

Dunkirk Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 19 December 2016

Present: John Peto, Jeff Tutt, Vaughan Howland, Daniel Brice, Phillippa Clarkson, George Bobbin, Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)

Declarations of Interest: none

1. **Apologies:** Paul Mellett, Steve Hitch, Andrew Bowles
2. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** Moths Field, opposite Bradbourne Cottages (item 6c). Donation (item 10).

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21.11.16 and the Planning Committee on 5.12.16 had been previously circulated.

Minutes of Planning Committee on 5.12.16 - Daniel Brice felt that the reference to Vaughan Howland declaring an interest in items 5 and 6 was inaccurate and said that he should not have been excluded from the discussion. It was explained that the documentation available to the parish council at the time of the meeting showed that VH had right of access along the track which was included within the site boundary for both applications (although not access into the associated sites), therefore it was correct that an expression of interest should be declared.

The minutes were then signed as an accurate record.

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

(a) Communications Policy

The draft policy is ongoing and a draft will be circulated for comments.

(b) Football Field

Barbara Dickenson from Courtenay Rangers had confirmed that the electricity supply had been disconnected and the portakabin had been demolished. The water meter would be read and the site completely cleared by 31 December when the lease expires. Courtenay Rangers thanked the parish council for their support over the years.

The Trustees had considered the request to widen the track alongside the football field to allow better access to the field behind. They were in agreement but wanted certain conditions to be applicable. The clerk to clarify one item with Finns before agreeing to go ahead. Once agreed it was proposed that gates are erected which would stop vehicular access when locked but allow pedestrian/wheelchair access.

5. **Matters for public concern**

(a) Highways Issues

30mph signage on Boughton Hill – the contractors had not completed this – KCC are following up.

Yellow lines opposite Woodmans Hall – have now been installed.

Courtenay Road/Dawes Road - resurfacing and strengthening works had finished. The road surface on the residential part of the road was now settling down and improving over time.

(b) Footpaths, Hedges and Verges

The hedge alongside Staplestreet Road/Orchard Gate development had been cut back. Once the properties are sold it becomes the property owners' responsibility maintain them.

Dawes Road – it was reported that although the hedge on one side of the road has been cut back, the hedge on the opposite site is overhanging and requires cutting back. Gary Gibb to be informed as he had dealt with the property owner over the same issue previously.

Tree Preservation Order – trees behind Dunkirk School. The clerk reported that the application had been acknowledged but not investigated yet.

(c) Crime Update

The crime update for October (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. It was thought that he may attend the meeting to discuss the issue but unfortunately he hadn't turned up. To be reviewed at the next meeting.

6. Planning

(a) Receive Decisions

16/506574/FULL - United Agri Products Ltd London Road - To extend site into and obtain change of use to a parcel of land immediately to the rear of the current site to provide additional parking together with turning facilities for lorries. Approved.

16/507451/FULL- Applegarth Dawes Road - Demolition of existing garage and construction of single storey side extension. Approved.

(b) Consider Applications

None.

(c) Planning Enforcement

Moths Field, land opposite Bradbourne Cottages. A mobile home had been installed on the site at the end of the previous week. It had been immediately reported to Enforcement and a Temporary Stop Notice had been issued. It was reported that the mobile has since been moved to behind the barn. The clerk to notify Enforcement as it was believed to be in breach of the Stop Notice.

Old Builders Yard – it was noted that signage and fencing has now been erected.

Land adjacent 85 Courtenay Road – an enforcement officer has visited the site and will be in touch with Mr Tooth to discuss the planning breach.

The meeting with James Freeman (Head of Planning) and Peter Hinckesman (Planning Enforcement) had been arranged for 9 January. The clerk will provide a summary of outstanding cases for discussion at the meeting.

7. Finance

(a) Finance Report: The report and monthly cash account had previously been circulated and were taken as read. It was noted that the VAT reclaim of £440.20 for April-October 2016 had been received.

(b) Payments: The following payments were proposed, seconded and approved.

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
1226	HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£96.80	-	£96.80
1227	L Blackshaw	Clerk wages/office allowance	£406.75	-	£406.75
1228	M Bradley	War memorial clean	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00
1229	PFL	Streetlight repairs (Fernleigh Close/ Stoney Rd)	£482.00	£96.40	£578.40
1229	PFL	Streetlight repair (Stoney Road)	£119.25	£23.85	£143.10
1229	PFL	Streetlight repair (Dunkirk Rd South)	£84.25	£16.85	£101.10
1230	SLCC	Annual Subscription	£93.00	-	£93.00
1231	Swale Borough Council	100x Property marking kits	£260.00	-	£260.00
DDR	EDF	Streetlight Electricity (November)	£210.56	£42.11	£252.67
	TOTAL		£1,787.61	£186.21	£1,973.82

(c) Precept 2017/18

The Precept for 2017/18 was discussed. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to submit a Precept with 0% increase on the payment received in 2016/17. The proposed tax base set by Swale Borough Council for 2017/18 is £495.44 which would therefore result in a decrease to council tax payers of 2.55%.

(d) 2017/18 Draft Budget

The draft budget previously circulated for 2017/18 was discussed. Additional items for inclusion in the budget were proposed – additional streetlighting and additional notice board. A revised budget to be prepared for the next meeting.

8. Neighbourhood Plan

Jeff Tutt gave an update. The Planning Consultant is currently reviewing a revised draft of the Plan which will then be ready for the public to view.

The public consultation on proposed amendments to the conservation areas is due to take place in January.

9. Correspondence

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

22/11/16	Swale Borough Council	Consultation on Local Validation Checklist for planning applications (deadline 23/12/16)
21/11/16	KALC	Dynamic Councillor training (Selling Village Hall) – 7/1/17
22/11/16	KALC	KCC Volunteer Support Warden Scheme
24/11/16	KCC	Bus Transport Select Committee – Survey (deadline 4/12/16)
30/11/16	Faversham TC	Faversham Local Engagement Forum minutes 12/10/16. Jeff Tutt will attend the next meeting.
5/12/16	KALC	Kent Minerals and Waste Sites Plans - Call for Sites – (deadline 30/1/17)
13/12/16	KALC	Weekly Rural Police Update
13/12/16	KALC	Bulletin on national developments and meetings – 9.12.16
15/12/16	KALC	Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement - No extension of referendum principles

Items tabled:

Winter 2016	CPRE	Countryside Voice
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10. Matters not on the Agenda

UV Pens - George Bobbin said that there may still be grant funding available from his budget. It was agreed to see whether funding could be obtained to purchase additional UV markers to be issued to new householders as the initiative had proved successful.

Streetlights – it was suggested that additional lights along London Road could be considered as it is a dark area. It was agreed to discuss at the next meeting with a map showing where the current streetlights are located.

Notice board – it was suggested that an additional noticeboard for those at the Staplestreet Road end of the village would be beneficial. It was agreed to discuss further at the next meeting.

Donation – the chairman proposed a donation in memory of Eunice Dennis, a previous clerk who had served many years for the council. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to donate £50 to the Alzheimers Society.

Date of Next meeting: Monday 23 January 2017

L Blackshaw
Clerk

Signed
Chairman

Date