

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 10th October 2017 at 7.30pm in River Methodist Church

PRESENT: Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Cooper, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Nicholas

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

109. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Dixon and Cllr. Keningale

110. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none.

111. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 12th September 2017 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Eyre-Jackson and all agreed.

112. MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 21st August 2017 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Cooper and all agreed.

113. MINUTES OF THE RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

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

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

All matters covered on the agenda.

115. YOUTH FACILITIES WITHIN THE PARISH

Cllr. Nicholas has investigated the possibility of land being made available locally for the purpose of paintballing sessions as offered at the Extraordinary Meeting in August. No interest was shown. It was agreed to continue investigations into youth facilities.

Cllr. Nicholas asked if we could revert to having fixed goalposts in the Recreation Ground. Cllr. Buhlman said that this could cause problems with wear on grass in the goalmouths. The proposal will be considered by the Recreation Ground Committee.

116. REPORTS:

a) District and County Councillors

County Cllr. Collor reported that Kent County Council once again needed to make budget savings for the next financial year. Discussions about problems with HGVs in East Kent are ongoing. Improvement works are due to take place in the town: the roundabout at the top of Folkestone Road is to be repaired and paving in the precinct is to be relaid. Dover Town Team are currently seeking funding for improvements to the Market Square.

Chairman asked Cllr. Collor about recent press reports suggesting that PCSOs were to be given powers to issue fixed penalty notices. Cllr. Collor has contacted the Local Area commander who has no knowledge of any such initiative.

Dist. Cllr. Beresford reported that five former council houses have been bought back to accommodate some homeless persons in the District. DDC are also investigating the future possibility of building houses itself.

b) Parish Councillors

- Cllr. Cooper reported that there is no organising committee for the Hawthorne Close Christmas lights display and that households work individually. He proposed that a letter be delivered to each household asking for some representatives to attend the next parish council meeting so that some of the safety concerns can be discussed. This was agreed. Clerk is to prepare the letter. Cllr. Collor will investigate if there is any assistance that can be offered.
- Cllr. Nicholas asked about progress with funding applications for the Junior Play Area. A draft of the Awards for All application is to be sent to Cllr. Nicholas.
- Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported on meeting with some residents in Minnis Lane concerned about speeding vehicles.
- Chairman reported that the Royal Oak is now up for auction. The works in upper Minnis Lane have been completed and on time. Works in Kearsney Abbey have been held up by the discovery of bats in the building. Also, a new PCSO will be arriving for the area shortly.

Public Question Time

Query from a member of the public about potential for accidents in Hawthorne Close during the Christmas light show period because of some inconsiderate drivers. This is being looked into.

117. PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Planning Applications

DOV/17/01072 | Erection of a two-storey side extension, external steps detached garage/store, insertion of new first floor side window and widening of existing vehicle access (existing side extension and garage to be demolished) | 5 London Road, River, CT17 0SF – no comments.

b) Decisions made by Dover District Council:

i) DOV/17/00857 | Erection of a detached dwelling with associated vehicular access and parking | Land at 3 London Road, river, CT17 0SF – permission granted

ii) DOV/17/00933 | Erection of a single-storey rear extension and dormer to rear roofslope | 4 Minnis Terrace, Crabble Avenue, Dover, CT17 0JF – permission granted

iii) DOV/00418 | Installation of new plant, condenser and air-conditioning units to rear elevation and boarding over of two windows on front elevation | Co-op Food store, Lower Road, River, CT17 0RD – permission granted

118. LOWER ROAD RIVER DOUR RAILINGS RENOVATION

Chairman proposed that the minutes show the appreciation of the parish council for the efforts of Robin Jackson, above and beyond his contracted handyman duties, to renovate and repaint the River Dour railings. Kent Highways have now agreed to adopt the railings. Cllr. Beresford said that she may be able to help with the outstanding works through her KCC Members' budget. Clerk is to send her details of the works and the costs. Cllr. Collor said he would commit £500 from his own funds.

119. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) Financial Report for September 2017

Financial reports for September 2017 had previously been circulated and were approved.

b) Conclusion of Audit

Clerk reported on the successful conclusion of the annual external audit.

120. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Kent Highways Survey Tracker 2017

A survey has been received from Kent County Council Highways and Transportation asking for feedback on services in the past year. Cllr. Nicholas offered to respond.

b) KALC Dover Area Committee Meeting 25th October 2017

Notification of the next ordinary meeting of the KALC Dover Area Committee has been received.

c) Kent County Council – Alkham Road Speed Limit

Notification has been received from Kent County Council of the variation in speed limit on the Alkham Valley Road.

d) Kearsney Park Pedestrian and Speed Limit Improvements

Notification of Kearsney Phase 2 works to improve pedestrian connectivity between Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens has been received and was noted. Works are expected to start on October 21st.

e) KALC – Notification of AGM

Notification of the Annual General Meeting of KALC has been received. This is due to be held on Saturday 18th November 2017. No one is available to attend.

120. PARISH COUNCIL

The details of the four persons who had consented to be nominated for the member vacancies had previously been circulated to all councillors. After a ballot of all members present, Chairman announced that Christiane Atkins, Susan Bralee and Susan Deal were duly co-opted as members of the parish council.

121. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were none

Meeting closed at 8.40pm