

## **RIVER PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7.30pm in River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Cooper, Cllr. Deal, Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Keningale, Cllr. Nicholas

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

**61. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** County Cllr. Collor

#### **62. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN & DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF THIS OFFICE**

Cllr. Taylor was nominated by Cllr. Buhlman to be Chairman for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Cllr. Eyre-Jackson. There being no other nominations, Cllr. Taylor was duly elected.

#### **63. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Cllr. Dixon was nominated by Cllr. Keningale to be Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Cllr. Deal. There being no other nominations, Cllr. Dixon was duly elected.

#### **64. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

Nominations for committees were discussed at the previous meeting and circulated prior to this meeting. All nominations were agreed.

#### **65. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH APRIL 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

#### **66. PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH 2018 GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS**

A plan for compliance with the new General Data Protection Regulations had previously been circulated. It was decided to review the plan at the next meeting.

#### **67. APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

The Clerk requested that the formal approval of the annual governance statement and annual accounts take place at the next meeting.

#### **THE AGM WAS FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

#### **68. REPORT OF COUNCIL CHAIRMAN FOR 2017/2018**

The Chairman gave a report on the year's activities. This has also been published in the village magazine 'Rivall'. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes.

#### **69. PRESENTATION BY THE THANET COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION**

Jayne Cribben gave a presentation on the Thanet Community Transport Association:

The Thanet Community Transport Association was established in 1999 as a community service for the elderly and disabled to assist with shopping or medical appointments. It has now grown to a service with 36 wheelchair accessible vehicles and a fully trained staff. Recently, the service has also become available in the Dover District. In addition to the original service, transport for day trips is also now available and they will transport voluntary or charitable groups.

Core funding for the service is provided by school contracts. Other funding comes from grants applied for. KCC subsidise the 'dial-a-ride' service outside of Thanet. Individuals are asked to contribute £20 a year and a small fee for each journey.

The association are in discussions with Kent County Council about being able to accept KCC bus and school passes.

## **70. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2017/2018**

The Parish Clerk provided a presentation on the accounts for 2017/18. A copy is appended to these minutes.

## **71. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

i) A parishioner asked if the parish council would raise the problems with the Minnis Lane/Lewisham Road junction with the authorities as they are now throughout the day. Chairman said he would discuss with County Councillors.

Cllr. Nicholas said there is now a driver break period taken at the Lewisham Road stop meaning that buses could be parked there for extended periods.

ii) Discussion regarding the reduction in bus services. Chairman said that the parish council did all that it could to lobby Stagecoach to change its plans. Cllr. Dixon said that the District Council could not force Stagecoach to run services that are not viable or profitable.

iii) To a query regarding speeding vehicles late at night, Chairman said that the parish council have been liaising with the PCSO and the Community Safety Unit who said they are committing resources to monitor the problem. Cllr. Nicholas said that he had reported an incident in the last week. A vehicle was available and attended 10 minutes later. People need to report any incident to the police on 101 so that they are recorded.

Meetings closed at 9.15pm

# River Parish Council



## FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2017/2018

### RECREATION GROUND ACCOUNT

All figures exclusive of VAT

*Subject to audit*

#### INCOME

|                                       |                |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Clubroom use                          | 500.00         |
| Tennis                                | 1021.00        |
| Football                              | 1125.00        |
| Bowls Rent/Fees                       | 5542.00        |
| <b>TOTAL RECREATION GROUND INCOME</b> | <b>8188.00</b> |

#### EXPENDITURE

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Repairs & Renewals                         | 3992.09         |
| Groundworks                                | 17035.73        |
| Utilities/Legionnaire Audit                | 3363.80         |
| Lock/unlock/clean                          | 8284.87         |
| Materials (groundwork and cleaning)        | 2789.21         |
| Projects                                   | 1135.38         |
| Misc                                       | 30.00           |
| <b>TOTAL RECREATION GROUND EXPENDITURE</b> | <b>36631.08</b> |

*NET COST OF RECREATION GROUND* 28443.08

#### PARISH ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Election Expenditure                                   | 0.00            |
| Administration (office expenses, stationery & postage) | 1173.06         |
| Salary & N.I.  | 8917.95         |
| Meeting Hall Hire                                      | 277.10          |
| Grants   | 500.00          |
| Subscriptions (KALC etc.)                              | 1352.76         |
| Insurance & Audit                                      | 4095.44         |
| Misc.  | 307.27          |
| Training & Travel Expenses                             | 0.00            |
| Handyman   | 4710.93         |
| Projects   | 34578.46        |
| <b>TOTAL PARISH EXPENDITURE</b>                        | <b>55912.97</b> |

|   |             |                  |
|---|-------------|------------------|
| Reserves brought forward from 31st March 2017   |             | £45,015          |
| <b>INCOME</b>                                   |             |                  |
| Precept (2017/18)                               | 62800.34    |                  |
| Precept (2018/19)                               | 63926.00 *  |                  |
| Parish Grant                                    | 303.66      |                  |
| Other Parish Receipts (including bank interest) | 34810.57    |                  |
| Recreation Ground Receipts                      | 8188.00     |                  |
|   | Sub-total   | <b>170028.57</b> |
|   | Grand Total | <u>170028.57</u> |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                              |             |                  |
| Recreation Ground                               | 36631.08    |                  |
| Parish  | 55912.97    |                  |
|   | Sub-total   | <b>92544.05</b>  |
| Plus VAT incurred (01/04/17 - 31/03/18)         | 11508.44    |                  |
|   | Grand Total | <u>104052.49</u> |
| Reserves carried forward to 1st April 2018      |             | £110,991         |

\* The Precept for 2018/19 arrived in the account before 31st March and therefore has to be included in this year's accounts. This is due to an administrative error by DDC.



## **River Parish Council**

### **Chairman's Report 2017/18**

#### **River Country Fayre**

This popular event attracted enormous crowds throughout the day in glorious sunshine for a very welcome change. A steel band performed for the first time with other displays and performers in the arena. The work of our hard working Events Committee and their helpers was much in evidence as always.

#### **Wine and Wisdom Evening**

This annual event in the autumn continues to be well supported and again we are very grateful to those who assist us with arrangements on the day.

Another quiz evening has been arranged this year on Saturday 13th October. This is already quite well booked but if you are interested please contact me (822217).

#### **Remembrance Sunday**

Representatives from village organisations placed wreaths at the war memorial during the service held at the Parish Church. This special event will be held later this year on Sunday 11th November.

#### **Councillor Changes**

Following the retirement of Beryl Brand and Dave and Dee Horobin, our longest serving Parish Councillors, Christiane Atkins, Susan Bralee and Sue Deal were co-opted to fill the vacancies on River Parish Council. We welcomed them at our November Meeting although sadly Susan Bralee has since had to resign for personal reasons.

#### **Kearsney Parks Project**

Planned tree work has been carried out during the year in Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens. An attractive new fence and hedge was erected along the Alkham Road boundary of Russell Gardens. The discovery of bats in the public toilets meant that commencement of building work in Kearsney Abbey had to be delayed; this is now scheduled start in the autumn. In the meantime enlargement of the existing car park in Kearsney Abbey will be carried out during the summer. A number of interesting events are also planned in Kearsney Abbey throughout the summer.

#### **Public Houses**

A planning application for residential development on the site of the former Dublin Man of War was submitted in October although a decision is still awaited.

The Royal Oak has now re-opened with food being served since Easter. Some internal refurbishment has been carried out and it is good to see their hard work is attracting increasing numbers of customers old and new. If you haven't been along yet why not give this popular local amenity a try.

### **River Dour**

Low rainfall lead to falling water levels falling last Autumn and by Christmas the lakes in Bushy Ruff and beyond actually dried up completely.

However, what a joy it was to see the lakes starting to fill again in January and in no time at all the river was again in full flow.

Also perhaps an opportune moment to sing the praises of our handyman employed by River Parish Council for his outstanding efforts redecorating the metal railings alongside the river where this passes through the village. Well done.....

### **Recreation Ground (Owned and maintained by River Parish Council) Play Area**

Following receipt of our grant from the National Lottery Awards for All the play equipment for older children was installed and the enlarged Play Area was completed this Spring. On 21st April we were delighted to welcome Cllr Sue Chandler, Chairman of Dover District Council, who officially opened the Play Area in glorious sunshine. The new facilities are proving to be extremely popular, the culmination of a great deal of hard work and thanks to all concerned.

### **Local Clubs and Organisations**

If your group would like some publicity or advertise forthcoming events this can be placed in the Community Section of the Dover Express. You may also be interested in hiring our club room in the Recreation Ground that is available at very reasonable rates. For information please contact Mary at mary\_the\_jacksons44@hotmail.co.uk.

### **Dogs**

A reminder that it is prohibited to bring dogs into River Recreation Ground that is covered by a Public Spaces Protection Order. Notices at each entrance to the ground carry warnings of fixed penalties for offences.

### **Kent Community Speedwatch Scheme (CSW)**

Regular sessions take place at various times and places in the village. Details of vehicles exceeding the national speed limit are passed to Kent Police who follow-up by contacting persistent offenders.

Kent Police have also been stepping up surveillance of speeding vehicles lately and we have been advised that they may be in attendance at some of our local sessions.

### **Parish Meetings**

River Parish Council meets at the Methodist Church in Lewisham Road on the second Tuesday each month except August and December. If there is something you would like to raise why not come along to one of our Meetings? You will receive a warm welcome, light refreshments are available beforehand and we may be able to help. Details of our Meetings are placed on our notice boards and also outside the Village Hall in Common Lane.

Finally may I thank all my fellow councillors and our clerk for their continuing efforts as well as our contractors who maintain the recreation ground throughout the year.

Please keep up to date by visiting either our Facebook page or our website [www.riverparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.riverparishcouncil.org.uk)