

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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10th January 2022 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Gunzi, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Innes

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk)

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Underhill, County Cllr. Collor

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **a) Parish Council Meeting 08.11.22**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8th November 2022 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.

#### **b) Planning Committee Meeting 16.12.22**

The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 16th December 2022 had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

### **4. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES**

Item 91 - Events: Cllr. Atkins has noted other local event dates but no other news. Further discussion at the next Events Meeting.

Item 105a - Renovation of the Lower Road Phone Box: Cllr Gunzi reported that phone box works are scheduled to begin 1st March 2023.

### **5. REPORTS**

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

No report.

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

No report.

#### **c) Parish Councillors**

i) Cllr. Jones reported on blocked drains on London Road.

ii) Cllr. Gunzi asked for information about the 20mph limit. Clerk had requested an update but no information received.

iii) Cllr. Innes has received a response to his Freedom of Information request from Affinity Water. Current levels of abstraction are 30 million litres on an average day. Question as to whether this is a sustainable amount. During periods of low-flow, abstraction is reduced by around 7%. The River Darent has higher levels of abstraction. So the situation on the Dour is, perhaps, better than we thought. Affinity Water are currently working on a habitat restoration project.

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

No questions.

### **7. PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **a) Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting**

There were none.

#### **b) Decisions made by Dover District Council**

i) DOV/22/01459 | Garage conversion to habitable accommodation, alterations to rear door and windows (part demolition of existing garage) | 34 Minnis Lane, River, CT17 0PR - permission granted

ii) DOV/22/01437 | Erection of first floor extension and conversion of garage to create ancillary annexe and single storey rear extension (existing conservatory to be demolished) | 28 River Street, River, CT17 0RB - permission granted

iii) DOV/22/01426 | Erection of a single storey rear extension, rear/side patio, steps and 2no. gullies (retrospective) | Waterfall Cottage, Alkham Road, Temple Ewell, CT16 3EE - permission granted

## **8. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **a) Financial Reports for November and December 2022**

Cllr. Beresford proposed that the accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed.

### **b) Recommendations and Agreement of the Precept for 2023/24**

After consideration, Cllr. Dixon proposed that the Precept be set at £65,216 for 2023/24 to maintain the same level of council tax as 2022/23.

## **9. RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

Cllr. Dixon reported on current matters in the Recreation Ground:

a) Renewal of the tarmac path - wet weather is currently against work starting.

b) Cottage Cafe - work is proceeding. A complaint has been received from the owner of one of the Crabble Court properties particularly about the rear windows and extraction fan. The resident moved into the property after planning permission had been granted. John Hill is liaising with the residents. He is also submitting plans to DDC with the specifications of the windows and investigating a party wall agreement. It was agreed to resolve ownership of the yard to the side of the cottage. Cllr. Beresford will investigate.

c) Football Foundation Meeting - the meeting in December was held in the Changing Rooms so the representatives of the Football Foundation and the Kent F.A. could see the current condition of the building. Issues relating to their objections to the Parish Council's planning applications and use of the grounds by Dover Rangers Colts F.C. (their tenure and the additional facilities required) were discussed. It is now up to the Football Foundation to respond. It was agreed to review the position at the next meeting.

d) Play Area Signage - new safety signage is being put up for the Play Area and Outdoor Gym.

e) Dover Rangers Storage Container - it has not been possible to move the storage container onto the site due to soft ground conditions.

## **10. PROPOSAL FOR A RIVER DOUR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Cllr. Innes reported on the meeting he had with White Cliffs Partnership and the Southeast Rivers Trust. One problem identified was that the river is very fragmented, particularly due to the weirs. A proposal was discussed to replace the lost water weed (due to reasons unknown) by translocating weed from further downstream. The issue of cost is not known at this time. Cllr. Innes has a further meeting and so may be able to raise possibility of funding at this time. In any case, there would need to be a volunteer workforce to complete the project. It was agreed that the item be on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **11. NOMINATIONS FOR THE KALC COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME**

One nomination has been received from a member of the public. As the deadline is 28th February, it was agreed that the item will be on the agenda for the next meeting for confirmation.

## **12. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

### **a) DDC Town and Parish Meeting 16.02.2023**

Notification has been received that the next Dover District Council Town and Parish Council Meeting will be held in the Council Offices at 6pm on Thursday 16th February 2023. The Parish Council are invited to send two representatives. Cllr. Jones said he would like to attend.

### **b) KALC 'Becoming a Local Councillor' Events**

A series of three free one hour events, beginning on Tuesday 17th January 2023, are being held to assist people thinking of standing to be a Parish Councillor.

## **13. MEETING DATES 2023**

### **a) Events Committee Meeting**

The next Events Committee will be held on Friday 13th January at 2pm in River Methodist Church.

### **b) AGM Date**

Alternative dates for the Annual General Meeting were discussed due to clashes with the date of the King's Coronation and the additional Bank Holiday Monday. It was agreed that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 18th May 2023. It was agreed to discuss ideas for a speaker at the AGM at the February meeting.

## **14. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Cllr. Beresford reported that loud motorbikes are once again speeding around local streets.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th February 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Wright (after Item 19)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Cllr. Collor

### **15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Innes, Cllr. Underhill, Cllr. Jones and Cllr. Gunzi, Dist. Cllr. Beaney and County Cllr. Richardson

### **16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none

### **17. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **a) Parish Council Meeting 11.01.23**

The minutes from the January meeting of the Parish Council had previously been circulated. Cllr. Dixon proposed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Beresford and all agreed.

#### **b) Events Committee Meeting 13.01.23**

The minutes from the Events Committee had previously been circulated and their contents were noted.

### **18. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES**

Item 91 - Local Events: In response to a query, Cllr. Atkins reported that there was no update on local events clashing with proposed events by the Parish Council.

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

A nomination as Parish Councillor has been received from Lynne Wright. Cllr. Dixon proposed that Lynne Wright be co-opted as a Parish Councillor. This was seconded by Cllr. Beresford and all agreed.

Cllr. Wright joined the meeting at this point.

### **20. REPORTS**

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

No report.

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

County Councillor Collor reported: The KCC budget meeting was held last week. Education (including home to school transport), Adult Social Care, Highways are the essentials. Other areas can be subject to reductions. Regrettably, Council Tax will go up by 5% (3% general and 2% social care). Adult Social Care costs have increased significantly in the past year. There are more SEN children in Kent than any other county. £62 million in reductions have had to be found. Details of new electoral procedures, requiring Photo I.D., are being circulated. Anyone wanting a road closure for a coronation event must apply for it but there is no charge. A written report has been received from Cllr. Beaney, which was read to the meeting and will be appended to these minutes.

#### **c) Parish Councillors**

Cllr. Atkins updated on the evening Coronation event.

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

#### **a) Parking on Double Yellow Lines along Lower Road**

An email has been received regarding cars being parked for long periods on the double yellow lines on Lower Road (between the Co-op and The Royal Oak) following communication sent to Dover District Council. This includes vehicles without blue badge and parked in excess of three hours. A request was made to circulate letters to residents in Lower Road. County Cllr. Collor suggested that any incidents should be reported at the time to Dover District Council Parking Services. This was the agreed response.

Cllr. Wright commented that there is also a problem with vehicles parking on the zig-zag lines at the London Road pedestrian crossing, hindering visibility for people using the crossing.

#### **b) Alleged Breach of Planning Permission**

Email has been received from a number of Deanwood Road residents regarding works to 21 Deanwood Road which they allege are not being carried out according to the planning permission granted. This has already been reported to DDC Planning Enforcement and has an enforcement number.

## **22. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **a) Any Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting**

There were none.

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

- i) DOV/22/01078 | Reconfigure rear roofslope with a pitched roof and insertion of rooflights to rear | 27 Deanwood Road, River, CT17 0NT – permission granted
- ii) DOV/22/01620 | Erection of detached dwelling (existing dwelling and part boundary wall to be demolished) | 6A Minnis Terrace, Crabble Avenue, Dover, CT17 0JF – permission granted

County Cllr. Collor left the meeting at this point.

## **23. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **a) Financial Reports for January 2023**

Financial reports for January were circulated at the meeting. Digital copies will be circulated including the bank statements. Clerk suggested that an additional deposit account will be needed after the receipt of the 2023/24 Precept. Clerk reported receipt of the conclusion of external audit. Cllr. Beresford proposed that the report be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and agreed.

### **b) Request for Support towards the Crabble Corn Mill Beer Festival**

A request has been received from the Crabble Corn Mill Trust to support the Annual Beer Festival. Cllr. Taylor proposed that £250 be granted to help with the cost of security at the event. This was agreed.

## **24. RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

Cllr. Dixon updated on the Recreation Ground:

- a) Tarmac paths due to be renewed next month.
- b) Progress is being made with the conversion of the coffee shop. Both with the interior and with the exterior seating area which is now to be finished with sandstone paving. John Hill estimated that it will be completed by the King's Coronation. There has been a complaint from a resident of Crabble Court which is ongoing.
- c) Cllr. Beresford has been asked to investigate ownership of the courtyard to the side of the cottage building. She has made progress with the Land Registry. The status of the courtyard has not changed since 2002 but she has to contact another office for confirmation of ownership.
- d) The arrangement with Dover Rangers Colts F.C. has been working well. They are having a problem with disposing of grass cuttings. Cllr. Beaney has offered to provide a skip and arrange removal of cuttings.
- e) Cllr. Beaney has written to the Football Foundation requesting an update on progress with a decision on the Parish Council's planning applications
- f) Updated Health and Safety Signage (to cover age usage and supervision) is being installed to cover the play areas and gym equipment.
- g) Cllr. Dixon is speaking to the DDC Dog Warden to clarify the signage to allow access for dogs at the Lower Road gate up to the white vehicle barrier.

## **25. RIVER DOUR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

A copy of the article by Cllr. Innes to be published in the next edition of the Rivall Village Magazine was circulated. Cllr. Dixon reported on a conversation with Cllr. Gunzi that he, and his immediate neighbours, are not happy with the proposed work and wish to see more input from expert opinion. Cllr. Beresford said that the police cadets would help with volunteer work on the River with notice.

## **26. POTENTIAL SPEAKERS FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Chairman said that local support for the meeting was necessary and suggested this item be held over to the March meeting. Cllr. Atkins suggested that Cllr. Innes could do a presentation on the River Dour.

## **27. NOMINATIONS FOR THE KALC COMMUNITY AWARD**

Following discussion at the January meeting and the circulation of information prior to the meeting, it was agreed that David and Dee Horobin be nominated to receive the KALC Community Award for 2023.

## **28. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

### **a) Kent County Council Community Services Consultation**

A consultation is currently taking place on making the most of KCC Community Services.

## **29. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- a) Cllr. Dixon reported that the Handyman has cleared the Luckhurst Road to Ash Close
- b) Next Events Committee Meeting – 2.15pm Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Meeting closed at 8.48pm

## **Appendices**

### **Item 20b: Update to Councillors from District Councillor David Beaney**

I've emailed Sports England to chase them on a decision for the River P.C application.

DDC has recently purchased the building at the end of Bench Street, which now that they are under our ownership we can finally improve the gateway to our town. I've been placed on a committee to help with ideas and to push forward on decisions which is great to be involved with.

Not only that, we have now been awarded a staggering 18 million pounds to spend in this area, this could not of come at a better time and is brilliant for Dover.

DDC launched there community roots bus today. This bus was paid for by KCC and is aimed for the hard to reach residents. It will travel around our district stopping off at villages. This bus is fitted with up to date computers for residents who haven't got access to the internet and is assisted by a great team who's role is to help all residents in our district to become better connected and receive help where needed from possible grants and funding streams to a friendly face.

On Demand bus services: as you are all aware due to recent cuts on commercial bus services, we have found some villages without the use of a bus so this is a 16 seater mini bus that has been put in place to keep the community connected. It will run from Aylesham to Canterbury and Aylesham to Dover picking up at Shepherdswell, Eythorne etc. This gets launched at the end of the month and can be booked either by ringing stagecoach or using the App.

This is just a few good things happening in Dover, however I'm really excited with how much great work is being done at the moment in our town.

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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Gunzi, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Innes, Cllr. Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk). Dist. Cllr. Beaney, County Cllr. Richardson and one member of the public.

### **30. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

County Cllr Collor, Cllr. Atkins

### **31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Item 40: Cllr. Gunzi declared an interest as a Landowner and holder of Riparian rights.

### **32. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 14th February 2023 had previously been circulated. Cllr, Dixon proposed that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Beresford and all agreed.

### **33. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES**

Item 21a Parking on Lower Road: Cllr. Dixon asked if Sue Bralee had received a response. Clerk is still to action.

Item 24e Sport England correspondence: No response received from Sport England regarding the planning permissions at the Recreation Ground to an email sent by Dist. Cllr. Beaney.

### **34. REPORTS**

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

No report received.

Cllr. Gunzi reported that vandalism can now be reported directly to PCC. Details were passed to the Clerk.

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

County Cllr. Richardson reported:

- i) (with reference to Item 34a) PCSOs have been decreased in the District from 18 to 6. However, more Police Officers have been recruited so overall numbers are up. He suggested that a request be made to the local Superintendent for a PCSO/Police Officer to attend approximately every 6 months.
- ii) There is an initiative to bring unused buildings back into use has seen 2,500 across Kent including one recently in Dover.
- iii) The current Community Services Consultation is about consolidating buildings not cutting services. Redundant building can then be sold.
- iv) Adult Social Care Charges are currently subject to consultation.
- v) There is also a review of children's SEN transport due to the high cost to KCC.

Dist. Cllr. Beaney reported:

- i) Nominations are open for Local Heroes Awards (details on the DDC website)
- ii) The Great British Spring Clean at Kearsney Abbey this month.
- iii) There is a Litter Lotto App with rewards for people putting litter in a bin.
- iv) The DDC budget has been agreed - the DDC element is the lowest rate in Kent.
- v) A Community Roots Van is now available for events/locations, touring the District giving out information and providing access to online services.
- vi) An £18 million grant has been received from the Levelling Up Fund for the Bench Street Redevelopment.
- vii) It was noted that the Silver Screen Cinema is closing because there is no one to run it.

*Dist. Cllr. Beaney and County Cllr. Richardson left the meeting at this point.*

#### **c) Parish Councillors**

No reports.

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

a) Mrs Nicholas asked for assistance to stop illegal parking in River especially in the Chilton Way area. Cllr. Dixon and Dist. Cllr. Beaney have also received an email from Mrs Nicholas. The Parish Council will assist if it can. It was pointed out that if any vehicles, even commercial vehicles, are taxed and legally parked, not causing an obstruction, there is nothing that can be done.

b) Query about misuse of the electric vehicle charging bays in Lewisham Road. Where can visitors go when the EV charging points are covered by conventional vehicles. Cllr. Gunzi pointed out that the Royal Oak pub also has a charging point. There is nothing that the Parish Council can do, directly. There are not enough EV charging points available and enforcement is a problem. Advice given was to report any incidents to DDC. Clerk was asked to provide the parishioner with reporting details.

A second query has been received on the same subject also complaining about vehicles parking across the dropped kerb at the Lewisham Road bus terminus making access to the bus stop difficult for anyone with mobility problems.

### **36. PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **a) Any Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting**

i) DOV/23/00228 | Erection of two storey side extension (garage demolished) | 21 Hawthorne Close, River, Kent CT17 0NG. - No comments.

#### **b) Decisions made by Dover District Council**

None.

### **37. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

#### **a) Financial Reports for February 2023**

Financial reports for February had previously been circulated. Report was accepted.

#### **b) Request for Support from Kent Air Ambulance**

A request has been received for financial support towards the cost of the Kent Air Ambulance. Chairman proposed £500 be donated. This was seconded by Cllr. Dixon and all agreed

#### **c) Request to purchase replacement printer for the Parish Office**

Clerk reported that the current printer is now faulty, having provided four years service. A similar volume replacement office printer would cost in the region of £200. It was agreed that the Clerk purchase a new printer.

### **38. RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

Cllr. Dixon reported that:

a) There have been problems with some residents of Crabble Court against the Cafe development. Cllr. Beresford has obtained a copy of Land Registry. It confirmed that the Parish Council has right of access and part of courtyard is owned by the Parish Council. Clerk requested to write to all residents explaining the position.

b) John Hill is progressing with the Cafe development but has been held up by wet weather. The new windows and doors have arrived.

c) There have been recent problems with flytipping. Also domestic rubbish being disposed of both in Recreation Ground waste bins and the Veolia bin.

d) He has met with Chairman of Dover Rangers Colts F.C. The Football Federation want to see agreement with Parish Council before progressing with funding to help with the cost of lining, pitch preparation and improvement. It was suggest that a letter of intent be sent along with copy of agreements with Tennis Club and the Bowls Club. There has been a problem with the disposal of grass cuttings but a skip has been provided by Dist. Cllr. Beaney and will be emptied every few weeks at a low cost.

e) Still no response from Sport England regarding the two planning applications in the Recreation Ground. Cllrs Dixon and Beresford are attempting further contact and will keep Councillors informed of progress.

f) Small area of Play Area Surfacing is to be repaired this month. This will complete the works on both Play Areas with all equipment up to specifications.

g) New dog signs are going up at the Recreation Ground.

