

## **HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES of the MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held on 2 June 2014 in the Village Hall, South Darenth at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr D Mitchell (Chairman)

Cllrs I Blackamore, R House, A Lewis, T Moyle, C Page, M Stead

P McGarvey, District Councillor

In attendance: H Rohard, Parish Clerk

#### **9 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Roger Gough, Cllrs C Willson and E Wilson

#### **10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Blackamore declared a pecuniary interest in the schedule of accounts

#### **11 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council were not available and would be signed at the next meeting.

#### **12 MATTERS ARISING**

From Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> April meeting outstanding items were covered:

##### **Adoption of Land – Franks Lane River Bank**

Matter continues to be progressed by the Clerk

##### **Traveller and Gypsy Sites Consultation**

Information had been passed to members and had been publicised in the Parish via the noticeboards and facebook

##### **Planning Permission for Rotaspikes**

This had been granted subject to conditions; the Clerk was asked to liaise with SDC on suggested colours for painting the spikes to comply with the conditions imposed and it's necessity.

##### **ACTION: Clerk**

#### **13 POLICE MATTERS**

2 burglaries had taken place in the Parish in the last few weeks; Police are being repositioned to Swanley from Tunbridge Wells and response times will be greatly reduced.

#### **14 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

A member of the public commented on the Website not being up to date. The Chair apologised for this oversight and said this would be addressed.

Cllr Page reported on April Glaze's presentation of certificate of recognition from the Parish Council at her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations, which was very well received.

The KALC awards made a great focus for celebration at the Annual Parish Meeting and members agreed that this should become an Annual event, together with recognising other residents who have been nominated.

Cllr House asked whether the Parish Council could also celebrate those who have lived a long life in the Parish. These suggestions will be discussed in more detail to arrange invitations/nomination forms before the Autumn newsletter (November) is due to go out.

It was reported that a dead horse had been flytipped in Roman Villa Lane which was dealt with speedily by SDC

Cllr Page expressed her ongoing concern at the parking by the Post Office and Esparto Way Junction with Horton Road. As the Clerk had arranged a meeting with Highways for 24<sup>th</sup> June these issues would be discussed then.

An e-mail from Bob Valentine had been received on the Clerk's return from 1 week's Annual Leave, concerning funeral arrangements being delayed due to the Funeral Director not being able to access information.

A letter of apology and explanation that forms will be added to the Council's website in future would be sent. The Council also wished to express their sincere condolences.

**ACTION: Clerk**

## **15        REPORTS OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr McGarvey reported on the forthcoming Gypsy and Traveller Plan that SDC must formulate in consultation with the District's residents and the Traveller community. The Consultation was open and would be completed on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

## **16        REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Absent for this meeting

## **17        RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

The latest approved Minutes of the committee were received for information. It was noted that the proposal for a wall to be built for the Garden of Remembrance may need planning permission and is within a Conservation Area.

**ACTION: Clerk to check with SDC**

## **18        FIRE STATION**

The survey has had approximately 200 responses; it will also appear in the July Newsletter so that as many people as possible have the opportunity to comment. Funding cannot be sought until the use had been determined.

It was suggested to have an open day at the Fire Station however as it is still under KFRS ownership this was felt to impractical at this time.

The KFRS requested a decision by mid July. The Clerk will ask for an extension to the deadline to enable the Newsletter Surveys to be received and collated.

**ACTION: Clerk to liaise with KFRS**

## **19 STREET LIGHTING**

Nothing to report on this item

## **20 BUSINESS RATES PROPOSAL**

Sevenoaks Town Council had proposed to Government that a percentage of Business rates be paid directly to Parish and Town Council's and were seeking support from other Parish and Town Councils. This proposal was being overseen by Local Works and supported by NALC, SLCC, PayPoint and Campaign for Rural England as a means of diverting funds directly to where business are.

Cllr House suggested that this was a good proposal however it would be helpful to know how many businesses were in the Parish and what rates they collectively pay.

The Parish Council would like further information before making a decision to support this proposal.

**ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Local Works**

## **21 DARENT VALLEY LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP**

A further request for support for a fresh funding bid was requested from the Partnership from the Parish Council. Whilst financial support could be considered when Budgets are set later in the year, a better working knowledge of what is happening in the Partnership would help members decision making in the future. Cllr Page offered to attend forthcoming meetings and keep abreast of developments.

**ACTION: Clerk to convey the above to the Partnership**

## **22 WESTMINSTER FIELD PAVILION**

Derek Chambers had written to the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee to state his intention of retiring from looking after the Pavilion on a voluntary basis for the Horton Kirby Football Club.

A report was given to members about the needs of the Pavilion and its users. Members would look into options of how the Pavilion could be run in future and would report back to the ROS Committee 23 June 2014.

The handover of the building and keys was set for 5<sup>th</sup> June. A list of equipment to be bought by the Parish Council from HK Football club for £350 was approved.

## **23 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **Schedule Of Accounts**

RESOLVED that the schedule of accounts, as submitted, be approved and payments made accordingly.

### **Year End Accounts**

The Annual Accounts were received and signed by the Chair ready to be sent to the External Auditors

## **24 NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA**

A reporter had taken quotes and names from the facebook group and used them in his report which was published on Kent Online website.

The Clerk had asked the names to be removed and asked KALC for advice. A disclaimer on the page should be used so that reporters are asked not to use names without permission or be blocked from the group if this breached.

Other items for inclusion in the Newsletter suggested were: Oak View Stud Farm, prosecution for animal cruelty, nuisance bikes and the welcome news that more Police Officers would be able to offer a quicker response time being based in Swanley

## **25      DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

7<sup>th</sup> July 2014. The Chair proposed not holding an August meeting in line with other Parish Councils which was agreed by the majority of members.

RESOLVED that no Parish Council be held in August.

The meeting ended at 9.25pm

Chairman:

Date: