

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9th October 2018 in River Methodist Church

PRESENT: Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Allen, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Cooper, Cllr. Deal, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson

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

108. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Taylor

109. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none.

110. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2018 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Allen and all agreed.

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

102b(iv): The World War One commemorative bench is now in place.

103b(i) DOV/18/00860: Cllr. Allen reported that the only notice for this planning application was on railings near the tea room and that none of the six entrances to Kearsney Abbey had any notification. It was agreed to write to the Planning Section at Dover District Council and ask for the application to be re-advertised on the grounds that it had not previously been properly advertised.

105c: The three new flush systems have been installed in the Recreation Ground toilets.

112. REPORTS:

a) District and County Councillors

Cllr. Beresford reported that the new Leisure Centre is on schedule to open in February 2019. Business grants of up to £10,000 are available for new businesses to refurbish town centre premises. Also, the old Co-op Store building in Dover is being renovated for use by 'startup' businesses.

Cllr. Collor reported that KCC are working on budgets for the next year. There is a necessity for further reductions. He is lobbying for plans to be put in place to manage tourist traffic in the event of no deal being reached in 'Brexit' negotiations. There are contingency plans for commercial traffic but nothing for tourist traffic. It was noted that the busiest day for tourist travel through the Port of Dover is Good Friday – which in 2019 will be 3 weeks after 'Brexit'.

b) Parish Councillors

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that a course on CPR and the use of a defibrillator is being organised at the Village Hall. Also 24 vehicles have been reported to Kent Police following 2 'Speedwatch' sessions at the new location on London Road, River.

Public question time

There were none.

113. PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Planning Applications

i) DOV/18/00988 | Variation of condition 2 of planning permission DOV/17/01121 to allow amendments to the approved drawings (section 73 application) | Dublin Man Of War, Lower Road, River, CT17 0RQ – no comments.

b) Decisions by Dover District Council

i) DOV/18/00729 | Erection of a single storey rear extension with 2no. roof lanterns (existing conservatory to be demolished) | 96 Lewisham Road, River, CT17 0PB – permission granted.

ii) DOV/18/00809 | Conversion into 2no. maisonettes, conversion of loft, erection of 2no. window dormers, external side stairs, and balcony with balustrades (existing garage to be demolished) | 134 Crabble Hill, Dover, CT17 0SA – permission granted

114. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

Financial reports for September 2018 were circulated at the meeting. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson proposed that the report be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Buhlman and all agreed.

115. SAFETY FOR PEOPLE CROSSING LOWER ROAD INTO THE KEARSNEY ABBEY GATE

Cllr. Allen reported that concerns have been raised by residents about safety of pedestrians crossing Lower Road to access Kearsney Abbey via the gate on the bend where the road curves towards Alkham Road.

Also that the location of the gate encourages visitors to park on the adjacent grass verge creating problems with traffic flow at peak visit times. Cllr. Taylor has enquired about the issue with Kent Highways but they have refused to make any changes. It was noted that the access gate is not listed as a public right of way. Cllr. Allen suggested that the Parish Council investigate the possibility of having the gate closed or removed. Also that, if necessary, the Parish Council could contribute to the cost of works plus any planting to obscure the gate. Chairman proposed that the Parish Council write to Dover District Council to explore possible actions. Cllr. Allen is to draft the letter. Cllr. Beresford said that, at some stage, the Heritage Lottery Fund would also need to be consulted.

116. RESPONSE TO THE KCC CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHARGES AT HWRC

Cllr. Allen reported on a response to the consultation on proposed charges at KCC Household Waste Recycling Centres which he had been asked to draft at the previous meeting (Item 102a). Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr. Allen submit an online response from the Parish Council objecting on the grounds that charges will lead to increased incidents of flytipping and that the cost of dealing with these incidents will fall on District Councils. Also suggesting that KCC adopt systems similar to some London Boroughs to check that users of any HWRC are qualified by residency to use them and that this will stop users avoiding charges imposed by other County Councils by crossing into Kent to dispose of waste.

117. REPORT AND PROPOSALS RELATING TO GDPR 2018:

a) Proposal to adopt two privacy notices

A draft General Privacy Notice and a draft Privacy Notice for Councillors, Staff and Role-Holders had previously been circulated. Both notices have been prepared from templates provided by the National Association for Local Councils. The General Privacy Notice has received additions to account for special circumstances relating to this Parish Council. Cllr. Cooper proposed that the two privacy notices be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Allen and all agreed.

b) Proposal to amend CCTV policy

An amended CCTV policy had previously been circulated. The policy now refers to the 2018 GDPR. Item 2(j) of the CCTV Code of Practice has been amended to comply with regulations relating to fees charged for subject access requests. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that the amended policy be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Cooper and all agreed.

118. PROPOSAL TO APPROVE THE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH RIVER ORIGINALS

A draft agreement for the future maintenance of the tennis courts to be managed by River Originals Tennis Club had previously been circulated. The draft was approved and it was agreed that a meeting be arranged with the tennis club to discuss the proposed agreement. It was noted that a similar agreement will be drafted for River Bowling Club. This will also refer to the existing pavilion lease and licence to use the bowling green.

119. CORRESPONDENCE:

a) KCC Highways, Transportation & Waste Parish Seminar for Dover and Thanet

An invitation has been received for two representatives to attend the annual Kent Highways Parish Seminar on Tuesday 6th November. Cllr. Allen offered to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

b) Army Engagement Group Invitation to evening reception

An invitation has been received to attend an evening reception at Dover Town Hall hosted by the Army Engagement Group. No-one is available to attend.

c) Electoral Review of Dover District – Final Recommendations

A plan of the final recommendation for a new District Council ward named Dover Downs and represented by two District Councillors had previously been circulated. It is proposed that the new arrangements take effect at the District Council elections in May 2019 (subject to final central government approval).

d) KALC Annual General Meeting

An invitation has been received to attend the KALC AGM. No one is available to attend.

e) River Primary School

A letter has been received from River Primary School thanking the Parish Council for its financial contribution towards the forest school development. A plaque acknowledging the contribution is to be erected on the equipment.

120. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Cllr. Collor informed the meeting that a public exhibition of the plans for the Lower Thames Crossing is to be held on 4th December 2018 in Dover Town Hall. The crossing (scheduled to open in 2027) will have an affect on Dover as it will mean increased levels of traffic on the A2 which still has no plan in place for improvements.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm