

SUTTON BY DOVER PARISH COUNCIL

<https://suttonbydoverparishcouncil.org.uk/>

Minutes

Meeting held in Studdal Church Hall on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 7.30 pm.

1. Present and Apologies

Present

B Merriman (Chair)
R Buxton
H Densham
KCC Member Steve Manion
A Nigol (Clerk)
3 members of the public

Apologies

D Willet
DDC Member Nick Kenton

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Merriman declared an interest in item 7 i) Finance.

3. Approval of the minutes 4th July 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 July 2023

i) 12 Meadow Cottages. No update from the Planning Enforcement officers. The case is still under the investigation.

ii) Sutton Vale caravan site. There are now three caravans on the non registered site. The case is under the Planning Enforcement investigation.

iii) Goldstone Hollow, no update from Planning Enforcement. Clerk to follow up with the Enforcement officers.

iv) Nursery development site. Enforcement officer had spoken to the developer about the works being carried out on Sundays and the sub-contractor sends their apologies to the neighbours for the inconvenience it has caused. The submitted Construction Phase Plan requires no working allowed on Sundays and they promised this will not happen again. Cllr Merriman agreed to share this information with the neighbours.

v) Football nets clips, some of them need replacing. To go on October agenda.

vi) There has been no update on verges. Some of the verges have not been cut properly. Clerk to report to KCC.

5. Visitors

A member of the public shared information on the menage he is building on his land. He informed the Parish Council that a drainage system was in place and that he had been in touch with Dover District Council regarding planning permission requirements. He stated he would not be applying for planning permission.

6. Clerks Conference

Clerk to attend the Annual Clerks Conference organised by KALC which is taking place in Ditton, 27th September. It was proposed by Cllr Merriman seconded by Cllr Densham and all members voted in favour. Cllr Merriman agreed to find out what the mileage rate is.

7. Finance

Cllr Merriman left the room.

i) To approve the payment schedule for September was proposed by Cllr Buxton seconded by Cllr Densham. Cllr Merriman abstained from voting.

Chq No.

001563 Clerk	July-August wages	£936.00
001564 Clerk	July-August ex - OneDrive	£27.36
001565 B Merriman	Gift for Internal Auditor and Cllr Calthorpe	£11.38
001566 P Evans	July-August Allotment grass cutting	£200.00
001567 Playsafety Ltd	ROSPA Annual inspection on playing field	£180.00
001568 KALC	Clerks Conference 2023	£84.00

Cllr Merriman returned to the room.

ii) Bank mandate update. Cllr Buxton was added to the mandate as a signatory.

8. CPRE The Countryside Charity renewal. Charity membership renewal CPRE is the countryside charity.

The Council agreed to renew the membership for a further year. It was proposed by Cllr Merriman seconded by Cllr Densham and all members voted in favour. Payment to go on agenda once we have received the invoice.

9. Local Community

i) Nursery Building site update from Health & Safety Executive. The health& safety concerns were raised by the neighbours and the council reported these concerns to the Health& Safety Executive who had responded with the following: The law only requires PPE to be worn where those running a construction site decide it would help to prevent an injury. Often it is not required, for example, if there is no work above head height then hard hats would not be required. Similarly, high visibility clothing may only be necessary if there is a lot of vehicle movement around the site.

ii) Update on blocked drain Downs Road. Works have been completed.

iii) Update on blocked drains in Ashley and Roman Road. Clerk to follow up again with the KCC Highways.

9. Local Planning

No planning applications for consideration.

Noted:

i) 23/00786 Sutton Vale Caravan Park And Country Club Vale Road Sutton Kent CT15 5DH 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.

Granted with the following conditions in respect of your proposals. 1) One replacement tree preferably of a native species with a girth of at least 12/14 centimetres, shall be planted within 12 months of the removal of the Ash tree (0027) covered by the Order. Full details of the planting location, size and species of the replacement tree together with a 5- year management plan to demonstrate how the tree will be cared for until established, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority within 3 months from the date of this consent. New planting shall be of suitable stock, adequately staked and tied. If within a period of five years from the date of planting, the tree (or any replacement) is removed, uprooted, destroyed or dies, another tree of the same size and species shall be planted at the same place. Reason: In the interests of protecting the visual amenities and character of the site and locality.

10. Report from DDC/KCC

Cllr Manion reported following:

- i) KCC financial situation very tight.
- ii) Amber heath warning.
- iii) Reshuffle on the cabinet at KCC.
- iv) DDC proposed change to garden waste service. The current service allows for six bags, each with a weight of no more than 20 kg. Each Council approved waste bag has a capacity around 80 litres. A full collection of six bags would allow 480 litres of garden waste.
The proposal is for a wheeled bin with capacity of 240 litres. This means that under the wheeled bin system, the resident is receiving half the service of the current system, for the same licence fee.
Councillor Buxton spoke out against this proposal and it was agreed he would draft a letter to DDC and the Parish Clerk would action.
- v) DDC community grants this round will only focus on applications relating to cost of living issues.

11. Playing field

i) The council reviewed the ROSPA playing field inspection report. The main issue highlighted was the crumbling BMX track concrete. Council to decide what to do with the track and how to make it safe and maybe plants some trees and flowers in that area. To go on October agenda.

12. Allotments & Orchard

- i) The Council discussed removal of the shed. Cllr Merriman agreed to go and investigate what is in the shed and talk to some of the allotment owners about the possibility to dispose it. To go on October agenda.
- ii) Update on allotment grant. Clerk to submit some additional information required. To go on October agenda.
- iii) Apple Day taking place 23rd September 11am-1pm. Council considered the risk assessment from Cllr Calthorpe relating to the proposed apple day. To approve the assessment was proposed by Cllr Merriman seconded by Cllr Buxton and all members voted in favour. Clerk to speak the contractor who cuts the grass around the orchard to have a cut one week before the actual event. The Council agreed to spend up to £30 pounds on refreshments. It was proposed by Cllr Merriman seconded by Cllr Densham and all members voted in favour. Clerk to post apple day reminder one week before the event on the community social media platform.

13. Resubmission of application to KCC to adopt Three Horseshoes Green as a Village Green

Previously the application was submitted on 2017. Unfortunately, KCC has no trace about the application. Clerk to contact KCC for the new forms for resubmission.

14. Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) of Council owned electrical equipment. PAT testing

The electrical equipment owned by the Council is due to portable appliance testing. There are three items to be tested. Cllr Merriman agreed to contact the person licenced for PAT testing. To go on October agenda.

15. Parish Councillor Vacancies

There are three vacancies at the moment. Clerk to keep advertising on the website and social media platforms.

16. Correspondence

Cllr Merriman received a letter from Walmer Town Council asking for support regarding the closure of Deal household and recycling and waste centre. Clerk to write a letter to KCC.

17. Any other business to report/matters to discuss

- i) Cllr Buxton raised some concerns about the lack of taxis available in the area, especially in the evenings.
- ii) Cllr Densham mentioned that DEFRA has informed local farmers that they only get paid every other year by cutting back the hedges, not every year. The Council agreed to write to local MP and ask if she could share our concerns with DEFRA. We live in the area with lots of single-track highways. It will cause the accidents if they are not cut back every year. Clerk to action.

18. Date and status of next meetings

Monthly Tuesday 3rd October 2023 7.30pm – Studdal Church Hall.

Meeting closed at 21:00

Signed: Barbara Merriman

Date: 3 October 2023

Paper copy on file with Clerk