

Dunkirk Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 20 August 2018 at 7.30pm

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

Declarations of Interest: None

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** Swale Borough Council Corporate Plan (item 12)
3. **Brotherhood Wood**

The landlord of the Red Lion pub spoke to express his concerns and those of the local community regarding the development at Brotherhood Wood. He explained that crime had increased and his partner and other locals had been threatened and intimidated by Mr Robb (and that the police were aware of this).

Jeff Tutt explained the background to the application and how the parish council had fought against it in every way they could. It was felt that it was now probably too late as the application had been approved, however the landlord said he was prepared to get local residents together to endeavour to try to get this stopped.

It was suggested that he contact ward councilors, Andrew Bowles & George Bobbin and ask for their support.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16.7.18 and the Planning Committee on 6.8.18 had been previously circulated and were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

5. **Matters Arising from the previous meeting**

Litter pick – this was confirmed with Swale Borough Council for 22 September.

Bonfires – the letter recently sent to SBC Environmental Health regarding the ongoing bonfires was tabled.

Streetlights – LED upgrades – the 16 LED upgrades had now been completed and positive feedback received. It was agreed to revisit in December to decide on further upgrades during this financial year.

6. **Matters for public concern**

- (a) Highways Issues

Gate Services – it was reported that two bollards had now been removed. Jeff Tutt to chase up replacements with Highways England and keep Helen Whately informed.

Goddens Corner – Slow signs had been painted on the road along with dotted white lines at Brickfield Lane junction. Jeff Tutt to follow up the grip surface with KCC Highways.

- (b) Footpaths/Verges/Hedges

Overgrown hedge near Woodmans Hall to be reported to Boughton Parish Council.

Draw Road (Berkeley Close) was becoming very overgrown. A price to be obtained to clear this.

(c) TPOs

The clerk had received a response saying that due to workload pressures the Tree Officer had not been able to look at the request for a blanket TPO for the remaining woodland in the parish which did not already have TPOs. Workload pressure was also the reason given for lack of response on the query regarding the woodland in Poundfall Wood which did not appear on the mapping system when recently sold. It was agreed that as these requests were submitted in June and only after several chase ups the clerk received a non response, this was unacceptable. It was agreed to write a letter of complaint to Mark Radcliffe asking him to investigate.

Holly Hill Wood – the clerk tabled the letter to the Forestry Commission regarding the standard of workmanship in this wood. A response is awaited.

(d) Crime Update

Kent Police update report giving a snapshot of work carried out by the Rural Liaison Team had been previously circulated. The annual policing survey “How safe do you feel where you live” has been launched www.kent-pcc.gov.uk/consultations which was open for anyone to respond.

7. **Planning**

(a) Receive Decisions:

18/503093/FULL - Prices Cottage, Horselees Road - Proposed single storey side extension with covered link to new detached double garage/workshop. Approved.

18/502208/FULL- Winterbourne Quarry – Jeff Tutt reported that the Planning Committee had approved the application which was subject to a Unilateral Undertaking being agreed. A draft unilateral undertaking had been tabled at the meeting which was amended from the previous application to show that the green land would be subject to the approved restoration scheme (which parish council members had not seen) and would be in the ownership of the landowner. It was not known where the plot boundaries would be placed and it was possible that the individual plots would have green land within them which would be a concern once ownership was passed on.

Jeff also reported on the unprofessional attitude of the planning officer during the meeting. It was agreed that this was unacceptable and a letter of complaint should be written to Mark Radford. Jeff stated he would be complaining in any event.

(b) Consider Applications:

16/507586/FULL - Former Raf Mast Site - Removal of containers and brick toilet and erection of a data storage facility building with associated off-street parking. The amended details were reviewed. It was agreed to continue to object to the application on the same grounds as previously.

Some residents appeared not to have been consulted and were not made aware of the amended details. The clerk to follow up with SBC.

(c) Planning Enforcement:

An update had been received from George Mynham:

Brotherhood Wood – court hearing regarding the felling and burning of trees subject to TPOs had taken place today. Feedback on this was awaited.

The compliance period for the enforcement notice on non travellers leaving the site and unauthorised use of part of the land expires 22 Aug. The enforcement team would be following up on this in due course.

Denstead Stud Farm – a further site inspection was planned for this week.

Scoggers – following the appeal there is a 6 month period for unauthorised use of the land to cease.

8. Finance

(a) Finance Report

The report and monthly cash account had previously been circulated and were taken as read.

(b) Transfer of Funds

The clerk requested authorisation to transfer funds from the Reserve account to the Current account for payment of LED upgrades (as agreed in the 2018-19 budget). It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to transfer £5,000 and the authorisation letter was signed by two signatories.

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

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
1327	L Blackshaw	Clerk wages/office allowance	£425.25	-	£425.25
1328	HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£101.40	-	£101.40
1329	David Buckett	Internal Audit 2017-18	£233.10	-	£233.10
1330	Prime One Maintenance	Streetlight maintenance	£149.45	£29.89	£179.34
1331	Prime One Maintenance	LED upgrades x16	£3,999.84	£799.97	£4,799.81
1332	G Doy	Grass cutting contract	£66.00	-	£66.00
1333	G Doy	Verge area tidying (by Mast site)	£200.00	-	£200.00
1334	KALC	Attendance at Annual Conference	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00
DDR	EDF	Streetlight Electricity (July)	£218.65	£43.73	£262.38
		TOTAL	£5,453.69	£885.59	£6,339.28

9. Parish Councillor Vacancy

Peter Demery had submitted his details which had been previously circulated. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to co-opt Peter onto the Council. The clerk will arrange the necessary paperwork.

10. Neighbourhood Plan

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

11. Correspondence

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

18/7/18	Helen Whately MP	Newsletter
24/7/18	KALC	PCC Annual Policing Survey 2018 - PCC asks residents "How safe do you feel where you live?" Details of the questionnaire to be given to Red Lion landlord following his earlier comments
1/8/18	Andrew Bowles	Monthly newsletter

1/8/18	KALC	Call for evidence: Rural Economy (deadline 27 August)
6/8/18	Kent Police	Police and rural crime update
19/8/18	KALC Swale Area Committee	20's Plenty Working Group Minutes and Motions for KALC AGM. It had previously been agreed that Dunkirk would not be supporting this initiative

The following Items were tabled:

Summer 2018	CPRE	Countryside Voice magazine
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12. Swale Borough Council Corporate Plan

It was confirmed that Andrew Bowles and Mark Radford would be attending the meeting on 17 September to discuss the next Corporate Plan. The current Corporate Plan was tabled and ideas were given as to what could be put forward to Swale at the meeting.

13. Matters not on the Agenda

Playing Field

It was reported that people had been seen metal detecting in the field and the adjoining land but had run off when challenged. To be followed up with Acorn Engineering whose company van was seen at the time. Any further activity to be notified to Historic England as the land was part of the scheduled ancient monument site.

The lock on the container had also been broken and had been replaced by a nearby resident. The off road car club to be notified of this and also reminded that the container should have been removed.

Date of Next meetings:

Monday 3 September 2018 – Planning Committee
Monday 17 September 2018 – Full Council

L Blackshaw
Clerk

Signed
Chairman

Date