### **39. LOWER ROAD PHONE BOX RESTORATION**

Cllr. Gunzi reported that two contractors are ready to start and are liaising with him. A notice is needed to go up informing residents that the library books will be removed during the works. Clerk to action and send Cllr. Gunzi a notice. Vandalism on the books is increasing at night. Neighbours have offered, voluntarily, to lock up at night. It was agreed to add a lock to the works to enable this.

Estimated cost is now £1,640 (to include glass replacement rather than polycarbonate sheeting) plus the cost of the lock. Original budget was £1,500. It was agreed to go ahead with the refurbishment including re-glazing with glass.

### **40. RIVER DOUR PROJECT**

Cllr. Innes is to have a meeting with White Cliffs Countryside Partnership to sort out the logistics of transporting weed from other locations along the Dour and is in touch with the Police Cadet volunteers.

Cllr. Gunzi asked about consultation with landowners as in the original proposal. He is a landowner and would like to see consultation and a planting plan. Cllr. Innes said this will only be a small project and the main object is to create working relationships with the relevant organisations. The weed needs a gravel bed, decent flow rate and sunlight to flourish. It will not grow on silt. He will work with WCCP to create a plan. Cllr. Gunzi also asked for reassurance on the protection of nesting sites. Cllr. Wright said that all properties affected on the river should be informed. The Environment Agency have given approval for weed to be moved from one location to another. A discussion on the promotion of the plan took place.

### **41. SPEAKER FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It was acknowledged that previous low attendance at Annual General Meetings was a problem with regard to attracting a speaker. Cllr. Innes is happy to stand in as a reserve, to talk about the River Dour project, if no other speaker is available.

### **42. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **a) Letter of Resignation from Cllr. Underhill**

It was reported that a letter of resignation has been received from Tina Underhill.

#### **b) Rotary Club Open Day**

An invitation has been received to an Open Day on 16th March at the Holiday Inn, Whitfield to see the work done by the Rotary Club.

### **43. ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Both Councillors Dixon and Gunzi said that the recently introduced Lower Road 20mph Zone has inadequate signage. There is no signage in Common Lane. Also, signage is needed in the road outside Co-op plus something between Royal Oak and the bridge opposite Riverdale. Both road marking and additional signposts. Clerk was asked to request additional signage from Kent Highways with the expectation that there will be no additional charge.

Meeting ended at 9.10pm



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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th April 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Gunzi, Cllr. Jones and Cllr. Innes

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Beaney, County Cllr. Collor and one member of the public

### **44. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Wright and Cllr. Atkins

### **45. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **46. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14th March 2023 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Dixon proposed that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Jones and all agreed

### **47. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES**

Item 33 - Lower Road Parking: completed.

Item 34b(i) - Police attendance at meeting: Clerk has received a response from Dover Community Safety Unit. A three monthly joint meeting for Parish Councils is to be held at the District Council offices. An invite will be sent out prior to the meeting. Meetings will commence in June.

Item 35 - Lewisham Road EV Charging Points: further response has been received from DDC who admit that the sign accompanying the charging points is ambiguous. The meaning is that the spaces are for electric vehicle charging only at all times but with a four hour limit during the day. The parishioner who enquired has been contacted.

Item 43 - Lower Road 20mph Zone Additional Signage: Clerk is awaiting a response.

### **48. REPORTS**

#### **a) District and County Councillors**

Dist. Cllr. Beaney reported that he has received feedback from the Football Foundation on his enquiry regarding the Recreation Ground Planning Permissions. He will forward the correspondence to the Planning Case Officer for clarification. They are now happy with the scheme for the Changing Rooms with a couple of amendments. They would also like to see the licence with Dover Rangers F.C. in place. Clerk to forward the draft licence to Dist. Cllr. Beaney.

County Cllr. Collor reported that Kent County Council have filled more potholes this year than previous years. Any new potholes should still be reported for repair. KCC have had a bad OFSTED report regarding SEN childrens' education in the county. Adult Social Care funding is still a major problem in Kent.

*Cllr. Beaney and Cllr. Collor left the meeting at this point.*

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

i) Lower Road Phone Box: Cllr. Gunzi reported that books will be removed on Saturday and works will begin on 19th April and completion is then weather dependant.

ii) Cllr. Innes will not be available for the AGM on 18th May.

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

- i) A question was received asking if a tree will be planted marking the King's Coronation, preferably somewhere other than the Recreation Ground. Chairman suggested that this be raised at the meeting in June.
- ii) A letter has been received complaining of irresponsible parking outside River School. He has already been in contact with Dover District Council. Chairman has replied detailing the efforts previously made on this subject.

## **50. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **a) Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting**

- i) DOV/23/00143 | Erection of a single storey side/rear extension and raise roof to garage | 4 Dour Side, River, CT17 0UX:

The Parish Council agreed to express concerns over this planning application on the following grounds. Access to the side of 5 Dour Side should not be impeded, as according to the plans this development would only leave a 6 inch gap available for access. This especially as their deeds allow access. A solution would be to decrease the size of the new extension slightly to allow easier access down the side for No.5.

- ii) DOV/23/00426 | Erection of two storey annex, single storey rear extension and alterations (double garage and sun room demolished) | 1 Cowper Road, River, CT17 0PF:  
No comments.

- iii) DOV/23/00439 | Crown lift to 5 metres and crown clean by removing crossing and defective limbs of a group of mixed species trees (G1), all the subject of Tree Preservation Order No 76/10003 | Land Between Waterfall Cottage And Temple House Alkham Road Temple Ewell CT16 3EE:  
No comments.

- iv) DOV/23/00457 | Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) to allow amendments to DOV/22/01426 (S73) for the erection of a single storey rear extension, rear/side patio, steps and gullies (retrospective) | Waterfall Cottage Alkham Road Temple Ewell CT16 3EE:  
No comments.

### **b) Any decisions made by Dover District Council**

There were none.

## **51. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **a) Financial Report for March 2023**

The financial report for March 2023 was circulated at the meeting.

### **b) Draft Accounts for 2022/23**

Interim accounts for 2022/23 were circulated at the meeting. A presentation will be given at the Annual General Meeting.

## **52. RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

Cllr. Dixon reported that:

- i) The renewal of the tarmac path is still due and is currently held up by the weather.
- ii) Cottage Cafe: Cllr. Beresford has had a meeting at Dover District Council with representatives from the legal and planning departments to clarify the position with the boundary wall. A letter has been drafted to go out to all residents of Crabble Court with this information.

- iii) Play Areas are generally in good condition. The balance board has been damaged and an estimate for repair is awaited. The clatter bridge was reported damaged on Monday and was taped on Tuesday morning.
- iv) New dog signs have been delivered and are awaiting installation. Additional signs will clarify which areas can be accessed with dogs and which can't.
- v) A draft of the a licence proposed with Dover Rangers F.C. was circulated at the meeting. Once agreed this will allow Dover Rangers to access funding for improvements to the pitches.
- vi) Query over whether the correct contact telephone number is displayed in the Recreation Ground. Cllr. Dixon will check and get amended if required.

### **53. RIVER DOUR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Cllr. Innes has had a meeting with Richard Haines regarding a pilot scheme to relocate 10 sample baskets of ranunculus weed, which will be monitored over the summer. If this is successful then further work can be planned. Cllr. Innes has spoken to White Cliffs Countryside Partnership regarding protection of nesting bird sites. The volunteers working for WCCP are experienced and knowledgeable following their river cleans.

### **54. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **a) Kent Police**

A police surgery is to be held this Thursday 10.30am in the Charlton Centre, Dover. Police will be available to discuss any local concerns and conduct neighbourhood surveys.

#### **b) Kent County Council Adult Social Care - Digital Front Door**

KCC has updated its digital information promoting self-help options for anyone that wishes to look for help, information and guidance as well as community assets and care directory information.

#### **c) Zero-Waste Refill Shop**

A lady has requested to have a monthly pop-up shop in the Recreation Ground allowing people to refill household items in their own containers. This would be run from a van. It was agreed that this could take place but with a small charge as is the case with other vendors.

