

Dunkirk Parish Council

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

Present: John Peto, Jeff Tutt, Vaughan Howland, Sandra May, Paul Mellett, Phillippa Clarkson, Andrew Bowles, George Bobbin, Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)
6 members of the public
Simon Pentecost and Michael Withers for item 3.

Declarations of Interest: None.

1. **Apologies:** Don Coles, Sandra May

2. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** Streetlight clean, Precept/Budget

3. **Manor House Development**

Simon Pentecost (agent) and Michael Withers (contractor - Jenners) were present and gave a brief outline of how the works will be managed. The works are due to start January 2015 and are expected to take 11 months to complete. The heavy works will be undertaken first with access taken from Staplestreet Road. As soon as these works are complete the fence will be put back and access will be taken from Berkeley Close. A hardstanding will be installed on site immediately and this will be used for all vehicle movements/deliveries within the site.

Various questions from the floor were answered including: no flood lighting will be used; vehicle movements and deliveries will be actively managed with a site manager on site at all times during working hours; there will be no evening work or work on bank holidays and only Saturday morning during the weekend; Broadband – there will be a BT connection in all properties.

Simon and Michael were thanked for attending and then left the meeting.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 17.11.14 and the Planning Committee on 1.12.14 had been previously circulated and were signed as an accurate record.

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

(a) Village Sign: KCC have now advised that they will remove the post and erect a new one to avoid any potential complaint that a previously lit sign is no longer lit or the light missing and avoid any confusion over who is responsible for the post. The defeats the object of trying to re-use the existing post. JT to take up further with KCC. The design and artwork of the sign still needs to be agreed.

6. **Matters for public concern**

(a) Highways Issues

Boughton Hill: KCC confirmed that their engineer had reported that from a visual survey they do not believe there is continuous movement in the embankment following the sheet piling scheme. They will monitor the site every 6 months and keep a log of any new issues.

Concerns were raised that the footpath is in bad condition and should be maintained. We had previously been advised that new kerbs will be installed to the footway - the clerk to check timescale of these works with KCC.

Salt Bins: The replacement bin had been installed in Berkeley Close. The replacement bin on the junction of Staplestreet Road/Dawes Road is still awaited – KCC are waiting for confirmation from Hernhill Parish Council that they do not have any objections or know of the reason why the original bin was removed, as the proposed location is within their parish boundary.

- (b) Tree Preservation Orders: SBC have confirmed that the TPO has now been placed on Poundfall Wood (north of the A2 bypass). All the woods in that area are now covered by TPOs.
- (c) Enforcement Cases
- Dorothy Caravan – this was removed from the auction.
 - Scoggers Hill – reports have again been received that people are living there. The clerk to inform Enforcement.
- (d) Crime Update: The Crime update from Adam Sparkes was tabled. Adam is moving on from his role as PCSO and being replaced by Joanne Jewiss. Rural Crime will be on the agenda for the next LEF meeting which JT will attend.
- (e) Football Field Lease: Courtenay Rangers had signed their Licence which ties in with the 2 year extension to the lease on the field. It was therefore proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to sign the lease with the Trustees of the Charles Dawes 1973 Settlement for the 2 year extension on the field.
- (f) Streetlight Clean: Boughton Parish Council had decided not to contribute to the cleaning of streetlights in the roads which are within both parishes. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to continue with the streetlight clean for Dunkirk owned lights only.
- (g) Litter: A community litter pick in conjunction with Boughton was suggested. To be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Planning

- (a) Receive Decisions: None
- (b) Consider Applications
- 14/505112/ADV - Gate Service Station - Advertisement - New image forecourt signage. Agreed to support the application.
- 14/506051/LBC - Former RAF Mast, Courtenay Road - Installation of new steel bracing. Agreed to support the application. Concern was again expressed that we had not had sight of the safety certificates for the mast and associated works taking place on the site. The clerk to request these again from the agent and approach HSE under the FOI Act.
- 14/500144/FULL – Edentop, Sheppey Way - Change of use of land to use as an extension to existing caravan site to form a total of 6 no. caravan pitches. The clerk had been approached by a local resident asking whether Dunkirk Parish Council would object to the application citing that a recent application in Dunkirk had been refused on the basis that 5.2 years supply of G&T pitches had been reached. It was agreed that it was inappropriate to comment on an application in another parish not near our boundary. However members were able to make their own personal representations if they wished.

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.

1110	HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£174.80
1111	L Blackshaw	Clerk wages & office allowance	£283.04
1112	PFL	Streetlight repair - Woodside	£101.10
1113	M Bradley	War memorial clean	£42.00
1114	V Howland	Ex gratia payment	£250.00

1115	CPRE	Membership Renewal	£36.00
1116	SLCC	Membership Subscription (Society of Local Council Clerks)	£103.00
DDR	EDF	Electricity Bill	£249.52
Total			£1239.46

- (c) Precept 2015/16: A draft budget had been previously circulated detailing expected expenditure in 2015. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to submit a Precept with 2% increase. (NB subsequently amended to 1.99%)

9. Neighbourhood Plan

JT gave an update. The next meeting is scheduled for 16 December. A workshop is being arranged for January when Stella Scrivener, the consultant from Planning Aid England, will be advising on identifying sites for inclusion in the plan for potential future development.

10. Correspondence

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

20/11/2014	KALC	Pledge for Plastics
23/11/2014	Andrew Bowles	Monthly newsletter
27/11/2014	KALC	Pharmacy services consultation (deadline 5/1/15)
01/12/2014	KALC	Kent Police - "Shutting the Gate on Rural Crime"
02/12/2014	KALC	Community Resilience and Emergency Planning
08/12/2014	SBC	Swale Community Safety Partnership
09/12/2014	SBC	Bearing Fruits - Local Plan Consultation
11/12/2014	SBC	WW1 Centenary Localism Grants
09/12/2014	Local Government Boundary Commission	Electoral Review of KCC

The following items were tabled:

20/11/14 – Promotional literature from Mid Kent Astronomical Society

11. Dates of 2015 meetings

A schedule of dates for 2015 meetings was tabled and agreed.

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

- Agenda items for next month's meeting:
 - Litter pick
 - Donation to war memorial research
- A2 Roadworks: Complaints were still being received regarding works which had taken place as it appeared that many of the patch repairs were still failing. The clerk had received a response from the Highways Agency stating that some areas of the sub base had been rebuilt but not all and others patched repaired. There are extensive drawings detailing the works undertaken - the clerk to request a copy of this.

Date of Next meeting: Monday 19 January

Louise Blackshaw
Clerk to Dunkirk Parish Council

Signed

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Chairman

Date

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