

Meeting held in Studdal Church Hall on Tuesday 7 November 2017 at 7.30 pm.

- 1. Present and apologies:**
- B Merriman (Chair)
G Akhurst (Vice Chair)
H Densham
C Hogben
G Smith
A Calthorpe
R Little
10 Members of the public
KCC Member Steve Manion
DDC Member Nick Kenton
S Smith (Clerk)

Apologies: None

2. Approval of the 3 October minutes:

The minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Akhurst, seconded by Cllr Hogben and all members voted in favour and they were signed by the Chair.

3. Declarations of interest:

None

4. Matters arising from 3 October meeting:

Diseased Ash tree at the playing field. All gone.

Canton. The building has been knocked down. There is still a dispute going on about the proposed height of the new buildings. This has been passed to the agents to resolve.

Speeding signs. Cllr Calthorpe was thanked for making the signs which have been installed in various locations in the parish.

Wentways Planning Enforcement. Clerk to write to DDC to follow up.

Openreach cables at the Memorial Garden. Openreach have been contacted about the telephone wires which are close to the trees at the Memorial garden. Openreach have said it is the responsibility of the landowner to trim back any trees encroaching on the wires and if it is likely any equipment needs to be moved, Openreach contractors would have to be booked to come out as well. It was decided to leave this for the time being.

Pinch hazard, RoSPA. This is proving difficult to solve. Mr Stokes kindly offered to remove some of the latch to stop the gate pinching. Cllr Akhurst has dug out the root to remove the trip hazard.

HGV new style signs. After a meeting with KCC Highways, the locations for the signs have been agreed. One to be installed outside Wentways, Downs Road and the other at the bottom of Sutton Hill to replace the old existing sign.

Highways tracker survey. Completed by the Clerk.

Deep water sign. Highways have replied to say that if they are to install a danger deep water sign, a new post and life buoy needs to be erected by the lagoon. Clerk to reply on behalf of the landowner to give permission for a post and lifebuoy to be erected at the lagoon.

Newlands, prior approval. The e-mail from DDC Planning, clarifying the status of prior approval applications was read out. DDC Member Nick Kenton expanded on this information to the Councillors, explaining that the prior approval applications allow for, as a legal right, redundant agricultural buildings to be converted to a dwelling as long as they are structurally sound.

5. Visitors:

The green in front of the Three Horseshoes. The Parish Council have heard back from Land Registry. They have been unable to register possession of this piece of land. To obtain adverse possession it would be necessary to exclude everybody from using this piece of land which is not the intention of the council. The Parish Council will carry on maintaining the land but cannot show a paper title for it. It was suggested by KCC Member Steve Manion that perhaps the land could be registered as a village green. Cllr Akhurst offered to look into this. Land Registry have refunded £30

Wentways. An enquiry was made as to the status of this enforcement issue. The position was clarified by the vehicle owner who explained to the Parish Council that a planning application was going to be submitted for change of use of the land from agricultural to a parking space.

6. Reports from DDC/KCC Members

KCC Member Steve Manion reported:

- i) The budget and insurance was being discussed.
- ii) More work had been going ahead on the roads and therefore they were in a better condition.

DDC Member Nick Kenton reported:

- i) The budget was being discussed with homelessness being a huge cost to the district council.
- ii) The new Lidl store at Whitfield was coming along.
- iii) The St James development was also going well.
- iv) There is a new leader to the council and 2 new cabinet members.
- v) Cllr Kenton is still in charge of waste at DDC and will be doing health as well but is no longer in planning any more.

7. Finance:

- i) To approve the payment schedule for November

Chq No.

001238 Clerks wage - October	£301.90
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001239 Clerks expenses - October ex	£20.00
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Office misc	£ 4.85
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Encrypted hard drive £267.06	£291.91
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001240 HM Revenue and Customs only - PAYE up to 5 Nov	£ 35.60
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001241 Evergreen - October	£120
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001242 Kent County Council (Highways)	£224.10
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001243 J Stroud	£350
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Approval of the above payments was proposed by Cllr Hogben, seconded by Cllr Little and all members voted in favour.

8. Data Protection and storage

The setting up of Dropbox had worked out too expensive. An alternative backing up system needs to be set up. The set up of Microsoft Onedrive for backing up computer files at a monthly fee of £12 excluding VAT for a time frame of one year was proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Calthorpe and all members voted in favour. Clerk to action.

9. A Defibrillator for the Parish

A local resident, Mr Steve Goodsell has kindly offered to help and has agreed to come along to the December meeting to give a short presentation to the Councillors and to answer any questions. Mr Darren Parfitt reported to the meeting that although the Community Centre had not been able to have an official meeting yet, the committee would in principle be happy to have the defibrillator located at the Community Hall.

10. Precept for 2018/19

The Councillors briefly discussed the precept. To go on the agenda for the December meeting.

11. Adopt a drain

This annual scheme has come about to try to stop flooding in the parish from drains blocked with leaves and mud. The Parish Council are asking for help from Parishioners to keep the drains closest to their properties clear of debris. To put the information on the website and in Rural Roundup to advertise this scheme was proposed by Cllr Little, seconded by Cllr Smith and all members voted in favour. Clerk to action.

12. Local Planning:

For consideration by Councillors

DOV/17/01176 - The Miller, Pilgrims Cottages, Roman Road, Studdal, CT15 5BH

Erection of a detached granny annex.

The Council to object to the application as it would be a development in the open countryside outside the village envelope. This response was proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Merriman and all members voted in favour. Clerk to check on previous application and to send response to DDC Planning.

DOV/17/01198 - Land adj The Follies, Downs Road, East Studdal, CT15 5DB

Certificate of lawful use (existing) for continued use as mobile stabling/store.

