

Dunkirk Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Dunkirk Village Hall on 23 April 2018

Present: Jeff Tutt (Chair), Vaughan Howland, Steve Hitch, Paul Mellett, Daniel Brice, Julie Coleman, Louise Blackshaw (Clerk)

Declarations of Interest: None

1. **Apologies:** Phillippa Clarkson, Andrew Bowles
2. **Notification of Additional Agenda Items:** Leaning trees (item 4c). Burning (item 11)
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meetings held on 19.3.18 and the Planning Committee on 9.4.18 had been previously circulated and were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

4. **Matters for public concern**

(a) Playing Field

The legal report on the purchase of the strip of land had been received. It was agreed that the Clerk would review to ensure it was all in order and then sign on behalf of the Council. It had been agreed that the purchase price was £1, however legal fees for the seller would be borne by the parish council. These would be payable on completion along with the parish council's own legal fees.

(b) Highways Issues

HGVs along Staplestreet Road – a site meeting had been held between Mike Whiting (KCC portfolio holder for transport), Andrew Bowles, Kent Police and two senior KCC Highways officials and the parish council. They had looked at the issues outside Orchard Bungalow and the damaged caused by HGVs and also the haunching at the junction of Dawes Road. At the meeting it was agreed that a road safety audit would be undertaken which would form the basis of any action such as a Traffic Regulation Order to prevent HGVs using the route. The signage at the Thanet Way end has also been given high priority to ensure the signs are installed in the correct position.

Brenley Roundabout – it was not known when the resurfacing work to the remainder of the junction would take place. Highways England and KCC Highways are disputing whose responsibility this is.

Goddens Corner – still awaiting feedback from KCC Highways regarding options for grip surface and/or signage.

Denstroude Lane – a resident had written to KCC Highways regarding the speed of traffic along Denstroude Lane. Agreed that a piece be put in the magazine asking for volunteers to take part in a speed watch initiative in Dunkirk.

(c) Footpaths/Verges/Hedges

Verge adjacent Mast site – this had been previously planted by Maytree Nursery however they had confirmed that they no longer had the time to maintain it. A parishioner had offered to do some voluntary gardening to keep the area tidy, however other commitments had meant that this was no longer possible. It was agreed to put a piece in the magazine to see whether anyone was interested in looking after this area. If there was no response then it was

suggested that the shrubs be removed and the area grassed over so that it could be easily maintained.

Dawes Road – the hedge opposite Pottery Cottage is still overgrown and overhanging the road. To be reported to KCC Highways again.

Leaning trees near Woodsend Farm were a concern and had fallen further and only supported by the conifer trees on the opposite side of the road. It was agreed to contact the landowner before reporting to Swale's Tree Officer.

(d) Streetlights

The streetlight contractor had provided some further information regarding the lights they proposed were in most need of upgrade to LEDs. There were some discrepancies between this and the streetlight asset register. Jeff Tutt offered to walk round to review the lights and make any amendments to our own register.

The light at the corner of London Road/Courtenay Road appeared to have been removed. The telegraph pole looked to be new so it was thought that the light had been removed when the pole was renewed. The contractor had provided a quote for a new bracket/lamp and reconnection by UK Power Networks. The clerk to follow up.

The light outside Maytree Nursery continues to be out until UK Power Networks attend to it. The streetlight contractor are chasing this up.

The light outside Meadow Cottage, Berkeley Close was reported to be lit all the time. The clerk to report to the contractor.

5. Planning

(a) Receive Decisions:

17/505512/FULL - Maytree Nursery-Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission
17/500121/FULL - to allow the selling of plants brought in from other nurseries. Approved.

18/500824/FULL - Highwood Lodge Off Boughton Hill - Demolition of existing single/two storey rear extensions and erection of a single storey extension. Approved.

(b) Consider Applications: None

(c) Brotherhood Wood - 17/502338/FULL

The application was being reconsidered at Swale's Planning committee on 26 April. Jeff Tutt will attend to speak on behalf of the parish council.

(d) Planning Enforcement

No updates had been received.

6. Finance

(a) Finance Report

The report and monthly cash account had previously been circulated and were taken as read.

(b) Payments:

The following payments were proposed, seconded and approved:

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
1307	L Blackshaw	Clerk wages/office allowance	£425.45	-	£425.45
1308	HMRC	PAYE for Clerk	£101.20	-	£101.20
1309	Prime One Maintenance	Streetlight maintenance	£149.45	£29.89	£179.34
DDR	EDF	Streetlight Electricity (March)	£218.48	£43.70	£262.18
		TOTAL	£894.58	£73.59	£968.17

7. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

It was still unclear whether the clerk could act as the DPO and some parish councils had appointed the clerk. The clerk will continue to look into this. The Clerk was also in the process of arranging parish council email addresses for each councillor.

8. Neighbourhood Plan

Further amendments are being made to the plan before submission to Swale Borough Council.

9. Parish Councillor Vacancy

There had been no response to the vacancy.

As this was Paul Mellett's last meeting he was thanked for everything which he had done for the council during his 4 years as a council member.

10. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence had been received, and previously circulated by email:

19/3/18	KALC	Draft minutes – Swale Area Committee meeting 12/3/18
23/3/18	KALC	Kent Police Rural Team Report
8/4/18	Andrew Bowles	Monthly newsletter
8/4/18	KALC	G&T Issues – proposed meeting between KALC & parish councils. Jeff Tutt will be attending the meeting which is confirmed for 11 May.

The following items were tabled:

Spring/Summer 2018	CPRE	Kent Voice magazine
Spring 2018	CPRE	Countryside Voice magazine
April 2018	Faversham Town Council	Invitation to Mayor Making Ceremony 14/5/18. Agreed that the invitation should be passed to Pippa Clarkson

11. Matters not on the Agenda

Milestones – Daniel Brice confirmed that he had checked the mileages on the other milestones and was now in a position to get quotes.

Manor House – An additional structure appeared to have been erected to the front of the property which was bigger than a porch. To be checked/investigated further.

Burning – it was reported that burning had again been seen from the businesses along Courtenay Road. The diaries to record the incidents would continue to be kept by nearby residents.

Date of Next meetings:

Tuesday 8 May 2018 – Annual Parish Meeting followed by Planning Committee
Monday 21 May 2018 – Annual Statutory Meeting

L Blackshaw
Clerk

Signed
Chairman

Date