

HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held on 7 April 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, C Willson and E Wilson

P McGarvey, District Councillor

In attendance: H Rohard, Parish Clerk

192 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Roger Gough

193 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Blackamore declared a pecuniary interest in the schedule of accounts

194 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2014 be approved and signed as a correct record.

195 MATTERS ARISING

Adoption of Land – Franks Lane River Bank

Matter continues to be progressed by the Clerk

All other action points completed.

196 POLICE MATTERS

A letter from Ch Insp Tim Cook had been received inviting Parish Councils to attend a meeting on 7th April 2014, which would outline the changes to Policing in the District. Cllr McGarvey had already written to the Ch Insp to point out that most Parish Council's will be having their own meeting that evening so would not be able to attend.

197 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

A member of the Public had left an answer machine message as a suggestion for use for the Fire Station as a vets as there are lots of pets in the area.

Another member of the public had left a message to complain about fires on Oak View Stud Farm leaving oily sooty deposits in his garden, but did not leave a return phone number so the Clerk has not been able to return the call and give any help on the matter.

Southdowns Residents association representative reported that there had been a number of thefts from the retirement village in recent months, from their gardens. Also graffiti on new fencing.

Cllr Moyle reported that Westminster Field Pavilion has graffiti on it which appears fresh.

ACTION: clerk to report and liaise with SDC for Graffiti removal

198 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. Cllr McGarvey asked that his e-mail relating to this be forwarded to members.

Clean Air alerts are now available for residents from SDC to their mobile phones, e-mail etc. Posters have been up in both Villages to raise awareness by the Clerk. A link to SDC should be created on the Parish Council's Website.

ACTION: Clerk/Cllr House

199 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Absent for this meeting

200 HALLS COMMITTEE

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

201 FIRE STATION

Andrew Boake Architect had sent outline ideas and costing for the repurposing of the Fire Station. The Working Party agreed to meet 9th April to prepare a survey ready to start a public consultation with residents. This can be used at St George's Day event with an online version generated by Survey Monkey and publicised.

The priority is that as many people be able to give their views which would be considered in decision making in the coming months.

202 STREET LIGHTING

With the cost of supplying electricity to each streetlight at £5.70 per month it would take 7 years to recoup the cost of removing Column 58 in Eglantine Lane. The cost to re-instate the light would be cheaper and bearing in mind the issues of Fly tipping in this area members voted unanimously to have this street light re-instated.

ACTION: clerk to advise Streetlights Contractors

203 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEDY WORKSHOP

Cllr House reported from this workshop that he recently attended; attendees had discussed the impact on rural housing, mobile coverage and broadband to help business in rural areas have faster access. The Local Enterprise Partnership with £500m funding is working to develop 57,000 new jobs in Kent and create the infrastructure to support this. Swanley had been identified as a key area. The information from this workshop will be fed into the County Plan.

204 PLANNING – WEEKLY LISTS

Fewer applications need Parish Council input due to changes in Planning Law and permitted development rules. If there are Applications pending with SDC the Clerk will see a weekly list which, if anything of local interest has appeared, can be forwarded to

members for information only. Members agreed that they would like to be kept informed in this way.

For those Applications that do require comment from the Parish Council, these will be added to the soonest meeting Agenda whether it be a Committee Meeting or not. If no meeting is imminent and the comment deadline falls between meeting dates the Clerk will e-mail the details to members and post up public announcements with the Planning Application details to give residents the option to comment to the Parish Council or directly to SDC with website details and the closing date for comments.

205 REPORTS: ENVIRONMENTAL VISUAL AUDIT, FLYTIPPING CORRESPONDENCE AND DOG WARDEN VISIT

Cllr Willson reported on the EVA meeting that included Nigel Croker and Jane Relf from SDC Youth Services, PCSO Dylan Crawford, Community Warden Steve Armstrong and Kelly Webb from SDC Community Safety Unit. The meeting and tour of both villages resulted in the following action points being agreed:

- SDC to provide double bin by newsagents in East Hill
- KW to check in regarding parking restrictions opposite Post Office
- Griffiti to be removed from bin on East Hill, EDF Fence East Hill, Post Box in Saxon place and Lombard Street sign
- Young People's Survey to be drawn up by Jane Relf and Heather Rohard for use with Detached Youth Workers
- KCC detached youth workers will start work in the area coming at variable times/days
- Kenward Trust (addictions charity) to link in with Youth Work
- PCSO and Community Warden to monitor 'hot spots' identified as Esparto Way and East Hill for anti social behaviour
- House on the Move (another Youth Service funded by SDC) to be directed to work in the area for a short time
- KW to get an update on Oak View Stud Farm

Sport England Funding (being project managed by SDC) has also resulted in an evening Archery Course for young people.

Kelly Webb met with Ian Finch (SDC Head of Direct Services) and Clean Kent (KCC) regarding how to tackle the high level of flytipping suffered by the Parish. The Clerk reported on the outcomes of this meeting which were:

- Direct Services teams will check on hot spot locations(highlighted 6 areas from previous indicents) when on daily business and report back anything amiss
- General Flytipped waste will take up to 10 working days to remove from SDC land, anything on Highways is reported to them for removal
- Clean Kent will forward any intelligence reports of flytipping in the District to the CSU
- Wildlife cameras (can also be used in the dark) and signage will be placed in the hot spots and any evidence will be sent to Clean Kent for Enforcement action and successful prosecutions will be publicised.

- Clean Kent will also put covert cameras in hotspot areas.

The Clerk also reported on the Dog Warden visit when chalk stencils were applied to pavements with the message 'Clear Up After Your Dog'. 18 stencils were applied in well used areas which had been reported as 'hot spots' for dog deposits being left behind.

Free bags and dispensers were left for collection in the Parish Office for anyone to claim and publicised on facebook. The Dog Warden has booked a 'Responsible Dog Ownership' session in the Jubilee Hall on 20th October between 11am and 1pm offering advice and free micro chipping.

206 PARISH COUNCIL GRANT

The deadline for Applications was set at 14th November to give groups time to apply after the July Newsletter. An application received from the Shaw Hall Social Club would be considered at that time.

ACTION: Clerk to inform applicant of deadline

207 COMMUNITY PAYBACK

The Clerk had information on how to engage Community Payback Teams in projects which would benefit the Parish. Painting the Grandstand in Heathside ready for the Lions Fete was suggested.

ACTION: Clerk to apply for a team to complete work

208 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Schedule Of Accounts

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

Budget vs Actual Update

This document was received for information.

Repeal of s.150(5) of Local Government Act 1972 – Implementation

Members received a copy of the NALC briefing on the changes that can be made to accommodate on-line banking. This does not replace the 2 signature rule but other checks can be put in place to enable online banking should the Council wish to do so. The Clerk will explore what will be involved and the steps needed and report back at a later date.

Financial Regulations

The Clerk's discretionary spending limit was raised from £100 to £250 to ensure that routine works could be carried out without delay to buildings and open spaces; all expenditure would be reported to the relevant Committees and through the Monthly Schedule of Accounts

209 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Paul Hensher, owner of land in Rabbits Road had requested that the Parish Council consider instigating a Housing Needs Survey with the hope that his land would be found suitable for building houses.

The Rural Homes Protocol Document was received via SDC giving the background to how a Housing Needs Survey works for members to consider. Members voted unanimously that no survey should be commissioned.

210 NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA

Cllr Willson reported that Garages in Towers Wood which were unsafe have been fenced off and letters sent to the owners. This was as a direct result of a comment on facebook which Cllr Willson investigated and asked the Clerk to report to SDC. 3 garages have been demolished as a result.

Any Flytipping and horses loose in Horton Kirby reports are still noted on facebook.

Newsletter: a few more volunteers are needed for Esparto Way and Montgomery Road to deliver the newsletter.

211 ST GEORGE'S DAY EVENT

Cllr Mitchell gave an update on plans for the event 26th April; leaflets advertising the event were to be distributed amongst Councillors to deliver to homes. British Red Cross were booked to cover First Aid and a Risk Assessment was in place. Bunting would be put up by Neil Howlett with permission from The Bridges Pub and Viaduct Terrace.

212 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12th May 2014. (Subsequently changed to 19th May to accommodate KALC awards nominees being able to attend)

The meeting ended at 9pm

Chairman:

Date: