

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL**

Held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Brand, Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Horobin, Cllr. Mrs. Horobin, Cllr. Leach, Cllr. Reeves, Cllr. Shirley

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Beresford, Dist. Cllr. Nicholas, PCSO L. White

Chairman thanked Cllr. Dixon for Chairing the previous meeting in his absence.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Chairman has received a letter of apology from Cllr. Webb explaining that recent absences were due to family illness and a family event. It was proposed by Cllr. Dixon and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Horobin that the reasons for absence be accepted by the Parish Council and all agreed.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014 had previously been circulated. One correction was noted, that the heading for Item 12 should read "Financial support towards events". Following this correction, it was proposed by Cllr. Brand and seconded by Cllr. Shirley that the minutes be accepted as a true record and were duly signed by Cllr. Dixon.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT MEETING**

The minutes of the Recreation Ground Management Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted. The appended budget as referenced in Item 5 had not been attached. Clerk was requested to circulate the document.

### **5. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

### **6. PCSO REPORT**

Lisa White was introduced to the meeting as the new PCSO for River. She has been a PCSO for seven and a half years with previous deployments in several other areas.

PCSO White reported that last month had seen: two incidents of criminal damage to vehicles; a burglary at the Co-op store (and a subsequent arrest); a burglary attempt at Dover Rugby Club (with significant damage); and one report of excessive noise (which has been passed on to DDC Environmental Health Department). Following a question from Cllr. Leach, PCSO said that there is no prescribed decibel limit and that Environmental Health judges each case individually.

### **7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **Issues with HGV lorries**

Chairman had previously circulated proposals arising from a meeting with County Cllr. Lymer and requiring comments before the date of this meeting. He thanked Councillors for their comments. The proposals are for new signage directing HGVs to Coombe Valley Industrial Estate. The new larger signage will have a white background with black lettering. It was felt that proposed secondary signage at the top of Crabble Road and on Crabble Hill directing vehicles to the A2/M2 may lead to confusion and congestion as HGVs attempt to turn left at the traffic lights. It was noted that having a direction sign on Crabble Road railway bridge may prove a problem as it does not belong to Kent Highways. It was requested that any sign on the grass verge at the junction with Crabble Avenue should not obscure the existing village sign. The success of new signage should be monitored over the coming months. Chairman thanked both District Councillors for their efforts towards achieving this new signage.

Cllr. Dixon said that via work he has been canvassing the views of drivers from around thirty companies passing through the port. The general opinion is that Crabble Road is so busy with both parked and oncoming vehicles that it is difficult to have time to read the signage.

## **8. PLANNING MATTERS**

- a) DOV/14/00926 | Erection of a single storey side extension | 9 River Meadow, River, CT17 0XA – no objections.
- b) DOV/14/00889 | Erection of a single storey and rear extension | 19 Woodland Close, River, CT17 0NR – no objections.
- c) DOV/14/00952 | Remove three branches of one Corsican Pine | 2 Kingston Close, River, CT17 0NQ – no objections.

## **TO NOTE ANY DECISIONS MADE BY DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

- a) DOV/14/00718 | 33 Chilton Way, River, CT17 0QA | Erection of a detached garage (existing garage to be demolished) – permission granted

## **9. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Dist. Cllr. Beresford reported that: the planning application for Cardrona, Minnis Lane has been called in to the Planning Committee; planning enforcement has told two nearby buildings to remove their porch constructions; the drain at the bottom of Cowper Road is working now and roadsweepers have been asked to include the area to prevent leaves from blocking the drain. Cllr. Beresford will look into two problems with water collecting at the end of Dourside and at the bottom of Common Lane.

Dist. Cllr. Nicholas reported that the time of the 15 and 15a Canterbury buses in the morning are to be made earlier as they are currently already full by the time they reach River leaving no room for students going to Canterbury. Cllr. Nicholas is also following up on the timing for opening the new combined post office and pharmacy. The childrens' party at Russell Gardens was a great success.

## **10. REPORT FROM THE EVENTS COMMITTEE**

Cllr. Brand reported that the scarecrow trail went very well. A profit of £582 had been made on the sale of trail maps. She thanked Cllr. Shirley for her help. Flowers had been purchased for Mrs. Taylor for her work on the hamper and catering for the wine and wisdom evening. The quiz evening had also been very successful with a profit of £577. A decision on how much money will be available for the grant fund will be made at the next meeting of the Events Committee.

## **11. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Financial reports for September 2014 had previously been circulated. It was proposed by Cllr. Leach and seconded by Cllr. Brand that they be accepted and all agreed.

## **12. APPLICATION FROM CRABBLE CORN MILL TRUST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

This application had been deferred from last month pending copies of accounts from the Trust. Cllr. Leach reminded the meeting that it had been the policy of the Parish Council not to provide grants towards the general running costs of any organisation but rather to support specific projects.

Caroline Fox-Betts, a Crabble Corn Mill Trustee, was asked about any current requirements. She said that around thirty windows needed repair and that the roof of the cottages was leaking. It was agreed that this item be on the agenda for the next meeting and that the Trust be requested to provide quotes for the repair of windows and that they confirm the current situation with the roof.

## **13. 'RIVER IN BLOOM 2015' INITIATIVE**

A map of eight proposed sites for initial planting was circulated. This had been discussed at a meeting between Cllr. Dixon, Mrs. Fox-Betts and Clerk. The sites had been chosen as a first step for the project as areas with most traffic and visual impact. Areas were large enough for colour to be provided throughout the year. Expertise was required for advice on planting schemes. The approach was to lead by example and then promote to others in the village. Cllr. Shirley and Cllr. Dave Horobin volunteered to advance the project and will meet with Mrs. Fox-Betts to discuss. Dist. Cllr. Beresford offered to liaise with Kent Highways over any planting. Estimates of cost should be brought back to Council for discussion. Cllr. Dee Horobin said they had plants they were willing to donate to the project. It was agreed that the item be on the next month's agenda for an update.

#### **14. PROPOSED LOCAL COUNCILS CHARTER**

The draft charter, prepared by the Kent Association of Local Councils, between Dover District Council and Parish and Town Councils in the District had previously been circulated. There were no objections to the proposals being made and no consultee comments required.

#### **15. CORRESPONDENCE**

Notification had been received of a consultation by Kent County Council over their next year's budget. It was agreed that more information be provided and that the item be on next month's agenda.

#### **16. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- Cllr. Reeves said that local road signs were in need of cleaning. Also that fallen trees on the left of Whitfield Hill ought to be removed. Cllr. Beresford will look into.
- The meeting was reminded that the Annual Remembrance Service would be on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November.
- River Church was holding a quiz evening on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October
- There will be a talk on 'Dover in the First World War' at River Methodist Church on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 5.30pm
- KALC have informed the Council of their 2015 Community Awards Scheme – this is to be an agenda item for the next meeting

#### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Items discussed:

- Query regarding contribution to retiring postmaster, Mr. Brannigan – to be raised at the next meeting.
- Also the condition of Heritage Interpretation Panel – Clerk is investigating replacement.
- A further tree has been cut down, outside 36 Crabble Lane – consideration will be given to replanting
- Saplings are growing out of the river on the slipway opposite Riverdale – Clerk is to inform the environment agency

The meeting closed at 9.25pm