

Tunstall Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7 January 2019 in the Midwinter Room, St John the Baptist Church, Tunstall.

Present: Cllr Brian Cook (Chairman), Cllr Wendy Harwood, Cllr Mavis Hibben and Cllr Roger Sills; and Mrs W Licence (Clerk).

Also present were Kent County Councillor Andrew Bowles, Kent County Councillor John Wright and Swale Borough Councillor George Samuel.

Cllr Cook welcomed everyone to the meeting and ensured that those present were aware of the emergency evacuation procedure.

1. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Cook reported no applications had been received.

2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr David Nutting (holiday); apology accepted. Apologies had also been received from SBCllr Derek Conway; apology noted.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3 DECEMBER 2018

Cllr Hibben **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 December 2018 as a true record; **SECONDED** by Cllr Sills: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Cook duly signed the minutes as a true record.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Allotments: Cllr Sills said he has contacted the Sittingbourne Allotment Holders and Gardeners Society and is waiting to hear back from them.

Litter bins: The Clerk reported she has contacted Swale Borough Council again regarding a delivery date for the bins and is waiting to hear back.

Cllr Hibben said the bins were ordered in May 2018 and the delay is not acceptable.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Swale Borough Council for an update and to express displeasure for the delay in receiving the bins.

Tikspac dispenser: Cllr Cook informed Members the dispenser needs to be delivered to a Councillor and the Parish Council is responsible for the installation.

ACTION: Cllr Cook to receive Tikspac dispenser.

Councillor specific email address: Cllr Cook reported that one Member is yet to set up a specific email address for Council business.

Landscape Designation Review Response: Cllr Hibben reported there had been a response from Anna Stoner, Senior Planner Swale Borough Council, to the Parish Council's concerns however it did not clarify the lack of engagement. No new sites in Tunstall were included in the Landscape Designation Review and Alan Best, Swale Borough Council, has stated that Tunstall is land for development and this closed down any discussion.

Cllr Sills asked if the Parish Council could appeal to the Local Government Ombudsman as the Parish has not been treated fairly.

KCCllr Bowles said Central Government considers all land is potential development land so it would not help if a complaint is made against the Borough Council. All views are considered at the Local Plan Panel and the greatest weight is given to expert consultants' views.

Cllr Hibben said she had discussed sites at the stakeholders' workshop and Kent AONB said Tunstall has a good case but we were told Tunstall is development land.
KCCllr Bowles said he will report back to Swale Borough Council that this was mis-leading.

Highways: Cllr Cook reported there had been a good meeting with Alan Blackburn, KCC Highways Manager for Swale, and he has been very helpful in ensuring the drains were cleaned and the wooden bollards by Coffin Pond have been replaced with steel bollards. The road by the Village Hall still floods and cars have to go onto the wrong side of the road when driving towards Bredgar, to avoid it, Mr Blackburn has repeatedly asked Alistair Coleman, KCC Drainage Engineer for Swale, to progress the installation of the gully which the Parish Council will pay for and to contact Cllr Cook with an update.

ACTION: Clerk to send copy of correspondence to KCCllr Bowles.

KCCllr Wright said the Government has allocated extra money in the budget to repair roads. There will be additional resources and drainage engineers to keep the drains and footpaths clear. There will be more highways inspectors to ensure the work is carried out to a high standard. Kent County Council will also receive £29,000,000 in a one-off grant from the Government to ensure the roads will cope with extra traffic likely to be generated if there is a 'No Deal' Brexit. Kent County Council have instigated a new pot hole blitz and contracts are currently being awarded. The waste transfer station is running at capacity due to Christmas. Cllr Cook said the Parish Council is very active in reporting potholes. Mr Blackburn has been supportive regarding the pot holes but the gully work needs to be carried out as the road is dangerous when it rains.

Cllr Sills said that Mr Blackburn has offered looking at the possibility of using another contractor however we still need a response from the KCC Drainage Engineer to understand next steps.