To support the application was proposed by Cllr Hogben, seconded by Cllr Smith and all members voted in favour. Clerk to send response to DDC Planning.

KCC/DO/0256/2017 - The Old Tilmanstone Colliery, Pike Road, Eythorne, Kent CT15 4ND

Development of a waste management facility including the change of use of an existing building.

The Council considered this application and decided not to object to the application but to send in comments highlighting their concerns about noise pollution and traffic issues in the rural lane networks, requesting special consideration to be given to traffic management. This response was proposed by Cllr Hogben seconded by Cllr Smith and all members voted in favour. Cllr Smith to action.

For information - To note

DOV/17/00954 - Inglenook Farm, Roman Road, Maydensole, Sutton CT15 5HP

Conversion of stables to a holiday let, alterations to roof, erection of external staircase and balcony and formation of associated parking. DDC Granted permission.

DOV/17/00694 - Land adjacent Greenacres, Stoneheap Road, East Studdal, CT15 5BU

Erection of detached dwelling and creation of parking. DDC has received an appeal for this application.

13. Speeding and Traffic Issues

i) *Traffic survey.* Claire Inglin has been working hard formatting the survey information into an easy to read graph format. It was agreed the graphs were very clear. The format to be approved (with a recommendation to add a bit more detail on the east and west information) was proposed by Cllr Merriman, seconded by Cllr Little and all members voted in favour.

Ripple Parish Council have been asked whether they would be interested in their own copy of the Vale Rd data recorded in graph form and whether they would be interested in contributing to the costs.

14. Correspondence

Consultations/Surveys - For consideration

Department for Community and Local Government. (DCLG) Plan for the right houses in the right places. 6 week consultation. Deadline for responses is 9/11/2017. It was agreed that NALC had already made an adequate response and no further comments needed to be made.

KCC. Invitation to Community Transport Awayday. Ashford 9/11/17. No take up.

DDC. Snow warden volunteer scheme. Information for the noticeboards the website. Clerk to action.

KALC.

- i) KCC. Budget consultation 2018. Response by 3/12/2017. KCC message for inclusion on website. Clerk to action.
 - ii) Community awards scheme. No take up.
 - iii) Crime prevention and safety conference 7/12/2017 Ditton Community Centre. £60 plus VAT. No take up.
 - iv) DCLG consultation. Disqualification criteria for Councillors and mayors. Comment to KALC by 24/11/2017. No response.
 - v) Southern Water annual stakeholder workshops. Maidstone 13/11/2017. No take up. It was noted that Southern water do not run all the water services in the area. Affinity Water is now responsible for some of them.
 - vi) 70th AGM 18/11/2017. Invite to attend. 2 representatives permitted to vote (by way of pink papers only). No take up.
 - vii) *Parliamentary Constituencies*. Current review by the Boundary Commission, views and comments by 11/12/2017. No comments.
 - viii) Inspiring Rural Communities. Conference 6/12/2017. Cllr Calthorpe offered to look into attending this conference.
- Citizens Advice Bureau. Request for donation. Reply to CAB explaining that the Parish Council have also been considering their budget and unfortunately it does not have any surplus to allow for donations of this kind. Clerk to action.

Correspondence - To note

Water Resources update. Send around to Cllrs. Clerk to action.

15. Any other business/matters to discuss

NALC Nominations. No take up.

A local resident has brought some matters to the attention of the council:

- i) The footpath from Vale Road to the side of Ale Farm needs clearing. Cllr Akhurst offered to talk to the land owner by the footpath.
- ii) The hedge around Sutton pond. Cllr Akhurst offered to ask the land owner to cut the hedge back around the road sign.

Broadband. There has been no solution yet from KCC regarding the four postcodes in the parish which KCC and BT have been in talks over. The time scale has been put back to March/April 2018.

Dover Area Committee 25/10/2017. Cllr Merriman had attended this committee and handed out a report on the main items covered.

Community Hall Committee meeting 16/11/2017. It was suggested that as there is no longer play equipment at the playing field, it may be the time to consider installing play equipment at the village hall.

Christmas Tree lighting up. Cllr Little informed the meeting that the tree will be lit up on 2/12/2017 at 5.30 pm.

Road sign at Waldershare Road. Clerk to report road sign.

Nuisance at the village hall. It was reported that there had been a youth causing a nuisance on the roads and in the village hall car park. This has been reported to the police by local residents.

Campsite in the Parish. A letter regarding an exempted camp site application in the parish has been circulating. The Parish Council have not yet been consulted officially and will respond when and if they receive the application through DDC.

16. Community upkeep

i) Update from land owner Land adj Follies

Some of the sycamore trees have been cut back , the rest to be removed before they seed.

ii) Padlock for the playing field

Cllr Little offered to look into this.

iii) Contract for grass cutting and maintenance. A motion to exclude the public and press from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed was proposed by Cllr Merriman, seconded by Cllr Akhurst and all members voted in favour.

Members of the public left the meeting.

iv) Contract for grass cutting and maintenance. The Councillors considered the 4 quotes for the grass cutting and maintenance contract for both a single and a three year contract to cover the following community areas - The Allotment/Orchard, Memorial Garden, Playing Field and BMX track, Downs Road verge (The White House to Seaview Cottages) and Jacks Bush, Picnic area. There were a few discrepancies on the proposed frequency of cuts and what areas were covered by the various quotes. The clerk had not received the requested clarification from one of the tenders. It was agreed that Cllr Smith would talk to Mr Stokes to clarify some of the information and the Council would discuss it again and decide at the December meeting.

17. Date of next meeting:

Ordinary meeting Tuesday 5 December 2017 at 7.30 pm at Church Hall Studdal

Meeting closed 10.00 pm

S. Smith - Clerk

signed: Barbara Merriman - Chair

date: 5th December 2017

Paper copy on file with clerk