

*******DRAFT*******

HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held on
4th March 2019 in the Village Hall, South Darenth at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr I Blackamore (Chair)
R House, D Mitchell, T Moyle, P Rushbrook (Vice Chair), M Stead, J Stewart,
C Willson

Cllr P McGarvey, District Councillor
Cllr Brian Carroll, District Councillor
Cllr Roger Gough, County Councillor

5 Members of the public including Malcolm Dunn (DRiPs), S Dove and D Hollands (SPCA).

In attendance: H Rohard, Parish Clerk
L Bugler, Assistant Parish Clerk/Finance Officer

147 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

148 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

149 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held 4th February were signed as a true record.

150 MATTERS ARISING

From Minute number 120: Arriva: The Clerk reported that there had been no further contact despite emails sent.

Min 128: Car park tendering to be started; this will be delayed until consent obtained from Heritage England and then Planning Permission from SDC

151 POLICE MATTERS

The PCSO was unavailable to attend the meeting. Cllr Moyle reported that there had been break ins on Top Dartford Road. Cllr Rushbrook said Horton Kirby seemed to be targeted at the moment with another shed break in Lombard Street recently. Cllr Carroll said the Fighting Cocks had also had intruders in their garden, picked up on CCTV.

7.40pm Cllr Willson arrived

152 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & CORRESPONDENCE

KCC shared their most recent inspection report on Westminster Field Bridge with the Parish Council; this had been received by the ROS Committee the previous week and a second opinion was sought on the advice to close the bridge to vehicles. This was received by the Clerk today and was shared by the Chairman with members for discussion. The view that the bridge should be closed to traffic until repairs undertaken

and weight bearing capacity checked was upheld by another KCC engineer. Discussion centred on how the Parish Council could facilitate this when the bridge is not in its ownership.

Members were concerned for resident and visitor safety but also bore in mind the impact that no parking at Westminster Field would have locally. Practical measures were discussed. SDC refutes ownership, however the 1988 transfer to HKSPC granted 'right of way' over the bridge from the transferor (SDC) to the transferee.

Cllr Rushbrook proposed that the car park be closed to deter use of the bridge. Cllr Stewart seconded and all voted in favour. RESOLVED that the Westminster Car Park be closed until safe passage over the bridge for vehicles can be confirmed. ACTION: Clerk to liaise with SDC, Football Club, Millen Court residents, Contractors and to publicise closure and reason.

The report also commented on the river area being used by public paddling and recommended that a barrier should also be erected in the river to prevent anyone from going under the bridge. ACTION: orange netting to be erected.

153 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr McGarvey had prepared and shared a league table of Precepts for all the Town and Parish Council's in the District for information.

A final meeting on 26th March will sign off the Local Plan; some of the later additional sites have been included.

Cllr Carroll thanked the Chairman for accepting his apologies following the last meeting where he felt he had overstepped his responsibilities regarding the 20mph; he said that there was appetite from local residents to see a reduced speed limit and that the Parish Council should consider taking this forward.

154 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Gough reported that the County's element of Council Tax will be the maximum it can charge without referendum 2% and 3% for Social Care element due to the decrease in Government Grants available and increase in demand.

Bollards in The Street: an order has been placed to replace these and work should take place in around 8-10 weeks.

Chevron sign Franks Lane Bridge: The Highways steward will be requested to have this replaced.

St Mary's pedestrian gate onto Horton Road; Cllr Page had reported that drivers were not aware of the entrance and it was hazardous for pedestrians leaving the Churchyard. Cllr Gough said he would look into this.

Holmesdale Road footway: this is being looked into but a number of telegraph poles are already along this stretch of riverbank and would need some thought.

Wide Horizons: DVLP meeting – Cllr Gough will liaise with his contact at London Borough Greenwich when required.

Cllr Gough left the meeting at 8.25pm to attend another meeting.

155 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

The latest approved minutes of the committee were received for information.

156 DARENT VALLEY LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Notes from the meeting with the DVLP manager gave an overview of planned and potential projects in the Parish (as part of the funding received by DVLP) were shared with members; there were no questions at this time.

157 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Schedule Of Accounts

The schedule of accounts and payments were approved for payments to be made electronically.

Internal Auditors Interim Report

The report was received by members; there were no questions or concerns raised.

158 125th ANNIVERSARY

The Parish Council's 125th Anniversary will be on the 4th December.

Cllr Stewart suggested that an avenue of trees be planted in Westminster Field along the footpath.

Cllr Moyle reported that photographs for 'then and now' were being collected for a book by the Local History Society; perhaps this could be funded by the Parish Council in celebration of the anniversary. The Centenary Book which was very popular, was developed by the founding members of the Local History Society and was attributed with how the Society came into being.

Cllr House suggested that illustrated information boards in the villages could be commissioned using DVLP funding.

Malcolm Dunn recalled a cricket match being organised for the Centenary year and suggested a sporting event for the 125th.

Cllr Blackamore asked everyone to bring back their ideas to the next meeting with more details and costs for further discussion and planning.

159 ST GEORGES DAY PLANNING

Cllr Mitchell said that 10 stalls had booked in to have tables at the Village Hall as a mini craft fair. She asked Cllr Willson to liaise with Ice cream vendor and to confirm archery and BBQ being hosted by the Scouts. Locking up after the event will be done by Cllr Stewart.

Cllr Mitchell said that the Fun day should be moved from 14th July to avoid a clash with Dartford Festival; another date would be arranged when it became clearer when access via the bridge at Westminster Field could be expected.

160 WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA/NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Malcolm Dunn commended the Newsletter publication and appreciated the coverage for DRIPS; he had received 2 enquiries as a result.

The litter pick date will be on the 24th March as part of a national Keep Britain Tidy campaign.

161 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

1st April 2019

Meeting closed at 8.49pm

Chairman

Date