

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10th September 2019 in River Methodist Church

PRESENT: Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Deal, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Jones
IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Beaney, Dist. Cllr. Rose and 2 members of the public.

83. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Taylor, Cllr. Buhlman, County Cllr. Collor

84. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr. Eyre-Jackson declared an interest in Item 91a and did not take part in discussions nor vote on the matter.

85. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th July 2019 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Beresford proposed that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Atkins and all agreed.

86. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES

Item 64 CCTV: Chairman confirmed that River Bowling Club did not want to have the old CCTV system as they had recently improved other security measures. Cllr. Buhlman is investigating using the old system to extend the range of coverage.

Item 75a(iv) PCSO: Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that a public meeting with the PCSO had been arranged at 2.30pm on 25th September in the Village Hall.

Item 78 Art Competition: Cllr. Atkins reported that River School have agreed that the competition take place around the Autumn school holiday with a deadline in November.

87. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

a) Planning Committee Meeting 02.08.19

Previously circulated and noted.

b) Events Committee Meeting 02.08.19

Previously circulated and noted.

c) Events Committee Meeting 27.08.19

Circulated at the meeting and noted.

d) Recreation Ground Management Meeting 29.08.19

Previously circulated and noted.

88. REPORTS:

a) Parish Councillors

i) Cllr. Atkins updated the meeting on arrangements for the Scarecrow Trail. There will be a certificate and prize for the scarecrow voted best. Updates on the roster for selling maps will be circulated.

ii) Cllr. Jones reported on attendance at the Dover Local Plan workshop. The government target for new properties in Dover District is 629 per year. 85% of these could be on brown field sites but some green field sites would need to be considered.

The temporary camera installed with temporary traffic lights on the London Road has had the effect of lowering traffic speeds. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson said she will try to arrange a further Speedwatch session on the London Road.

iii) Chairman reported a query regarding the PSPO in the Recreation Ground affecting people with dogs, parking in the public car park and then walking down to Lower Road. Cllr. Beresford is checking with DDC whether the roadway from the car park to Lower Road could be excluded from the Public Space Protection Order.

iv) Cllr. Eyre-Jackson has received a request from some nearby residents for the trees along the Lewisham Road Recreation Ground boundary to be pollarded. Chairman will ask GW Landscaping to examine and advise. Also there is now a new contact for Neighbourhood Watch. She has put posters up in Notice Boards.

v) Chairman suggested that a bench be placed on the triangular area next to the bowling club and Yew tree by the car park entrance in the Recreation Ground. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson will look into the cost.

b) County Councillors

County Cllr. Beresford reported that there had been a cut in opening hours for some libraries but some times were able to be filled by volunteers.

There has been success locally with projects to bring housing back into use.

The Kent Resilience Force have been liaising with their French counterparts and believe that measures mean that cross channel traffic will continue to flow after Brexit. However, there could be problems caused by industrial action in France.

c) District Councillors

Dist. Cllr. Beaney reported on matters relating to the District Council: the new homeless hub, established in Snargate Street, is working well; There will be money available to help with private property rental; All public toilets have been inspected and there is an action plan in place to maintain them; A consultation will take place soon on the future of Tides Leisure Pool in Deal; The new Dover Leisure Centre is doing well; Grants will be available to small businesses to help with the cost of decreasing their environmental impact; All students affected by the closure of Hadlow College had now been moved to different colleges.

He proposed a meeting between parish representatives from the Dover Downs and River ward at 10am on Saturday.

Also, a teacher at River School has approached him about funding to make a film about misuse of mobile phones. Chairman asked Cllr. Atkins to investigate.

Dist. Cllr. Rose reported that he has been elected to take the lead on the DDC Digital Project. Regarding the new Dover Local Plan he said that an infrastructure audit should take place before any new development takes place. Members of the public are welcome to attend the planning group meetings. He asked that more comments be sent to both District Councillors as there will be difficulty attending all meetings due to the number of parishes in the ward.

Public Question Time

Query regarding the planning permission granted to 24 Valley Road for a detached annex (DOV/19/00190). Residents in Lewisham Road did not have the chance to comment as the planning notices were only placed in Valley Road. Her suggestion was that planning notices should be placed in adjoining streets for planning applications that may have an effect on roads other than the address of the works. Chairman agreed that a letter will be sent to the DDC Planning Department suggesting wider notification in these instances.

89. Planning Matters:

a) Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting

DOV/19/00828 | Erection of a detached garage and gymnasium (existing garage to be demolished) | 4 Chisnall Road, River, CT17 0RH – *no comments*.

b) Decisions by Dover District Council

None to report.

90. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) To receive latest financial reports

The financial reports for July and August were circulated and accepted at the meeting.

b) To receive the income and expenditure report from the Summer Fete

The financial report from the Summer Fete was circulated at the meeting. The event made a surplus of £1842 (subject to any further contributions not yet received).

c) To receive a request from Crabble Corn Mill for financial support towards the Cider Festival

A request has been received for financial support towards the costs of the annual Cider Festival. Cllr. Beresford proposed that a grant of £250 be made to Crabble Corn Mill towards the cost of security and administration at the festival. This was seconded by Cllr. Deal and all agreed.

d) To discuss support for any National River Clean Day activities

No further information received since the meeting in July. Clerk was asked to enquire from White Cliffs Countryside Partnership about whether the Parish Council are allowed to organise river Dour clean-ups within the Parish.

91. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE CHANGES TO CONTRACTS:

Chairman said that it had been several years since the Recreation Ground contracts were setup and that the revisions proposed reflected changes in working since then.

a) Parish Handyman

The new contract for the Parish Handyman had previously been circulated. The revision included an increase to working hours and changes to duties. Cllr. Deal proposed that the new contract be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Beresford and all agreed.

b) Recreation Ground Cleaning and Locking

The new contract for the Cleaning and Locking of the Recreation Ground had previously been circulated. The revision included an increase to hourly rates and changes to duties reflecting the change in activities within the Clubhouse. Cllr. Atkins proposed that the new contract be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Beresford and all agreed.

c) Recreation Ground Groundworks

The new contract for the Recreation Ground groundworks contract had previously been circulated. This is following on from the initial one-year contract. It was proposed that GW Landscaping be offered a three-year contract with an increase reflecting inflation. This in view of the excellent services provided and value for money offered in comparison with quotations previously received. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson proposed that the new contract be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Deal and all agreed.

92. PROPOSAL TO HAVE COMMERCIAL WASTE COLLECTIONS FROM THE RECREATION GROUND

As there has been an increase in the amount of waste (accompanying increased use of the new Play Area), it is proposed that waste now be collected by commercial waste collection. It was agreed in principle that collections go ahead subject to flexibility of collection reflecting seasonal differences in use and any cost of the bin. The service offered will be £17 per lift for mixed non-hazardous waste.

93. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE DATE OF THE MEETING:

a) KALC – Independent review into local government audit

An independent review is taking place into local government audit. Councils are requested to copy any responses to NALC. Deadline is 18th October.

b) KCC Public Satisfaction Surveys

KCC will be sending questionnaires to a sample of households on a variety of specific issues to gauge level of public satisfaction. These surveys are also available to anyone online via the KCC website.

c) Commercial vehicle problem in Deanwood Road and surrounding roads

An email has been received from a resident of Deanwood Rd detailing the ongoing and increasing difficulty with large lorries turning up Crabble Lane into other streets and then needing to reverse back down the hill. He has suggested that a 7.5ton weight restriction be placed on Crabble Lane leading up from the junction with Lewisham Road to prevent lorries from going up the hill. Cllr. Beresford will speak to Kent Highways about the suggestion. However, it was felt that such a limit would not be within regulations and would also affect vehicles making deliveries to properties.

94. ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

No further items.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm