

Minutes

Meeting held in Studdal Church Hall on Tuesday 4th July 2023 at 7.30 pm.

1. Present and Apologies

Present

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

Apologies

None

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Merriman declared an interest in item 6 i). Finance.

3. Approval of the minutes 6th June 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 6th June 2023

i) item 5 approval of the minutes on the 9th of May. These minutes had not recorded that Cllr. Willet was present at this meeting.

ii) Cllr Kenton from DDC Planning Committee shared the updates on currently outstanding Enforcement cases:

- Pilgrim's Cottages, the case has been investigated by the officers and there has been no breach and the access point to the vineyard has been permitted to the development.
- 12 Meadow Cottages still currently under the investigation.
- Sutton Valley Caravan site still currently under the investigation.
- Nursery Building site. The developer has confirmed that the piles of topsoil will be removed by September 2023.
- Clerk to email Cllr Kenton about the Enforcement case regarding the Goldstone Hollow for an update.

iii) Cllr Willet to follow up on the overgrown hedge at Waldershare Road.

iv) Annual Insurance confirmed for the following year.

v) AGAR documents were presented to the auditors and have been published on the website and notice boards. The Chair thanked internal auditor Claire Inglin for her work with a bunch of flowers.

vi) Corner of Stoneheap Road and Downs Road, KCC Highways currently put up only one finger sign for direction, two others have been missed. Clerk to follow up.

vii) Airfield appeal has been dismissed.

viii) Initial grass cut on the allotment has been done.

5. Visitors

None

6. Finance

Cllr Merriman left the room.

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

Chq No.

s001558 Clerk	June wages	£468.00
001559 Clerk	June ex - Onedrive	£13.68
001560 P Evans	Grass cutting April, May, June	£900.00
001561 P Evans	Initial cut on agreed allotment areas	£150.00
001562 B Merriman	Cutting of allotment key	£9.00

Cllr Merriman returned to the meeting.

ii) Bank reconciliation as at 23rd June 2023. The current account has a balance of £19,965.48 and the reserve account, £15,735.10 making it total of £35,700.58. To approve the reconciliation was proposed by Cllr Merriman seconded by Cllr Densham and all members voted in favour.

7. Local Community

i) Nursery Building site update. It's been reported that the works have been taking place during the two last Sundays. Clerk to report this to the Enforcement officers. Neighbour reported several ongoing issues, including the fence between his land and the new development. The council suggested that the neighbour should talk to the company owner about the issues. Council to check the management plan and SDS (sustainable drainage system). Several health and safety issues were also mentioned. Clerk to report to Health and Safety Executive.

ii) Update on blocked drains Downs Road. The gully sucker was seen in the village the previous week and some of the drains have been cleared. Clerk to follow up.

iii) Update on blocked drains in Ashley and Roman Road. They have cleared two drains. The Councillors reported back some of the drains that still need doing: Roman Road South (3 drains), Outside the houses Homestead Lane (4 drains) and drains near Three Horseshoes. Also all of those in Chapel Lane. Clerk to contact KCC Highways.

8. Local Planning

For consideration by Councillors:

i) 23/00786 Sutton Vale Caravan Park And Country Club , Vale Road, Sutton
Felling of one Ash (T1), as identified as 0027 in the submitted Arboricultural Condition Report, the subject of Tree Preservation Order No 3 of 1983.

The application was discussed and the Council meeting and the Council decided to neither support nor object to the application, however the Council noted that a number of trees have been cut down in recent years and would request a condition be made that replacement trees be planted. Clerk to submit response to DDC Planning.

Noted:

i) 23/00581 22 Downs Close East Studdal CT15 5BY. Erection of car port (retrospective)
Refused permission.

ii) 22/01216 Land South West Of Fieldings Stoneheap Road East Studdal CT15 5BU Erection of a detached dwelling, with associated parking and landscaping.
Grant planning permission.

iii) 23/00487 1 Stoneheap Cottages, Stoneheap Bottom Road, Little Mongeham CT14 OHS
Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension to create annexe. Grant permission.

14. Report from DDC/KCC

DDC Member Nick Kenton reported on the following:

- KCC have serious budget issues and they are looking to save where possible. There are plans to shut some of the recycling centres.
- DDC planning to go ahead with the culture and art centre development in Dover. The new administration planning to build 200 new homes for social houses each year.

15. Playing field

- i) ROSPA playing field inspection is due in July.
- ii) Cllr Willet gave an update about the equipment condition and new football nets.

One of the timbers have split on the bench and Cllr Willet offered to replace it. New football nets have been installed, however some of the clips that hold the nets are broken and therefore new replacement clips need to be ordered from the net supplier. The Chair thanked Cllr Willet for his work. Clerk to contact the supplier and order some new ones.

16. Allotments & Orchard

- i) Cllr Willet gave an update on the shed condition. Cllr Willet reported that the shed is unsafe and not stable, therefore should be demolished. The Council had a discussion about the shed condition and decided not to offer the shed to the person who is interested. This was proposed by Cllr Merriman seconded by Cllr Willet and all voted in favour. Clerk to inform the person interested about the decision. Removal of the shed to be discussed at September meeting,
- ii) Update on allotment grant. Independent referee required. Clerk to check with the Allotment Fund whether Cllr Kenton would be the right person. To go on September agenda.
- ii) Apple Day 2023. The council agreed to organise one this year. Cllr Merriman agreed to talk to the people who have the apple pressing equipment. Saturday 23rd September was suggested as a possible date. To go on September agenda. Cllr Calthorpe agreed to do the risk assessment.

17. KALC

- i) KALC Training calendar had been circulated and there are lots of online courses available for Councillors to attend. The Chair proposed that the Council supports three training courses this year and Councillors should advise the Clerk if interested. It was seconded by Cllr Calthorpe and all voted in favour.
- ii) Feedback from KALC Dover Area meeting. The Council received a verbal update from Cllr Merriman who attended the last meeting she agreed to circulate minutes of the meeting to other Councillors.

18. Parish Councillor Vacancies

The Chair informed the Council that Cllr Calthorpe would be resigning as a parish councillor from 31st of August and therefore there are now 3 Councillor vacancies. A small presentation was made and the Chair thanked Cllr Calthorpe for her service over recent years and wished her well. Clerk to contact Facebook Community page and put the new notices up. Notice to be published on the Community Centre notice board.

19. Correspondence

None

20. Any other business to report/matters to discuss

Cllr Densham reported that the verges have not been cut properly and the sub-contractor have been using the wrong machinery. Clerk to report to KCC Highways.

Cllr Merriman raised the issue of the barrier in Napchester Road. It appears it has been erected further away from the originally agreed location. It now prohibits traffic from the new development exiting on to Sandwich Road via Napchester Road. It was understood the original plan was for the barrier to be erected close to the A256 bridge stopping traffic exiting the new development via Maydensole. Cllr Kenton suggested writing to Sara Platt, Head of Planning at DDC and regarding the

road closure issue and copy in Jim Black of Whitfield PC and himself. Cllr Merriman to investigate further.

21. Date and status of next meetings

Monthly Tuesday 5th September 2023 7.30pm – Studdal Church Hall.

Meeting closed at 9:00pm

A Nigol

Parish Clerk