

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 14th March 2017 at 7.30pm in River Methodist Church

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

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

28. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Dixon and Cllr. Buhlman

29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none

30. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 14th February 2017 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Brand proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Eyre-Jackson and all agreed.

31. MATTERS ARISING / UPDATES ON ONGOING ITEMS FROM THE MINUTES

Item 20b: Chairman has reviewed the Councillors' areas of responsibility which were circulated at the meeting. Copies of the A3 fire hydrant map will be provided for Councillors. A review of fire hydrants can then take place. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson has received details from Ringwold with Kingsdown Parish Council of their 20mph traffic zone. The first step is to ensure that any scheme has community support. It was agreed that the parish council investigate if there is local support for a 20mph zone the one-way section of Lower Road. Cllr. Cooper will produce a poster. Petitions (printed and online) will be produced. The closing date for comments will be the end of May 2017. There will be an update at the next meeting.

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson has spoken to residents regarding trees growing across the river Dour from Mill Race properties backing onto Lower Road. Several residents have agreed, in principle, to cut back the trees. One resident already has works scheduled to take place.

Item 21a: Chairman has met with SECAMB regarding any access required by ambulances to the recreation ground lower field during events. They stated that the play area development would not cause them any problems.

Item 26: Kearsney Parks Project have agreed to provide an updated presentation at the AGM.

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson and Cllr. Buhlman will be meeting next week regarding possible events to commemorate the end of World War One in 2018 and will report to the next meeting.

Item 144a (2016): Confirmation regarding the future of the telephone box in Lower Road is awaited from British Telecom.

32. REPORTS:

a) District Councillors

District Cllr. Beresford reported that steel frames for retail outlets were currently being constructed in the DTiz project. She has reported several local potholes to Kent Highways along with a lamp post in Lower Road. The possible merger of District Councils will be discussed at an extraordinary meeting of Dover District Council with a decision on whether to put the proposal out to public consultation. The strip of land on Lower Road opposite the entrance to Kingston Close belongs to the houses in River Meadow, backing onto Lower Road. There is no decision from the Planning Inspectorate yet on the Belle Vue, Minnis Lane planning appeal.

b) Parish Councillors

Cllr. Cooper has been approached by residents regarding the charity Christmas lights display in Hawthorne Close and he has updated them on steps that have been agreed for next Christmas.

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson suggested that the number of speeding vehicles reported following Speedwatch sessions be reported on the website. 67 vehicles have been reported so far since the local scheme started last year.

Chairman reported on incidents with persons allowing dogs off the lead around the Recreation Ground and closing access gates whilst they did so. Also, a large number of paper plates and plastic bottles littered the grounds after some form of party on the previous Saturday afternoon. It was agreed to post pictures online.

c) PCSO / Policing

No report

33. PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Planning Applications

- i) DOV/17/00148 | Change of use and conversion to 2 self-contained holiday lets together with the erection of a single storey extension (existing dutch barn to be demolished) | Tyler Barn, St.Radigund's Abbey Farm, Abbey Road, Hougham, CT15 7DL – no comments.
- ii) DOV/17/00113 | Conversion of garage into a habitable room | 14 Lyndhurst Road, River, CT17 0LY – no comments unless the neighbouring property has objections to possibly being overlooked.
- iii) DOV/17/00173 | Erection of a detached sunken outbuilding with terrace and 1.8metre high boundary fencing | 22 Coxhill Gardens, River, CT17 0PX – no comments.

b) Decisions made by Dover District Council

- a) DOV/16/01298 | Erection of a 2-storey rear extension, conversion of garage to habitable room, erection of a front porch extension, detached garage, creation of vehicular access and parking, and replace cladding with weatherboard (existing conservatory to be demolished) | 16 River Meadow, River, CT17 0XA – permission granted.

34. REPORT FROM THE EVENTS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Events Committee is due to take place shortly. Preparations for the annual Country Fayre are continuing.

35. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY 2017

The financial report for February 2017 had previously been circulated. Clerk was requested to query the annual invoice from Gardens by Coles to check how many grass cuts were undertaken at the bus terminus and which areas the invoice covered. Cllr. Brand proposed that the report be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Horobin and all agreed.

36. RENEWAL OF THE 'HISTORIC VILLAGE' INTERPRETATION PANEL, VALLEY ROAD

An offer of a replacement panel for the Historic Village panel has been received from Dover District Council. It was agreed to go ahead with the replacement of the interpretation panel at a cost of £240.

37. RECREATION GROUND GROUNDWORK MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The Recreation Ground Management Committee put forward a recommendation at their last meeting to renew the groundwork maintenance contract with Heber Horticultural Services for a further two years from April 2017. This was subject to a delayed second quotation being received. The second quotation has now been received and the quote from Heber represents the best value being £6,000 less per year. Cllr. Keningale proposed that the recommendation be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Brand and all agreed.

38. UPDATE ON THE NEW PLAY AREA (PHASE 1) INSTALLATION

The Phase 1 installation of the new toddler play area is due to start on Wednesday 15th March 2017.

39. CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Kent Highways – Notice of tree maintenance

Notification has been received of maintenance work to trees along Lewisham Road, River Meadow and Valley Road. The maintenance mainly involves removal of deadwood and crown reductions. No trees are being removed.

b) The Dover Society – regarding possible District Councils merger

A letter from the Dover Society to Dover District Council regarding possible district council merger has been copied to the Parish Council for information and circulated to all Councillors.

40. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Chairman reported on attending the KALC Rural Affairs Conference. An app is available called 'Country Eye' which allows smartphone users to report issues such as flytipping by taking a photograph and submitting a report with GPS location direct from the app.

Public question time

A query was received about the amount of dogs' mess on pavements in certain areas of the village and whether additional bins could be provided. Cllr. Nicholas will investigate possible options.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm