

Dunkirk Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 16 July 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Jeff Tutt (Chair), Philippa Clarkson, Vaughan Howland, Steve Hitch, Daniel Brice,
Julie Coleman, Andrew Bowles, Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)
Two parishioners

Declarations of Interest: None

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 18.6.18 and the Planning Committee on 2.7.18 had been previously circulated and were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

Matters Arising not on the agenda

Battle of Bossenden Display – from the dates when the village hall was available, it was agreed to arrange this for Saturday 20 October 2pm-4pm.

4. **Matters for public concern**

(a) Highways Issues

One parishioner present asked whether the parish council were aware of the reason for the surveying taking place in a field alongside Staplestreet Road and along the road itself. The council were not aware of anything. It was also pointed out that this particular area was within Boughton and Hernhill boundaries rather than Dunkirk.

Jeff Tutt gave an explanation of the site meeting which had taken place with KCC Highways, Police and Council members following the complaints regarding lorries using Staplestreet Road and the bad condition of the road. It had been agreed that a safety audit would be undertaken and the results of this were awaited.

A large pothole had appeared near entrance to Agrii – to be reported via KCC website.

Gate Services – an additional bollard has been requested as currently there is still room for one lorry to park.

(b) Footpaths/Verges/Hedges

Kerbstones at the bottom of Boughton Hill near the steps to Woodside are not high enough to stop water flowing down the steps to the properties below. KCC Highways to be asked to investigate.

Berkeley Close – a complaint had been received that the footpath/verges had not been sprayed and were overgrown with weeds. This has been reported to KCC Highways.

It was reported that the verge at the corner of Woodmans Hall has now been cleared.

Woodside ZR533 – the consultation period had ended and objections had been received to the stopping up of the unofficial path and extinguishment of ZR533. After further discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed to confirm to KCC PROW that the parish council were not in agreement to these footpaths being removed.

(c) TPOs

The clerk to chase up the request submitted to SBC for a blanket TPO for the remaining woodland in the parish which did not already have TPOs. The clerk to also chase for a response on the TPO regarding the woodland in Poundfall Wood which did not appear on the mapping system when recently sold.

The quality of work undertaken in Holly Hill Wood where trees had been cut had been reported to the Forestry Commission, however it was felt that their response was not satisfactory and a further letter should be sent and also copy in other organisations such as the Woodland Trust and Kent Wildlife Trust.

(d) Streetlights

The clerk had investigated the missing lamp at Highview Close. This had been removed by KCC in the bad weather back in January as it had been reported as dangerous and they had attended as an emergency call out. KCC could not establish who owned the light so unfortunately the parish council had not been advised of this until contacted separately by a resident. KCC confirmed that the lamp was beyond repair and had to be removed and the clerk had received the jobsheet from the contractor confirming this.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to include the two streetlights in Highview Close in the LED upgrade programme.

A resident had raised their concern that the streetlights in Berkeley Close may contain asbestos. The clerk to notify the streetlight contractor before the LED upgrades take place. Post meeting note: the contractor confirmed that the lights were fiberglass and did not contain asbestos.

(e) Crime Update

Jeff Tutt reported on the crime update which had been given at the recent LEF meeting. He also reported that we now have a new PCSO (Kirsten Jones).

(f) Churchyard Maintenance

It was proposed seconded and agreed to award an ex gratia payment to Tim Last to recognise his hard work in keeping the churchyard tidy. The contract for the churchyard maintenance will be reviewed next year.

5. **Planning**

(a) Receive Decisions: None

(b) Consider Applications:

18/503093/FULL - Prices Cottage, Horselees Road - Proposed single storey side extension with covered link to new detached double garage/workshop. Further details had been received from the agent following the queries made regarding drainage and access from a proposed doorway. A location plan showing the site boundary had also been received. Following review of this information it was agreed that there was no objection to the proposal but to point out that the proposal was within 20m of a watercourse (a culvert) which was not stated on the application form.

(c) Planning Enforcement:

No updates had been received. Jeff Tutt and Steve Hitch agreed to attend the members training session on 26 July.

6. 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:

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
1322	L Blackshaw	Clerk wages/office allowance	£425.25	-	£425.25
1323	HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£101.40	-	£101.40
1324	Prime One Maintenance	Streetlight maintenance	£149.45	£29.89	£179.34
1325	G Doy	Grass cutting contract	£66.00	-	£66.00
DDR	EDF	Streetlight Electricity (June)	£217.61	£43.52	£261.13
1326	Surrey Hills Solicitors	Legal advice regarding potential judicial review regarding SBC decision on Brotherhood Wood planning application	£690.00	£138.00	£828.00
		TOTAL	£1649.71	£211.41	£1861.12

(c) Receive the report from the Internal Auditor

The report had previously been circulated. There were no significant issues raised. The clerk was congratulated on keeping everything in good order resulting in a successful audit.

7. Parish Councillor Vacancy

One parishioner present was interested in the vacancy and was asked to submit his details which would be considered at the next meeting if he was still interested.

8. Neighbourhood Plan

The transport and environment sections were currently being revised before the plan could be submitted to Swale Borough Council.

9. Correspondence

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

2/7/18	Kent County Playing Fields Association	KCPFA July newsletter
2/7/18	KCC	Temporary Closure – A251 Ashford Road from 23.7.18-2.9.18
6/7/18	KALC	KCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) Consultation closes 12/9/18
6/7/18	KCC	Emergency Road Closure - Horselees Road – 12.7.18
9/7/18	Graveney Parish Council	Solar Park in Graveney – a response had been sent supporting Graveney Parish Council's objections
12/7/18	KCC	Emergency Road Closure - Highstreet Road & Dargate Hill, Hernhill – 17.7.18
13/7/18	Andrew Bowles	Monthly newsletter

10. Matters not on the Agenda

Dunkirk Road South – trees overhanging the road at the end of Dunkirk Road South. Jeff Tutt agreed to speak to the landowner.

KALC Councillors Conference – Julie Coleman had attended and reported on some of the items raised. Of particular importance was Kent Police “Don’t ignore it, Share it” initiative, the details of which were tabled.

Date of Next meetings:

Monday 6 August 2018 – Planning Committee
Monday 20 August 2018 – Full Council

L Blackshaw
Clerk

Signed
Chairman

Date