

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th January 2020 in River Methodist Church

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), District Cllr. Beaney and 1 member of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Jones, Dist. Cllr. Rose and County Cllr. Collor

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th November 2019 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Dixon proposed that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Eyre-Jackson and all agreed.

b) The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 3rd December 2019 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

c) The minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held on 3rd December 2019 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

4. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES

Item 88a(iv): The Recreation Ground tree survey is to be a full survey and will be carried out by the Parish Council's previous tree consultant, David Sephton.

Item 109b(iv): A letter is to be sent to the householder's property upon which the fallen tree was located.

Item 109d(iii) Kearsney Abbey: No response has been received from DDC to the Parish Council's concerns about the future catering arrangements in the Tea Room. Dist. Cllr. Beaney will seek further information.

Item 111c: The ownership of the yard next to the Recreation Ground cottage is to confirmed.

Item 115: It was noted that the wrong date for the Events Committee meeting was published.

5. REPORTS:

a) PCSO / Policing

i) November and December PCSO Reports

- 22.11.19 Criminal Damage, London Road
- 28.11.19 Obstruction, Lower Road
- 29.11.19 Traffic Offence, London Road
- Thefts from Common Lane on 10/12/19 and 13/12/19

ii) 'What3words' app

Details of a new app were circulated. This divides the landscape into 3m squares each with a unique three-word reference. It has been suggested that this will make it easier to report the exact location of a rural crime to the police.

b) Parish Councillors

i) Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported on a meeting at the DDC Community Safety Unit and receipt of information.

ii) The software required by the SID speed monitor is due to be updated in the next week.

iii) There have been more incidents involving dogs on the Recreation Ground. Chairman recently met the DDC Enforcement Officer who visits the Recreation Ground on a regular basis.

c) County Councillors

No report.

d) District Councillors

A local resident has complained about parking on matchdays close to Crabble Athletic Ground. This was discussed. It was noted that Dover Athletic F.C. use cones around the entrance to the Grounds with permission from Kent Police. It was queried whether better use could be made of these. Dist. Cllr. Beaney said that extended use of cones would require permits from Kent Police as this amounted to traffic control. He offered to email D.A.F.C. to discuss this possibility and any other measures. It was reported that an arrangement between Dover Athletic and Dover Rugby Club allowed parking around the outside of the rugby field on football matchdays. Query as to whether this facility is being fully used.

Public Question Time: No questions.

6. PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Planning Applications:

- i. DOV/19/01527 | Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation | 67 Minnis Lane, River, CT17 0PR – No comments.
- ii. DOV/19/01574 | Erection of two storey side extension | Gardenia, 1A Crabble Close, River, CT17 0LX – No comments.

b) Decisions by Dover District Council

- i. DOV/19/01189 | Conversion of garage to habitable room with replacement roof to front porch and existing garage | 13 Lower Road, River, River CT17 0LN – permission granted (23.12.19)
- ii. DOV/19/01391 | Erection of a rear extension which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 6.0m, for which the maximum height would be by 3m, and for which the height of the eaves would be 2.6m | 129 Lower Road, River, CT17 0RE – Conditional Extension GPD (16.12.19)
- iii. DOV/19/01345 | Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed) for the erection of a single storey rear extension (existing conservatory to be demolished) | 178 Lewisham Road, River, CT17 0PP – Certificate of Lawful proposed use granted (17.12.19)
- iv. DOV/19/01315 | Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed) for the erection of a single storey rear extension | 4 Chisnall Road, River, CT17 0RH – Certificate of Lawful proposed use granted (19.12.19)
- v. DOV/19/01387 | Fell one Ash and one Sycamore | 7 Badgers Rise, River, CT17 0TL – permission refused (06.01.20)

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) Financial Reports

The financial reports for November and December 2019 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Dixon proposed that the report be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Deal and agreed.

b) Recommendations for the 2020/21 Precept

Recommendations for the 2020/21 budget were circulated and discussed. The small increase in budget is due to an increase in the tax base. There will be no increase in the level of council tax for households. Chairman proposed that the recommendations be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Buhlman and all agreed.

8. COUNCILLORS' INDIVIDUAL AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGHWAYS

Chairman has drafted a revised list of responsibilities for reporting highway problems (to include fire hydrants). This was circulated, discussed and agreed.

9. RECREATION GROUND COTTAGE CAFÉ LEASE

The draft lease for the Recreation Ground cottage café was discussed. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that the draft lease be accepted and that it goes forward for signing. This was seconded by Cllr. Deal and all agreed. It was noted that building regulation approval was still pending.

10. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

a) Forthcoming KALC events and meetings

A list of forthcoming KALC meetings and workshops was circulated.

b) Cllr. Graham Wanstall re. proposed removal of Lower Road telephone box

A letter has been received from Dover Town Councillor Wanstall regarding possible removal of the public telephone box next to the Co-op in Lower Road. Chairman has spoken to DDC Planning Department who confirmed that there is no current application for consultation at this time. It was agreed that when a future consultation is received, all avenues to retain the telephone box will be explored.

c) Fireworks

An email has been received from a local resident complaining of fireworks on Christmas Day. It was agreed that this is not a matter that the Parish Council can deal with.

d) Manston Airport

Consultation documents on the plans for Manston Airport have been received.

11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a) A template for the horse-head Art Competition was circulated for information.

b) Cllr. Buhlman reported that a canoe is stuck under one of the bridges across the River Dour.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm