

TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6 February 2017

Present: Cllr Lee Burgess (Chairman), Cllr Roger Sills (Vice Chairman), Cllr Brian Cook, Cllr Ian Davison and Cllr Wendy Harwood and; Mrs W Licence (Clerk).

Also present were SBCllr George Samuel, four members of the public and SBCllr John Wright.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Cllr Burgess welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the public time.

#1- I am not a resident but I am concerned about the noise nuisance caused by the bird scarer which can also be heard in the Highsted Valley, last night it went off between midnight and 1pm.

ACTION: Clerk to lodge complaint with Swale Borough Council.

#2- There is an application for a proposed footpath next to the site of the new school. I used to farm Pond Field and access was the near the entrance to the school. People used to break down the gate to gain access to walk their dogs so I left a concessionary notice for people to walk to the footpath and closed the access annually so that it was clear it was not a Public Right of Way. DEFRA required all farmers to leave a metre strip around the edge of fields that were cultivated. Following advice from the KCC footpath officer, I gave a Deposit Statement and paid a fee to allow continued use for people but it was not a Public Right of Way. When the new school site was fenced off, the contractors left a gap, which allows access to the field and the fallow strip. I had to submit a further Deposit Statement and fee to make the point that it is not a Public Right of Way. I will appeal against any decision to make this a Public Right of Way. Thank you for your time.

Cllr Burgess said the Council has only just received notification of the matter and it will be considered at the next meeting.

#3- I agree with this, it was never a Public Right of Way or public footpath, it is private land.

#4- I am also in agreement, this was done in opposition to the new school. It is a narrow path between the school and the field and if allowed would be a danger to children.

#5- I am concerned about the large number of front gardens being concreted over, it is causing flooding at the bottom of Sterling Road. Can something be done to stop this?

Cllr Burgess said that as long as it abides by national Planning Policy Framework guidelines there is very little which can be done although the Council can raise the matter.

SBCllr Wright said the bird scarers should only fire from dawn until dusk. With regards to drives and parking, Swale Borough Council has followed the KCC scheme, there has to be a proper SuDS scheme in place. The Swanstree Avenue Appeal is on your agenda, the site is not in the Local Plan and it is a proven brickearth reserve and, in the KCC Waste and Minerals Plan, Weinerberger has expressed an interest to recover the brickearth.

Cllr Burgess said this application is not actually in the Parish but it will have an impact on the Parish. The Parish Council has already objected to the application and a further submission needs to be made regarding the brickearth reserve.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mavis Hibben (personal) and Cllr David Nutting (holiday): apologies accepted.

Apologies had also been received from Ward Member Derek Conway; apology noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 JANUARY 2017

Councillors considered the minutes of the meeting held on 4 January 2017. Cllr Sills **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true record; **SECONDED** by Cllr Davison: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Burgess duly signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i. Cherry Trees and planters

Cllr Burgess will send details of the sites for the trees to the Clerk.

Cllr Burgess said the cost to purchase the Cascade planter is £725 and it has been suggested to put one by the bench and one where the phone box is, once it has been removed.

Cllr Sills said a price needs to be obtained for planting.

Cllr Burgess **PROPOSED** to purchase two cascade planters; **SECONDED** by Cllr Cook: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION: Clerk to obtain a quote for planting.

ii. Provision of a dog bin in Cranbrook Drive

Cllr Burgess reported to Members that he has spoken to the resident who is not keen for the dog bin to be near her house but she would consider a compromise of the bin being in the middle of the wall and if it were to become an issue it would be removed.

Councillors **AGREE UNANIMOUSLY** to request the bin.

ACTION: Cllr Burgess to clarify the position regarding the owner.

iii. Speed Watch vests

Cllr Burgess said that two quotes have been obtained.

Cllr Cook said that when the Speed Watch team have been out in the printed jackets no one saw the text on the back and asked if it is necessary to have the vests printed.

Councillors **AGREED** to purchase unprinted vests.

Action: Cllr Cook to obtain HV Vests as necessary

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Cllr Harwood said she is producing a letter to be sent to residents giving an overview of the scheme.

6. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Cook said there is nothing to report except that everyone has the dates.

7. PLANNING

i. Application: 16/508516/FULL

Address: 28 Park Drive Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1RW

Proposal: Proposed two storey and single storey rear extensions

Councillors considered the application and agreed there was no comment to make.

ii. Application: 16/508618/FULL

Address: 78 Sterling Road Tunstall Kent ME10 1SL

Proposal: Rear and first floor extensions

Councillors considered the application and agreed there was no comment to make.

iii. Location: Land At Swanstree Avenue Highsted Road Sittingbourne

Notification of Appeal Lodged with the Planning Inspectorate Proposal: Outline application for up to 540 residential dwellings (including up to 50 C3 retirement apartments) and associated community facilities, introduction of structural planting and landscaping, informal public open space and children's play area, surface water flood mitigation and attenuation, vehicular access point from Swanstree Avenue and associated ancillary works. (All matters to be reserved with the exception of site access). Revised Scheme to 14/506248/OUT)

SBCllr Wright informed Councillors that brickearth reserves do vary over an area, after taking the top soil off there has to be 300-500mm over the rock bed left. This is a very large area and Weinerberger have tested the land and there is a substantial amount of brickearth, houses cannot be built on a proven mineral reserve, until it has been removed

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to make further representation regarding brick earth following clarification that the brickearth deposit is actually there.

ACTION: Cllr Burgess to obtain information.

iv. Any other planning matter received by 6 February 2017

No other matters were raised.

8. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

There were no reports from Members.

9. FINANCE

Accounts and Cheques raised

Chq. No	Payable to	Reason	Amount
1171	Tunstall PCC	Hire of Midwinter Room: Parish Council meeting	£15.00
1172	Mrs W Licence	Salary and expenses	£524.51
1173	HMRC	PAYE	£71.80

Councillors considered the cheques raised and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to sign them.

10. AMENITIES

i. To consider quotes to clean Coffin Pond

Cllr Burgess informed Members the wall has been hit again, the crack is wider and the wall has shifted on its base. The wall needs to be repaired before the pond is cleaned.

Cllr Cook said the Council had previously discussed having bollards to help protect the wall.

Cllr Burgess said that as it is a verge it needs a physical barrier.

ACTION: Clerk to contact KCC for remedies.

Cllr Cook said it needs to be something aesthetically pleasing.

ACTION 1: Clerk to contact the Conservation Officer at Swale Borough Council for advice.

ACTION 2: Cllr Burgess to contact KCC to repair the wall.

SBCllr Samuel said he has ring fenced grant money to help with the cost of cleaning the pond and as it seems this will not happen in this financial year, can money be given in the next financial year?

Councillors agreed to the proposal.

11. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Burgess said he is still waiting for Alan Blackburn to set a date for a meeting to discuss the problems with pot holes and also the traffic calming outside the new school.

Cllr Sills said traffic calming outside the church needs to be discussed.

Cllr Harwood said there is a petition for a proper pedestrian crossing outside the school.

KCC look at crash data and as the site had previously been a field there is no data.

Cllr Sills said there is a need for clear indication of the right of way for either cars or pedestrians. Cllr Burgess said the issue needs to be addressed.

SBCllr Wright said that a good way to get action is through the Joint Transportation Board.

ACTION: Contact Mike Whiting to put the issue forward for an agenda item.

Cllr Cook said he has reported the pot holes outside the phone box and also in Hearts Delight Road.

Cllr Burgess said the pot hole in Hearts Delight Road has been filled.

Cllr Sills said there were no warning signs outside the new school.

Cllr Harwood said there is one on the corner of Cranbrook Drive and also one on the path but they are not very obvious.

Cllr Burgess said that he might be able to use his members' grant to have clearer signage.

SBCllr Wright suggested flashing lights could be less expensive.

Cllr Harwood said the difficulty with flashing lights is that there is a breakfast club and an after school club so access to the school is longer and the school crossing person would not be on site to turn them off.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 04.01.17: Faversham Local Engagement Forum- *circulated*

2. 04.01.17: The Great British Spring Clean 2017- *circulated*

Cllr Sills said the Sittingbourne Orpheus Choral Society are hoping to pursue an initiative with SBC

3. 05.01.17: Battle's Over- Commemoration 2018 – *circulated*

4. 09.01.17: SBC- Minutes of the Swale Joint Transportation Board- *circulated*

5. 09.01.17: KFRS/KALC Fire Hydrant Initiative - Review Meetings- *circulated*
6. 17.01.17: Lord-Lieutenant's Civic Service invitation- *circulated*
Cllr Cook will be attending on behalf of the Parish Council.
7. 19.01.17: KALC- National Fraud Intelligence Bureau alert- *circulated*
8. 25.01.17: KCC consultation to refresh its Freight Action Plan- *circulated*
9. 27.01.17: Rural Kent Coffee and Information Project- *circulated*
10. 31.01.17: KALC/KFAS Information Event - Tuesday 28 February 2017, delivering Effective Partnership Working in Kent's Communities 2017- *circulated*
11. 31.01.17: KALC- Rural Policing update- *circulated*
12. 31.01.17: KALC- KALC Rural Conference 9 March 2017- *circulated*

13. Litter Picker Tenders

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the Litter Picker Tenders.

Both applicants were excellent candidates, and after due consideration, Cllr Burgess **PROPOSED** to accept the tender from Jane Johnson; **SECONDED** by Cllr Sills: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ACTION: Cllr Cook to meet Ms Johnson to discuss health and safety matters and the contract.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Davison said the date for response to the footpath proposal is before the next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to request an extension of time.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 6 March 2017 at 6.45 p.m. in the Midwinter Room, St. John the Baptist Church, Tunstall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

Chairman

Dated: 6 March 2017