

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 13th September 2016 at 7.30pm in River Methodist Church

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

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

109. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Nicholas

110. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none

111. PCSO REPORT

No report received. It is understood that PCSO White is moving on to a different area and a new PCSO will be assigned to River as part of their area.

112. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th July 2016 had previously been circulated. One amendment was noted. Item 100 – reference ‘River in Bloom’ budget of £500 does not include the amount raised by the ‘Just Giving’ account. Cllr. Brand proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Keningale and all agreed.

113. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

a) Recreation Ground Management Committee 21/07/2016

b) Recreation Ground Management Committee 08/09/2016

Cllr. Dixon explained the contents of the Recreation Ground Management committee minutes and these were noted. With regard to the agreement with Dover Rangers Colts F.C., there will be less matches played this year as the adult pitch will not be used. Therefore, there is a new agreement in principle for a consolidated fee of £3,000 to be paid in eight monthly parts. The usage during this season will be monitored with a view to establishing a consolidated figure for the 2017/18 season which accurately reflects the actual usage of the grounds. A meeting with Dover Rangers will take place midway through the current season to discuss this. Further to the problems with parking outside the Recreation Ground during events, it had been decided to purchase forty parking cones.

114. MATTERS ARISING/UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES

Item 105

The £500 contribution to ‘Parkrun’ setup costs at Kearsney Abbey had been received and acknowledged by the organisers. A provisional date of 16th October has been set for the start. The organisers, ‘YourLeisure’, have reported that all risk assessments had been completed, equipment will be arriving shortly and training for volunteers is also set to begin soon. They will contact us in due course regarding the launch event.

Item 106a

Chairman confirmed with Kent Highways that the works being carried out on the conifer tree did not include removal of the tree

Item 108

Cllr. Dixon reported that a swing has been taken down from the play area because of damage to the play surface beneath it. Also that spare parts for the two damaged pieces of equipment are on order. The hedges on the Crabble Lane side of the Recreation Ground will now be cut as the groundsmen have a key for access.

The memorial bench for Des Barwick is on order and arriving this week. The existing bench will be moved to the Recreation Ground.

115. PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Planning Applications

- i) DOV/16/00858 | Installation of sliding door to replace window (retrospective application) | 12b Redlands Court, 71 London Road, River, Dover, CT17 0TW – no comments.
- ii) DOV/16/00925 | Construction of a vehicular access | 103 Lewisham Road, River, CT17 0PA – no comments.
- iii) DOV/16/00940 | Erection of a detached garage | 15 Pavilion Meadow, River, CT17 0RJ – no comments.

b) Any other applications received by the date of the meeting

There were none

c) Decisions by Dover District Council

- i. DOV/16/00529 | Land to the rear of 3 Kingston Close, River, CT17 0NQ | Fell one Acer – permission refused
- ii. DOV/16/00710 | 7 River Meadow, River, CT17 0XA | Erection of a single storey side extension and conversion of garage to habitable accommodation – permission granted
- iii. DOV/16/00810 | Site Rear of 22 Riverdale, River, Dover | Reduce one branch of a conifer by 3 metres – permission granted
- iv. DOV/16/00811 | Land to rear of 3 Kingston Close, River, Dover, CT17 0NQ | Crown reduce one Acer by 40% and reduction of one forked branch by 6 metres – permission granted
- v. DOV/16/00767 | 3 Wingrove Hill, River, CT17 0NN | Erection of a single storey front extension and conversion of garage to a habitable room (existing porch to be demolished) | permission granted
- vi. TC DOV/16/00099 | River Recreation Ground, Lower Road, River, Dover | No.6 – Fell diseased lime; No.7 – Reduce Lime – permission granted

116. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

a) District and County Councillors

County Cllr. Lymer reported that a consultation into the proposed new lorry park at Stanford is continuing until mid-October. However, he feels that 'staging posts' staggered along the whole route would be a better option. The Stanford option will damage the local environment. Overnight lorry parking has been dispersed following representations to the previous PCC. Work on pothole repair is causing hold-ups due to road closure but should be completed within six weeks. The Whitfield Hill street lamp standards are being retained and conversion to LED lights is in progress.

Cllr. Dixon reported that that the TAP is due to finish when the Operation Stack parking facilities are completed. Chairman said that the TAP on the A20 in is causing problems in River with additional traffic in the Alkham Valley. Cllr. Lymer has objected to the permanent speed limits on the TAP. Cllr. Dixon said that the work on both roundabouts on the A20 in Dover will continue until the new year. The new rail line from Dover to Folkestone is now open but there is still a bus service at the weekends. In addition, there are now works on the line from Folkestone to Ashford.

Cllr. Beresford reported that there had not been a council meeting for some time but the next week would be a busy one.

b) Parish Councillors

Damage to the Lower Road street sign near Meadowdene had been reported.

117. REPORT FROM THE EVENTS COMMITTEE

Cllr. Brand reported that plenty of applications had been received for the Scarecrow Trail. More were welcome but people should submit their forms as soon as possible. All proceeds will be donated to the Kelly Turner Fundraising campaign. Trail maps will be available from the Village Hall and Crabble Corn Mill over the weekend of the event. The Events Committee will meet on Monday 19th September to discuss arrangements.

Chairman reminded the meeting that the annual 'Wine and Wisdom' quiz will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 8th October.

118. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) Financial reports for July and August 2016

The financial reports for July and August 2016 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Brand proposed that the report be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Keningale and all agreed.

119. MOTION TO AGREE DATE FOR NEXT PHASE RECREATION GROUND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

After discussion, it proposed that, subject to any required permissions, the parish council would fund the construction of a new toddler play area at a cost of £22,000 and contribute towards the cost of a new fitness trail, total cost £10,000, if required. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Keningale and all agreed.

120. TO DISCUSS PARISH TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME

Cllr. Mrs. Horobin has been in contact with Kent Highways about possible areas for re-planting trees. Five sites were available in Lewisham Road along with two sites in Crabble Lane. Clerk reported that £1,111 was still in hand from funds previously set aside for the planting of trees. The cost of planting will be a total of £2,584. This will, therefore, require £1,474 from the current budget. Cllr. Mrs. Horobin proposed that the parish council pay for the cost of planting at these seven locations. This was seconded by Cllr. Brand and all agreed.

121. RECREATION GROUND CONTRACTS

Cllr. Dixon reported that the contract for groundwork at the Recreation Ground will be going out to tender. The new contract period will begin on 1st April 2017.

Two parties had expressed interest in the cleaning/unlocking contract at the Recreation Ground. Six persons had expressed an interest in the 'Handyperson' contract. After discussion, Cllr. Dixon proposed that persons be asked how much they would charge to provide a service for 15 hours a week to undertake work in the Recreation Ground and elsewhere in the village. This was seconded by the Chairman and all agreed. A brief job description is to be prepared followed by a meeting and discussion with the applicants. All councillors are welcome to attend the discussions if they wish.

Cllr, Keningale had to leave the meeting at this point.

122. TO DISCUSS REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP OF CRABBLE CORN MILL EVENT

Details of the Annual Cider Festival has been received from the Crabble Corn Mill Trust with a request for sponsorship. It was generally felt that sponsorship for a barrel would be inappropriate but that the parish council could support the administration. Chairman proposed that the parish council provide £250 towards the costs of administration and security at the Festival. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

123. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Chairman had requested that the Environment Agency carry out further work on cutting back trees growing out of the banks of the River Dour now that they have re-grown. He asked Cllr. Beresford to look into the contractors who work on the area on behalf of Dover District Council.
- ii. A letter has been received from a River resident regarding the size of the lime trees in the Recreation Ground along the border with Lewisham Road requesting inspection with a view to reducing them in size. It was decided that as the trees had been professionally inspected within the last two months and that no works had been recommended the parish council would decline any re-inspection and future inspection and works would be carried out in accordance with the recommendations of our tree consultants.

124. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that a decision on the availability of the speedwatch unit had been deferred until the end of September.

Cllr. Mrs. Horobin reported that she will purchase daffodil bulbs for planting.

Chairman reported that one candidate had consented to nomination for the vacancy on the parish council but that one or two others had expressed interest. Therefore, a co-option decision will be made at next month's meeting. Information on candidates will be forwarded to all Councillors.

Public question time

It was reported that Jean Hoynes is to give up the editorship of the 'Rivall' and that advertising for a new editor is taking place. The village magazine may not be able to continue unless a new editor can be found.

Meeting closed at 9.55pm