

GOODNESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2012

Present

Councillors Plumptre, Compton, Ellison and Phillips. District Councillor Chandler.

1. Apologies

PCSO Gary Painter was invited but unable to attend the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of the 16th July 2012

The minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 16th July were signed as a true record of events by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the Agenda

There were no matters arising.

4. Community Policing

PCSO Gary Painter was unable to attend the meeting.

5. District Councillors invited to report on DDC

District Councillor Chandler reported the following:

i. Olympics

The district had a very successful July hosting the torch relay for the London Olympics, with the streets lined with people. There were no incidents of any kind. 350 volunteers helped steward and marshal the events and approximately 50 of those have been given further roles within the town having shown an interest in doing further volunteer work.

ii. Enforcement

DDC are having a complete revision on enforcement (planning, licensing, parking, litter, dog fouling, antisocial behaviour etc). The council will focus on how it is currently carried out to assess its effectiveness and whether any improvements can be made. It is to be discussed in the next cabinet meeting.

iii. Tenants

DDC continues to work with its tenants. There are changes coming next year to the benefit system, and housing benefit in particular. Those occupying a house considered to be larger than the tenant is thought to need, will have their benefit recalculated according to their need, and not their current housing situation. Tenants will be offered the opportunity to downsize to avoid the situation of a sudden income decrease. This should free up a number of council owned properties.

6. Goodnestone CE Primary School

The Clerk read an email from the Head Teacher of Goodnestone School concerning traffic outside the school. The Council agreed that it is a problem and the Clerk agreed to contact Kent Highways to assess whether the site would meet the criteria to have a 20mph zone implemented. However it was also agreed that it is not just the speed of traffic that is a problem, but also the behaviour of those driver coming to drop-off or collect children from the

school. District Councillor Chandler offered to contact the Community Safety Unit at DDC to come and speak to parents & advise where they may be breaking the law with their driving / parking behaviour. The unit then returns the following week to enforce this where necessary.

7. Footpaths

The Parish footpaths all appear to be in good working order.

8. Village Pond

Councillor Ellison confirmed that after having the chemical test results analysed there is no grounds to suspect the Pond poses any danger to wildlife. Swimming is still not recommended though!

9. Affordable Housing Scheme

The Clerk reported that the 2-bedroom flat has now been offered to a resident of, and with local connections to, Wingham. There has also been a new application for the 2-bedroom house (both of these properties are shared ownership).

10. Highway Matters

The Clerk reported a new sign had been put in place at the top of Griffin Hill to replace the damaged one.

11. Finances

i. Annual Audit

The Chairman approved the annual Audit for y/e 31st March 2012 for the clerk to send off to the Audit Commission.

ii. Payments for Approval

The following items were approved for payment:

- | | | |
|----|---|----------|
| a. | Roger Austin | £1284.00 |
| | <i>Proposed by Councillor Ellison and seconded by Councillor Compton</i> | |
| b. | Smith of Derby Ltd | £240.00 |
| | <i>Proposed by Councillor Plumtre and seconded by Councillor Ellison</i> | |
| c. | Clerk's Expenses (Gala Tent) | £21.90 |
| | <i>Proposed by Councillor Plumtre and seconded by Councillor Ellison</i> | |
| d. | Clerk's Salary | £810.73 |
| | <i>Proposed by Councillor Compton and seconded by Councillor Phillips</i> | |
| e. | BTCV | £38.00 |
| | <i>This item was not approved for payment – Councillor Ellison to investigate whether it is required.</i> | |
| f. | Kent County Playing Fields Association | £20.00 |
| | <i>Proposed by Councillor Phillips and seconded by Councillor Compton</i> | |

12. Planning

- i. TC/12/00095 North Lodge, Goodnestone
Councillor Ellison agreed to look at the site and report back to the council.
- ii. 12/00567 1 FitzWalter Cottages & 6 FitzWalter's Meadow
Councillors agreed a response of ambivalent.
- iii. 12/00686 The Ark, Chillenden
Councillors agreed to positively support the application.

Following discussion regarding the notification of applicants of the Parish Councillors view of their application it was agreed this would be added as an item on the agenda of the next meeting.

13. Written Correspondence

The Clerk read a letter received from a resident suggestion a one way system be put in place to prevent any possible collisions at the top of Saddler's Hill. The Council agreed this was not a practical solution.

14. Councillors Reports on Parish Matters

Councillors reported a collision with a refuse lorry and a cyclist in Chillenden, and lead had been stolen from the Old Dairy at Goodnestone Park.

15. Any Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

There being no further items to discuss the meeting closed at 21.06pm.

The next meeting will be held on 21st November.