

SUTTON BY DOVER PARISH COUNCIL – ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Minutes

MEETING HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL, DOWNS ROAD, EAST STUDDAL ON TUESDAY 29 MAY 2018
AT 7.00PM

<http://www.sutton-by-doverpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/>

- 1. Present and apologies:** B Merriman (Chair)
H Densham (arrived at 7.10)
C Hogben
G Smith
A Calthorpe
R Little
16 Members of the public (arriving at various times)
KCC Member Steve Manion
S Smith (Clerk)
Apologies: G Akhurst
DDC Member Nick Kenton

- 2. Approval of the minutes of the APM meeting held on 23 May 2017**
These were approved at the Parish Council meeting held on 6 June 2017

- 3. Declarations of interest:**
None

- 4. Matters arising from previous APM minutes**
None

- 5. Chairman's Report**
See attached report.

- 6. Reports from other organisations in the Parish:**

Sutton Community Centre

A representative for the community Centre reported on the following:

Organised events are doing well.

Improvements to the facilities are to include redecorating the toilet and resurfacing the drive.

New members have joined the committee and have brought a valuable source of information.

A request was made for photographs of past village life for the village history board.

Rural Roundup

Report from the editor:

The publication started as a school magazine.

It started with a circulation of 1000 and now 3000 are being delivered.

Costs are being covered at the moment with advertising helping to meet the costs.

The Parish Council were thanked for their contribution.

Messy Church - Drop In - St Peter & St Paul's Church, Sutton

There are 2 services held in the Church and 2 held at the Church Hall.

Coffee mornings are on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday with a new venture starting up on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

There will be a craft fair at the hall on 23/6/2018 instead of the Church Fete.

- 7. District and County Reports:**

KCC – Steve Manion reported on the following:

The St James development is doing well and has helped to increase the footfall in the old part of town.

The new leisure centre will be opening early next year and is on budget.

Deal pier is being refurbished.

KCC finances have been well managed. Although there has been an increase in the demand for services particularly in social services.

Potholes. Additional funding from central government is being spent on filling potholes.

Broadband is an important issue to KCC. A new voucher system for satellite broadband is currently being looked into.

8. Presentation on the draft Parish Planning Policy - Cllr Smith

Cllr Smith explained to the meeting the process of drawing up the planning principles and how they should be community driven. 3 meetings had been held so far, made up of local residents and parish councillors. The statements and draft principles were explained and a request was made for any comments to be handed in to Parish Councillors over the next week or brought along to the next parish council meeting when the next steps would be discussed.

9. Any Other Business

None

10. Meeting finished at:

8.34 pm

Date of the next PC meeting is Tuesday 5 June 2018 in Studdal Church Hall.

Cllr Merriman thanked everyone for coming along and invited people to stay for refreshments

CHAIRMANS REPORT 2018

COVERING THE PERIOD APRIL 2017 – MARCH 2018

Good evening everyone and welcome to the Sutton by Dover Annual Parish meeting. For those amongst who do not know the Parish Councilors I will start by introducing them to you.

- Chairman - Myself, Barbara Merriman
- Vice-Chairman - Graeme Akhurst. Unfortunately Graeme is unable to be with us tonight.
- Hugh Densham - County Lengthsman.
- Ron Little - looks after the Allotments/Orchard
- Charles Hogben – looks after the Memorial Gardens
- Graham Smith – leads on planning issues
- Angie Calthorpe – Finance

Sue Smith is the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Year

There have been no changes in membership of the Parish Councilors in the past year.

I am happy to report the end of year accounts for 2017/18 have been completed and are presently with the internal auditor. The audited accounts together with the Annual Report will be presented at the June PC

meeting for approval. The Parish Council are fully compliant with GDPR and met all the requirements by the deadline date of 25 May.

A community litter pick took place on 22 April 2017 and was well attended. In order to qualify to borrow DDC's equipment for this event we had to comply with their requirements that we only picked along roads with a 30 mph speed limit. This unfortunately limited us on the area covered, nonetheless there was plenty of litter collected. Thanks goes to the volunteer organizer, Claire Inglin and to everyone who took part.

The Parish Council commissioned a Traffic Survey via KCC which was taken at six sites around the Parish during May 2017. The outcome of this survey can be viewed on the PC website and gives information on the volume, speed and type of vehicles travelling through our Parish.

The traffic survey has identified if and where speeding was a problem along with data on the size of vehicles using our narrow lanes and ancient highways. This information gives a baseline against which to measure any increases in the volume of traffic caused by the Whitfield development.

On 23 September 2017 the Parish Council held its second 'Apple Day' in the community orchard. It was a beautiful day and much enjoyment was had picking and pressing apples. It was nice to see new members of the parish coming along to help, taste the apple juice or just enjoy watching what was going on. Parishioners who brought along their own bags and liquid containers went away with apples and juice to enjoy in their own homes. Thanks go to Cllr Ron Little for organizing the event and to those Parishioners who generously donated the use of their pressing equipment. There are photos of the day on the website and Apple Day this year will be held on Saturday 22 September.

Thanks goes to members of the Parish who gave up their time on Saturday 3 February 2018 to prune the apple and pear trees in the Community Orchard. An enjoyable morning's work was undertaken, hopefully we can now look forward to a bumper autumn harvest.

The number of planning applications dealt with by the PC have increased in the recent year. This has led to the Council looking to review its planning policy and guidelines and you will hear more about that later in this meeting. On the whole applications have been supported by the PC. We have two sites where outline planning permission has been approved, one is for the East Studdal Nursery in Downs Road (10 houses) and the other for land adjacent to the Homestead, Homestead Lane (4 houses). Planning application and resulting decisions can be viewed on the Parish Website. There is continued concern regarding the developments taking place Whitfield and especially Archers Road and Shepherds Cross the impact these development will have on the Parish.

On going projects - The Parish Council are looking into the possibility of adopting the triangle of land outside the Three Horseshoes as a Village Green. The PC are also in negotiation with the Community Hall Committee and the PCC to purchase and install a defibrillator.

Just to remind everyone that Parish Council meetings take place the first Tuesday of each month with the exception of August in this hall and that Councilors welcome the attendance of members of the public to these meetings. Also don't forget to visit the Parish website to view agendas, minutes, planning information, notices and reports on Parish Council events.

To Conclude

On behalf of my fellow Parish Councilors I would like to thank Sue our Parish Clerk for the excellent job she does for the Parish. It is gratifying to know we are in her safe hands in these days of change and increasing legislation demands.

Claire Inglin for acting as our internal auditor

Colin Stokes for his work as Tree Warden

Steve Manion for short circuiting matters relating to KCC and acting in our best interests.

Nick Kenton for keeping us informed as to DDC matters affecting our Parish and the wider picture in general.

Last but by no means least, I would like to thank my fellow Councilors not only for their support to me but their continued commitment to this community. You may only see them for a couple of hours once a month, but I can tell you they all put in a lot more time than that, dealing with issues which are important to this Parish and community.

Thank you.

Signed: Barbara Merriman

Date: 21st May 2019

Paper copy on file with Clerk