

*****DRAFT*****

HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held on
1st April 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

7 Members of the public including Malcolm Dunn (DRiPs), S Dove and D Hollands,
(SPCA), J Adams and S Rhucroft.

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

162 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllr Roger Gough, County Councillor

163 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Stead declared and non-pecuniary interest in 'Planning'.

164 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

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

165 MATTERS ARISING

From Minute number 152: Westminster Car park was closed.

166 PLANNING

Cllr Stead left the meeting

SE/19/00604/HOUSE
21 Churchill Road
Horton Kirby DA4 9DP

First floor side/rear/front extensions and garage conversion

The plans were viewed and discussed; concerns were raised about the size of the proposed additions and the infilling between properties which is changing the street view with houses becoming more terrace like by being allowed to build so close to boundaries.

Cllr Mitchell proposed an OBJECTION on these concerns of infilling and overdevelopment. Cllr House seconded and all voted in favour.

167 POLICE MATTERS

The PCSO was unavailable to attend the meeting.

168 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & CORRESPONDENCE

Malcolm Dunn reported that DRiPS, EA, DDAPS, Mark Gallant (NWKCP) are undertaking a walk all along the River to look at any changes from over the last 30 years, checking for new structures or pipes into the river and trees; have got as far as Shoreham and will be walking the HKSD stretch next.

Cllr Moyle reported that the footpath from Franks Lane to Westminster Field has many large holes and very uneven. Malcolm stated that DRiPS are pushing for more accessible paths. The Clerk will report the uneven path to the PROW team at KCC. ACTION.

Cllr House reported that he has been asked to join the DVLIP board and will be the representative for the parishes from here to Dartford.

Cllr Mitchell reported the bin was missing in Horton Road (already reported to SDC) and that the verges had been cut but only next to the path and looked unfinished; the clerk responded that usually there are complaints in the spring when the verges start to grow so this was an improvement!

The Chairman shared an invitation to fly the red ensign for Merchant Navy Day 3rd Sept 2019; Cllr Page took the information in order to enquire whether the Church would be willing to participate. ACTION: Cllr Page

169 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr McGarvey has been researching SDC records of the River Darent which only go back as far as the 1960's; he is looking for information or photos from before that time. Cllr Moyle said that he has information he will send to Cllr McGarvey ACTION : Cllr Moyle

26th March meeting of SDC finalised the Local Plan. 14,000 potential were the target set by Government and space for 10,500 have been identified by the Plan. No feedback has been received by KCC Highways regarding the Pedham Place site.

Cllr Carroll reported that he abstained from the voting on including Pedham Place in the Plan.

He has permitted the EA to install a water level gauge board on his land.

Cllr McGarvey stated that it was still possible that there would be European Elections in the UK on 23rd May if Brexit has not been finalised soon.

He also reported that SDC have a new Planning Enforcement Officer; Stephen Whitehead.

170 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Gough was absent.

171 HALLS COMMITTEE

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

172 WESTMINSTER FIELD BRIDGE

SDC 'does not assert ownership' of the bridge but will be installing a 3 tonne weight restriction sign following a structural engineer being appointed to inspect the bridge

‘without admission of any liability and without occupation of the land’. The sign will be installed within the next 2 weeks. SDC stated that ‘KCC have been carrying out maintenance and inspections of the bridge for some decades’

Cllr Stewart proposed that the car park be re-opened as the height barrier prevents heavier vehicles crossing the bridge. Cllr Rushbrook seconded and all voted in favour.

Grass cutting has been done with a smaller machine last week but the usual tractor with cutting gear is around 4.7 tonnes. The Clerk will liaise with the contractor.

Cllr Rushbrook requested that KCC are asked why the reports in previous years were not shared with anyone else. ACTION : Clerk

173 WIDE HORIZONS CENTRE

Cllr Stewart has been liaising with Lewisham Borough Council regarding the building and on what terms the Parish Council might be able to bring the building back into use for outdoor education. The verbal offer is for the PC to lease the building free of charge for 5 years but with full maintenance costs being met by the PC.

There has already been interest shown by a start-up outdoor education business in using the building however much work is needed to bring together a business plan for the site for the Parish Council to make further decisions.

Wide Horizon had secured £20K funding with DVLP for interior work and this may be possible to use this should a viable alternative project is found.

Cllr Stewart volunteered to keep moving this project forward and asked for help. Cllr Rushbrook offered to help with any maintenance or building queries and costings. Cllr House offered help with creating a business plan.

Potential benefits discussed were; bringing the building back into use for outdoor education to benefit inner city children, local history resource – many villagers will have been schooled there, the air raid shelters are historical alone, potential office space upstairs to rent out, overflow car park (play ground) for the Village Hall.

Cllr Stewart proposed that the Parish Council negotiate with Lewisham Borough Council and formulate a plan for the school’s use. Cllr House seconded and all voted in favour.

174 ST GEORGE’S DAY SURVEY

The Parish Council decided not to have a survey this year at St Georges Day but may use a survey later in the year should this be necessary.

J Adams, resident of Millen Court reported problems with inconsiderate parking around and in Millen Court, whilst the car park has been closed at Westminster Field. Cllr Mitchell suggested that number plates were recorded of any parked vehicles that were causing a nuisance and email them to the Clerk to check with the football club.

175 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Schedule Of Accounts

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

176 125th ANNIVERSARY

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

Cllr Moyle asked if the Parish Council would like the LHS to go ahead with the book idea; Cllr Blackamore proposed that the book is created, Cllr Mitchell seconded and all voted in favour. ACTION Cllr Moyle to liaise with LHS

Cllr Stewart suggestion of an avenue of trees be planted in Westminster Field along the footpath was discussed further; 25 trees would cost around £100 each – sponsorship of each tree was suggested by Cllr Rushbrook as something similar has been done in Swanley. ACTION: Cllr Rushbrook to find out costs involved and Cllr Blackamore tree prices.

Purchasing Christmas lights for the tree outside the Village Hall were suggested by the Clerk due to the date being in December.

Cllr Moyle also suggested monthly events or a bench in 100 Year Wood.

177 STREETLIGHTS – REPAINTING PINK

The Parish Council considered the idea of painting the streetlights 'April Fools Blush' and wondered if the Clerk could do this in her spare time. ACTION: none!!

178 WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA/NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Cllr Mitchell commented on how well maintained the website was looking. She asked if events and news could be highlighted on the first page and separated from usual meeting dates. The Clerk explained the website has a sign up for alerts feature so any events or updates are automatically emailed to subscribers. ACTION: Assistant Clerk (and webmaster) will check with Hugo Fox to see what changes can be made and how traffic to the site can be measured. Also to encourage visitors to St Georges Day event to sign up online at the Parish Council stand.

179 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13th May 2019. Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.46pm

Chairman
Date