Planters: Cllr Cook said the planters are ready for delivery and the contractor has been given details of the sites.

Swale Borough Council: Rural Sustainable Settlement Study questionnaire: Cllr Hibben reported that she, Cllr Cook and Cllr Sills completed the questionnaire on behalf of the Parish Council.

Swale Borough Council: Corporate Plan 2019-2022 consultation: Cllr Hibben said a response has been sent on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Cook thanked Cllr Hibben for collating the responses.

Lost Words book: Cllr Cook thanked Cllr Sills for ordering the books for the school.

ACTION: Cllr Cook to arrange for the books to be inscribed. Cllr Harwood will advise dates of the Community Lunches, so that Cllrs can arrange to present the books to the school.

Clerk's Appraisal: Cllr Cook said he is waiting for feedback from two Councillors, and will then arrange a date with the Clerk

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

7. REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

KCCllr Wright reported Kent County Council is currently setting the budget. The issues for rural roads include fly tipping and rural litter and the Council hopes to get more resources to deal with the problem.

KCCllr Bowles said Swale Borough Council has been proactive issuing fines for littering and endeavours to get the local press to cover the stories.

KCCllr Wright informed the Council that the Air Quality Strategy Forum meets on 8 January and will feed back to Swale Borough Council's Air Strategy.

SBCllr Samuel reported there is an ongoing consultation regarding the Highsted Road footpath and it is proving difficult finding a solution.

KCCllr Wright said there is a significant issue in the area due to the schools and hospital generating traffic. The issue is that drivers park on the yellow lines and there have also been

accidents. There is no path so pedestrians have to walk in the road from the school. School buses park in Bell Road causing significant problems.

KCCllr Bowles said the minutes of the Local Plan Panel meeting have been published and there is an offer from Anna Stonor, Senior Planner Swale Borough Council, to talk to Parish Councils about the document.

Cllr Cook thanked the Councillors for attending and for their reports.

8. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Cook reported to Members that he has drafted the Speed Watch roster for 2019. Sadly, two volunteers have had to stand down for personal reasons. The equipment needs to be serviced and Bredgar Parish Council have agreed to pay half the cost of service quotation. The equipment will be collected by Unipar on Wednesday for servicing

ACTION 1: Clerk to put a call for volunteers on the website.

ACTION 2: Cllr Cook to put a notice on the notice boards.

9. FINANCE

i. Cheques raised and accounts

Chq No	Payable to	Reason	Amount
1344	Mossys	Replanting of planters	£540.00
1345	Tunstall PCC	Hire of Midwinter Room: Parish Council meeting	£15.00
1346	Mrs W Licence	Salary and expenses	£458.76
1347	HMRC	PAYE	£123.00
1348	Jane Johnson	Litter Picking	£178.44
1349	Mr R Sills	Reimbursement for books purchased for school	£27.36
1350	Tunstall Evening WI	Replacement of cheque no 1342	£100.00

Cllr Sills **PROPOSED** the signing of the cheques; **SECONDED** by Cllr Hibben **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ii. Internet banking

Cllr Cook said that NatWest only offer single authorisation on internet banking. Unity Trust offer three status levels, view only; view and submit; or view and authorise, and can be set up with triple authority, the Clerk to submit the payment and two Councillors to authorise.

Cllr Sills **PROPOSED** to open an internet banking account with Unity Trust Bank; **SECONDED** by Cllr Harwood: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Unity Trust Bank.

iii. Budget 2019-20

Cllr Cook reported there had been a budget working group meeting earlier in the evening attended by himself, Cllr Hibben and the Clerk.

Cllr Hibben **PROPOSED** to set a precept of £20,212: **SECONDED** by Cllr Harwood: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Cook thanked the Clerk for her work on the budget preparation.

