

Dunkirk Parish Council – Full Council Meeting

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall 7.30pm 19 July 2021

Present:

Parish Councillors: Jeff Tuff (JT) Chair, Julie Coleman (JC) Vice Chair, Daniel Brice (DB), Kevin Kemp (KK) and Jason Clifford (JCL), Matthew Bullen (MB) clerk to Dunkirk Parish Council

County Councillor: Rich Lehmann (RL)

Ward Councillor: Alistair Gould (AG)

One member of the public

Declarations: Any Declarations of Interest by members present to be made at the commencement of the meeting: None

1. **Apologies for absence** - apologies received from Ward Councillor Valentine
2. **Minutes of the previous meetings of Full Council 21 June 2021 and matters arising** - the Minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair with no matters arising
3. **Matters for public concern:**
 - a) Highways Issues
 - One member raised concerns about speeding traffic on Hickmans Green through to the railway line and would like more signage to try and reduce this. **ACTION JCL** to provide some further information and **then MB** to write to KCC (copying County Councillor Lehmann) see what assistance they can offer
 - A resident had asked if Rhode Common Rd could be reduced from 60 MPH road to 30MPH as it is used by more traffic than it was designed for, with many people using it as a cut through **ACTION MB** to write to KCC (copying County Councillor Lehmann)
 - A resident had raised an issue regarding a damaged gully in Stoney Road, which had been raised as a pothole issue instead and had remained unresolved. The Clerk updated the Council to advise KCC had now re-opened the case and were investigating again
 - b) Footpaths, Verges & Hedges
 - c) TPOs
 - The Clerk updated the Council to advise that the previous issue with Poundfall Wood had been raised once more but no response had been received. One member stressed that the damage done could be reversed but that action needed to be taken immediately to achieve this. **ACTION MB** to follow up again
 - One member advised that the apparent removal of woodland and the creation of an entrance at Gate Hill on the Canterbury side of the A2 had been reported and an updated awaited
 - One member advised that the Forestry Commission are due to write to the Clerk to advise of 3 more felling licences to be granted in nearby woods and commented that the Commission should liaise with the Council in the first instance
 - d) Streetlights
 - The Clerk updated the Council to advise that a response from the streetlighting contractor with regards to possible adjustments to light settings had been received and would be passed on for Councillors' consideration **ACTION MB**
 - e) Playground Equipment and Safety Surfacing
 - The Council is keen to progress some form of outdoor equipment in the playing field behind Courtenay Road. It was suggested that residents should be approached to understand what facilities would be most desirable and the Clerk offered to look into the possibility of conducting an online survey which residents could participate in. It was also suggested that the survey could include a query about allotments to gauge appetite for this in the village **ACTION MB**
 - It was agreed that the pathway leading to the field would need to be upgraded as part of the project and JCL was asked to provide a quotation for this, together with a quotation from another contractor **ACTION JCL**

4. **Planning:**

a) **Received decisions:**

- i. **21/502400/LAWPRO** | Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed loft conversion with rear dormer including 2no roof lights to front roof slope. | 49 Stoney Road Dunkirk Faversham Kent ME13 9TN **APPROVED**
- ii. **21/502112/LAWPRO** | Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed flat roof rear dormer. | Fairview Staplestreet Road Boughton Under Blean Faversham Kent ME13 9TJ **APPROVED**
- iii. **21/501427/FULL** | Erection of 1no. one bedroom dwelling including erection of new sliding entrance gates. | Land To The Rear Of 7 Horselees Road Boughton Under Blean Kent ME13 9TG **PERMITTED**
- iv. **20/505357/FULL** | and **20/505358/LBC** | Listed Building Consent for extension to existing link including alterations to fenestration and internal alterations as amended by drawings | Jull Cottage Rhode Common Dunkirk Kent ME13 9PU **GRANTED**

b) **Consider applications:** NONE

5. **Finance:**

- a) **Finance report** - The Clerk read through the contents of the June Finance Report
- b) **Approve payments** - The clerk requested approval for payment of the items referred to in the Report which was proposed by JT, seconded by JC and agreed unanimously

6. **Update on casual vacancies to the Parish Council and introductions from applicants**

The clerk updated the Council to advise that two applications had been received for the two vacancies for the office of councillor. One of the applicant's was in attendance.

The applicant introduced herself by stating that she had previous experience of being a councillor and had been heavily involved in obtaining grants for the refurbishment of football pitches. She had lived in the village for 10 years, is passionate about environmental matters and feels she has a lot to contribute to the Council.

7. **Predetermination – comment from the Chair**

The Chair reminded the Council of its responsibilities to ensure a spirit of open-mindedness is necessary when considering all matters relating to the Council

8. **Agree a date for the Council to facilitate a “virtual” meeting the promoters of the “Winterbourne Fields” development and local residents**

The Council agreed for the Clerk to facilitate an online meeting with the promoters of the development at 7.30pm on 4 August 2021 which will consist of a presentation from the promoters only. Although this is not a formal council meeting, notes from this will be published on the Parish Council's website.

9. **Potential Arrangements for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2 June 2022**

Formal celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next year include the lighting of beacons nationwide. **ACTION MB** to write to the Council's insurers and the Village Hall Operators assess the insurance implications for undertaking this at the village hall. The Clerk also to establish the cost of purchasing a beacon.

Councillors were also asked to give thought to other celebrations that could be undertaken in the village over the Jubilee including potentially using the playing field. **ACTION - ALL COUNCILLORS**

10. Matters not on Agenda (for information only)

The Chair advised the Clerk that KALC were looking to devising a new training course for clerk's and to let him know if there was anything that he would like to be incorporated in this?

11. Meeting closed and private meeting held to review councillor vacancy positions

The Clerk advised the Council that the both applications received had been completed satisfactorily and that based on these documents, both were suitable to be appointed to the Council.

Nicola Smith had introduced herself at the Full Council meeting and Councillors agreed unanimously to appoint her to the Council.

The second applicant had not attended the meeting and Councillors were reluctant to appoint this person without having met them, not least as it could not be sure the person still wished to apply for the role.


The Council agreed unanimously to ask the clerk to write to the applicant with a request that they attend the next meeting of the Council with a view to appointing thereafter if all in order **ACTION MB**

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.40pm

Date of next meeting:	Planning committee:	2 August 2021
	Full Council:	16 August 2021

Matthew Bullen,
Clerk for Dunkirk Parish Council

Signed


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Chairman

Date

16/8/21
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