

Tunstall Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 1 July 2019 in the Committee Room, Tunstall Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Mavis Hibben (Chair), Cllr Lee Burgess, Cllr Susanne Earl, Cllr Vivien Rich, Cllr Louisa Roberts and Cllr Sarah Stephen; and Mrs W Licence (Clerk).

Also present were County Councillor John Wright, Ward Members Monique Bonney and Paul Stephen, and one member of the public.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Hibben welcomed everyone to the meeting and made everyone present aware of the emergency evacuation procedure.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Ash Bull; apology accepted.

Apologies had been received from County Councillor Andrew Bowles (at another meeting); apology noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

3. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Vice Chairman: it was agreed not to appoint a Vice Chairman.

Development Policy Framework Review Working Group: it was agreed not to appoint members to the Working Group and that it would be reviewed if needed.

KALC Representatives: It was agreed to appoint Cllr Rich as KALC Representative.

School Liaison: It was agreed to appoint Cllr Earl as School Liaison Representative.

Police/Parish Council Liaison: It was agreed not to appoint a representative at the moment.

Village Hall Committee: It was agreed to appoint Cllr Rich as Village Hall representative.

Five Parishes Group: It was agreed to appoint Cllr Hibben and Cllr Roberts as representatives to the Five Parishes Group.

Councillor's areas of interest:

Planning and Development: Cllr Roberts.

Highways: Cllr Burgess with all Councillors logging faults and circulating details to Members.

Engagement on M2 junction 5 upgrade: Cllr Burgess.

New projects and Events: Cllr Earl supported by Cllr Stephen.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3 JUNE 2019

Cllr Roberts **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2019 as a true record of the meeting; **SECONDED** by Cllr Stephen: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Hibben duly signed the minutes as a true record.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Newsletter

The Clerk reported that she has sent the text to the printer and is waiting for the proof.
Cllr Hibben thanked the Clerk for co-ordinating the Newsletter.

Peace Day Celebrations

Cllr Hibben said flyers for the Children's Party have been distributed.
Cllr Rich said it is very important for Councillors to attend the evening celebration.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No matters were raised.

7. VISITORS

i. Borough Councillors

SBCllr Bonney reported that the Borough Council has passed a resolution that it is not a strategic objective of the Council for a Southern link road (junction 5a) to be dependent on house building and/or commercial development for funding its delivery, this responds to the demonstrable lack of public support for any such proposal. The amount of housing that had been suggested for such a scheme was totally unsustainable and excessive which is why the motion was unanimously passed. Swale Borough Council supports a strategic M2 junction 5 upgrade and there also needs improvement to junction 7 on the M2 and to the A249. The current junctions on the M2 need to be upgraded before new junctions are added. Stockbury Parish Council is concerned about junction 5 and want a bridge over the A249.

KCCllr Wright said the project for junction 5 currently has a £20,000,000 shortfall which will only be funded by development.

SBCllr Bonney reported that Swale Borough Council is not meeting its five year housing supply and needs to write an action plan.

SBCllr Bonney said there is a shortfall of places in secondary education in two years and this will affect all children thereafter.

KCCllr Wright said the issue is the failure if the Sheppey Academy with one thousand unfilled places. Rainham has places in its schools.

SBCllr Bonney said the problem impacts local children unable to go to a local school.

Cllr Hibben thanked SBCllr Bonney for her report and for attending.

SBCllr P Stephen reported that Swale Borough Council has agreed to declare a climate and ecological emergency in Swale. The Council is committed to reducing carbon emissions and make space for nature. Swale Borough Council aims to make its own operations carbon neutral by 2025 and work with businesses, residents and organisations so the whole borough becomes carbon neutral by 2030.

Cllr Hibben thanked SBCllr P Stephen for his report and for attending.

Cllr S Stephen, as Ward Member, reported that swale Borough Council has agreed to reinstate refunds on parking charges at the Swallows Leisure Centre.

Cllr Hibben thanked Cllr Stephen for her report;

ii. County Councillors

KCCllr Wright reported that he has been dealing with residents' issues separate from Parish Council.

KCCllr Wright said he has tried to resolve the issues with the bollards at Coffin Pond a number of times and has been informed by Alan Blackburn, KCC Highways, that the only way to resolve it is to put the wall back.

Alastair Coleman, KCC Highways Asset Management, has been liaising with the Clerk regarding the gully.

The Clerk reported the only work was around the drain and the trench in front of the Village Hall entrance was not part of the work.

KCCllr Wright said the utility companies must re-instate and the work be guaranteed for two years.

Cllr Hibben said that she understood that the trench was dug when the gully was installed and that she would check with the Chairman of the Village Hall.

KCCllr Wright said Highways issues must be reported online.

Cllr Hibben said the Parish Council has an issue with the new village sign, designed by the school, and has been unable to get a site visit to agree the installation.

ACTION: Cllr Hibben to send KCCllr Wright a map of the site.

KCCllr Wright reported that he had met with Ian McAulay, CEO Southern Water, and has received assurance that the waste water operations has been separated from water operations and that an independent co-ordinator has been appointed for governance. Previously Southern Water has been doing its own testing and certificates.

The Lower Thames Crossing is being investigated and this will put pressure on the M2 junction 5.

Cllr Hibben thanked KCCllr Wright for his report and for attending.

8. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Hibben said the Parish Council has been sent a report which has been circulated. Two Speed Watch sessions have been held during the month, one in Tunstall Road and one in Ruins Barn Road. During the one hour session in Tunstall Road, one hundred and eleven vehicles passed, of which twelve were exceeding the speed limit. The highest recorded speed was 30mph. As these were all first time recorded vehicles, no letters were issued by Kent Police to offenders.

The second session at Ruins Barn Road saw one hundred and six vehicles pass during the hour, of which seven were exceeding the speed limit. The highest recorded speed was 39mph. One letter was issued by the Kent Police.

Bredgar now hold regular sessions too, have also used the equipment twice this month.

9. FINANCE

i. Cheques raised and accounts

Chq No	Payable to	Reason	Amount
1390	Mossys	Replanting troughs and planters	£1051.20
1391	Mrs W Licence	Salary and expenses	£492.97
1392	HMRC	PAYE	£132.60
1393	CPRE	Subscription	£36.00
1394	J Johnson	Litter Picking June	£186.99

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to the signing of the cheques.

ii. To consider request from Swale CAB for a grant

Cllr Burgess **PROPOSED** to give £150 to Swale Citizens Advice Bureau (cheque no 1395); **SECONDED** by Cllr Rich: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

10. PLANNING

i. PINS reference: APP/V2255/W/19/3228248

Ref: 18/504925/FULL

Address: Land to the Rear of Hales Cottage Tunstall Road Tunstall Kent ME10 1YQ

Proposal: Demolition of the existing garage and erection of a single storey one bedroom dwelling with basement (Revision to 18/502546/FULL).

Councillors agreed to sustain their objections.

ACTION: Cllr Roberts to draft submission to the Planning Inspector.

ii. Ref: 19/503094/LBC

Address: Woodstock House Winch Road Kent Science Park Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8EF

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for the proposed creation of new ground floor children's toilet.

Cllr Roberts said there needs to be a ground floor toilet for accessibility.

Councillors agreed they had no comment to make.

iii. Any other planning matter

19/500050/FULL and 19/500051/LBC Tunstall Church of England Primary School Tunstall Road Tunstall Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8DX

Cllr Roberts informed Councillors that following the site visit by the Swale Borough Council Planning Committee, the Parish Council submitted further comments to committee members. The application has been refused due to the significant new builds constituting over-intensification of the site, resulting in harm to the character and setting of the former school and harm to the character of the Tunstall conservation area resulting in harm to the public realm. The committee was also concerned by the danger to highway safety and the close proximity to the village hall and loss of amenity.

Cllr Hibben said this shows the Parish Council does have a voice as officers had recommended approval and there were no objections from KCC Highways.

Ref: 19/501460/FULL Address: Blenheim Tunstall Road Tunstall ME10 1YQ

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear/side extension

Cllr Roberts informed Members that the application has been permitted.

18/505291/FULL 4 School View Tunstall Road Tunstall Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8DX

Erection of a single storey front extension, two storey side extension and single storey rear extension incorporating re-positioning of existing garage

Cllr Roberts said new drawings have been submitted.

Ref: 19/502528/FULL Address: Greenways Tunstall Road Tunstall ME10 1YQ

Proposal: Demolition of existing detached single garage and construction of replacement two storey side extension (Resubmission to 19/501216/FULL)

Cllr Roberts informed Members that a decision is yet to be made.

11. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Rich reported that she and Cllr Hibben had attended the KALC Swale Area Committee meeting. Dave Austin, Sheldwich Badlesmere and Leaveland Parish Council, was elected Chairman. Swale Borough Council will pass on the money from the Government to Parish Councils although it will not be back dated. Parish Councils will be permitted to speak at Planning Committee on all applications which may impact on their parish.

Chief Inspector Alan Rogers spoke on policing and recent scams.

James Freeman, Town Planner Swale Borough Council gave a presentation on planning matters including the garden villages which will be presented in 2019.

There was also a presentation given by the Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance Trust.

Cllr Roberts said she had attended the KALC Dynamic Councillor Course which was good but the last two items were rushed.

12. HIGHWAYS

i. To receive an update

Cllr Hibben said the village sign and gully are ongoing issues which KCCllr Wright has offered to help with.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Cllr Wright for update in one week.

Cllr Roberts reported there had been a site visit with Aprille Hall, KCC Highway Steward, and the fox has now been removed from Coffin Pond.

Coffin Pond agenda item for August meeting.

Cllr Hibben said the Highway Steward has said she will look into the issues with the bollards.

ii. M2 Junction 5 improvements

Cllr Burgess said the M2 Junction 5 improvement scheme is a massive project. Honeycrook Hill, Stockbury is being cut off and there is a sense of isolation for residents. Petts Lane and Oad Street may also be affected. Stockbury Parish Council is extremely concerned. There is nothing which will affect Tunstall in the scheme but there is a consequence to this as there could be more lorries going to the Kent Science Park. There has been an ecological review, there is a colony of orchids but there is no mitigation for reinstatement or removal and re-seeding. There will be more green spaces from the improvements although there are no details how this will be future-proofed.

Cllr Hibben thanked Cllr Burgess for his report.

Cllr Rich said that if this goes ahead it will make Tunstall more attractive to developers.

Cllr Roberts said there needs to be width restrictions and if lorry drivers have SatNavs which register this it would help.

Cllr Burgess said the Parish Council has previously lobbied for HGV drivers to have the right SatNavs and for SatNavs to be updated.

Cllr Roberts said that Borden Parish Council has lobbied for every road to be width restricted, if they are successful HGVs will come through Tunstall. The deadline for comments on the consultation is 8 July.

ACTION: Cllr Roberts to draft response for Clerk to send.

13. REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Cllr Roberts reported that protected characteristics have been added to the Social Media Policy and this has been reviewed by KALC.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to adopt the revised Social Media Policy.

14. REVIEW OF LITTER PICKER RISK ASSESSMENT

Cllr Hibben reported that Mr Cook has updated the Litter Picker's Risk Assessment and thanked him for his work.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to adopt the revised Social Media Policy.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 05.06.19: KALC- *Dynamic Councillor*

2. 10.06.19: KCC- *Various Roads 'Width Restriction' Borough of Swale documents on deposit*

3. 10.06.19: SBC- *Notice of Appeal on 18/504925/FULL Land to The Rear Of Hales Cottage Tunstall Road Tunstall*

4. 11.06.19: *Copy resident's emails to KCCllr Whiting regarding the roads after recent rain*

Cllr Roberts said there are no drains from the Village Hall to the church.

Agenda item for August meeting.

5. 11.06.19: *KCCllr Wright- Medway Hospital magazine, News@Medway*

6. 26.06.19- *Swale Borough Council: draft Car Parking Supplementary Planning Document*
Item for next agenda

7. 27.06.19: *KALC – Newsletter*

16. ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Rich said there is a major Kent Wildlife Trust site in Tunstall and asked if she could contact them to see what their plans are.

It was agreed for Cllr Rich to contact the Kent Wildlife Trust.

Cllr Rich said the parish has the Kent Science Park, Woodstock House and a football club, it may be pertinent for the Council to build relationships.

Cllr Rich informed Members of social events in the village and urged Councillors to attend.

Cllr Hibben said the verges in Sterling Road need to be on the next agenda, Cllr Earl will take photographs of the trees. The Highway Steward has given contact details of the KCC Landscape Technical Support Officer.

Cllr Earl said the trees are high and some residents have cut them back.

ACTION: Cllr Earl to send photographs to the Clerk.

The Clerk said if the trees are encroaching telephone cables Open Reach will cut them back.

ACTION 1: Clerk to report overgrown footpath by the hall to KCC PROW.

ACTION 2: Clerk to arrange meeting with Louis Monger.

ACTION 3: Clerk to report area at top of Sterling Road which has not been properly re-instated by SGN to Streetworks.

Cllr Roberts said she is attending KALC Planning Training course on 30 July.

Cllr Stephen reported a resident has asked if there can be a dog bin at the beginning of Ruins Barn Road.

Item for August agenda.

Cllr Roberts asked whether the Kent Science Park to pay for the litter picking near the site.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Kent Science Park to request funding for litter picking and litter bin.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 5 August, 2019, 7.30p.m. in the Committee Room, Tunstall Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 9.40pm.

Signed as a true copy of the meeting

Chair
5 August 2019