#### **d) Kent County Council Tree Work**

KCC has notified the Parish Council of two stump grinds outside 161 and 163 Lewisham Road.

### **55. ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Cllr. Gunzi requested a flyer for the Summer Fete which can be used as a receipt for organisations providing raffle prizes.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

## **RIVER PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING / ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Held at 7.30pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr. Dixon, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), Anita Sedgewick from Dover District Council and 6 members of the public

#### **56. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Innes, County Cllr. Richardson, County Cllr. Collor and Dist. Cllr. Beaney

#### **57. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND DECLARATION OF OFFICE**

Cllr. Beresford nominated Cllr. Dixon as Chairman of the Parish Council for the year ahead. This was seconded by Cllr. Atkins and, there being no other nominations, Cllr. Dixon was duly elected as Chairman and took over as Chair of the meeting.

#### **58. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Chairman nominated Cllr. Beresford as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the year ahead. This was seconded by Cllr. Atkins and, there being no other nominations, Cllr. Beresford was duly elected for the year ahead.

#### **59. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

It was agreed that:

- Cllr. Beresford will Chair the Planning Committee.
- Cllr. Atkins will Chair the Events Committee.
- Cllr. Dixon will Chair the Recreation Ground Management Meeting.
- Cllr. Innes will represent the Parish Council on matters related to the River Dour.
- As the Parish Council does not have a full contingent of Councillors, all serving Councillors will be invited to attend all committee meetings.

#### **60. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Beresford proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Jones and all agreed.

#### **61. REPORTS OR UPDATES**

- Item 43 – Lower Road 20mph Zone Signage: No update.
- Renovation works on the Lower Road Phone Box are in progress
- No works on the replacement tarmac path in the Recreation Ground has taken place as the contractor has been in hospital.
- The Licence with Dover Rangers Colts F.C. for use of pitches in the Recreation Ground is progressing.
- The Football Foundation have said they will remove their objection to the planned refurbishment of the Recreation Ground Changing Rooms to become a multi-purpose meeting room and community space.
- Clerk reported that the resignation of Patrick Gunzi as a member of the Parish Council has been received.

## **62. FINANCIAL**

### **a) Annual Subscription to KALC**

It was agreed that the subscription to the Kent Association of Local Councils be renewed.

### **b) Renewal of the River Recreation Ground Electricity Contract**

The term of the fixed price contract for electricity at the Recreation Ground is coming to an end. A review of prices has been carried out with a utility broker recommended by NALC. The best offer available is a 24month contract with EDF Energy. It was agreed to go ahead with this contract.

### **c) Insurance Renewal**

The renewal offered by the broker is £5,846.79 from Hiscox Insurance with a recommendation for a 3 three long term agreement to ensure rate stability. Several insurers have withdrawn from quoting for the local council sector. The broker has carried out a tender exercise with several insurers and agreed to move forward with Hiscox as they know and understand the sector. It was agreed to go ahead with the recommendation for renewal with long term agreement.

This was immediately followed by the

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

## **63. QUESTIONS AND REPORT OF THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN FOR 2022/23**

### Question as to why the cottage café project was not put out to tender

Chairman explained that the Parish Council were approached by the contractor offering to refurbish and equip the building at his own expense in return for a five-year lease to operate as a café with monthly rental payments. The contractor also met the cost of the design and planning process.

### Question regarding problems with parking on both sides of Common Lane by the Village Hall causing problems with access to the Village Hall and for the Co-op Store delivery lorry

Chairman responded that there parking problems throughout River and that the only thing the Parish Council could do is to request more double yellow lines and this has the effect of reducing the number of available parking places even further.

Following this, outgoing Chairman, Cllr. Taylor, gave a report on the activities of the Parish Council in the past year. This report is also published in the 'Rivall' Village Magazine and is appended to these minutes.

## **64. DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL CULTURAL STRATEGY FOR DOVER**

Anita Sedgewick, Place Projects and Development Officer for Dover District Council, gave a brief introduction to the Cultural Strategy being developed for the District. A discussion then took place on the type of cultural activities people would like to see and how to achieve this.

## **65. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2022/2023**

The Parish Clerk gave a presentation on the unaudited accounts for 2022/23, in comparison with the previous financial year. A copy is appended to these minutes.

Meeting ended at 9.15pm

*Clive Taylor, Chairman, River Parish Council*

Continuing our established custom these jottings are based upon my annual report given to the Parish Meeting in May.

### **Councillor Changes**

During the last year we have pleased to co-opt two new Councillors namely Michael Innes and Lynne Wright. We wish them both well for the future with the Parish Council.

Sadly, we received the resignation of Councillor Tina Underhill due to work issues.

### **Recreation Ground (Owned and maintained by River Parish Council)**

#### General Maintenance

Our contractors continue to keep the grounds in an excellent condition and we have received many compliments about this from local residents.

#### Catering Arrangements

On-site catering arrangements continue to be very popular.

#### Coffee Shop

Following some unforeseen delays work has started on site.

#### Proposed Ground Floor Meeting Room

It is hoped that our re-submitted Planning Application may now soon be approved to enable this project to proceed.

#### Football

It is with much pleasure that I can report that during the year we have been approached by Dover Rangers who have returned to the Recreation Ground.

#### Dogs

A reminder that it is prohibited to bring dogs into River Recreation Ground that is covered by a Public Spaces Protection Order.

Notices at each entrance to the ground carry warnings of fixed penalties for offences.

### **HM The Queen`s Platinum Jubilee and River Fete**

Happily there was no sign of the rain and high winds forecast on the day and record crowds attended this event. Food and drink vendors had to bring in additional supplies. Festivities extended into the evening with two bands providing musical entertainment and a spectacular firework concluding proceedings.

## **Traffic Matters**

Many local residents welcomed the installation of the 20mph speed restriction along the one-way section of Lower Road by Kent Highways.

## **Lower Road Telephone Box**

This redundant facility was acquired by the Parish Council and has since been converted into an informal library.

## **Kent Community Speedwatch Scheme (CSW)**

Regular sessions take place at various times and places in the village. Details of vehicles exceeding the national speed limit are passed to Kent Police who follow-up by contacting all offenders.

## **Parish Meetings**

River Parish Council meets at the Methodist Church in Lewisham Road on the second Tuesday each month except August and December.

If there is something you would like to raise why not come along to one of our Meetings

and we may be able to help.

Details of our Meetings are placed on our notice boards and also outside the Village Hall in Common Lane.

\_\_\_\_\_

Finally may I thank my fellow councillors and our clerk for their continuing efforts as well as our contractors who continue to maintain the recreation ground and other areas throughout the village.

Please keep up to date by visiting either our Facebook page or our website [www.riverparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.riverparishcouncil.org.uk)

**RIVER PARISH COUNCIL  
FINANCIAL REPORT 2022/23**

<b>PARISH PRECEPT (INCOME)</b>	<b>65425.00</b>
Event Income	2655.51
Bank Interest	172.05
Sales	200.00
Refund of Grant Payment	1140.00
	<hr/>
	69592.56

**RECREATION GROUND ACCOUNT**

<b>INCOME</b>	
Office Rental	9999.96
Catering Vendors	220.00
	0.00
	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10219.96</b>

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Repairs & Renewals	10794.53
Groundworks	8977.56
Utilities	8334.36
Cleaning	2355.00
Materials	228.22
Projects	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30689.67</b>

**NET COST OF REC. GROUND 20469.71**

**PARISH ACCOUNT**

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Election Expenditure	0.00
Administration	1098.89
Salaries	11915.28
Hall Hire	414.00
Grants (to local organisations)	4440.00
Materials / Subscriptions	1249.68
Audit & Insurance	5555.05
Miscellaneous (Section 137)	0.00
Training & Travel	0.00
Handymen	4626.60
Projects	6165.54
Events	2887.87
	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL PARISH EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>38352.91</b>

**GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURE (NET) 58822.62**

*Figures subject to confirmation by audit*



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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13th June 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Jones and Cllr. Innes

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), County Cllr. Collor, County Cllr. Richardson, District Cllr. Beaney and 5 members of the public

### **66. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Taylor, Cllr. Wright and Dist. Cllr. Rose

### **67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **68. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **a) Parish Council Annual General Meeting 18.05.2023**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 18th May 2023 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Innes proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Jones and all agreed.

