

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 9th January 2018 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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: All present.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

4. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday 21st December 2017 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

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

Item 22b Chairman reported that the refurbishment works on the River Church organ are now almost complete.

Item 116b Awards for All Funding Application

Chairman reported that the parish council have been successful in a bid a to the National Lottery Awards for All funding scheme and that a grant of £10,000 will be received towards the cost of the new River Recreation Ground Junior Play Area.

Item 128b ii Chairman reported that the River Dour water levels are now rising in Bushy Ruff.

6. REPORTS:

a) District and County Councillors

Cllr. Collor reported that KCC would need to find budget savings of £58 million a year over the next 4 years. Events are planned around the centenary of the Zeebrugge Raid on 23rd April. Cllr. Beresford said that discussions have been taking place about bus services. Cllr. Dixon reported on the 'openings and opportunities' in 2018 across the district including the openings at St.James' development.

Activities within the county and district councils have been quiet over Christmas but council meetings are due shortly.

b) Parish Councillors

- i. Cllr. Cooper said that the Hawthorne Close Christmas Lights Display took place without any incident.
- ii. Cllr. Nicholas suggested that next Autumn the Parish Council look into the possibility of providing a community Christmas Tree sited somewhere in the village.
- iii. Cllr. Dixon said that someone is needed to assist with future funding and sponsorship applications. Cllr. Bralee offered to assist. Cllr. Atkins also offered to work on promoting use of the Clubroom by local groups. Sponsorship is to be on the agenda for the next Events Committee Meeting.

Public question time

No questions.

7. Planning Matters:

a) Planning Applications

i) DOV/17/00612 | Listed Building Consent for repairs to building and roof, single storey extension to Billiards Room/Café for improved facilities, new pedestrian bridge over weir and associated works (amended details) (re-advertisement) | Kearsney Abbey Team Rooms, Alkham Road, River, CT16 3DZ – *no comments*.

ii) DOV/17/01498 | Erection of a detached dwelling with associated parking | Land to the rear of 48 Valley Road and fronting Beresford Road, River, CT17 0QW – *No objection in principle but the parish council expressed concern over the loss of car parking spaces.*

b) Decisions by Dover District Council

No planning decisions received.

Notification has been received from Dover District Council that the applicant has withdrawn the application DOV/16/01389 Phase 2 Whitfield Urban Expansion.

8. FINANCIAL:

a) Financial reports for November and December 2017

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

b) Recommendations on Recreation Ground Hire Charges for 2018/19

It is the recommendation of the Budget Committee that Recreation Ground Hire Charges remain the same for 2018/19. Chairman proposed that this be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

c) Precept recommendations from the Budget Committee for 2018/19

Chairman and Cllr. Nicholas met with the Clerk on Thursday 4th January to discuss the budget proposals. Cllr. Dixon was unable to attend the meeting.

The Budget Committee recommendation was that the total resource requirement be raised to £63,926 representing a 2.5% increase in the precept. This is to keep in line with increasing costs including the additional maintenance involved with the development of new facilities in the Recreation Ground.

Cllr. Dixon proposed that the recommendation be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Eyre-Jackson and all agreed.

d) Proposal to install lighting along the Clubroom/Bowling Pavilion entrance route

Cllr. Dixon reported on a quotation received from E.J. Ditton to supply and fit 5 high level LED lights on the buildings leading up from the Recreation Ground Lower Road entrance to the Bowling Pavilion. This will make it easier and safer to use the Clubroom and Bowling Pavilion in the evening. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that the quotation be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Eyre-Jackson and all agreed.

£500 donation was received from County Cllr. Collor towards the cost of renovating the River Dour railings along Lower Road. Chairman thanked Cllr. Collor for his generous contribution.

9. TO DISCUSS THE LOWER ROAD 20MPH SPEED LIMIT

Following on from the informal local consultation in 2017, it was agreed to investigate the full costs of any possible 20mph speed zone along Lower Road. Cllr. Dixon will get the contact details of the traffic consultant employed by Alkham Parish Council and liaise with Cllr. Bralee. The findings will be reported to the meeting in February.

10. TO CONFIRM PARISH COUNCILLORS' AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Updated Areas of Responsibility for each Councillor (including checks on Fire Hydrants on behalf of KFRS) had previously been circulated and were reviewed by the Chairman.

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Lord Lieutenant of Kent's Annual Civic Service

An invitation has been received for a member of the council and guest to attend the Lord Lieutenant of Kent's Annual Civic Service at Canterbury Cathedral on Tuesday 20th March 2018. Response is to be held over in case any member would like to attend.

b) River Bowling Club – request for a defibrillator to be provided

River Bowling Club would like to provide a defibrillator to be available to all using the area and are seeking 50% financial support from the parish council. This is following the departure of Dover Rangers who previously provided access to a defibrillator. Cllr. Keningale said that Crabble Corn Mill had received funding for a defibrillator and would obtain details and liaise with Cllr. Bralee.

c) KALC Dover Area Committee

The next meeting of the KALC Area Committee is due to take place on Wednesday 24th January. Cllrs Bralee and Deal may attend.

12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- i. Cllr. Dixon and Cllr. Eyre-Jackson are due to meet with John Hill about outstanding maintenance works.
- ii. An updated list of Councillor contact details will be put up on the Notice Boards. This information is already on the website.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm