

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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 by video conference

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Buhlman, County Cllr./Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Jones

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), County Cllr. Collor (joined the meeting at 7.55pm) and members of the public via live streaming

### **84. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

District Councillor Rose

### **85. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Chairman declared an interest in Item 91(iv).

### **86. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Dixon proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Beresford and all agreed.

### **87. MATTERS ARISING/UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES**

Item 82b – KALC Training Course: Cllrs. Atkins and Jones said that they found the Councillor Training Course very useful.

### **88. COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION**

An application to become a Parish Councillor has been received from Mr. Patrick Gunzi. Chairman and Vice-Chairman met with Mr. Gunzi and a resume had previously been circulated to Parish Councillors. Chairman proposed that Mr. Patrick Gunzi be co-opted as a member of River Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed. Clerk was requested to deal with the formalities.

It was noted that another possible applicant has been in contact.

### **89. REPORTS:**

#### **a) PCSO / Policing**

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that, despite previous information received, the new PCSO will have 12 villages to cover. No crime report received this month. Speedwatch have reported that incidents of speeding have increased.

#### **b) Parish Councillors**

i) Cllr. Jones reported incidents of flytipping in the hedgerow at the back of the layby in London Road including a television and large chemical drums. This has been reported. Also, incidents of vandalism along the London Road including damage to fences. Drains have yet to be cleared leading to large pools of surface water. Cars have recently been left for sale in the bus layby. He suggested that CCTV cameras might be a deterrent. Cllr. Beresford said that another request could be made.

ii) Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that visits to the Recreation Ground by catering vendors have now finished for the season.

The Co-op raised £930 for the RNLI with their virtual run.

iii) Cllr. Atkins reported that the Parish Council have been asked to participate with a display in the Scarecrow Trail being organised as a fundraiser for Crabble Corn Mill. She asked for A4 sized photographs of the Councillors by 26<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **c) District and County Councillors**

County Cllr. Beresford reported on the bus/cycle lane brought in and then removed in Dover. 4 out of 19 cycle lane schemes in Kent have been taken out.

A budget review will be carried out with a need to save a lot of money. A consultation will start shortly.

EKHUFT have increased the number of intensive care beds available in Kent as COVID cases are now rising.

County Cllr. Collor reported that Network Rail, SouthEastern and HS1 have agreed to look into reducing the travel time from Dover Priory to London Paddington. He has also received an

assurance that a reply will be received in the next week regarding additional parking provision at Dover Priory. A traffic survey is due to take place in Lower Road

## **90. QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY EMAIL FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

A question has been received requesting that the Parish Council support a local petition to have a pedestrian crossing on the London Road by the Railway Bell pub.

Chairman reported that schemes have been turned at least three times by Kent Highways. The Parish Council have agreed to fund a traffic survey, which is the first step in the process. However, the Parish Council have been informed by Kent Highways that even if traffic data shows a need for a crossing, there may not be a suitable site that complies with highway regulations.

## **91. PLANNING MATTERS:**

### **a) Planning Applications for consideration**

- i) DOV/20/01051 | Beech (T1) – crown reduce by six metres and remove crossing branches | 33 Valley Road, River, CT17 0QP – No comments.
- ii) DOV/20/01085 | T1 Beech – Reduce limb overhanging 1 Kingswood Villas back to boundary and crown lift to 5m above ground level | Crabble Athletic Ground, Crabble Road, River, Dover – No comments.
- iii) DOV/20/01103 | Erection of an outbuilding for use as a home office | The Old Nursery, Minnis Lane, River, CT15 7DN – No comments.
- iv) DOV/20/01119 | Change of use from bed and breakfast to single residential dwelling | 29 London Road, River, CT17 0SF – No comments.

### **b) To note any decisions made by Dover District Council**

None reported.

## **92. RIVER RECREATION GROUND REPORT**

Cllr. Dixon provided a report on issues relating to the Recreation Ground:

- i) The horse rockers will be back in the Play Area soon.
- ii) There have been problems with high winds causing branches to fall. The scheduled tree work will take place as soon as leaves have fallen. The contractors have been asked to keep an eye on the trees and deal with them if there is a health and safety issue.
- iii) The wheels on the 'kick-about' goals will need to be upgraded to a more heavyweight type.
- iv) It was agreed that a meeting will take place on Thursday at the Recreation Ground to decide how best to display the paving slab artwork.
- v) No work has begun on the cottage, but it is still scheduled to open in Spring 2021.
- vi) Vandalism has taken place in the toilets with soap dispensers being ripped from the walls
- vii) The groundwork contractors have been asked for a recommendation about areas where the soil is wearing away underneath items of play equipment.

## **93. TO DISCUSS ADOPTION, AND POTENTIAL USES IF ADOPTED, OF THE BT PHONE BOX ON LOWER ROAD, RIVER**

Clerk explained the process of phone box adoption. Councillors discussed possible uses.

It was agreed, by majority, that the Parish Council seek to adopt the telephone box in Lower Road subject to it being available.

**94. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

**a) To receive Financial Statement for September 2020**

Financial statements for September 2020 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Beresford proposed that the report be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Buhlman and agreed.

**b) To receive a proposal to upgrade Recreation Ground CCTV**

Cllr. Buhlman outlined the need for the Recreation Ground CCTV to be online to enable remote checking when required. Also, an upgrade would provide higher resolution images able to be used by the police for identification. Clerk gave an explanation of the three quotes received which had previously been circulated. Cllr. Buhlman proposed that the quotation of £1397 plus monthly cost of 4g internet connection from Kent Cables be accepted. Cllr. Jones seconded the proposal and it was agreed.

**95. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

**a) KALC Dover Area Committee Meeting Notification**

Clerk requested to circulate details.

**96. ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

No further items.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm