

GOODNESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2012

Present

Councillors Kittle, Compton, Plumptre, Ellison and Phillips. District Councillor Bartlett.

1. Apologies

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

2. Minutes of the Meeting of the 12th September 2012

After amending the apologies to include Councillor Kittle, the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 12th September 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

Budget

Discussions have begun concerning next years budget. More savings need to be made so there are tough times ahead. As DDC wish to avoid cutting front line services it is likely the savings made will be in the form of staffing cuts.

Housing

A new tenancy strategy just been introduced. It was approved by the cabinet last week and is now out to consultation. In Aylesham, planning approval has now been given for 500 homes (phase 1). Concerns have been raised by Wingham Parish Council about the impact of increased traffic as this is not going to be looked at until after phase 1 has been completed.

Council Tax

The changes to Council Tax benefits next year have been further complicated by a Government offer of £100 million to ensure that no individual will be hit harder than a 8.5% reduction in benefits, which is part of the East Kent scheme, of which DDC is part of

Richborough Tip

Although DDC objects, the proposed closure is in the hands of KCC. Richborough Action Group are seeking advice concerning putting in an injunction to stop the closure.

Neighbourhood Forums

£90,000 has recently been awarded in grants and the details of those benefiting will be announced in the New Year. Grants are still available from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust and although Parish Councils can't apply, other community groups can. There is still £35,000 of grant funding still left to be awarded before 2013. For more information contact Una Mills on 01304 872 274 or email unamills@dover.gov.uk

Speed Limits

The subject of 20mph speed limits was on the agenda for the Joint Transportation Board (JTB) last month.

6. Goodnestone Primary School

The Clerk agreed to contact the Head Teacher regarding the temporary fencing that is in situ on School Lane and along the boundary line between the school and the recently cleared area to ask when this is proposed to be replaced by permanent fencing.

7. Footpaths

They are all very very muddy.

8. Highway Matters

Kent Highways are to clear the drain at the junction to Chillenden along the top road. Councillor Plumtre will speak to the Estate regarding the blocked drain outside Park Cottage to enable this to be cleared.

9. Finances

Payments for approval

The following were approved for payment:

- i. Audit Commission £204.00
Proposed by Councillor Plumtre and seconded by Councillor Phillips
- ii. Roger Austin £624.00
Proposed by Councillor Ellison and seconded by Councillor Compton

10. Planning

Potential Planning Application

The Clerk read a letter from Mr Graham Graves to the Parish Council regarding a potential planning application to be submitted. The Clerk agreed to respond to Mr Graves suggesting he arrange a pre-application meeting with DDC, and approaches those neighbouring properties that may be affected by the proposed development.

Proposal of notification of applicant of PC recommendation

The Council agreed not to pursue the proposal of the Clerk notifying applicants of the Parish Council's recommendation as this information is available to applicants on the DDC Website. Applicants are also welcome to attend PC meetings to hear the Council's discussions & decisions on applications.

11. Village Christmas Tree

Councillors agreed to pay for a set of lights to go on the Goodnestone Village Christmas Tree, kindly donated by James & Emma Loder Symonds.

12. Written Correspondence

There was no written correspondence to discuss.

13. Councillors Reports on Parish Matters

Following complaints to Councillors, the Clerk agreed to contact DDC regarding builder's waste being stored on the field behind the village hall by the landowner. There are concerns that there

may be asbestos. The Clerk will ask the planning authority to investigate and if necessary serve a notice requiring the landowner to take appropriate steps to tidy up the land.

Following complaints to the Council, the Clerk agreed to contact Kent Highways regarding the increasing number of scooters being parked outside Boyes House to see if this action is legal and whether Highways feel they are causing an obstruction.

14. Any Other Business

Councillor Plumtre agreed to investigate whether the man who appears to be living in a tent is situated in a private garden or on the allotment land.

The next meeting will be held on January 16th 2013 in Chillenden Church Hall.

There being no further items to discuss the meeting closed at 20.50hrs.