10. PLANNING

i. Ref: 18/506061/FULL

Address: 43 Sterling Road Tunstall Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1SJ

Proposal: Roof alterations to create a first floor together with a two storey rear extension and insertion of front dormer

Councillors considered the application and had no comments to make save that neighbours' comments be taken into consideration.

ii. Application No: 17/505711/HYBRID Location: Land At Wises Lane Borden Kent ME10 1GD Proposal: Hybrid planning application with outline planning permission (all matters reserved except for access) sought for up to 595 dwellings including affordable housing; a two-form entry primary school with associated outdoor space and vehicle parking; local facilities comprising a Class A1 retail store of up to 480 sq m GIA and up to 560sqm GIA of "flexible use" floorspace that can be used for one or more of the following uses - A1 (retail), A2 (financial and professional services), A3 (restaurants and cafes), D1 (non-residential institutions); a rugby clubhouse / community building of up to 375 sq m GIA, three standard RFU sports pitches and associated vehicle parking; a link road between Borden Lane and Chestnut Street / A249; allotments; and formal and informal open space incorporating SuDS, new planting / landscaping and ecological enhancement works. Full planning permission is sought for the erection of 80 dwellings including affordable housing, open space, associated access / roads, vehicle parking, associated services, infrastructure, landscaping and associated SuDS. For clarity - the total number of dwellings proposed across the site is up to 675.
Additional Information - Environmental Statement Addendum

Councillors considered the additional information and agreed to reiterate previous objections.

iii. Ref: 18/506409/PNEXT

Address:20 Chegworth Gardens Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1RH

Proposal: Prior notification for proposed single storey rear extension which: A) Extends by 4 metres beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling. B) Has a maximum height of 3.8 metres from the natural ground level. C) Has a height of 2.8 metres at the eaves from the natural ground level.

Councillors considered the application and had no comments to make.

11. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

There were no reports from Councillors serving on outside bodies.

12. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Sills raised concern about a very large lorry passing through the village as the roads are inadequate for large vehicles.

Cllr Harwood agreed with Cllr Sills, but said there are no restrictions.

Cllr Cook said signage that the road is unsuitable for HGVs or "Access only" may help stop passing traffic.

KCCllr Bowles said there is signage available but it is not totally effective as some lorry drivers ignore the signs.

Cllr Cook said the lorries generated by local businesses are not the problem, as they understand the issues and are cautious. It is through traffic using the village as a short cut that need to stopped from coming off at Woodstock and Hearts Delight Road and this would limit the traffic coming through and protect the environment.

KCCllr Bowles said he will take the issue back to KCC Highways.

13. ENVIRONMENT

Village Sign

Cllr Harwood circulated a copy of the proof of the sign.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the proof.

ACTION: Cllr Harwood to obtain a quotation for the sign.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 05.12.18- Copy email sent by Louisa Roberts to Cllr John Wright
2. 11.12.18- Swale Borough Council: Strategic Swale Air Quality Action Plan 2018 – 22 consultation
3. 17.12.18- Cllr Bowles' Newsletter
4. 17.12.18- KCC Streetworks: Notice of Temporary Road Closures – Pond Farm Road, Borden, Sittingbourne – from 14 January 2019
5. 19.12.18- KALC News
6. 21.12.18- Kent Police and Crime Commissioner's Newsletter
7. 21.12.18- KCC: Cllr Bowles' Funding event

15. ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Hibben said dates need to be suggested for a meeting with the Lenham Parish Councillor to discuss Lenham Parish experience of their Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Cook said he represented the Parish Council at the Nine Lessons and Carols Service at the church and read one of the lessons.

Cllr Cook said the date for the Annual Parish Meeting needs to be arranged.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain dates when the Village Hall is available and notify Councillors.

Cllr Cook said he will meet with the Clerk for her annual appraisal.

13. KALC COMMUNITY AWARD 2019

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

KALC Community Award

14. OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 4 February 2019, 6.45 p.m. in the Midwinter Room, St. John the Baptist Church, Tunstall.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8.35pm

Signed as a true copy of the meeting:

Chairman
4 February 2019