

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

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

PRESENT: Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Bralee, Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Cooper, Cllr. Deal, Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Keningale, Cllr. Nicholas

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

122. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: All present.

123. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr. Nicholas declared an interest in Item 129iv.

124. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 10th October 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.

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

Updates from Item 116b (Parish Councillors' Reports)

Awards for All

The application for funding towards the new Junior Play Area at River Recreation Ground has been submitted.

Royal Oak Public House

Following the sale by auction of the Royal Oak, it is understood that the new owner plans to continue its use as a licenced premise.

PCSO

A new PCSO, Ian Fox, will be covering River as part of his duties. It was noted that, as previously, the area covered by the PCSO is substantial including areas outside River.

126. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Chairman proposed that the Cllr. Atkins and Cllr. Deal join the Planning Committee and that Cllr. Bralee join the Recreation Ground Management Committee.

127. HAWTHORNE CLOSE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY

Several residents of Hawthorne Close attended the meeting and were invited by the Chairman to express their views with regard to any problems or safety issues. The residents confirmed that they all acted independently to organise their displays. They also confirmed that they are aware of the traffic problems at some times. Cllr. Cooper said that he has been in touch with Chief Supt. Weller, who has confirmed that the police are aware of the issues and will monitor the event. He has also contacted Kent Fire and Rescue and the ambulance service who are also aware and believe that they could pass by any traffic problems if required to do so.

128. REPORTS:

a) District and County Councillors

Dist. Cllr. Dixon reported that Dover District Council have a new leader, Cllr. Keith Morris. The gantry signage on the A20 is not yet operational and Operation TAP is currently still being activated by the placement of road signs.

Dist./County Cllr. Beresford reported that KCC are currently carrying out a public consultation into where it can make budget savings. It will be necessary to cut £400 million from the budget next year. The new Lidl store is to open at Whitfield in early December. KCC have signed a new armed forces covenant.

b) Parish Councillors

- i. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson enquired about the fire hydrant reports. It was noted that areas need to be re-allocated as there are new Councillors.
- ii. Chairman said he has received reports about the low water levels in the River Dour and has taken the matter up with the Environment Agency.
- iii. Cllr. Dixon reported that there are no planning restrictions on use of the Recreation Ground Clubroom. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson is checking with Kent Fire and Rescue.

Public Question Time

Query as to why the works to the traffic lights at the top of Crabble Road is advertised as taking 33 days to complete. Cllr. Beresford said she has a meeting with Kent Highways in the following week and will ask.

129. PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Planning Applications.

- i. DOV/17/00859 | Erection of a single storey side extension | Brook House, 49 Lower Road, River, CT17 0QU – *no comments.*
- ii. DOV/17/01121 | Change of use, conversion and extension to create 3no. terraced dwellings, erection of 3no. detached and a pair of semi-detached dwellings, formation of vehicle crossovers, excavation works and landscaping | Dublin Man of War PH, Lower Road, River, CT17 0RQ - *River Parish Council has no objections to this scheme but would like two areas of concern noted: that the occupants of Units 1,2 and 3 may be inclined to turn right on leaving the properties against the flow of the one way system; also that the parish council confides that the existing double yellow line be retained to allow space for larger vehicles turning into the junction with Minnis Lane.*
- iii. DOV/17/01225 | Outline application for the erection of 31 dwellings (all matters reserved) | Ferrybridge House, Abbey Road, Dover, CT17 0LF – *River Parish Council believe that this proposal is not sustainable and would create additional traffic on roads which already struggle with existing volumes. Furthermore, the reasons for the previous refusal of the proposal are all still valid and we, therefore, believe that the application should not be approved.*
- iv. DOV/17/00783 | Change of use for the storage of landscape and gardening equipment Use Class B8 (Storage & Distribution) – Amended Block Plan | Former River Garage, River Street, River, CT17 0RB – *no comments.*

b) Decisions made by Dover District Council

There were none.

130. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR OCTOBER 2017

Financial reports for October 2017 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that the reports be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Eyre-Jackson and all agreed.

131. REPORT FROM THE EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman reported that the total balance in the Events Committee account is £4,300. The committee agreed that £3,000 be committed to the new Play Area. The retiring members, Mrs. Brand and Mr. and Mrs. Horobin have requested that the funds go towards the cost of the new swings. In view of this, there will be no grants made this year. Changes to the bank mandate are in hand.

The Summer Fayre will be held on the Sunday 8th July. The date of the biennial Scarecrow Trail has yet to be agreed but will be arranged to avoid clashing with other village events. Commemorations for the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War are still to be finalised. The next full meeting of the Events Committee will be in February.

132. APPOINTMENT OF THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE AND DATE OF MEETING

Clerk is to contact Chairman, Cllr. Dixon and Cllr. Nicholas to arrange a date for the meeting early in the new year.

133. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing to report.

134. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The Kearsney Abbey Forum is to meet next week and Chairman will attend.