheque 1100	L Blackshaw	Clerk wages & office allowance	£191.65
Cheque 1101	Five Arrows Business Finance	Streetlight repair – Dunkirk Road North	£98.84
Cheque 1102	PFK Littlejohn	External Audit/Annual Return	£120.00
DDR	EDF	Electricity Bill*	£502.98
Total			£1027.47

*Two months DDR as August payment had not been taken.

It was proposed and unanimously agreed to move £10k from the current account to the deposit account.

- (c) External Audit/Annual Return: The signed audit had been received with no issues to report.

9. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence had been received, and had been previously circulated by email:

19/08/2014	Finns	Football field - dog walkers crossing into Ian Gent's field. It was agreed to install signage stating "Private Property" to deter walkers from crossing into the field.
27/08/2014	SBC	Planning Training Sessions – two spaces to be booked on each
09/09/2014	SBC	Supporting Town & Parish Councils - Statement of Intent - meeting 14/10/14. Jeff Tutt to attend
11/09/2014	KCPFA	Kent County Planning Fields Assoc - Annual Council meeting 17/10/14
18/08/2014	KALC	Accessible Britain Challenge
18/08/2014	SBC	Sources of funding
26/08/2014	Andrew Bowles	Monthly newsletter
04/09/2014	KALC	SECAmb Annual Members Meeting - 25/9/14
04/09/2014	KALC	SECAmb/PCC Event - 8/10/14
08/08/2014	KALC	Kent Police Ethics Committee
10/09/2014	KPCC	Kent Police & Crime Commissioner Newsletter

The following items were tabled:

St Edmunds School - Notice of events - Open Day 27/9/14 & English Chamber Orchestra Concert 3/10/14

10. Matters not on Agenda (for information only):

A2 Weekend Road Closure

This was likely to cause problems especially for lorries. A public meeting was being held on 16 September at which these concerns will be raised.

Date of Next meeting: Monday 20 October

Louise Blackshaw
Clerk to Dunkirk Parish Council

Signed

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Chairman

Date

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