

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

Held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 7.30pm at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Brand, Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Horobin, Cllr. Mrs. Horobin

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

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr. Dixon and Cllr. Webb

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

There were none.

### **3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Brand noted one item for correction. The date of the next Country Fayre will be on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2016. Following this correction, Cllr. Buhlman proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr. Horobin and all agreed.

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

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Recreation Ground Management Committee held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 had previously been circulated to all Councillors. Their contents were noted.

### **5. REPORT FROM THE PCSO**

There have been two incidents of antisocial behaviour reported: one involving children and one complaint regarding parking on football matchdays outside Crabble Athletic Ground. Chairman said that the matter of parking outside the ground had previously been taken up with Dover Athletic Football Club. PCSO White reported that patrols had not yet been able to undertake speed checks in the two reported problem areas of Lewisham Road and Lower Road. Cllr. Buhlman reported to PCSO that a white van had been parked on the corner of Riverdale for the past few weeks and was being used as storage by builders working locally. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson queried the legality of vehicles parked on the pavement. PCSO White responded that vehicles should not cause an obstruction by blocking the whole pavement but that enforcement was a problem.

### **6. NOMINATIONS FOR CO-OPTION AS MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman introduced Mr. David Keningale, who has consented to be nominated as a member of River Parish Council. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that he be co-opted as a member of River Parish Council and all agreed. Cllr. Keningale was invited to join the meeting.

### **7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA)**

There were none.

### **8. TO CONSIDER ANY PLANNING MATTERS:**

#### **a) Planning applications**

DOV/15/00944 | Erection of a fence on front boundary, an external staircase and a rear dormer garage roof extension | 91 London Road, River, Dover, CT16 3AA – no comment.

**b) Any planning applications received by the date of the meeting:** There were none.

#### **c) To note any decisions by Dover District Council**

DOV/15/00776 | Erection of a two storey and single storey side extension (existing garage to be demolished) | 1 Briar Close, River, Dover, CT17 0LZ – permission granted

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

Cllr. Beresford reported that another enforcement notice is to be sent to 27 Crabble Lane by DDC Planning Enforcement although they will have four years to comply. Consultation on the future of Dover Leisure Centre will be coming out shortly. Cllr. Beresford has requested that the back be replaced on the vandalised bus shelter in Lewisham Road. It was suggested that a full replacement would be a better option. Cllr. Mrs. Horobin said that a shelter should be provided on the other side of the road as well. The gas shelter sited on Lewisham Road is to be removed shortly but will be back in January. Suggestions are needed for alternative locations. Three of the waste bins requested are now in place. An alternative site is needed for the fourth bin. Suggestions to Cllr. Beresford by the end of the month. Cllr. Beresford is still looking into the availability of land behind Crabble Athletic Ground for dog-walking. She is also looking into whether the strip of land behind the bus terminus could be transferred to the Parish at no cost.

A suggestion has been received for use of one tennis court in the Recreation Ground as a dog agility area. Cllr. Beresford said that, because of the new Public Space Protection Orders, this would require an amendment to the act, which could only be carried out via the District Council. A special exemption would also be required in order for the dog show to take place at the Country Fayre.

## **10. REPORT ON THE BRIEFING TO PARISH COUNCILS ON OPERATION STACK AND MANSTON**

Cllr. Buhlman had attended the briefing, along with Cllr. Dixon, on behalf of the Parish Council and reported to the meeting: Both P&O and Dover Harbour Board expressed concerns that the scheme provided commercial advantage to Eurotunnel; Kent Police suggested that they would release one HGV vehicle per minute to avoid congestion on the route back to Dover. However, P&O said that vehicles needed to be in position for loading to allow sailings to keep to schedule; Kent Police Commissioner, Ann Barnes has promised to provide staff at every junction when vehicles are making their return journey to Dover; troops are able to be used as this is not a civil emergency. Chairman thanked Cllr. Buhlman for attending the meeting.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **a) Kent County Council street lighting consultation**

KCC are seeking the views of residents, businesses and communities on issues connected to street lighting in advance of the LED Street Lighting Conversion Project. Cllr. Beresford reported that night-time street lighting will not be switched back on until the conversion to LED has taken place and that the more feedback received from individual areas may push them up the list for conversion. It was agreed that the Clerk circulate the survey to everyone and that a combined response from the Parish Council be agreed at the next meeting.