#### **b) Planning Committee 19.05.2023**

The minutes of the Planning Committee held on Friday 19th May 2023 had previously been circulated. Since the meeting Planning Application DOV/23/00560 has amended the description to read 'Erection of single storey side extension incorporating conversion of garage'. The application is otherwise unchanged. This was all noted.

#### **c) Events Committee Meeting 19.05.2023**

To follow.

### **69. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES**

Item 61 Lower Road Phone Box - renovations well underway but noted that we must have a lock on it as the Co-op has offered to lock it up at the night.

### **70. REPORTS**

#### **a) Policing**

A report on the Dover Police - District Town & Parish Council Meeting 23.05.2023 (attended by the Clerk) was circulated prior to the meeting. He has received an email from P.C. James Chenery with his contact details which have also been circulated to Councillors. He is now the dedicated contact for the village and may be contacted directly.

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

- i) Dist. Cllr. Beaney: little to report since the election. Cllr. Beaney has spoken to the Planning Department regarding the planning applications for Flint House in the Recreation Ground. Even if the applications were passed by Committee they could still be overturned by the planning inspectorate. He is hoping to hold a meeting of all Parishes in the Dover Downs area to discuss local issues.
- ii) County Councillors Collor and Richardson reported: a yellow health warning has been issued due to the heat; free bus travel over the weekend of 24th-25th June (up until 8pm); KCC has announced crack down on illegal vaping especially with young people; there is a desperate need for more foster parents in the county.

*Dist. Cllr. Beaney left the meeting at this point.*

#### **c) Parish Councillors**

- i) Cllr. Innes reported that we have lost the Catchment Officer for the Environment Agency for this area. He is attending a meeting shortly and hopes to hear who the replacement will be.
- ii) Cllr. Atkins reported that an invitation has been received from the ladies who will be running the Rec Cafe to attend an event prior to opening. Work to prepare for the Summer Fete is ongoing.
- iii) Cllr. Jones reported a recent serious road traffic accident on the London Road.

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

- a) A question has been received regarding the recent sale of the land at Gorse Hill and any possible development on the site. It was confirmed that the land itself is out of the Parish although the address is Crabble Lane. There is no current planning application on the land. Clerk was asked to contact Dover Town Council to see if they have any view on the sale.
- b) A question has been received asking why dogs are not allowed on to the Recreation Ground. Chairman explained that the restriction has been lifted from the Lower Road gate to the vehicle barrier allowing access to the public car park, to supervise children (from the roadway) playing in the play area and to visit the new Cafe. But there is no evidence of any opinion in the village to allow access to the whole grounds. Even with the ban there are problems with dog mess. Not all dog owners clear up after their dog. It was commented that Elms Vale Recreation Ground, where there is no restriction, is in appalling condition due to dog mess.

## **72. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **a) Any Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting**

- i) DOV/23/00687 | Erection of pitched roof extension and rear dormer with Juliet balcony, flat roof to porch and external alterations (retrospective) | 21 Deanwood Road, River, CT17 0NT - no comments except that it was noted that a number of retrospective applications are currently being received.
- ii) DOV/23/00717 | Erection of guarding to form roof terrace (retrospective) | 21 Deanwood Road, River, CT17 0NT - This application has been withdrawn and was not discussed.

### **b) Any decisions made by Dover District Council**

- i) DOV/23/00143 | Erection of single storey side/rear extension and raise roof to garage | 4 Dour Side, River, CT17 0UX - permission granted
- ii) DOV/23/00426 | Erection of two storey annex, single storey rear extension and alterations (double garage and sun room demolished) | 1 Cowper Road, River, CT17 0PF - permission granted
- iii) DOV/23/00438 | Crown reduce back to previous reduction points (by approximately 3 metres in height and 2 metres laterally) of three Horse Chestnuts the subject of Tree Preservation Order No.5 of 2020 | 120 London Road, River, CT16 3AD - Grant Advertisement Consent

## **73. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **a) To receive and approve the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23**

The Annual Governance Statement was circulated with explanatory note which was explained by the Clerk. Cllr. Atkins proposed that the Annual Governance Statement be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Innes and all agreed. This was then signed by the Chairman.

### **b) To receive and approve the Accounting Statement 2022/23**

The Accounting Statement was circulated along with the report from the internal auditor. Upon audit, the figures changed slightly from those presented at the Annual General Meeting. Cllr. Atkins proposed that the Annual Accounting Statement be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Jones and all agreed. This was then signed by the Chairman.

Clerk will now submit the Annual Return for external audit and provide copies to Councillors.

### **c) Financial Report**

The HSBC current account is in the process of closure. The Unity Trust account is now the only bank account. Clerk will bring recommendation for opening of a deposit account to the next meeting. Internet banking will be available shortly, as soon as two signatories are online.

### **d) Confirmation of increases in payments for cleaning services and village handyman**

As discussed at a previous meeting, a 10% increase will be applied as of next month to the payments made for cleaning services and to the Village Handyman.

### **e) Bank Signatories**

Clerk suggested that additional signatories would be preferable. It was agreed to discuss when all Councillors are present.

## **74. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

**a) Notice of Amendment to Waiting Times Common Lane / Lewisham Road (River Primary School)**  
KCC are conducting the official consultation period for the changes to lengthen the double yellow line at the top of Common Lane and also the change to morning and afternoon no waiting period on the zig zag area outside the school.

**b) Lower Road 20mph Zone Signage**

Clerk reported on information received, that there is a difference between a 20mph zone and a 20mph speed limit. What has been provided is the correct signage for a 20mph zone. Clerk will continue to liaise with Kent Highways over improved signage.

**c) Highway Improvement Plan Update**

The Highway improvement Plan is due to be updated. A suggestion was received for a central line on the bend of Valley Road. A change to the timings of the traffic lights at the Crabble Hill junction was suggested to allow better flow of vehicles. Currently, vehicles coming out of River have to wait for traffic turning the corner to come down into River despite the light being green.

## **75. RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

Chairman reported:

- i) New dog signage has been put up as previous signage could be confusing.
- ii) Cafe development is moving forward slowly. This is due to a dispute with a neighbouring property over whether a wall is a boundary wall or a party wall. This is being resolved by a Solicitor.
- iii) Quarterly inspections of the Play Area now takes place as well as an annual inspection.
- iv) There is now a draft of a licence between Dover Rangers and the Parish Council. Once agreed, Dover Rangers will be able to receive funding for improvement of the pitches. A container will be installed on Friday to store the goals and other equipment to prevent damage when not in use.
- v) Sport England are due to withdraw their objection to the conversion of the lower floor Changing Rooms into a multi-purpose community room for the use of Dover Rangers, as a Parish Meeting Room and for other community activities.
- vi) The tarmac path renewal is still delayed.
- vii) Requests have been received for the removal of ivy and cutting back of branches. The Parish Council will deal with any problems being caused by the trees in the Recreation Ground. However, if neighbouring properties want work done for cosmetic reasons, they will have to seek permission and get the work done themselves.
- viii) An updated report on the Lewisham Road trees will be commissioned.

## **76. TO DISCUSS PLANTING TREES IN THE PARISH**

It is believed that the KCC 'Plan Tree', as previously discussed, is aimed at larger areas of planting for ecological reasons rather individual planting in certain locations. It was agreed to keep the item on the agenda as we need locations which can be investigated for suitability.

## **77. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

**a) KALC Annual Councillors' Conference / Training**

The Annual KALC Councillors' Conference is due to be held on 6th July. The summer training programme has also been announced.

## **78. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- a) Cllr. Atkins reminded the meeting of the forthcoming Events Committee Meeting on Tuesday 4th July.
- b) Chairman has asked Clerk to look into accounting software to assist with finances particularly VAT recovery.

Meeting closed at 8.54pm

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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Innes, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Taylor, Cllr. Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), Neil Paterson (Treasurer D.R.F.C.) & 3 members of public

### **79. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

County Cllr. Collor and Dist. Cllr. Beaney

### **80. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **81. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Beresford proposed that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr. Atkins and all agreed.

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

Item 69 Lower Road Phone Box: Mr. Gunzi is still waiting for signage from BT, the decorator still has work to complete and a lock still to be fitted.

Item 71 Gorse Hill Land Purchase: Dover Town Council has said that they currently have no view on the land use or development as there is no active planning application yet.

Item 74b Lower Road Signage: Cllr. Taylor reported that two additional signs have been fitted at the beginning of the one-way system.

### **83. REPORTS**

#### **a) District and County Councillors**

No reports.

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

Cllr. Beresford reported that police have been investigating several incidents involving bikes.

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

To a question regarding the planning application for the Recreation Ground Café, Chairman confirmed that the application was applied for by John Hill.

### **85. PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **a) Any Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting**

i) DOV/23/00836 | Erection of 4 kennels | Frandham Boarding Kennels, Minnis Lane, River, CT15 7DN – No comments.

ii) DOV/23/00827 | Crown reduction by 3 metres in height and 2 metres of two Beech trees the subject of Tree Preservation Order 69/20001 | 20 Kingston Close, River, CT17 0NQ – No comments.

#### **b) Decisions by Dover District Council**

i) DOV/23/00224 | Crown reduction by approximately 5 metres in height and 2.5 metres laterally of a Yew the subject of Tree Preservation Order No 2 of 2002 | 63 London Road, River, CT17 0SG - GADV (Grant Advertisement Consent)

ii) DOV/23/00506 | Erection of single storey rear extension | 12 Beresford Road, River, Dover, CT17 0QR - permission granted

iii) DOV/23/00645 | Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed) erection of rear dormer and front roof lights | 11 Hazeldown Close, River, CT17 0NJ - CLPG (Certificate Proposed Granted)

### **86. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

#### **a) Financial Reports**

Clerk provided a financial report for the last three months at the meeting. He confirmed that the HSBC current account has now closed.

#### **b) Request for funding from the River Village Hall Trust**

Firstly, a request from the River Village Hall Trust for £300 towards the printing costs of the 'Rivall' Village magazine. Cllr. Taylor proposed that the grant be made. This was seconded by Cllr. Wright and all agreed.

Secondly, the Village Hall Trust have requested a contribution towards the £6,500 cost of maintenance to the water pipe outside the hall. Their insurance company will not cover the cost as it is outside of their property. Cllr. Beresford said that the charge should be challenged and offered to assist the Trust. Cllr. Taylor proposed that the Parish Council grant £2,000 towards the costs. This was seconded by Cllr. Beresford and all agreed.

**c) Proposal from GW Landscaping for 10% Contract price increase**

A request has been received from the Recreation Ground groundwork contractors to increase their fee by 10%. It was noted that the company have not increased their prices for four years. It was agreed to accept their request.

**d) To receive proposals for switch to Scribe Online Accounting Software**

Clerk circulated details and costs of an online accounting system specifically developed for Parish Councils. The annual subscription is £660 with an additional £497 setup charge. Clerk was asked to investigate further possibly with a trial period.

**e) Proposal to setup additional deposit bank account**

Clerk reported that it will be necessary to setup some form of deposit account. Clerk will investigate accounts with better interest rates than our bank.

**87. DEFIBRILLATORS WITHIN THE VILLAGE**

It was confirmed that both defibrillators (one belonging to the Village Hall and one to the Parish Council) are registered with The Circuit which is the proper place for registration and not through 999. It was suggested that the information needs to be made available on our website.

**88. RIVER RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

**a) To approve the Licence with Dover Rangers for use of football pitches**

A draft copy of the licence with Dover Rangers was circulated. The licence has been approved by the Kent F.A. so will be acceptable for future grant applications made by Dover Rangers. Chairman said that once the agreement is in place then sources of funding will be available to Dover Rangers particularly in regard to pitch improvement. An additional document is included, as the agreement is a one year rolling licence and not long tenure. Cllr. Beresford proposed that the licence go forward for signature, seconded by Cllr. Innes and all agreed.

**b) Community Use Agreement for Flint House Lower Floor Project**

The agreement is still in draft and will be brought forward to the next meeting. This document will be necessary before Sport England remove their objection to the refurbishment and adaption of the Recreation Ground ground floor changing rooms.

**89. FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SUMMER FETE**

As this is Events Committee business it will be dealt with after the meeting.

**90. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

**a) Dover District Council - Letter of Co-option**

Clerk reported that the Parish Council are free to co-opt following the resignation of Patrick Gunzi and also the other two vacancies left over since the elections.

**b) Kent Highways – Changes to parking/waiting arrangements outside the school**

Kent Highways have confirmed that the formal consultation period has ended for the extended double yellow line and extension to waiting period outside the school. Four comments in support of the scheme were received and the scheme will now progress.

**c) Letters received objecting to the siting of the container in the Recreation Ground**

Five letters of complaint have been received regarding the siting of the container to be used by Dover Rangers for the storage of equipment. It is proposed to mask the container with trees to hide it from site and discourage children from kicking footballs against it. This was agreed and Chairman will arrange with GW Landscaping the planting of a mature leylandii screen as soon as they are able. Clerk to answer any complaints.

**d) Letter of complaint about antisocial behavior at night in the Recreation Ground**

A further letter of complaint has been received about evening antisocial behavior. The gentlemen in question has previously complained and all correspondence was provided for Councillors. Clerk was requested to ask for permission to provide contact details so that we can forward the complaints to the police for investigation.

**91. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

No items.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Atkins and Cllr. Jones

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

### **92. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Innes, Cllr. Wright, Cllr. Taylor and County Cllr. Collor

### **93. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **94. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting had previously been circulated. Cllr. Beresford proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Atkins and all agreed.

### **95. UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES**

Item 69 – Lower Road Phone Box: the phone box restoration has now been completed. The shelves are quite full. It needs to be used as an exchange library rather than as a site for people to dump unwanted bags of books. As the library was initiated by someone in the community, Chairman said that person or someone else within the community should take responsibility for sorting books and any required locking.

Item 86d/e – Deposit Accounts / Accounting Software: Clerk reported that best interest rates are available if funds are locked in for a period of time. This may be difficult if the project at the old Recreation Ground Changing Room project goes ahead. It was agreed to make a decision at the next meeting. Clerk has examined the accounting software and has, as an alternative, adapted the current spreadsheet system aiming to improve efficiency particularly with regard to reclaiming VAT.

### **96. REPORTS**

#### **a) District and County Councillors**

None.

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

- i) Cllr. Jones reported that he has seen some books from the Phone Box Library thrown around in the street.
- ii) Cllr. Atkins reported that she has been dealing with final tasks left over from the Summer Fete. Also, that she has sorted the Phone Box Library into categories and removed some books that were damaged.
- iii) Cllr. Beresford reported that incidents with motorbikes, reported at the July meeting, seem to have stopped as there have been increased police patrols.

### **97. ANY QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Query regarding the 'The Rec' Café. It was confirmed that the Café is now open. Currently seven days a week until opening hours are finalised.

### **98. PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **a) Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting**

- i) DOV/23/01085 | Crown reduction of 4 metres in height by 3 metres laterally of one Sycamore the subject of Tree Preservation Order No 1 of 1969 | 18 Kingston Close, River, CT17 0NQ – No comments.
- ii) DOV/23/00836 | Erection of 4 kennels (AMENDED) | Frandham Boarding Kennels, Minnis Lane, River, CT15 7DN – No comments.

#### **b) Decisions by Dover District Council**

- i) DOV/23/00901 | 5-day notice to remove dangerous trees the subject of Tree Preservation Order no 1-2 of 1969 | Amenity Land fronting 17 to 22 Riverdale, River, Kent – Grant Consent.
- ii) DOV/23/00827 | Crown reduction by 2 metres in height and 2 metres laterally of two Beech trees the subject of Tree Preservation Order 69/20001 | 20 Kingston Close, River, CT17 0NQ – Grant Consent
- iii) DOV/23/00741 | Certificate of lawfulness (proposed) for installation of roof mounted solar panels | The Sandpipers, 2 Mill Race, River, CT17 0UZ – Certificate Proposed Granted
- iv) DOV/23/00749 | Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed) for use of land for the siting of a mobile home to provide ancillary accommodation | The Lodestone Pavilion Meadow River CT17 0RJ - Certificate Proposed Granted

- v) DOV/23/00560 | Erection of single storey side extension, conversion of garage and creation of decking including privacy screens (amended description) | 20 Orchard Drive River CT17 0ND – Permission Granted
- vi) DOV/23/00150 | Change of use to a mixed use function/events space | Kearsney Cafe Alkham Road Temple Ewell CT16 3DZ – Permission Granted
- vii) DOV/23/00687 | Erection of pitched roof extension, flat roof to front porch, construction of a rear roof terrace and external alterations (Retrospective) | 21 Deanwood Road River CT17 0NT – Permission Granted

## **99. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **a) Financial Reports**

A financial report was circulated at the meeting. This is in a new format including a transaction sheet for the previous two months and an analysis of the period since April alongside this year's budget. Clerk will circulate the bank statement and reconciliation by email.

### **b) Request for funding from the River Village Hall Trust for defibrillator pads/battery**

The defibrillator sited outside the Village Hall needs replacement pads and battery. It was agreed that, as this is a community asset, purchased through fundraising, it does not belong to the Village Hall Trust, therefore, the Parish Council are able to purchase the required pads and battery directly. It was agreed to do so.

## **100. RIVER RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

### **a) Tree management to meet Highway clearance regulations**

A letter has been received from Highways requiring the trees along the Lewisham Road border to be cut back to regulation height to prevent damage to vehicles. Planning permission has been received.

### **b) Draft of the Community Use Agreement for Flint House Lower Floor Project**

Clerk has a draft of the Community Use Agreement which is being adapted from a template provided.

Further work needs to be done including a check to see which parties need to sign the agreement, which will need the approval of Sport England.

### **c) 'The Rec' Café**

i) As the Café is now open, the lease will come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023

ii) A small wire fence is to be erected in the yard to the side of the Café to differentiate the area owned by the Parish Council from the area jointly owned by Crabble Court residents. This will allow the Café bins and outdoor tables to be safely stored separately from the Crabble Court refuse bins. A gate will also be reinstated, but not locked, to enhance security.

### **e) Dover Rangers Colts F.C.**

i) The licence has now been signed. Clerk to distribute a digital copy to Councillors.

ii) The leylandii hedge has been planted around the storage container to hide it from view.

iii) Rangers have offered space in the container for storage of Parish Council equipment.

Chairman requested that plans for the old Changing Rooms be on the agenda for the next meeting

## **101. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

### **a) Replacement handrail Luckhurst Road leading into Cowper Road**

A request has been received to reinstate the handrail, which was removed when the new build on the corner of Luckhurst Road was constructed. Cllr. Beresford will make enquiries whether it is possible to reinstate.

### **b) Status of Beresford Road junction with Common Lane**

There have been complaints recently about vehicles travelling at speed through the narrow section of Beresford Road onto Common Lane. After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council needs to confirm the status of the road with Kent Highways as the signage is contradictory. Following this, any possible actions can be looked considered.

### **c) Hazardous parking, Lower Road (near junction with Alkham Road)**

Correspondence has been received complaining about cars parked across the pavement in Lower Road near the junction with Alkham Road. It is known that DDC trialled a 'park and ride' system for events but this did not prove popular.

### **d) London Road junction with Alkham Road (Temple Ewell plans for improvement)**

Following an email sent to several parishes regarding problems with the Alkham Road junction onto London Road, Temple Ewell responded to the correspondent with their own proposals to improve the junction. This was circulated and discussed.

**e) Update on tree planting within River**

Replacement tree planting within River has previously been discussed. Clerk reported that this is now available as an option under the fault reporting page on the Kent County Council website.

**f) Lower Road 20mph Zone**

Chairman reported that there are ongoing problems with lack of signage leading to the zone being ignored. Cllr. Beresford was asked to liaise with Kent Highways to increase the number of signs.

**102. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

**a) Quarterly Dover Police / District, Town and Parish Council Meeting 20.09.2023**

The second meeting between the Police and Parish Councils in the District is to be held at 5pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at the District Council offices. Cllr. Beresford is interested in attending.

**103. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a) Chairman said that there are various green areas in River needing attention and wondered if River Gardeners would be prepared to help. Jean Thomas is on the Committee and will enquire and liaise with Cllr. Beresford.

b) Chairman reported that he has visited the bus terminus in Lewisham Road with Vicky Thomas who has agreed to create paving slab artwork to commemorate the life of Queen Elizabeth II. This will be approximately six further slabs.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm



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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Innes, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Taylor, Cllr. Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Beaney, County Cllr. Collor, County Cllr. Richardson and four members of the public.

### **104. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were none

### **105. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. Wright declared an interest as a District Councillor and will not comment on any planning applications in Item 8.

### **106. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting had previously been circulated. Cllr. Beresford proposed that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Innes and all agreed.

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

#### Item 101a - Luckhurst Road Handrail

Kent Highways has no paperwork on a handrail (since 2009). If a request is made by a member of the public then it would be considered.

#### Item 101b - Beresford Road Junction with Common Lane

The section is not owned by KCC nor is it a public right of way. A Land Registry search will be needed to confirm ownership. KHS confirmed that the signage is an advisory sign only. It was agreed that a Land Registry search will be done to confirm ownership.

#### Item 101d - Lower Road 20mph Zone

KHS will consider another roundel to improve signage but not signposts. Further signage should be added to the Parish Council's Highway Improvement Plan. It was confirmed that the previously requested 'Unsuitable for HGVs' sign for the junction between Lower Road and Alkham Road is still on the HIP.

#### Item 102a - Police and Parish Council Meeting

Cllr. Beresford reporting on attendance at the Police and Parish Council Meeting. 6 Police Constables are in post. Recruitment is taking place to fill the additional 6 places. 2 are currently in training. Currently PCs are covering 3 to 5 wards each. One vehicle is currently available along with electric bikes for PCs to travel around their areas. A newsletter is circulated although some Parishes reported that they were not receiving any. Reports can be made via the Community Safety Unit although this is no longer manned. Anyone calling the number must leave a message or send an email for police to respond to. An index will be sent out quarterly with details of fines etc. 2 drones are available in Kent. Police. Folkestone, Canterbury and Margate are the only Police Stations with custody suites. Dover Police Station is not open to the public and is only used as office space. There is no confirmation of Police response times.

#### Item 103a - River Gardeners

The Chairman has been on holiday. Cllr. Beresford will follow up.

### **108. REPORTS**

#### **a) District and County Councillors**

Dist. Cllr. Beaney reported that: Dover Joint Transport Advisory Board meetings are to be scrapped; A Landlords Forum is to be held organised by DDC and Shepway informing about the new regulations; Dover Jobs Fair to be held 12<sup>th</sup> October at Cruise Terminal (buses available to the event); Polling District Review is taking place; there is a consultation into the DDC Green Infrastructure Strategy; Cllr. Beaney has sent an email to the Post Office about the closure but not received a reply; Crabble Corn Mill have contacted him about repairs needed, and he is looking into possible grant funding.

County Cllr. Collor reported that: KCC are going through financial difficulties – social care is a major cost along with childrens’ services particularly costs relating to special educational needs; resurfacing work is taking place in many Dover streets.

County Cllr. Richardson reported that: HMS Kent has been given the freedom of Kent; £10million is being spent on refurbishing the Dover Discovery Centre with the intention that all KCC services will then be in the building. The library is relocating to the Dover Gateway during the 18 months refurbishment period. The Theatre is being retained.

*District and County Councillors left the meeting at this point.*

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

i) Cllr. Innes reported that a new Catchment Officer for the River Dour has been appointed by the Environment Agency. He will be seeking a meeting with her in due course.

ii) Cllr. Jones reported that the DDC waste bin has disappeared from the middle layby in London Road. This has been reported to DDC.

iii) Cllr. Atkins has been progressing the idea of a village advent calendar with 24 houses decorated as a trail for local people to follow. She has received a lot of interest.

#### **109. UPDATE ON THE RIVER POST OFFICE CLOSURE**

Chairman has visited the Post Office and spoken to the owner of the Pharmacy. The closure is being forced on them by the Post Office. The owners were keen to retain the facility. Cllr. Wright has received a response from an email enquiry stating that the branch is being closed due to the resignation of the Postmaster. An abridged version has also been sent to the Clerk following an enquiry. Cllr. Beresford said that some other Post Offices have a Postmaster visiting from another branch on certain days and this could be a solution. Clerk will respond to the Post Office to seek alternative options to retain the service.

#### **110. ANY QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

An email has been received suggesting that, following the closure of River Post Office, Stagecoach should reintroduce the former route/times of the bus service to enable residents without a car to visit other Post Offices.

#### **111. PLANNING MATTERS**

##### **a) Planning Applications**

i) DOV/23/00937 | Erection of single storey rear extension (existing conservatory demolished) | 90 Lewisham Road, River, CT17 0QQ – No comments.

ii) DOV/23/01121 | Erection of side extension, increase eaves height and replacement roof including extension and dormers, alterations to access | 3 River Drive, River, CT17 0LT – No comments.

iii) DOV/23/01071 | Erection of an annexe | 27 Crabble Road, River, CT17 0QD – No comments.

iv) DOV/23/01162 | Erection of first floor extension | 6 Deanwood Road, River, CT17 0NT – No comments.

