

TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4 May 2017 held in the Midwinter Room, St John the Baptist Church, Tunstall.

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

Also present were SBCllr Derek Conway, SBCllr George Samuel and one member of the public.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no matters raised.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Burgess welcomed everyone to the Meeting
Apologies had been received from SBCllr John Wright; apology accepted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2017

Cllr Cook **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2017 as a true record; **SECONDED** by Cllr Nutting: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Burgess duly signed the minutes as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Hedge maintenance- waiting to receive information.

ACTION: Cllr Nutting to carry out a Land Registry search to ascertain ownership of the hedge.

Soft landscaping- waiting to hear from KCC.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Cllr Burgess said a letter has been drafted and this will go out with the Newsletter. A meeting has been arranged for 10 July in the Village Hall and details will also appear on the Parish Council notice boards.

6. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Cook reported there had been three Speed Watch sessions. Sessions in peak periods recorded no issues with speeding vehicles as the traffic was dense, however drivers are being caught speeding during off peak times when there is less traffic on the roads. Speed Watch is very well received by residents and another volunteer has come forward.

7. FINANCE

i. Cheques raised and accounts

Chq. No	Payable to	Reason	Amount
1190	Tunstall PCC	Hire of Midwinter Room: Parish Council meeting	£15.00

1191	Mrs W Licence	Salary and expenses	£190.94
1192	HMRC	PAYE	£47.80
1193	Doddington Parish Council	Audit workshop - Clerk share	£6.00
1194	Jane Johnson	Litter picker	£230.96
1195	McCabe Ford Williams	Payroll	£39.00
1196	KALC	Audit workshop- Councillor	£72.00
1197	KCC	Cherry trees	£900.00
1199	E.ON	Street lighting	£41.45
1200	Mr B Cook	APM expenses	£88.79

Councillors considered the cheques raised and Cllr Cook **PROPOSED** the signing of the cheques; **SECONDED** by Cllr Sills: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ii. Review of litter picker's rate

Councillors reviewed the litter picker's rate following a request to increase it and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to increase the rate in line with the rise in the minimum wage.

iii. To consider insurance renewal

Cllr Burgess said the Council has a three-year Long Term Agreement. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Came & Co the premium of £228.46 (cheque no 1198).

8. PLANNING

Ref: 17/502101/FULL

Address: 7 Chegworth Gardens Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1RJ

Proposal: First floor front extension with pitched roof

Councillors considered the application and had no comment to make.

9. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Nutting reported the Village Hall is progressing well. The committee is losing the booking secretary and her husband, which will be a big loss, a suitable person has been found to do the grounds maintenance and possibly someone has come forward to take on the role of booking secretary. Younger people are needed to join the committee.

10. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Sills reported there had been a good meeting with Alan Blackburn and the blocked drains have been booked in for clearance.

Cllr Nutting said KCC have acknowledged Coffin Pond is unregistered and have said that if they have taken responsibility in the past they will do so in the future.

ACTION: Clerk to forward emails to Cllr Sills.

Cllr Harwood asked if the pond is actually needed and whether it can be removed.

Cllr Nutting said bollards to protect the pond in future were discussed and Alan Blackburn has options.

Cllr Cook said the site lines for the vehicular entrance to the school was also considered, there is a possible problem with the vegetation if it is not maintained, and Alan Blackburn has said

he will check who is responsible for it and make sure it is on a programme to ensure it is maintained regularly.

Cllr Sills said it was noticed that there is a sign warning of ducks near to Hales House and a question was raised as to whether it is needed.

Cllr Burgess said that when he first moved to Tunstall, mallards nested there.

Cllr Burgess reported the street light that the Parish Council are responsible for is not working.

ACTION: Clerk to report to KCC.

11. LITTER

To consider purchase of heritage litter bin to replace the litter bin in the layby on the Tunstall/Bredgar Road near Doves Croft

Cllr Hibben said that the first thing people see when coming into the village from Bredgar is the layby and litter bin. The bin needs to have a top on it to prevent litter blowing out and people putting black sacks into it.

The Clerk informed members that she had reported the problem and SBC have said they do not have any litter bins and will ask Biffa to empty the bin more often.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Swale Borough Council to ask for a litter bin and copy SBCllr Bonney into the correspondence.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

04.04.17- KCC pot hole blitz

18.04.17- Came & Co Newsletter

26.04.17- KALC Parish News

13. ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Sills said the Newsletter will be going out soon.

Cllr Cook requested the Parish Council website be publicised so residents can be informed about the Council's activities.

Cllr Hibben said when she drove past the school one day at 2.55pm a car had parked in the middle of the road and would not move, thereby blocking the road.

Cllr Harwood said the Head Teacher regularly sends out notes requesting parents not to arrive before 3pm when the gates are opened.

ACTION: Clerk to contact PCSO.

Cllr Hibben asked if the Old School could be kept on the agenda.

Cllr Burgess said the owners intend to demolish the rear of the building and convert it into two dwellings. The Council will consider the application when it has been lodged.

Cllr Hibben asked if the adoption of the Local Plan can be put on the Action Plan.

SBCllr Bonney said the Planning Inspector is sending draft comments to Swale Borough Council who will check the facts and then it will be published.

Cllr Nutting said the next Community Lunch at the school is on Wednesday 10 May and anyone interested in attending must inform the school.

Cllr Cook asked for an update on the phone box removal as the telephone itself has been removed and there is a notice saying the box will be removed.

The Clerk said there had been no update on timescales for removal..

Cllr Cook asked who owns the village seat by Coffin Pond, as he would like to clean it up and retreat it..

ACTION: Clerk to check through the minutes.

Cllr Cook asked if there could be a village sign from the Bredgar end of the village.

Cllr Burgess said KCC may install a sign but the Parish Council may have to pay for it.

Cllr Nutting asked for a boundary map of Tunstall to help distribute the Newsletter.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Democratic Services.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.08pm

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 5th June, 2017, 6.45 p.m. in the Midwinter Room, St. John the Baptist Church, Tunstall.

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

Chairman
Dated: 5th June 2017