

## Dunkirk Parish Council

### Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 19 November 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Jeff Tutt (Chair), Philippa Clarkson, Vaughan Howland, Daniel Brice, Julie Coleman, Steve Hitch, Peter Demery, Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)  
Kevin Dengate (item 2)

Declarations of Interest: None

1. **Apologies:** Andrew Bowles, George Bobbin

2. **Bracken Brae**

Kevin Dengate explained that he was in the process of purchasing this property, which has an existing planning consent for a bungalow on the site. Kevin felt the design was uninspiring and was proposing a property which was more in keeping with the area. The new property would have similar footprint and be in the same location on the site, albeit turned slightly. He presented some ideas and welcomed the parish council's views before submitting a planning application. The general view was that the alternative designs he had shown were much better than the current design and would look favourably on them if and when a planning application was submitted.

Kevin was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

The meeting was formally opened

3. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** None

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20.10.18 were agreed and signed as an accurate record. It was noted that there were no minutes of the Planning Committee on 5.11.18 as the meeting had been cancelled.

5. **Matters Arising**

Water leak Dawes Road/Staplestreet junction - This was still leaking. The clerk to follow up with SE Water.

Apsley Trust - There had been one nomination. Pippa reminded everyone that any other nominations needed to be submitted by 6 December when the Trustees would confirm the payments to be made.

Armistice Service – The service had gone very well and was well attended. Mr & Mrs Connell had provided refreshments as in previous year and it was recognized that a lot of work had gone into preparation of this. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to send a gift as a token of thanks to the Connells and Jacqui Valentine who had prepared the refreshments.

6. **Matters for public concern**

(a) Highways Issues

Boughton Hill – repairs had taken place on a section of the hill but there was some concern about the standard of workmanship and it was questioned who had signed off the work and what guarantee was given by the contractor for the repair work. Jeff Tutt agreed to take this up with Annette Fletcher at KCC.

Staplestreet Road –KCC had provided an update on measures they were proposing following the safety audit which had taken place earlier in the year:

- additional lorry route signing at the point just before where the road starts to narrow as there is still room for lorries to turn back to the A299.
- KCC to contact Sat Nav companies and Google to update their information.
- Introduce a weight / width restriction at A299/Staplestreet, South of the junction with Dawes Road and The Street/Canterbury Road (with exception for access).
- KCC to request from HE additional diversion signing at both Canterbury Road and the A229 Thanet Way enforcing the unsuitability of Staple Street as a route for HGVs.
- Revisit the existing safety barrier to ensure that repairs address residents' concerns. This had since been highlighted to KCC as extremely urgent.
- Hedges at junction of Staplestreet Road/Dawes Road – KCC were contacting the landowners to remind them of their responsibility to keep hedges cut.

(b) Footpaths, Verges & Hedges

Verge adjacent Mast site had become very untidy. To be discussed at the next meeting.

(c) TPOs

A response had been received from Swale who had confirmed that they were proposing to place TPOs on areas of land in the parish. This was currently with their legal team.

TPO at rear of Dunkirk School - Swale Borough Council had confirmed that the reason for the amendment was that the boundary had been wrongly drawn on the original Order. The amendment was to remove an area which did not have trees on it (it was an entrance road). They had apologized for the oversight in not notifying the parish council.

There had still not been a response as to why the TPO on Poundfall Wood had not been recorded on the mapping system.

Holly Hill Wood – the clerk tabled a response received from the Forestry Commission regarding the standard of workmanship in this wood which stated that the work being undertaken was within the guidelines, however a further visit would take place before the end of the year. The clerk to request a copy of the report following this site visit.

(d) Streetlights

The streetlight by the steps adj A2 at Dunkirk Road South had failed and was being replaced with an LED. In order to take advantage of the discount for upgrading 10 lights to LEDs, it was proposed, seconded and agreed to proceed with a batch of 10 (including the Dunkirk Road South light). The clerk confirmed that there was sufficient funding in the budget to go ahead with this.

## 7. **Planning**

(a) Receive Decisions:

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. Approved.

(b) Consider Applications:

None

(c) Planning Enforcement:

Brotherhood Wood – a response had been received from James Freeman regarding the planning issues and lack of licence on the site. It was felt that the response was not satisfactory and would be followed up again with Swale.

(d) Meeting with James Freeman, Head of Planning

The Clerk & Jeff reported on the meeting held with James Freeman on 6 November.

It had been a positive meeting however there were still many items outstanding. A full response on the items raised was expected by the end of November.

## 8. 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
1348	L Blackshaw	Clerk wages/office allowance	£425.25	-	£425.25
1349	HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£101.40	-	£101.40
1350	Prime One Maintenance	Streetlight maintenance	£149.45	£29.89	£179.34
1351	G Doy	Grass cutting contract	£66.00	-	£66.00
DDR	EDF	Streetlight Electricity (Oct)	£218.65	£43.73	£262.38
		TOTAL	£960.75	£73.62	£1,034.37

(c) Budget 2019/20

The Clerk tabled first draft of the budget for 2019/20 and asked for any comments or suggestions for anything anyone wanted to add. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to include £10,000 for a further phase of LED streetlight upgrades.

## 9. Neighbourhood Plan

At the meeting with James Freeman he had confirmed that if the draft plan was submitted by the end of January 2019 then Gill Harris would be available to review it.

## 10. Correspondence

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

23/10/18	ACRK	AGM Invite 13/11/18
8/11/18	Swale Borough Council	Rural Sustainable Settlement Study 2018 (to be completed and returned by 21/12/18)
13/11/18	Helen Whately MP	Newsletter

The Winter 2018 edition of Countryside Voice was tabled.

**11. Matters not on the Agenda**

Jays Wood/Rosina Animal Centre - Planning enforcement were investigating the activities taking place on the site.

Red Lion – an Indian takeaway had started operating outside the pub. Planning enforcement to investigate.

Wild Food – Planning enforcement to investigate.

**Date of Next meetings:**

Monday 3 December 2018 – Planning Committee

Monday 17 December 2018 – Full Council

L Blackshaw  
Clerk

Signed .....  
Chairman

Date .....