

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 14th July 2015 in River Methodist Church at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Brand, Cllr. Mr. Horobin, Cllr. Mrs. Horobin

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Beresford, County Cllr. Lymer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Webb and PCSO White

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none.

3. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

County Councillor Lymer reported that the water leakage around the pond wall at Crabble Corn Mill should have been dealt with last year. Works will now be carried out and Cllr. Lymer will fund as much of it as possible. He is also examining the possibility of an axle weight restriction on the Lower Road bridge over the river Dour.

Any new road signage is now being ordered in bulk by Kent Highways rather than as required in order to save on cost. However, installation of the new HGV signage near Crabble Avenue is now imminent.

District Councillor Beresford reported that the planning application from Belle Vue, Minnis Lane, is still being considered by planning officers. No further planning application has been received from 27 Crabble Lane, as had been requested, and planning enforcement officers are due to take action. Now that the new dog control orders are in place, please inform Cllr. Beresford if any areas of the parish need extra patrols from enforcement officers. Chairman said that there have been problems with dog walking in the Recreation Ground.

A request has gone in for vegetation along 'The Cut' to be cut back as it is now barely passable. Roadworks are due to start in Cherry Tree Avenue for several weeks which will cause traffic disruption throughout the town.

4. PARKING RESTRICTIONS JUNCTION OF VALLEY ROAD AND COMMON LANE

Cllr. Lymer provided an update on the new parking restrictions scheme. He reported that parking permits had been looked into but Dover District Council were reluctant to consider them over such a small area because of the administrative costs involved. Double yellow lines are due to be installed on the junctions. The other section of the scheme will have a single yellow line which will have time restricted parking from Monday to Friday. Blue badge holders can still park subject to a three-hour time limit. The right for vehicles to load and unload still applies. There have been four objections to the scheme but in the end Kent Highways decided to go along with the majority view which was in favour of the scheme.

Cllr. Lymer had to leave the meeting at this point to attend another meeting.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th June 2015 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Brand proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr. Buhlman and all agreed.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Item 13 - the repairs to the vandalism to play surfacing in the Childrens' Play Area has now been repaired.
- Item 14b - redecoration to the exterior of the Recreation Ground clubhouse is due to start shortly
- Items 14c/d - due to be completed shortly

7. PCSO REPORT

PCSO White was unable to attend and submitted a written report which was read out to the meeting. There have been two burglaries this month. One during the day where an offender entered via an insecure back door and the other overnight when entry was gained via an insecure door or window. One incident of criminal damage to a vehicle had occurred possibly linked to a dispute. There had been one report of a nuisance vehicle being driven along Lower Road.

Cllr. Mr. Horobin reported that there were still problems with speeding along Lewisham Road. It was agreed to ask PCSO if another speed check could be arranged.

8. PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Planning Applications: none received

b) Correspondence

A site visit has been arranged by DDC to 22 Lyndhurst Road for 21st July 2015 with regard to application reference DOV/15/00147. Chairman will attend.

c) Decisions made by Dover District Council:

i) DOV/15/00232 | 1 Minnis Lane, River, CT17 0RF | Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extensions – permission granted

ii) DOV/15/00235 | 1 Briar Close, River, CT17 0LZ | Erection of two and single storey side extensions – permission granted

iii) DOV/15/00454 | 5 The Spinney, River, CT17 0NE | Erection of a two storey side extension – permission granted

iv) DOV/15/00320 | Land between Loganberry Farm and River Minnis Farm, Minnis Lane, River, CT15 7DN | Change of use of land for the keeping of horses/ponies and the erection of stables/hay store (retrospective) – permission granted

9. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Public Space Protection Orders

An email has been received confirming that the new DDC Public Spaces Protection Orders are now in force. New signage is due to be put up and a request has been made that Parish Councils consider contributing to the costs. Clerk is to respond requesting details of the costs involved.

10. REPORT FROM THE EVENTS COMMITTEE

Cllr. Brand reported that the Country Fayre had been successful. Attendances were very good although it was felt that the Fayre had not been as profitable as in previous years. The Events Committee is to meet next week. Cllr. Brand thanked all the volunteer helpers and hoped that everyone had enjoyed the event. Chairman congratulated the events committee on their work.

11. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial reports for June 2015 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Brand proposed that the reports be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Mr. Horobin and all agreed.

12. QUOTATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL NOTICE BOARDS

Examples of notice boards and costs were circulated. After discussion, Cllr. Buhlman proposed that two new aluminium self-standing notice boards be purchased at an approximate cost of £1,500 plus installation. This was seconded by Cllr. Brand and all agreed.

13. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Chairman reported that Josie Reeves is keen that for bench in memory of Brian Cuff to be dedicated by Rev. Bawtree. Possible dates were discussed and Josie Reeves will confirm. Chairman thanked Josie for her donation towards the cost of the bench.

Work still start tomorrow on the 'River in Bloom' project.

There are three vacancies for members of the Parish Council.

Public Question Time

- ☒ Mr. Groombridge raised the issue of the parking situation in Valley Road/Common Lane and queried the extent of the residents survey undertaken. Mr. King also said that he had not been consulted. Both were concerned about the single yellow line restricting availability for parking by residents in the immediate vicinity and creating problems elsewhere nearby. Chairman said that the Parish Council had contacted KCC about the issue in response to many local residents over insensitive parking in the area. Mrs. Nicholas said that she had not been in favour of the scheme when she was a District Councillor.
- ☒ Alison Dale said there was still a serious problem with parking on the corner of Common Lane opposite the Co-op store but without enforcement no scheme would be effective.
- ☒ Mrs Thomas reported problems with dogs mess on Lower Road and also large lorries coming over the bridge on Lower Road and turning right into Valley Road.
- ☒ Mr. Packham questioned the effectiveness of recent repairs to the surfacing in Common Lane and the condition of the roads throughout the area.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm