

Dunkirk Parish Council
Minutes of Planning Committee meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on
7 August 2017 at 7.30 pm

Present: John Peto (Chair), Jeff Tutt, Paul Mellett, Daniel Brice, Vaughan Howland, Phillippa Clarkson, Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)
1 parishioner
PC Kim White (item 3)

Declarations of Interest: None

1. **Apologies:** Steve Hitch
2. **Notification of additional agenda items:** None
3. **Gypsy & Traveller**

The Chairman introduced PC Kim White, the Gypsy Liaison Officer for Kent Police. JP & JT gave a background to the planning history at Brotherhood Wood and the expansion without planning consent that had occurred since the site had been occupied.

PC Kim White gave a very informative presentation on her role and how her team interacted with the gypsy and traveller community throughout Kent. She gave the definition of the different category of gypsy/traveller – Romany, Traveller and Roma (eastern European travellers). She also confirmed that a section of the site at Brotherhood Wood was occupied by Roma residents.

PC White then invited any questions from council members. She agreed to follow up on the following items raised:

- Reports received regarding number of people living in each unit was a concern. Kim agreed to look at the demographics of those on the site.
- The relationship between Mansfield & Proforce.
- An area of woodland adjacent to the site had been cleared of trees which all had TPOs. There was a concern that the intention was to move the boundary and expand the site further. This had been reported to Swale Borough Council Planning and Enforcement officers. Kim agreed to find out who is responsible for TPOs from her side. She noted however that evidence on who had cut the trees would be required before any action could be taken.

PC Kim White was thanked for attending and then left the meeting.

4. **Receive Decisions**

17/502870/LBC - Former Raf Mast Site - Listed Building Consent for the installation of three transmission dishes (2 x 0.6m & 1 x 0.3m diameter) and associated minor installation work. Part of the nationwide Emergency Services Network programme. Approved

17/502231/FULL-Land Adjacent To 28 Horselees Road -Erection of 1no. two storey 3 bedroom chalet style bungalow with detached garage and 1no. single storey twin gable chalet style bungalow with detached garage. Withdrawn by applicant

5. **Consider Applications**

17/503906/FULL - 65 Courtenay Road - Single storey rear extension. The plans were reviewed and it was agreed to record no objection to the proposal but suggest a higher pitch roof rather than flat roof could be considered.

6. Update on Applications

Courtenay House, London Road Appeal – Jeff Tutt reported that a site visit had taken place with the Inspector, Swale Borough Council and the applicant’s planning agent. The parish Council had not received notification of the site meeting and had therefore not been able to contribute or comment on the additional information presented by the agent. A letter has been sent to Swale Borough Council regarding the failure to notify us of the meeting.

7. Matters not on Agenda (for information only)

Public Right of Way application (Bossenden Wood) - John Peto reported that KCC had returned the evidence statements which had been submitted with the original PROW application (which has since been revised and additional statements submitted). KCC had requested that the Parish Council should destroy these original statements – John then duly tour the statements up.

London Road/Canterbury Road naming - it was agreed to investigate with Swale Borough Council the procedure for correctly naming London Road on road maps and install a street name sign.

Fly Tipping – Steve Hitch had reported that various items had been tipped onto his land. He had reported it to the police who had eventually removed it. He also reported that there had been some unusual activity and disturbance near Winterbourne Quarry late one evening – a van was later found parked at the entrance with someone sleeping inside it. Again this was reported to the police.

Gate Services – the footway has still not been repaired. KCC Highways have been in touch with Highways England who confirmed that they were aware of it and “will continue to monitor”. Jeff Tutt has made Helen Whately MP and Matthew Scott (Police Crime Commisisoner) aware of this lack of progress.

FOI Request Brotherhood Wood – a response had been received saying that there had been an IT technical problem and the request had not been registered, however the request has now been registered and a response is awaited.

Speed Check Courtenay Road – a speed check had been carried out finding only one person exceeding the limit at 32mph. Another check is going to take place during school term time.

Vaughan Howland said that he had recently visited Boughton Church and noted that the churchyard was very overgrown and untidy and that Dunkirk should be proud that their churchyard is so well kept.

Dog bin by gate to entrance of playing field, Courtenay Road – Following comments that siting the bin inside the gate was encouraging dog walkers to walk through the gate to the playing field, it was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that the dog bin would be moved to outside the gate adjacent to the fence at 68 Courtenay Road.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Date of Next meeting: Monday 21 August – Full Council
 Monday 4 September – Planning Committee

Signed (Chairman)

Date