

Dunkirk Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 5 June 2017

Present: John Peto, Jeff Tutt, Vaughan Howland, Daniel Brice, Steve Hitch, Phillippa Clarkson,
Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)
4 parishioners

Declarations of Interest: Vaughan Howland & Daniel Brice - item 4(c) 16/505118/OUT & 17/500313/OUT

1. **Apologies:** Paul Mellett
2. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** None
3. **Matters deferred from the previous meeting**

(a) Playing Field & Football Field

Playing Field - the parishioners present gave their views and asked questions about the use of the proposed field and the decision as to whether dogs would or would not be allowed.

Various comments were made which included: the field was convenient for those residents/dogs who were not able to walk long distances (i.e. as far as the woods); could there be additional fencing so that there was an area for children and an area for dogs; most owners were responsible and picked up dog waste and it was felt that these owners would "police" this and report any dog waste not picked up; it was not only dog waste which was of concern – dogs not on leads or kept under control could be a danger to children playing.

After further discussion the following was agreed:

1. Send a questionnaire to all residents in the nearby area to ask their views on the use of the field and whether they felt dogs should be allowed. Responses to be returned by 16 June so that a decision can be made at the next parish council meeting on 19 June.
2. Ask George Bobbin what details he has been able to obtain from Swale regarding any legislation in place regarding recreation grounds which may need to be taken into consideration.
3. Visit the site to establish whether additional fencing would be practical.
4. Carry on as is for the time being (dogs being allowed on the field).

Gates – two quotes had been received for the supply and fitting of two wooden gates at the entrance to the track. The quotes received were £645 and £955. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to accept the quote of £645 from Timber Tasks.

Football Field - the terms of business for the purchase of the additional piece of land from the Trustees of the Charles Dawes 1973 Settlement to widen the track to access the playing field had been previously circulated. It was agreed to sign the terms of business and make the payment of £300 for the search fees relating to this.

3 parishioners left the meeting, 1 remained for the duration.

(b) Highways/Footpaths/Hedges

Slip road from Gate Services to Foresters Lodge – some road markings are now in place; still waiting for additional signage. KCC are liaising with Highways England as part of the area is within their responsibility.

It was noted that there are various hedges which are becoming overgrown, however as it is the bird nesting season, unless the overgrowth is dangerous, it is difficult to demand that hedges are cut. An article to be included in the community magazine.

(c) Enforcement

John Peto and Jeff Tutt had attended the recent Planning Enforcement/Legal Briefing presentation by Swale Borough Council. The slides had been circulated. It was reported that Peter Hinckesman was retiring shortly and it was not known whether there would be a replacement for him.

(d) Streetlights

A quote had been received from UK Power Networks for the installation of a power supply for a new light in London Road. The cost of this and a new column and lamp would be in the region of £1750. The nearby resident had also been in touch confirming that she was not in favour of a light outside her property. It was agreed not to pursue this any further - the clerk to inform UKPN and the resident.

A quote for the connection of the 2nd to last light in Courtenay Road of £6939 was received from UK Power Networks. This would require a road closure to undertake the work which accounted for some of the cost. It was agreed not to pursue this any further – the clerk to inform UKPN.

UKPN were not able to provide a quote for the connection of the last light in Courtenay Road as it is beyond their remit of 43m from the supply pole – a private feed would need to be obtained. It was agreed not to pursue this.

4. **Planning**

(a) Receive Decisions:

17/501531/FULL - Denstroude Farm Denstroude Lane - Removal of condition 5 of SW/89/42 (Conversion of agricultural buildings into 2 holiday cottages) to allow unrestricted residential occupancy. Withdrawn

17/501703/FULL- Joan Beech Farm Rhode Common Road - Demolition of existing timber and corrugated-iron roofed sheds and erection of Stables, Workshop, and Carriage House. Approved.

16/501552/FULL - Revocation of quarrying use and erection of 4 No. detached dwellings with garages. The planning decision notice and unilateral undertaking had been issued. It was noted that no working time conditions had been issued despite it being agreed by the Planning Committee that all decision notices would include a condition on this. John Peto to write to James Freeman.

(b) Consider Applications:

17/502338/FULL - Brotherhood Wood - Variation of conditions 2-5 of planning permission SW/13/0137. Change of use for gypsy and traveller site to incorporate previous site approvals, increase number of pitches, relocate and enlarge communal facility building. Includes parking, lighting, fencing and landscape buffer. Condition 3 - to increase the total number of caravans to 53, of which no more than 47 would be static caravans/mobile homes

The Parish Council have repeatedly reported the non compliance of the planning conditions on the existing application to the Planning Enforcement department with no action being taken by Swale regarding the number of caravans on the site. This application now seeks to regularise what has been happening over the last 4 years. After a review of the plans and further discussion it was agreed to object to the application.

After further discussion and concerns about the activity on the site, it was agreed to submit a Freedom of Information request to the Police to ask details of the number of crimes which had been reported at the site. It was also agreed to request the ethnic origin of those on the site as it is widely believed that the residents are not from the gypsy & traveller community (which is one of the planning conditions imposed on the existing planning consent). Again this has repeatedly been referred to Planning Enforcement with little action being taken to enforce this condition.

(c) Appeals

APP/V2255/C/17/3167184 and APP/V2255/C/17/3167185 - Moth Field, Denstroude Lane. Appeal against Enforcement Notice for Change of Use without planning permission, the material change of use of the Land from agriculture to mixed use. The objection to the appeal had been submitted.

Vaughan Howland and Daniel Brice expressed an interest in the following two items and left the room while the discussion took place.

16/505118/OUT - Land North Of Canterbury Road
Appeal against refusal of outline planning permission for mixed use development comprising up to 77 residential dwellings. The Rule 6 Party application had been agreed by the Planning Inspectorate. The public inquiry had been confirmed to start on 26 September for approx. 4 days. The submission of case was being prepared - the deadline had been extended until 19 June.

17/500313/OUT - Land North of Canterbury Road - Outline application for mixed use development comprising up to 49 residential dwellings with associated commercial (B1) and retail (A1) units, hard and soft landscaping, and associated infrastructure

Additional information on the application had been received regarding the planting scheme which was noted.

It was also noted that RSPB had said they would mitigate against potential damage to the adjacent woods caused by additional residents the development would create by closing access to the footpath into the wood. This would result in a 4 mile car journey/walk to visit the woodland for nearby residents. The footpath is currently featured as a promoted walk on KCC website and in the "Big Blean Walk". After further discussion it was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to apply to KCC for the footpath to be registered as a public right of way. This PROW application to be noted against the planning application with Swale Borough Council.

Vaughan & Daniel rejoined the meeting.

5. Finance

(a) Payments:

The following payment was proposed, seconded and approved:

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
1257	Bull & Bull	Fees relating to purchase of land at Courtenay Road	£300.00	-	£300.00

6. Correspondence

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

18/4/17	Andrew Bowles	March newsletter
21/4/17	KALC	The Death of Municipal England - The KFAS Woolford Lecture 20/5/17
25/4/17	Kent Tree and Pond Partnership	Tree and Pond Warden activities - May
27/4/17	KCC	Urgent Road Closure - Dawes Road - 26 May 2017
27/4/17	Kent Film Office	Home owners required for new Kirstie and Phil TV format
3/5/17	KALC	Kent Police - Rural Policing Update 29/4/17
3/5/17	Helen Whately MP	Newsletter from your MP
3/5/17	KALC	South Eastern Rail Franchise Consultation - deadline 23 May
12/5/17	Swale Borough Council	Planning Enforcement/Legal briefing - 23 May 7pm
11/5/17	Andrew Bowles	April newsletter
17/5/17	KALC	Kent Police - Rural Policing Update 13/5/17
18/5/17	KALC	Matthew Scott talk at KALC SAC on 12 June 2017
24/5/17	KALC	NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin 19 -19 May 2017
24/5/17	KCC	Overnight Closures – A299 Thanet Way, Fostall Slip Roads – 21 & 22 June 2017
26/5/17	KALC	Swale Area Committee meeting agenda – 12 June 2017
31/5/17	KALC	Councillors' Conference 2017, 8 July 2017

Items tabled:

24/5/17	Air Ambulance	Annual Parish Meeting talk – thank you letter. £58 in donations had been received following the talk
18/5/17	Stagecoach	Bus timetable change. An unsatisfactory response received to the complaint about the cancellation of early morning bus routes which affected children travelling to school

Date of Next meeting: Monday 19 June

L Blackshaw
Clerk

Signed
Chairman

Date