### **b) Kent County Council Highways and Transportation Survey**

KCC are conducting their annual survey into satisfaction with the condition of roads, pavements, street lighting and drainage. It was agreed that the Clerk circulate the survey to everyone and that a combined response from the Parish Council be agreed at the next meeting.

### **c) Consultation into proposed changes to powers held by police staff and volunteers**

The Home Office have launched a consultation into proposed changes to powers held by police staff and volunteers. It was decided to concentrate on the two requests received from KCC for a response from the Parish Council.

### **d) Police Parish Forum**

The next Police Parish Forum is due to be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at Sandwich Guildhall. This was noted.

### **e) KALC Annual General Meeting**

The AGM of the Kent Association of Local Councils is due to take place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November at Ditton Community Centre. No Councillors are available to attend.

#### **f) Correspondence with the Environment Agency regarding trees in Lower Road**

Chairman reported that he had been in correspondence with the Environment Agency and that a team would be attending during the next week to complete works left over from the Spring to remove trees from the River Dour wall in Lower Road opposite the junction with Crabble Lane.

#### **g) Correspondence regarding the Kearsney Parks Project**

Chairman reported that he had been in correspondence with the Project Manager regarding use of the old billiard room and provision of car parking spaces. A response has been received stating that there were no plans to transfer the Café away from the old billiard room but it may have additional usage for community or educational activities. Also that he will ask the design team to look again at the numbers of car parking spaces to be available but that the present scheme, as it stands, will increase the number of spaces by 20%. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson said that she had attended the consultation event and that the project is proposing to promote the availability of park and ride from Whitfield especially for special events.

### **12. CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR RIVER AND LYDDEN PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO FEDERATE**

A request has been received for the views of the Parish Council on proposals for River and Lydden Primary Schools to federate. Both schools will maintain their own identity and it was noted that the two schools already work closely together. The correspondence had previously been circulated to all Councillors. Cllr. Brand commented that there only one staff member was to be included on the new Governing body. It was agreed that Chairman respond to the correspondence that the Parish Council are broadly in favour of the proposal and will include Cllr. Brand's comment.

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

Cllr. Brand reported that the current balance of the Events Committee bank account is £3,816. The committee will decide how much of the money will be made available to the community grant fund. The remainder of the balance will be put towards events in 2016. Details on how to apply for the grants will be published in the next issue of the Rivall. Cllr. Brand will let Clerk have any amendments to the application form. The next meeting will be at the beginning of December.

### **14. PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL FOLDING TABLES AND CHAIRS FOR EVENTS**

A proposal to purchase an additional ten 915mm x 685mm folding tables and twenty stacking chairs at a cost of £1,070 was discussed. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that the Parish Council go ahead with the purchase. This was seconded by Cllr. Keningale and all agreed.

### **15. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2015**

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

### **16. TO DISCUSS EMPLOYMENT OF A PART-TIME 'HANDYMAN'**

As Cllr. Dixon was unable to attend the meeting to discuss his proposal, it was agreed to carry the item forward for discussion at the next meeting.

### **17. INFORMATION DISPLAY MATERIAL FOR THE COUNCIL**

Clerk outlined options for the production of promotion and exhibition material for the Parish Council. It was agreed that suggestions for content be brought to the next meeting.

## **18. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Chairman reported that the new pictorial HGV signage had been installed in Crabble Road.

The annual remembrance service will be held on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November at River Church.

Cllr. Mrs. Horobin congratulated Mrs. Carol Bennett on the organisation of the recent 'Garage Safari'.

Cllr. Mrs. Horobin reported that bulbs had been planted along Lewisham Road, Crabble Lane and by Meadowdene as part of the 'River in Bloom' project.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

- A green van has recently been parked every day opposite the Village Hall. This could provide problems for large vehicles travelling along Common Lane, although it is legally parked.
- It was reported that the double yellow lines outside the Village Hall have been extended.
- The drain at the junction of Crabble road and Crabble Avenue is collapsing. Cllr. Beresford will look into this.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm