

Dunkirk Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 21 November 2016

Present: John Peto, Jeff Tutt, Steve Hitch, Vaughan Howland, Daniel Brice, Phillippa Clarkson, Andrew Bowles, George Bobbin, Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)
10 members of the public

Winterbourne Quarry

Several members of the public were present following the recent submission of amended plans for the application to build 4 properties on the site. They were invited to give their views which the parish council would consider when discussing the application. These comments comprised the following: Infrastructure is not adequate - narrow country lanes cannot cope with additional traffic; no nearby amenities - doctors surgery closed, no school in Dunkirk and Boughton & Selling at capacity, not near public transport; drainage/flooding which is a continual problem. There were concerns about the future of the site and the precedent this would set if approved – the site currently has permission for one large house and this application proposes to amend it to 4 properties – it was feared that a further application would be submitted at a later date increasing the development again.

Former RAF Mast

One member of the public who was an immediate neighbour to the site was present. She had some queries which were not included in the application details - noise which may be generated (through, for example, air conditioning plant), security, lighting and distance between the proposed building and the fence. The parish council would endeavour to obtain further details and consider this information in their response.

The members of the public left the meeting and the meeting was formally opened.

Declarations of Interest: none

1. **Apologies:** Paul Mellett
2. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** None
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17.10.16 and the Planning Committee on 7.11.16 had been previously circulated and were signed as an accurate record.

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

(a) Dunkirk Churchyard

Following the meeting with Kent Wildlife Trust, the Parish Council have been awarded a Bronze Award in the Richard Neame Local Wildlife Site Awards 2016, particularly commended for grassland species management and enhancement. This was excellent news in view of the difficulties which had occurred in recent months. Tim Last who has looked after the churchyard grounds for many years was to be congratulated and sent a copy of the award. Copies also to be sent to the Church, posted on the website and noticeboard.

(b) Communications Policy

The draft policy was being drafted and will be circulated for comments.

(c) Football Field

Barbara Dickenson from Courtenay Rangers had confirmed that they were negotiating with Southern Electric to disconnect the electricity supply; once this had been done they will remove the portacabin and deal with the other requirements by the end of the year when the lease terminates.

The clerk had submitted the request that the track be widened by 4ft (to make a total width of 14ft) – the Trustees will be considering this at their meeting in December.

It was reported that the new fence alongside the adjoining property had been erected outside their boundary. The clerk to make Finns aware.

(d) Streetlights

The clerk had spoken with the contractor regarding the poor service in the last 6 months or so; they had apologised and given an explanation for some of the delays. A recent streetlight failure had been repaired within 7 days. The service will continue to be monitored. It was noted that Boughton Parish Council, who were experiencing similar problems, were moving to an alternative contractor.

(e) Rural Exception Sites

Boughton Parish Council had agreed to pursue this. The next step is for both parish councils to meet with English Rural Housing to identify whether there were any suitable sites which could be considered.

5. Matters for public concern

(a) Highways Issues

30mph signage on Boughton Hill – this was due to be installed by 13 December.

Yellow lines opposite Woodmans Hall – these were due to be installed by 28 November.

Courtenay Road/Dawes Road - resurfacing and strengthening works had finished. It was reported that while the surface from Maytree Nursery towards Dargate was a great improvement, the surfacing on the residential part of the road was not finished to the standard which had been expected. It was agreed to have a look and see whether KCC could be asked to revisit.

Lorry parking at Gate Services – continues to be a problem. To be reported again to the police to make sure they are aware it continues to be a problem.

Pothole blitz – the majority of potholes had been repaired. The clerk to write to Alan Blackburn & Gary Gibbs to thank them for including the potholes we had reported and also for removing the concrete on Boughton Hill.

(b) Footpaths, Hedges and Verges

Hedge alongside Staplestreet Road/Orchard Gate development had still not been cut back. The clerk to write again to Simon Pentecost.

Tree Preservation Order – trees behind Dunkirk School. The clerk reported that the application had been submitted.

(c) Crime Update

The crime update for September (taken from the www.police.uk website) was tabled and noted.

Handrail – Staplestreet Road. The invoice for the repair had been sent to the driver of the vehicle which had caused the damage.

6. Planning

(a) Receive Decisions

16/505118/OUT - Land North of Canterbury Road - Outline Application for mixed-use development comprising up to 77 residential dwellings. Refused.

16/505999/FULL - Barn, London Road - Alternative means of vehicular access. Approved.

(b) Consider Applications

16/507451/FULL- Applegarth Dawes Road - Demolition of existing garage and construction of single storey side extension. After reviewing the plans it was agreed to support the application but suggest an amended scheme should be produced which included off street parking.

