

Dunkirk Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 16 October 2017

Present: Jeff Tutt, Vaughan Howland, Daniel Brice, Steve Hitch, Phillippa Clarkson, Paul Mellett, George Bobbin, Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)

In the absence of the Chairman, Jeff Tutt (Vice Chairman) took the Chair for the meeting.

Declarations of Interest: None

1. **Apologies:** John Peto, Andrew Bowles
2. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** Apsley Trust
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18.9.17 and the Planning Committee held on 2.10.17 had been previously circulated and were signed as an accurate record.

4. **Matters for public concern**

(a) Playing Field

The off road car club had been written to regarding removal of the cabin, but to date no response has been received.

(b) Highways Issues

The repair work to the road and kerbs outside Orchard Bungalow on Staplestreet Road had started.

South East Water had confirmed that the water leak outside Remus on London Road had been repaired, however it was reported to still be leaking – the Clerk to follow up again.

Repairs to Gate Services slip road – the bollards to stop parking had gradually been removed and lorries were continuing to park along the slip road. Delineators were scheduled to be installed by 14 October but to date this had not started. Jeff Tutt is continuing to chase.

Dawes Road – the caps to the sheet piling had now been changed so that they are the correct way round.

(c) Road Naming – London Road/Canterbury road

The London Road street nameplate signs had been ordered with an expected delivery time of 4-6 weeks. The location of the signs to be decided.

Ordnance Survey had confirmed that the change would be made in the October release of OS MasterMap. There had been no response from Googlemaps yet other than an acknowledgement that the request was being considered. The clerk to chase.

(d) Footpaths, Hedges and Verges

Scoggers Hill – the hedge had been cut back well by one landowner. The other landowner had still not cut his back. The clerk to chase this and refer to KCC Highways if necessary.

The hedge along Staplestreet Road from Thatch to Dawes Road junction was overgrown and overhanging. The clerk to write to the landowner.

Draw Road had been strimmed back. Daniel Brice was thanked for doing this.

A van had been parked on the verge outside no. 7 Courtenay Road for some time. It was believed that it belonged to the new residents. The clerk to write to ask that it is moved from KCC Highway land to within their own property boundary.

(e) Footpath Maintenance

The possibility of the parish council taking responsibility to clear some of the overgrown footpaths was discussed. It was agreed that this could be difficult to manage and decide which paths were a priority, as keeping the paths clear is the responsibility of the landowner rather than the parish council. Jeff Tutt to contact Swale Footpaths Group to establish what information they have on paths which are a problem and need to be cleared.

Footpath ZR533 Woodside to Boughton Hill is overgrown and impassable in places. The clerk to write to the owners of the properties who have ownership of the path and remind them of their responsibilities to keep it clear.

(f) Bonfires & Burning

Over the last few weeks there had been a lot of reports of bonfires and burning coming from three businesses in Courtenay Road. This was causing a nuisance to the residents of Courtenay Road in particular. Some of these incidents had been reported to Swale Borough Council Environmental Health department and residents were keeping a diary of occurrences. The clerk to write to the three businesses.

(g) Crime Update

Jeff Tutt reported on the recent Local Engagement Forum (LEF) where Kent Police had given a report. This included details of the speedwatch system in place at Doddington. Doddington Parish Council had offered to demonstrate it and this was felt to be a good idea. Jeff to agree some dates with Doddington.

5. Planning

(a) Receive Decisions:

17/503941/FULL - Denstroude Farm, Denstroude Lane - Removal of condition 5 of SW/89/42 (Conversion of agricultural buildings into 2 holiday cottages) – Refused.

17/503524/FULL - Christchurch House - Conversion of garage into habitable space, erection of two storey rear extension, two storey double height conservatory, two storey side extensions. Application withdrawn.

16/506316/FULL - The Old School London Road -Erection of 3 two storey terraced dwellings and 2 two storey semi-detached dwellings with on plot parking and associated works. There had been no formal notification following the Planning Committee on 12 October, however George Bobbin reported that the application had been approved.

