

Minutes

Meeting held in Studdal Church Hall on Tuesday 9th May 2023 at 7.30 pm.

1. Present and Apologies

Present

B Merriman (Chair)
H Densham
A Calthorpe
R Buxton
KCC Member Steve Manion
DDC Member Nick Kenton
A Nigol (Clerk)
6 members of the public

Apologies

None

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Merriman declared interest in item 6) Finance.

3. Approval of the minutes 4th April 2023

The minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Merriman seconded by Cllr Buxton and all members voted in favour.

4. Matters arising from the minutes 4th April 2023

Item 10. Grass cutting contract has been agreed and the contractor has presented up to date insurance.
Item 11. Local community. Update on Goldstone Hollow Farm. Under the DDC planning enforcement investigation. It was reported by the members of the public that there are 4 sleeping on the site. Clerk to pass that on to Enforcement.

Item 12. The Parish Litter pick. The Chair thanked everyone who took part, it was a successful event.

Item 13 Coronation Celebrations. Successful event with around hundred people attended. The Chair thanked the committee.

Item 15. Annual Parish Meeting. Was discussed under the item 15.

Item 16. Forge Farm House planning application has been withdrawn.

5. Visitors

Member of the public reported that the salt bin on Roman Road North side is full of beer cans and cookery books. Cllr Merriman to take a look. The grease bands were installed by Dough Vickers. He also informed the council that he had met a local resident who's been picking litter 2-3 times a week during his walks. The Chair asked Doug Vickers to thank this person for his contribution. Member of the public asked about the update on Village Green near Three horseshoes. It was decided to start the application process again. To go on July meeting agenda.

6. Finance

Cllr Merriman left the meeting.

i) To approve the payment schedule for April was proposed by Cllr Buxton seconded by Cllr Calthorpe and all members voted in favour.

Chq No.

001546 Clerk	April wages	£468.00
001547 Clerk	April ex - OneDrive	£13.68
	Printing paper	£5.80
001548 B Merriman	Community Litter pick expenses	£31.49

001549 KALC	Annual Subscription	£352.60
ii) Chq No.001545	M Pays Chocksgoaway donation	£300.00

Cllr Merriman returned to the meeting.

iii) Update on Bank mandate change. In progress, Cllr Merriman to send more information to the bank.

7. AGAR 2022/2023. Things are on track. Clerk to submit year end report to Cllr Calthorpe and then to be reviewed by Internal Auditor.

8. Annual Review of Documents. Asset register missing on the website, Clerk to upload on the website. Standing orders-no alterations required. Code of conduct- no alterations required. Financial regulations- no alterations required. The risk assessment- no alterations required. Maintenance of physical assets. The last inspection was done August 2022, next inspection due August 2023. Cllr Merriman proposed that the council accepts all the documents for another year. It was seconded by Cllr Calthorpe and all members voted in favour.

9. Update on Insurance Renewal.

Currently we are insured with Hiscox. The premium has gone up from £414.54 to £514.29. Clerk to contact Gallagher advisors for more information. To go on May Annual Parish Meeting agenda if there are any updates.

10. Local Community

- i) Council considered purchasing a new grit bin to replace the one gone missing on Boys Hill. It's still under the investigation by KCC Highways. The Chair suggested to bring this item back to September Agenda. Steve Manion from KCC suggested to send a screenshot from Google maps, where the missing bin was. Clerk to action.
- ii) Update on blocked drain outside the Nursery. No update, Clerk to keep chasing.
- iii) Update on road sweeping at the Homestead Lane. No update, Clerk to keep chasing.
- iv) Update on building practices on the Nursery site on Downs Road. The issues were reported to the Enforcement department and they have visited the building site. The developer confirmed that the stock pile of spoil is a temporary measure and will be removed. Some of the top soil will be used for developing the gardens for the new houses. Neighbours concerned about the works and health and safety issues, workers not wearing high vis and hats. The developer had promised to install a screen between the building site and neighbouring property, but this hasn't happened, therefore all the dust comes to their property. The noise level is unbearable and some cracks have appeared on plaster. Clerk to forward this information to DDC Enforcement department.
- v) Council to consider purchasing new playground football nets. Council received a quote to replace the football nets and the Chair suggested to purchase these nets and spend £123.72. It was proposed by Cllr Merriman, seconded by Cllr Willet and all members voted in favour. Clerk to action. Cllr Willet agreed to put them up once they have been delivered.
- vi) Update on blocked drains on Roman Road and Chapel Lane. No update, Clerk to keep chasing.
- vii) Update on road salt delivery. To go on September agenda.
- viii) Update on overgrown hedge at Waldershare Road. No update yet. Cllr Willet to follow up.
- ix) Update on signposts that need repair. It was reported to KCC Highways and they have repaired the 30mph sign in Ashley, two new signposts have been ordered to replace the broken ones in East- Studdal.