16/507586/FULL - Former Raf Mast Site - Removal of containers and brick toilet and erection of a data storage facility building. The plans were reviewed and discussed. It was agreed to object to the proposal. The clerk to request additional information on security, noise, use of the building, air conditioning, lighting.

16/501552/FULL - Winterbourne Wood Quarry, Jezzards Lane - Revocation of quarrying use and erection of 4 No. detached dwellings. Steve Hitch gave a summary of feedback he had received from nearby residents. Some had already sent their objections into SBC which had been copied to the Clerk. After reviewing the plans and further discussion, it was agreed to object to the proposal. 5 were in favour of objecting with 1 against.

(c) Planning Enforcement

Old Builders Yard – there were still concerns that the site is not adhering to H&S regulations – lack of security, no construction site signage, hard hats not being worn, fires on the site. The clerk to notify the applicant and a copy of the letter to be delivered to the site.

Land adjacent 85 Courtenay Road – the site is an eyesore and clearly visible from Courtenay Road. The layout bears little resemblance to the plan in the approved planning consent. The clerk to report to Enforcement and also inform Finns.

Brotherhood Wood – Peter Hinckesman was due to visit the site to verify the information received on the PCN. He had asked for any additional information before his site visit.

A response had been received from Abdool Kara to the complaint regarding the planning enforcement service. He had suggested a meeting with the Head of Planning and the Enforcement team – it was agreed to take up this offer. The clerk to arrange.

7. 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 proposed, seconded and approved.

Payee	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£96.60	-	£96.60
L Blackshaw	Clerk wages/office allowance	£406.95	-	£406.95
L Blackshaw	Clerk expenses (postage)	£14.13	-	£14.13
PFL	Streetlight repairs Highview Close & Courtenay Road (x2)	£142.75	£28.55	£171.30
PFL	Streetlight repairs Woodside & Courtenay Road	£458.00	£91.60	£549.60
Uplands Engineering	Repair to handrail Boughton Hill/ Staplestreet Road	£562.00	£112.40	£674.40
Swale Borough Council	Contribution towards double yellow lines Boughton Hill	£500.00	-	£500.00
T Last	Dunkirk Churchyard grass cutting	£650.00	-	£650.00
CPRE	CPRE Annual membership	£36.00	-	£36.00
EDF	Streetlight Electricity (October)	£209.76	£41.95	£251.71
	TOTAL	£3076.19	£274.50	£3350.69

(c) 2017/18 Draft Budget: The Clerk had prepared a draft budget for 2017/18. Council members were asked to consider any additional items/amendments to be included.

8. Neighbourhood Plan

Jeff Tutt gave an update. A display will be on show at the Boughton Christmas Fayre on 27 November which will include details of the plan so far.

9. Meeting dates for 2017

The clerk tabled the list of meeting dates for 2017 which will be posted on the website and on the noticeboard.

10. Correspondence

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

18/10/16	Kent Police & Crime Commissioner	HAVE YOUR SAY Safer in Kent 2017-2021: Policing in Kent Autumn 2016 survey Deadline: 2/12/16
19/10/16	Swale Borough Council	Volunteer Swale Awards. Deadline for nominations: 16/12/16
20/10/16	KALC	Bulletin on national developments & meetings 14/10/16
25/10/16	KALC	KALC SAC Agenda 7/11/16
24/10/16	KALC	Bulletin on national developments & meetings 21/10/16
31/10/16	KALC	NALC National Bulletin - 28 October 2016
3/11/16	KALC	Kent County Council 2017/2018 Budget Consultation. Deadline: 27/11/16
7/11/16	KALC	Weekly Rural Police Update
9/11/16	ACRK	ACRK AGM Invitation 14/12/16
11/11/16	Helen Whately MP	Helen Whately update
13/11/16	Andrew Bowles	Andrew Bowles Newsletter
11/11/16	KALC	Weekly Rural Police update

The following Items were tabled:

4/11/16	Swale Borough Council	SBC Corporate Equality Scheme 2016-2020
Autumn/Winter 2016	CPRE	Kent Voice
Winter 2016	Kent & Medway NHS Partnership Trust	Connected Magazine

11. Matters not on the Agenda

Thank you letter to be sent to the owners of Dunkirk Church for providing refreshments following the remembrance day service.

A letter of condolence to be sent to Peter Dennis as Enuice, who had been clerk at Dunkirk for many years, had passed away.

Date of Next meeting: Monday 19 December

L Blackshaw
Clerk

Signed
Chairman

Date