(b) Consider Applications:

17/504557/FULL - Land Adjacent 28 Horselees Road - Erection of 2 chalet style dwellings (resubmission of 17/502231/FULL).

Following the comments made regarding the removal of the bramley trees, the applicant had come back with a proposal that the trees could be replanted or new trees planted elsewhere on the site.

Daniel Brice had discussed this with Paul Hegley, Tree Officer who had said that replanting of the trees would not be possible. It was therefore agreed that this was not an acceptable solution. It was also noted again that the applicant had stated that there were NO trees on the

site in the resubmitted application even though this had been pointed out at the first application. These comments would be reported back to SBC.

(c) Planning Enforcement

There had been no further update on outstanding enforcement cases since the last meeting.

Jeff Tutt confirmed that SBC were looking into legal action which could be taken following the High court Injunction on the tree felling at Brotherhood Wood.

(d) S106 Agreement – Red Lion Park

The park owner and resident of a property on the park had notified the parish council that a property was for sale. A copy of the S106 agreement has been sent to the estate agent to ensure that they are aware of the obligations.

6. Finance

(a) Finance Report

The report and monthly cash account had previously been circulated and were taken as read. It was noted that the 2nd installment of the SBC Precept and Lighting Grant had been received.

(b) Payments:

The following payments were proposed, seconded and approved:

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
1278	L Blackshaw	Clerk wages/office allowance	£406.95	-	£406.95
1279	HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£96.60	-	£96.60
1280	J Tutt	Expenses - Dog fouling signs	£15.46	£3.09	£18.55
1280	J Tutt	Expenses – postage (Public Inquiry proof of evidence documents x3)	£7.20	-	£7.20
1281	D Brice	Repositioning of dog bin	£45.00	-	£45.00
DDR	EDF	Streetlight Electricity (September)	£217.44	£43.49	£260.93
		TOTAL	£788.65	£46.58	£835.23

7. Neighbourhood Plan

The draft plan had been sent to Swale for review who had responded asking for clarification on what stage the plan was at. This was disappointing given that Swale have been invited to meetings and kept informed throughout the whole process. It is hoped that the plan would be reviewed by Swale before the officer leaves in December.

8. Correspondence

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

18/9/17	Faversham Town Council	Coffee morning with Mayor of Faversham 18/11/17
18/9/17	Action with Communities in Rural Kent	Invite to AGM 26/10/17
19/9/17	KALC	Kent Police Rural Report
19/9/17	KALC	Swale Area Committee minutes and info from the meeting on 11 Sept.

22/9/17	KALC	KCC Highways Tracker Survey – closing date 1/12/17. Paul Mellett agreed to complete the survey
11/10/17	KALC	Community Awards – closing date 26/1/18
10/10/17	KCC	Proposed Changes to Meadowfield School, Sittingbourne

The following items were tabled

10/10/17	KALC	KALC AGM Papers – John Peto/Jeff Tutt to attend
Autumn/ Winter 2017	CPRE Kent	Kent Voice magazine
5/10/17	John Peto	Retirement letter

9. Retirement of Chairman

John Peto had confirmed in writing that he wished to step down as Chairman and retire from the parish council with effect from the December meeting. John will be sorely missed as Chairman and parish councillor after the many years of service he has given to the community and it is with much regret that the parish council need to accept his resignation.

Swale Borough Council will be notified and the vacant position advertised.

10. Matters not on the Agenda

Apsley Trust – Some nominees had been put forward and Pippa reminded everyone that any further nominees (with a brief summary of reasons) needed to be submitted before the Trust meets in November.

It was reported that during the week of 18 September tractors and trailers harvesting from Fax Farm and Foresters Lodge were travelling erratically and at high speeds through the village. The trailers were not sheeted which, along with the high speeds that they were travelling, caused the contents to spill out. It was felt to be a matter of public safety and had been reported to the police at the time. It was agreed that the clerk would write to the company concerned.

Flytipping - various instances of flytipping around the parish had been reported to Swale Borough Council.

Date of Next meeting: Monday 20 November

L Blackshaw
Clerk

Signed

Chairman

Date