11. Local Planning

For consideration:

- i) 23/00155 21 Downs Close, East Studdal, CT15 5BY Erection of single storey rear extension and rooflights. Council decided to support this planning application. It was proposed by Cllr Calthorpe seconded by Cllr Merriman and all voted in favour.
- ii) 23/00487 to 1 Stoneheap Cottages , Stoneheap Bottom Road, Little Mongeham, Kent Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension to create annexe.

Council decided not to make a comment. It was proposed by Cllr Merriman seconded by Cllr Calthorpe and all voted in favour.

- iii) 23/00441 Ale Farm, Vale Road, Sutton, CT15 5DH Erection of two storey side extension. A member of the public shared some concerns about the size of the development, size and the shape of the roof and additional traffic. Although the Parish Council had no objection to the site being developed the council would like these comments to be taken into account: To retain the existing brick and flint wall on the boundary of the property and the public footpath. The existing wall is in a sorry state, but it would be preferred to replace the wall as brick and flint rather than rendered block. The Heritage Statement of the application says that the flint and brick wall will be reinstated. The height of the double storey extension. The extension will replace a single storey extension and the overall height of the back of the extension will be above the roof line of the existing building. The new roof at the south end of the property does not follow the original roofline. Parish Council also has a great concern about the additional traffic from such a large property on this dangerous junction. Clerk to submit the comment.

To note:

- i) 23/00138 Ale Farm Vale Road Sutton CT15 5DH Erection of two storey rear extension, side raised deck, alteration to fenestration and roof (2 chimney stacks demolished) Granted permission.

12. Report from DDC/KCC

The Chair congratulated both Councillors on their re-election.

KCC member Steve Manion reported on the following:

Dementia Day coming up on 19 May. Kent Police has been tracking down the illegal tobacco trade.

13. Allotments & Orchard

- i) Grant funding application update. Clerk is working on it, to go on June agenda.
- ii) Council to discuss the new allotment plot holder request to do some improvements on his plots. The Council agreed to allow the plot holder to erect a shed, water butts and compost bins. It was also agreed that he can use the rotavator to dig up the plot. Clerk to write and inform the holder.
- iii) Grass cutting in the Orchards. The current contractor who used to cut the grass in the Orchard no longer wants to do it. Clerk to check whether the current parish contractor would be willing to do this job and ask for the quotation.

14. Correspondence. None

15. Annual Parish Meeting. Clerk to contact Church and Community Centre and invite them to the APM and if they would like to give an update on their activities. Church Hall is booked for 23rd of May and refreshments will be served after the meeting.

16. Parish Councillor Vacancies. There are two Parish councillors vacancies. Clerk to publish on notice boards and website.

17. Parish Council Disclosable Pecuniary Interest Forms. Clerk to collect the forms and deliver them to Dover District Council Elections team.

18. Any other business to report/matters to discuss.

Clerk to send out the allotment contracts and invoices. Cllr Densham reported that some of the corners on cross road have not been cut. The Chair asked if anyone wanted to attend the Dynamic councillor training in June, then they should contact the Clerk. The Chair also reminded all Councillors to return their expenses forms by the 1st of June even if they were nil.

19. Date and status of next meeting

Annual Parish Meeting, Tuesday 23 May 2023 at 19:30 - Studdal Church Hall

Tuesday 6th of June 2023 at 7.30 pm– Studdal Church Hall

Meeting closed at 20:51

A Nigol (Clerk)