

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

Held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 7.30pm in River Methodist Church

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

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

**80. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr. Buhlman

**81. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were none.

### **82. PCSO REPORT**

A written report has been received from PCSO. This was read to the meeting.

*Crime: In the last month there has been a theft of some tools from a motor vehicle and damage to a car- no suspects identified. There has been a shoplifting at the Co-Op and the suspect was identified from CCTV footage and arrested.*

*Anti-social Behaviour: There have been two reports of fly tipping but it appears that this was being done with the permission of the landowner.*

*Just to make you aware, I now also cover Maxton, Priory and Elms Vale Ward in partnership with a fellow PCSO although I no longer cover Alkham.*

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

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Brand proposed that they be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr. Eyre-Jackson and all agreed.

### **84. MINUTES OF THE RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

The minutes of the Recreation Ground Management Committee meeting had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

### **85. NOTES ON A MEETING OF THE RIVER DOUR PARTNERSHIP**

Clerk attended a meeting of the River Dour Partnership on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016 on behalf of the parish council. Notes taken at the meeting on items relating to the parish had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

### **86. MATTERS ARISING (NOT OTHERWISE LISTED ON THE AGENDA)**

All matters dealt with on the agenda.

### **87. PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **a) Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting**

Minutes from the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

#### **b) Any planning applications received by the date of the meeting**

There were none. Dist. Cllr. Beresford reported that a hearing for the 'Belle Vue', Minnis Lane, appeal will take place at DDC in September.

#### **c) Decisions by Dover District Council**

DOV/16/00331 | 1 Ash Close, River, CT17 0NA | Erection of a two-storey side extension (existing garage to be demolished) – permission granted

DOV/16/00160 | 1 River Meadow, River, CT17 0XA | Erection of an attached single garage and single storey side extension – permission granted.

## **88. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Dist. Cllr. Dixon reported that Network Rail are still on target to complete the repairs on the Dover to Folkestone rail line by the end of the year. A contract has been awarded to construct a lorry holding park for Operation Stack but there is still debate as to whether this is the correct solution. There is no definite agreement on a site location as yet.

Cllr. Beresford added that, excluding 2015, Operation Stack has only been officially activated four times in the last six years. There will be a meeting with Kent County Council tomorrow regarding the A20 TAP. Plans for the new Dover Leisure Centre will be going out to public consultation for six weeks in July. Roadworks are planned to take place in lower Crabble Lane which will require the road to be closed. Piling machines will shortly be arriving at the DTIZ site to start construction of the cinema.

County Cllr. Lymer reported that KCC is looking into getting revenue from HGV parking facilities to assist with the costs to the county. Cllr. Lymer has objected to the removal of lamp stands from Whitfield Hill. He is taking a recommendation back for KCC that the lamps remain and that they be switched back on. The savings made from removing the lamps would all be lost if one serious accident occurred. Kearsney Bowls Club have had an application for a mirror opposite their road entrance rejected. Cllr. Lymer is opposing a proposal from central government to cut the number of pharmacies.

## **89. REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that the pavements around the Cowper Road and Common Lane junctions have holes and are uneven. It was agreed to contact the Dover Highways Steward and request an inspection.

Cllr. Mrs. Horobin reported stinging nettles at the bottom of Ash Close. Cllr. Beresford will see if DDC are prepared to cut them back although this is private land.

Cllr. Mrs Horobin reported latest works on the 'River in Bloom' programme. It was confirmed that the budget originally agreed in 2015 was for two years. Clerk was also asked to check the budget set and on the monies donated by members of the public after earlier vandalism. Chairman said he has names of some people who have volunteered help.

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

Cllr. Brand reported that the committee had purchased bought one new large marquee. Cllr. Mrs. Horobin said that bookings for stalls were now almost full. There will be a meeting of the committee on Thursday.

## **91. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

### **a) Annual accounts and governance statement**

Clerk outlined the accounts. Chairman proposed the adoption of the annual accounts and the annual governance statement. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

### **b) Financial reports**

Reports for April and May 2016 were circulated and discussed at the meeting. There is a difference of ten pounds in the bank reconciliation which Clerk is to investigate. Cllr. Dixon proposed that the reports be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Brand and all agreed.

## **92. KENT POLICE SPEEDWATCH SCHEME**

Chairman introduced the scheme. Four people are currently trained in its use. A number of sets of equipment are currently available at half price. In addition, Cllr. Lymer has also offered to contribute funding. The parish council is looking for more volunteers to take part in sessions. Anyone new accompanying one of our fully trained persons only needs to do a fifteen-minute training session. The current situation with the number of volunteers available is difficult. If we have equipment it may be possible to have an enforcement day when someone can attend who can issue fixed penalty notices for speeding, not wearing seatbelts or using a mobile phone. Chairman proposed that the council purchase the equipment, at a discount and with funding provided. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

## **93. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS 'PARKRUN' INITIATIVE**

Clerk has received a response from DDC confirming that any funding provided will only be used to setup the run at Kearsney Abbey. An offer to meet with the organisers has been made. Clerk was requested to arrange a meeting and the item will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### **94. CORRESPONDENCE**

None received.

#### **95. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Chairman reported that a new idea for a goals enclosure was being considered for the Recreation Ground to deal with the problem of portable goals being vandalised and moved. Cllr. Dixon said that costs should be available for the next meeting.

Cllr. Dixon confirmed that the parish council are advertising for persons to take on contracts for three areas: locking and unlocking of the Recreation Ground, cleaning of the Recreation Ground and a 'village handy person'.

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson asked about the provision of waste bins in the Recreation Ground. Chairman responded that more had been agreed.

Cllr. Mrs. Horobin commented on the small number of swans now at Kearsney Abbey. However, there is no action that the parish council can take on this matter.

#### **Public Question Time**

- A request for standard benches and not picnic style benches to be installed at the Recreation Ground was received.
- In reply to a query about support to keep Whitfield Hill lamp stands and for the lights to be switched back on, Chairman said that the parish council would write to Whitfield Parish Council to reinforce our support as stated in a previous letter.
- Query regarding parking provision within the school. Cllr. Beresford said that Cllr. Lymer's offer to put in funding had been turned by KCC. Chairman said that a large amount of time had previously been spent on this issue by the parish council. Cllr. Dixon said that this was a nationwide problem and not one exclusive to River.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm