

## TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2013

**Present:** Cllr. L. Burgess – Chair  
Cllr. P. Mitchell – Vice-Chair  
Cllr. R. Spencer  
Cllr. C. Browning  
Cllr. J. Mills  
Cllr. I. Davison  
Cllr. F. Panton

Lynda Fisher, Clerk  
County Cllr. A. Willicombe  
Borough Cllr. J. Willicombe  
5 Parishioners

#### **Parishioners**

Residents referred to the KCC site meeting which took place to look at the planning application for the 10 car parking spaces for the School; the postponement of the double and zigzag yellow lines outside the School pending the outcome of this planning application and the concern that it has been proposed that only zigzag lines are installed. Residents asked their Ward Councillor to support them and ask for double yellow lines too.

#### **Borough/County Councillors**

County Cllr. Mike Whiting sent his apologies. County Cllr. Willicombe reported that there had been several incidents of cars being 'keyed' in Cranbrook Road; he warned car owners not to park on the footpath. He also reported that Tunstall Road, from Cromers Corner up to Cedar House, will be closed on the 18<sup>th</sup> February for 5 days when resurfacing will take place.

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chairman formally opened the Parish Council meeting and welcomed everyone; apologies were received from County Cllr. Whiting and the PCSO.

#### **2. Declarations of Interest** – Cllr. Browning – Item 7 and 6.4 and Cllr. Mills Item 7.

#### **3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Proposed by Cllr. Browning and seconded by Cllr. Spencer; the Minutes of the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2013, were agreed by Members and signed.

#### **4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- 1. Land – Cranbrook Drive** – Still no reply from Land Registry, Clerk to chase again.
- 2. Request for vehicle weight restrictions in Tunstall** – Refused by Kent County Council; commenting that as they have no record of any personal injury crashes in Tunstall that could have been prevented by the presence of additional width or weight restrictions, at this moment in time they will not be able to meet the Parish Council's request.

## 5. Finance

1. **Precept 2013/14** – The forms have now been lodged with Swale Borough Council and confirmation has been received that the council tax for band D properties in Tunstall will be £20.80p, compared to £21.05p in 2012/13, which is a small decrease of 0.25p.
2. **New Noticeboard** – Clerk has ascertained that the owner of the firm proposing to manufacture the new noticeboard has been ill for a period of time. He has now returned to work and has promised to complete the order as soon as possible. It was agreed to carry on with this company.
3. **Bulb planting in the Village** – Members agreed to wait till the bulbs that have been planted in previous years flower; take photographs of their location and then continue planting in areas that have not been touched.
4. **Hedge cutting/vegetation strimming in the Village** – As the company has already started work in the New Year, it was agreed to continue with Treecraft for a further year, at the agreed rate of £820, and to seek quotes from this and other companies towards the end of 2013.
5. **Cheques raised at this meeting:**

Date	Cheque	Details		Amount
04.02.13	0908	L. Fisher	Wages January 2013	£179.02p
04.02.13	0909	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax January, 2013	£44.68p
04.02.13	0910	L. Fisher	Expenses – Telephone/Broadband/use of home as office/Postage January 2013	£47.71p
04.02.13	0911	Tunstall P.C.C.	Hire of Midwinter Room February, 2013	£12.50p
04.02.13	0912	Branchett Limited	Cutting Hedge; strimming vegetation, weed spraying	£1000.00p
04.02.13	0913	Gillett & Johnson (Croydon) Ltd	Service clock – St. John the Baptist Church.	£250.80p
Six Cheques in total				

The above cheques were signed and the accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013, approved.

## 6. Yellow Lines and Planning Application for 10 Car Parking Spaces, Tunstall School

A site meeting was arranged for the 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2013, for Members from Kent County Council's Planning Committee to look at this current planning application for 10 temporary car parking spaces for use by staff at the School. Views were put forward by Public Rights of Way, Highway and Planning Officers; residents, representatives from the School and the Parish Council were asked for their comments too. This session was then followed by a walk around the whole site.

Members of the Parish Council are well aware of residents concerns that even with the 10 new spaces, and the recommendation that 5 spaces be allocated on the front garden, there is still insufficient car parking for all School staff. There are issues with the access to the new parking area and concerns about people using the footpath; there are sight line issues with cars exiting from the car park on Tunstall Road and the Conservation Officer has raised concerns and is not convinced that it is ideal site. At the site meeting KCC Members and Officers were fully aware of all these issues, but it was also agreed that a solution needs to be found to the parking problem.

Members referred to the yellow lines and the response from the Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, on behalf of John Burr, Director of Kent Highways, confirming the temporary postponement of the scheme pending the decision on the above application. He also pointed out that under KCC's new procedures for making decisions on Traffic Regulation Orders, when five or fewer objections have been received, that the local County Councillor has to be in full support to proceed before a delegated decision is made.

Members still felt it was important for these lines to go ahead, having concerns for the safety of school children and pedestrians. It was therefore proposed by Cllr. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr. Mills that the Clerk again writes to John Burr asking him to reconsider the decision and get the lines added without postponement. This was agreed with 4 for, 1 against (Cllr. Davison) and two abstentions (Cllrs. Spencer and Burgess). **Action: Clerk**

## **7 Complaints Procedure**

Clerk had circulated a draft document to all Members based on NALC recommendations. Having received no comments, she will now prepare a lead in statement and submit again to Members for consideration and adoption. **Action: Clerk**

## **8. Ideas for the Annual Parish Meeting**

As the time of the Annual Parish Meeting is approaching, the Clerk asked if Members had any ideas on how they wanted to arrange the proceedings this year. It was agreed that the same format be followed as in previous years.

## **9. Correspondence**

1. **Community Infrastructure Levy & Neighbourhood Planning** – Latest updates noted.
2. **Sustainable Communities Act 2007 – Call for Evidence** – Agreed to support NALC's response.
3. **Neighbourhood Planning Bulletin Edition 3** – Document noted.
4. **Yellow Lines – Cranbrook Drive** – Noted that the Traffic Regulation Order including these new restrictions was formally sealed by KCC on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2013, and came into effect on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2013. Painting the lines has been delayed due to the current weather conditions and the constant wet road surfaces.

## **7. Planning**

1. **SW/12/0677 - Change of use from Grazing to open storage for touring caravans and small boats – Oakwood Orchard, Ruins Barn Road, Tunstall, ME9 8AA** – noted that the applicant is now taking this previously refused application to Appeal.

## **8. Other Matters Arising**

1. Clerk requested to write to Swale Borough Council concerning parking on the verges in Hearts Delight Road. **Action: Clerk**
2. To include a request for residents' views on the proposal for a new School on the site opposite Cranbrook Drive, in the next edition of the newsletter. **Action: Cllr. Mitchell**

3. Cllr. Mitchell attended a meeting with Emma Wiggins at Swale Borough Council concerning the Local Engagement Forum administration.
4. All Councillors have been invited to attend Swale Borough Council's Localism Conference; the Chairman, Cllr Burgess will be attending. **Action: Cllr. Burgess**

**9. Next Meeting**

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2013, commencing at 6.45 p.m. in the Midwinter Room, St. John the Baptist Church, Tunstall.

**The meeting closed at 08.55 p.m.**