

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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Buhlman, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Gunzi, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Underhill (joined the meeting after Item 15)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Beaney and PCSO McGuinness. No members of the public present (the meeting was recorded and uploaded later for public viewing online)

### **13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Atkins and County Cllr. Collor

### **14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **15. NOMINATION FOR CO-OPTION AS A PARISH COUNCILLOR**

A nomination for co-option as Parish Councillor has been received for Tina Underhill. Details have previously been circulated to Councillors. Chairman proposed that Tina Underhill be co-opted as a member of the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr. Buhlman and all agreed. Cllr. Underhill then joined the meeting.

### **16. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **a) Parish Council Meeting 18.01.2022**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

#### **b) Events Committee 26.01.2022**

The minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were circulated at the meeting and their contents were noted.

### **17. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES (NOT OTHERWISE LISTED ON THE AGENDA)**

Item 95a (2021) - BT Phone Box adoption: Dave Penn will be assessing and securing the phone box not the handyman as recorded in the minutes.

Item 6 - Ash Close footpath: Cllr. Dixon said that he will walk the pathway to assess condition in the coming week.

Item 10b - Proposed Priority Traffic Sign, Crabble Corn Mill, Lower Road: This proposal will need to be added to the Highway Improvement Plan upon renewal.

Item 10c - Kearsney Railway Bridge: This concern is already being dealt with by Temple Ewell Parish Council.

Item 12i - Recreation Ground Coffee Shop: John Hill has now started works on the coffee shop. The lease is now in place and active. Rent payments will commence once the Café is open.

### **18. REPORTS**

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

PCSO reported on incidents in River over the past month: several calls received of a man reported as acting suspiciously on Badger's Rise and Lewisham Road; a motorbike has been reported as speeding regularly through River at 8am, 4pm and frequently during the day on Saturdays (a registration number is needed); criminal damage reports on London Road (this was a neighbour dispute); report from Kearsney Avenue; copper piping stolen in Chisnall Road; been problems with vehicles on Scotland Common again.

Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that the designated Police Officer had been present at the recent Speedwatch session. He stayed on after the session with his own cameras. Speedwatch schemes throughout the county had resulted in the issue of 300 tickets in the past three months. Cars have also been moved on after parking on zig zag lines at the new London Road pedestrian crossing.

*PCSO McGuinness left the meeting at this point.*

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

Dist. Cllr. Beaney reported that: work on the Dover High Street regeneration is now underway; District Council Chairman has sent a message of congratulations to the Queen; the Dover Fastrack Bus Service development is on schedule; the Border Force consultation is still open; Dover Transport Museum is back open on Sundays; the Dover Local Plan is close to starting its final public consultation; a fuel voucher scheme is available for Kent residents needing help with costs.

He also reported from Kent County Council (plus information received from County Cllr. Collor): the works in the Market Square may involve overnight road closures; all electric vehicle charging points are now fully signposted; the KCC budget for 2022/23 is almost complete, though £40million of savings have to be found; the Household Waste Recycling Centres will remain as a booked service; Kearsney Car Park is now being closed from 5.30pm to stop night-time parking and to prevent cars being parked all day as part of car sharing – the opening hours will be adjusted with changing daylight hours; KCC members may have some grant money available.

*District Councillor Beaney left the meeting at this point.*

## **c) Parish Councillors**

i) Cllr. Buhlman said he received the report of a crowd of youths in the Recreation Ground with dogs and would be looking at the CCTV footage in due course.

ii) Cllr. Gunzi reported that he has contacted Dover Rotary about having a stall at the Village Fete.

iii) Cllr. Jones reported that the warning sign which had been attached to a vehicle for sale in the London Road layby had been scraped off.

iv) Cllr. Eyre-Jackson reported that she has put up Neighbourhood Watch posters with details of how residents can set up their own schemes. There has been an increase in reports of dog mess, which have been passed on to DDC. They have cleared up the mess and put up more warning posters. She had received a request for a banner to be put up on the Recreation Ground railings in April to promote recruitment to Snowdon Colliery Choir. This was accepted.

v) Cllr. Dixon reported that the holes in the DDC car park surfacing at the Recreation Ground have been patched following a complaint from a user.

## **19. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Clerk passed on copies of all correspondence with a resident, going back several months, regarding request for highway safety measures on Lewisham Road to Councillors for consideration. The item will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **20. PLANNING MATTERS**

a) Any Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting, including:

- i. DOV/22/00074 | Change of use of ground floor from offices to self-contained flat, erection of 1.8m fencing, alterations to windows and doors and installation of 2no. cycle racks | 7-9 Chilton Way, River, CT17 0QB – no comments. It was noted that the outline designating the extent of the property extends across the footpath. Cllr. Beresford will write to DDC regarding this.
- ii. DOV/22/00009 | Erection of a detached garage (existing two garages to be demolished) | 85 London Road, River, CT17 0SQ – no comments.
- iii. DOV/22/00127 | Erection of a detached annexe for dependent relative | River Minnis Farm, Minnis Lane, River, CT15 7DN – no comments.

b) To note any decisions made by Dover District Council

- i. DOV/21/01780 | Erection of a first floor side extension with rear Juliette balcony and glass balustrade, replacement pitched roofs to front/rear bays and conservatory | 10 Chisnall Road, River, CT17 0RH – permission granted
- ii. DOV/21/01839 | Erection of a single storey rear extension, construction of steps, retaining wall and terrace with canopy (existing rear wall and steps to be removed) | 11 London Road, River, CT17 0SF – permission granted

## **21. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **a) Financial Reports for January 2022**

The financial report for January 2022 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Beresford proposed that the report be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and agreed.

### **b) Tree Planting**

No response yet received to enquiries made to Kent Highways regarding replacement tree planting in sites on Lewisham Road. Clerk explained the Queen's Green Canopy scheme and also the availability of saplings direct from The Woodland Trust. It was agreed to ask the Kent County Councillors if they would provide financial support once the costs are confirmed.

Notification of tree maintenance, and also some fells, have been received from Kent County Council. These were passed on to Cllr. Eyre-Jackson who will go through the details and link this information with what has been received from Kent Highways regarding the sites available and pass it back to the Clerk.

## **22. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

### **a) River School Parking Measures**

Clerk has been in touch the River School headteacher who has said that the proposed length of the double yellow line would be counterproductive as areas higher up Common Lane were used by teachers for parking. Clerk is to contact Kent Highways.

### **b) KCC Lorry Watch Scheme**

Chairman has been in touch with Kent Highways regarding the issue with lorries being stuck in Lower Road who suggested that the KCC Lorry Watch Scheme may be of use. Details have been received but Cllr. Gunzi said that the problems were mainly at night. Chairman said that the problem could be investigated further when we renew our Highway Improvement Plan in May. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson suggested that it would be helpful if the people affected could keep a record of the incidents.

It was agreed that a site visit be requested prior to the renewal of the Highway Improvement Scheme to examine the two issues in Lower Road

## **23. TO DISCUSS WORKS ON THE LOWER ROAD PHONE BOX**

The phone box is still awaiting assessment. Information has been received from BT about where to source materials and paints from. Also, a poster which is to be put up in the phone box notifying change of ownership.

## **24. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

### **a) Application Form for Street Parties to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

An application form has been received from Kent County Council for any residents planning a Platinum Jubilee street party and who may need to apply for road closures. The information will be published online.

## **25. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Chairman said he may need a volunteer to lock/unlock the Recreation Ground toilets if Cllr. Atkins is unavailable at the weekend. Cllr. Buhlman offered to do this.

Cllr. Beresford asked if a roster was needed for the weekends.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm