

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Tuesday 9th June 2015 at River Methodist Church

PRESENT: Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Brand, Cllr. Buhlman and Cllr. Webb

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Horobin, Cllr. Mrs. Horobin and Cllr. Dixon

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th May 2015 had previously been circulated. It was proposed by Cllr. Buhlman and seconded by Cllr. Brand that the minutes be accepted as a true record. All agreed and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

4. MINUTES OF THE RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT MEETING

The minutes of the last Recreation Ground Management Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th May 2015 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

5. MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the previous Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 11th May 2015 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

6. REPORT FROM THE PCSO

PCSO presented her report on the last month. The recent damage to the Recreation Ground had been recorded. PCSO was visiting the area more frequently and the ASB car had been informed of recent problems. In another incident, the fire brigade had been called to help a youth get out of the play area after climbing over the locked gates. There had also been an incident of vandalism at the scout hut. Two break-ins had occurred, in a London Road shed and a local business. Offenders had been apprehended in both cases.

7. MATTERS ARISING (NOT OTHERWISE LISTED ON THE AGENDA): There were none

8. PLANNING MATTERS

a) Planning applications:

- i) DOV/15/00317 | Erection of a single storey rear extension and conversion of garage into a habitable room (existing conservatory to be demolished) | 57 Deanwood Road, River, CT17 0NU – no comments.
- ii) DOV/15/00454 | Erection of a two storey side extension | 5 The Spinney, River, CT17 0NE – no comments

b) Planning applications received by the date of the meeting:

DOV/15/00496 | Retrospective application for the erection of a building | Bellevue, Minnis Lane, River, CT15 7DN – as the Parish Council is not in a position to validate evidence enclosed in the application stating that the building had previously been occupied over a long period it was decided not to pass any comment.

c) To note any decisions taken by Dover District Council: There were none

9. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Beresford reported a public consultation on the Dover Leisure Centre is due to take place shortly to gauge opinion about what local people would like to see improve about the facility. Collection of rubbish has been arranged after the Country Fayre. Cllr. Beresford asked about any progress with quotations for additional parish noticeboards. Clerk said these will be brought to the next meeting. Chairman asked Cllr. Beresford to liaise with County Cllr. Lymer about the outstanding parking controls at Valley road and the new signage for the Crabble Avenue turning to Coombe Valley Industrial Estate.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

a) River Methodist Church – amendment to emergency procedures

A letter has been received from the Church amending emergency procedures for all users. These will now form part of the hire agreement.

b) Dover District Council – Public Spaces Protection Orders

Proposed Public Spaces Protection Orders, relating to dogs, will be considered by DDC cabinet on 15th June.

c) Kent Police

Two free events are being organised by Kent Police along with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable. These will be on 22nd July and 23rd September 2015.

d) Kent Highways – notification of tree works

Notification has been received regarding the necessary removal of a tree from outside 52 Crabble Lane. It was agreed to seek the necessary meetings with Kent Highways, and subsequent surveys, to investigate the possibility of replacing some of the lost trees from the area.

11. REPORTS FROM THE EVENTS COMMITTEE

Cllr. Brand reported that arrangements for the Country Fayre are proceeding.

12. RIVER IN BLOOM PROJECT

Cllrs. Mr. and Mrs. Horobin have agreed to represent the Parish Council on 'River in Bloom' and work alongside other members of the community to advance the project. They are proposing to concentrate on one of the agreed sites to begin with.

13. VANDALISM IN THE RECREATION GROUND

Chairman reported that damage to the adult goalposts has been followed by vandalism in the childrens' play area, necessitating temporary closure. The wet-pour materials required to repair the damaged surfacing are now to hand and the play area will be re-opened as soon as the repair is completed.

14. FINANCE:

a) Financial Reports for April and May 2015

Clerk presented accounts for the months of April and May 2015. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that these accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Webb and all agreed.

b) Quotations for exterior decoration of the Recreation Ground Clubhouse

Two quotations have been received for this work. A third contractor had to withdraw due to pressure of work. After discussion, it was agreed to accept the quotation of £4,489.00 from P. Summers and Sons for the external re-decoration of the Recreation Ground clubhouse.

c) Proposal to purchase additional benches for the Recreation Ground

The purchase of three additional picnic benches had been discussed at the Recreation Ground Management Meeting with a decision to ask full council for approval. After discussion, and consideration of prices from two other suppliers, it was agreed to purchase three additional benches from Earth Anchors at a cost of £390 each. The company has already agreed to replace one of the original benches which developed a fault.

d) Bank Mandate

It was agreed that Cllr. Buhlman and Cllr. Webb be added as signatories to the bank account.

In addition, it was reported that following a review of insurance provision and consideration of three quotations, the quotation from Aviva via Came and Company Local Council Insurance Brokers was accepted at a cost of £3,205. As well as providing additional cover and available ongoing advice from specialist local council insurance brokers, it also represents a saving of £753 from the renewal offered by our previous insurers. A three year long term agreement has been entered into thus reducing the premium by further £169. The insurance policy is now in place.

15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- Chairman reported attending a second meeting arranged by the Kearsney Parks project
- The renovation of benches around the village has now been completed. When the memorial bench for Brian Cuff is delivered, the existing bench opposite River Church will be re-located inside the Recreation Ground.

- Chairman has been in contact with the Environment Agency regarding works scheduled to remove trees growing out of the riverbank on Lower Road opposite Crabble Lane. The work should begin before 15th July. Chairman will continue contact to ensure the work takes place.
- Clerk reported that a charitable organisation, CXK Ltd., are due to start free youth activity sessions based in the Recreation Ground. Clerk will publicise the activities when details are to hand.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: There were no questions.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm