

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL**

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at River Methodist Church

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

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

**36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr. Atkins

**37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were none.

### **38. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Dixon proposed that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Deal and all agreed.

### **39. MATTERS ARISING/UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES (NOT OTHERWISE LISTED ON THE AGENDA)**

Item 54 (2018) - Public Defibrillator: The purchase of a reduced price public defibrillator (via the trade-in of the machine received) is going ahead.

Item 22a - Summer Picnic: This is still to be confirmed.

Item 22b - Scarecrow Trail: The Events Committee will be proceeding with the Scarecrow Trail this year.

### **40. MINUTES OF THE RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT MEETING**

The minutes of the Recreation Ground Management Meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted. Cllr. Dixon reported that he was due to have a meeting with GW Landscapes to discuss any outstanding groundwork issues.

### **41. REPORTS:**

#### **a) Parish Councillors**

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that DDC were introducing a new poster campaign against dog fouling.

Cllr. Buhlman reported that he has taken delivery of the new CCTV system and is pleased with the high quality of the images. He also noted how busy the Recreation Ground now is.

#### **b) District and County Councillors**

Dist./County Cllr. Beresford reported that 41 former council properties (houses and flats) have been bought back to be used as social housing. There will also be additional affordable/social housing on the site of William Muge House. A feasibility study is to take place on possible improvements to Tides Leisure Pool at Deal. It is planned to replace 2,000 streetlights owned by DDC with LED if funding is available. Works on lighting along 'The Cut' have now been completed. Repair work is scheduled to take place in Old St.James' Church. Another new store has opened in the St.James' Shopping Centre. The Co-Innovations project in the former B&Q/Co-op building provides a fully serviced package for startup businesses. As they develop, help will be available to help them move into the High Street.

County Cllr. Collor reported that the idea of routing tourist traffic through the town in the event of a no deal Brexit has now been abandoned. However, no alternative has been discussed.

Cllr. Dixon provided details of Operation Yellowhammer. This entailed prioritising certain services, such as fuel and medical supplies, and a relaxation of working hours for HGV drivers stuck in queues.

#### *Public Question Time*

a) Query over whether a Community Award is to be made. Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council are not participating in the scheme this year.

b) Request for additional conventional bench seating in the Recreation Ground rather than Picnic benches.

## **42. PLANNING MATTERS:**

### **a) Planning Applications**

- i) DOV/19/00275 | Erection of a first floor extension and two storey rear extension (existing rear extension and conservatory to be demolished) | 11 Deanwood Road, River, CT17 0NT – no comments.
- ii) DOV/19/00279 | Erection of single storey side and rear extensions including attached garage, garage conversion to habitable accommodation with the erection of a front bay window, insertion of a flue and landscaping to rear garden | 53 Cowper Road, River, CT17 0PL – no comments.

### **b) Any decisions by Dover District Council**

- i) DOV/17/01225 | Outline application for the erection of 31 dwellings (all matters reserved) (re-advertised, amended drawings and information) | Ferrybridge House, Abbey Road, Dover, CT17 0LF – planning permission refused.

## **43. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

### **a) Financial reports for March 2019**

Financial reports for March 2019, also the end of the financial year, were circulated at the meeting. Clerk reported that the reconciliation difference reported at the last meeting still remained. The fault will show up during preparations of final accounts for the Annual Return. A full presentation will be made at the Annual General Meeting.

### **b) Proposal to install sensor-operated flush system to the Recreation Ground urinals**

It was noted that the male urinals in the Recreation Ground toilets wasted many thousands of litres of water as there are only rudimentary adjustments possible to control the timing of the flush system. Cllr. Dixon proposed that new infrared controlled flush systems, along with soap dispensers in the ladies toilets, be installed with a total budget of £750. This was seconded by Cllr. Allen and all agreed.

### **c) Proposal to install wireless smoke/heat detectors in the Clubhouse Ground Floor**

Following discussions with KFRS and also DDC Building Control, it has been agreed that the installation of smoke and heat detectors on the Ground Floor of the Recreation Ground clubhouse is a suitable (and much cheaper) alternative to the installation of fireline board on the ceiling. Cllr. Dixon proposed that the installation of a wireless fire detection system be installed in the Clubroom Ground Floor at a cost of £1345. This was seconded by Cllr. Buhlman and all agreed.

### **d) Proposal to purchase a bench to be installed opposite the Recreation Ground Vendor area**

As the area underneath the Yew Tree at the entrance to the Recreation Ground Car Park has now been cleared by DDC, it provides an ideal site for a bench as it is opposite the Vendor parking area. Cllr. Dixon proposed that a picnic bench be purchased at a cost of (approx.) £325 plus fixing. This was seconded by Cllr. Buhlman and all agreed.

### **e) Request from Crabble Corn Mill for financial support for the Annual Beer Festival**

A request has been received for financial support towards the Crabble Corn Mill annual beer festival. Chairman proposed that the Parish Council contribute £250 towards the cost of administration and security at the event. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

### **f) Renewal of the annual membership of the Kent Association of Local Councils**

The annual renewal of the Parish Council's membership of KALC is now due. Chairman proposed that the membership be renewed. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

## **44. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

After discussion, it was agreed that Chairman invite a representative from Kent Highways to attend the Annual Parish Meeting.

## **45. NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chairman proposed that the current committee structure remain the same following the AGM. Chairman expressed his appreciation for the work of the two retiring members. Cllr. Cooper said that this was the first he knew of the nomination process and left the meeting at this point.

## **46. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE DATE OF THE MEETING**

### **a) Sgt. Norbury, Dover CSU**

An email has been received introducing Sgt Norbury. He is now in charge of the Dover Community Safety Unit. Current instructions to PCSOs is that they contact the Parish Council Clerk on a monthly basis to discuss concerns or issues. They will also attend Parish Council meetings a number of times each year.

## **47. ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

No further items.

**48. MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS:**

*Under Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 where publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted as agenda item 49.*

**49. PROPOSAL TO RENOVATE THE RECREATION GROUND COTTAGE AS AN AMENITY**

A proposal has been received from John Hill Building Services to renovate the Recreation Ground Cottage and open the facility as a coffee shop. The cost of the renovation would be borne by himself and not the Parish Council. Following renovation and opening, the Parish Council would receive a rent for the facility. Subject to final agreements, it was agreed that Mr. Hill submit a planning application, at his own expense, on behalf of the Parish Council. It was suggested that the income received from the amenity be re-invested in the facilities on offer at the Recreation Ground.

Meeting Closed at 9.20pm