##### **b) Decisions by Dover District Council**

No decisions.

#### **112. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **a) Financial Reports**

A full digital financial report has been circulated to Councillors including bank statements and reconciliation. Clerk reviewed the details at the meeting. After discussion of available options, it was agreed to open a deposit account, alongside the existing current account, with Unity Trust Bank.

##### **b) Request for funding from The Crabble Corn Mill Trust**

A request for funding has been received towards cost of essential maintenance to the footbridge. It was agreed that the Parish Council are prepared in principle to help the Crabble Corn Mill Trust. Chairman proposed that a formal meeting take place between the Parish Council and the Crabble Corn Mill Trust to understand the mill’s financial position. The Parish Council will also need sight of accounts.

### **113. RIVER RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

Chairman reported on matters from the Recreation Ground:

i) Café

The Café is now open although there are some items to be finished including the yard to the side of the building. The 5-year lease for the Café is in the process of being signed and monthly payments will commence.

ii) Tennis Club

Chairman met with the tennis club who, after a difficult start, are now positive about the agreement with the Parish Council to self-maintain the grass courts.

iii) Dover Rangers

DRFC are now seeking funding towards pitch improvement. Also, they have offered the front section of the storage unit to store tables and chairs etc. belonging to the Parish Council.

iv) Tarmac Path

An area of the re-laid tarmac path has weeds growing through it. The contractor has been asked to remedy the problem.

v) Tree work

Planning permission has been received for the tree cutting required to comply with highways regulations. The work will take place on the 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> October. One tree needs to be felled. Permission for this is still awaited.

vi) Community Use Agreement

The draft Community Use Agreement was circulated to Councillors. One diagram is still needed. The document will need to be approved by Sport England before it can be signed.

vii) The community Christmas tree is on order.

### **114. PLANS FOR COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM, FLINT HOUSE, LOWER FLOOR**

The previously agreed plans for the Community Meeting Room, the subject of Planning Application DOV/21/01639, were reviewed. Sport England have agreed to remove their objections to the project following the adoption of a Community Use Agreement. The Parish Council will now need to go through tendering process again.

### **115. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

**a) Purchase of Holmstone Woods – Mr. Will Dodds**

Emails regarding the purchase of Holmstone Woods were circulated to Councillors at the meeting. Mr. Dodds, the purchaser, wishes to point out that his intention is conservation and not development. He has been liaising with Dover District Council regarding use of the land for environmental activities.

**b) Kent Highways – Tree Planting**

Notification has been received from Kent Highways of the planting of two trees, one outside 24/25 Valley Road and one outside 161/163 Lewisham Road.

### **116. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Nothing further.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

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

Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at River Methodist Church

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Taylor, Cllr. Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk) and one member of the public

### **117. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Innes, Cllr. Jones, County Councillor Collor and District Councillor Beaney

### **118. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. Wright declared an interest as a District Councillor and will not comment on any planning applications in Item 123.

### **119. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October had previously been circulated. Cllr. Beresford proposed that they represented a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Taylor and all agreed.

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

#### **i) Item 101a – Luckhurst Road Handrail**

Nothing further to report.

#### **ii) Item 101b – Beresford Road Junction with Common Lane**

A Land Registry search has not revealed any ownership of the land. The strip of land may be owned by one of the adjacent properties. A further search will be undertaken.

#### **iii) Item 101d – Lower Road 20mph Zone**

The Clerk is continuing to liaise with Kent Highways.

#### **iv) Item 103a – River Gardeners**

River Gardeners have agreed to have a meeting and a date is to be arranged.

#### **v) Item 108b(iii) – Village Advent Trail**

Cllr. Atkins reported that just 4 more houses are needed to complete the trail.

#### **vi) Item 109 – Post Office Update**

A further response has been received from the Post Office stating that, since 2020, there has been a 60% decline in footfall and that there are no sustainable options to retain the service. This includes 'pop-up' or outreach services. Clerk also enquired about the possibility of a mobile service to local villages but there are currently no plans to extend the mobile service to Kent.

### **121. REPORTS**

#### **a) District and County Councillors**

No reports.

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

No reports.

### **122. ANY QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

A query was received about households with bushes, vegetation etc. overhanging pavements and causing a hazard. Request was made that householders could be reminded of their responsibilities to keep the pavement clear. Chairman will see if it can be added to his Rivall posting although the deadline has passed.

### **123. PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **a) Any Planning Applications with expiry dates before the next meeting**

DOV/23/01214 | Formation of vehicular access and erection of fencing (retrospective) | Waterfall Cottage, Alkham Road, Temple Ewell, CT16 3EE – No comments.

#### **b) Decisions by Dover District Council**

- I. DOV/23/00937 | Erection of single storey rear extension (existing conservatory to be demolished) | 90 Lewisham Road, River, CT17 0QQ – permission granted.

- II. DOV/23/00836 | Erection of 4 kennels | Frandham Boarding Kennels, Minnis Lane, River, CT15 7DN – permission granted.
- III. DOV/23/01085 | Crown reduction of 4 metres in height by 3 metres laterally of one sycamore the subject of Tree Preservation No1 of 1969 – permission granted.
- IV. DOV/23/01121 | Erection of side extension, increase eaves height and replacement roof including extension and rooflights and alterations to access | 3 River Drive, River, CT17 0LT – permission granted

## **124. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **a) Financial Reports**

A full digital version of the financial report had previously been circulated. Clerk reported on the financial transactions for October 2023.

### **b) 2024/25 Budget/Precept**

Clerk was asked to prepare a budget for the next financial year and circulate. A meeting can then be held if required.

### **c) Crabble Corn Mill Trust**

A meeting to discuss the Trust's finances is still to be arranged.

### **d) Dover Rangers Colts F.C. request for support**

DRFC have asked the Parish Council for £383 to support the cost of a set of jackets for one of the Under 9 teams. It was agreed to provide a grant for £383 and to ask Rangers to also contact other Parish Councils and the Town Council for support as children from other areas also play in the teams. Chairman said he will liaise with Dist. Cllr. Beaney to seek support from other Councils possibly at the forthcoming meeting of Parish Councils within the Dover Downs and River ward.

## **125. RIVER RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

### **a) Dover Rangers Colts F.C.**

DRFC are now receiving funding for pitch lining and grass cutting.

### **b) Community Use Agreement**

Sport England have asked for some revisions to the draft community use agreement. The F.A. have also been asked for their comments.

### **c) Flint House**

It is the intention that the proposed works on the Ground Floor be progressed in the new year. First task is to get updated quotes from builders.

### **d) The Rec Café**

The Café is now open seven days a week. The yard at the side is yet to be done due to flooding at 5 Crabble Court requiring the yard to be dug up.

### **e) Tarmac Path**

This has been partly fixed but work is still required.

### **f) Christmas Tree**

The tree is to be delivered on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. The electrical connections are to be checked prior to the tree being put into position.

### **g) 'Royal' Slabs**

The six slabs commemorating the life of Queen Elizabeth II and the coronation of King Charles III have been received. They will be coated with a protective anti-graffiti varnish before being put up.

### **h) Tree Work**

The works on the Lewisham Road boundary has been completed to comply with highways regulations. An updated report has been received on all trees from Invicta Arboriculture. There is one dead tree still to be felled. Otherwise, the trees in the Recreation Ground are in good health.

### **i) CCTV**

Clerk reported that two of the cameras are offline and the positioning needs to be reviewed. It was agreed that the installers be brought in to discuss

## **126. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

### **a) KALC Community Award Scheme**

Notification of the 2024 KALC Community Award Scheme has been received. Closing date for nominations is 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.

### **b) KALC Annual General Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Notification of and papers for the KALC AGM have been received.

### **c) Police Parish Council Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Notification of the next police and parish council has been received. To be held at the Dover District Council offices.

### **d) White Cliffs Ramblers – Parish Footpath Observers**

A request has been received for a community volunteer to check public rights of way within the Parish on an annual basis. Information on the role will be circulated online.

### **e) Draft Parish Charter**

A draft of a charter created by Dover District Councils and aiming to describe the relationship between DDC and local councils has been received. The aim being to ensure that all parties work efficiently together. This will not be a legally binding document. A copy was circulated to Parish Councillors at the meeting.

### **f) KFRS Consultation**

A consultation is being run by Kent Fire and Rescue to ensure that future plans reflect the requirements of residents.

## **127. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Nothing further.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm