

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th September 2021 at River Methodist Church, Lewisham Road, River

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk) and 4 members of the public

85. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

County Cllr. Collor

86. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

87. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) Parish Council Meeting 13.07.2021

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th July 2021 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Beresford and all agreed.

b) Planning Committee Meeting 20.07.2021

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20th July had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

c) Recreation Ground Committee 20.07.2021

The minutes of the Recreation Ground Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20th July had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

88. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES (NOT OTHERWISE LISTED ON THE AGENDA)

Item 79b(iii): Cllr. Jones still prepared to help with Speedwatch. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that the scheduled session on London road had to be cancelled due to equipment problems. A recent session on Lewisham Road reported 13 vehicles in 45 minutes. Police are now able to connect data on offences with the home location of the vehicle. This has shown that many people speed in their own local area. The police have also recently carried out their own session on the London Road. They not only caught vehicles speeding but also people with drugs in their cars.

Item 79b(vii) - Meadowdene: After a request from a member of the public, the Village Handyman has removed weeds spreading across footpath from Meadowdene in Valley Road.

Item 83a – Public Spaces Protection Order: the fine has now gone up to £100 if not paid up within 10 days. All orders throughout the district now renew on the same day.

89. REPORTS

a) District and County Councillors

Nothing to report.

b) Parish Councillors

i) Chairman expressed his thanks to Councillors for helping with locking of Recreation Ground toilets. Also, an invitation has been received inviting all parish councillors to a special church service on 3rd October to offer thanks to those who have worked to support the community during the pandemic. Please respond to the Chairman by Friday if you wish to attend.

ii) Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that CCTV footage of dogs on the Recreation Ground had been passed on to DDC. Repairs on the Play Area surfacing is due to start tomorrow. Signage will be put up on the Play Areas. Advance notice has not been possible as confirmation of the start date was only received this week.

An updated Speed Indicator Device (SID) has been loaned to the Speedwatch group which can now check traffic in both directions at the same time.

The Café at Crabble Corn Mill is open from 10 till 5 on weekdays. A Craft Fair is due to be held at the mill on 28th November.

iii) Cllr. Gunzi reported that some residents of Mannering Close have had a report done on the trees behind their property and will submit it to the Parish Council shortly.

iv) Cllr. Jones is pleased that Speedwatch sessions will be on London Road as he recently witnessed a near miss involving a motorbike.

v) Cllr. Dixon reported that the owner of our groundwork contractors has been killed in a tragic accident. A Recreation Ground Committee Meeting will be arranged shortly. Cllr. Dixon asked the Clerk to confirm the extent of the Parish Council's responsibility for trees in the Recreation Ground as there are long-standing issues with neighbouring properties in Mannering Close that need to be resolved.

c) PCSO/Policing

No report.

90. QUESTIONS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

a) Three households from Lewisham Road complained that a section of the covenanted path at the rear of their properties has been covered over to extend the garden of a property in River Drive. Thus, restricting access and overlooking gardens. They are unhappy at the way their objections have been dealt with by the Planning Department at Dover District Council. Enforcement notices have been served on the property but communications from the residents have not been replied to. Chairman said that the Parish Council will look into the complaints and get back to them in due course.

b) Received by email, a question from a resident of Lewisham Road enquiring about the effectiveness of Speedwatch along with several other points relating to traffic safety. Clerk has sent a written response. Chairman said that County Cllr. Collor was also involved in the enquiry.

91. EVENTS

a) Wellbeing Roadshow

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that a DDC event is to be held in the Recreation Ground in the afternoon of Wednesday 22nd October 2021 promoting good mental health and other health issues. Music and entertainments will be provided along with information stalls.

b) Platinum Jubilee 2022

An extended Bank Holiday Weekend (Thursday to Sunday) is to be held in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. Cllrs Dixon, Buhlman, Atkins and Gunzi will look into possible arrangements and report to future Parish Council meetings. Cllr. Atkins said that the Scouts had recently spoken to her about involvement with the community.

92. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) To receive financial reports for July and August 2021

A financial report for July and August 2021 was previously circulated.

b) Current Banking Arrangements Review

Clerk reported that both monthly and transaction account charges are to be introduced at our current bank. Clerk will investigate other options available and bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

93. TO CONSIDER ACTIONS UNDER THE HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Kent Highways have asked which of the priorities under the adopted Highway Improvement Plan, the Parish Council wish to proceed with. It was agreed to go ahead with design and implementation for the first two priorities, the 20mph speed limit along Lower Road and the additional HGV sign at the junction with Alkham Road and Lower Road. The Parish Council has committed to pay for these two items. Clerk was asked to find out if Kent Highways has the other two items in their budget.

94. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Details of the proposed London Road pedestrian crossing next to Lead's Garage have been received.

95. ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a) Cllr. Dixon enquired about the Lower Road phone box. Clerk is still to submit paperwork.

b) Also, about the number of tree stumps left around the village. This is the responsibility of KCC.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

NOTE: An apology was issued to residents in Mannering Close who objected to words inadvertently used during discussions for Item 89b(v).