

GOODNESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2014

Present:

Councillors Plumptre, Phillips, Compton, Ellison and O'Sullivan. District Councillor Chandler. Dover District Council Chairman Sue Nicholas.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies to report.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of 9th July 2014

The minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 9th July 2014 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. Councillor Vacancy (Agenda item 13)

Michael O'Sullivan, as the only candidate to come forward, was appointed as a Parish Councillor by the Chairman. Councillor O'Sullivan signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and his Register of Interests.

5. District Councillors invited to report on DDC

District Councillor Chandler reported the following:

Sandwich supermarkets

The Special Planning Committee has decided to permit the building of two supermarkets in the Sandwich area, a Waitrose on Sandwich Road and a Sainsburys at the Discovery Park.

Discovery Park, Sandwich

The thriving park now provides employment for over 1700 people in a variety of small companies and is supporting existing Sandwich businesses by making use of their resources.

The Discovery Park master plan is expected to go to planning in the next couple of months and will include some housing on the southern edge, next to Monks Wall. There is also a proposal for a new railway station, which is still in place despite the closure of Manston airport. The Park was awarded £4.6 million by the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, towards improvements to the site's infrastructure, including roads, power lines and sewerage.

Sheltered housing

In September, the Cabinet approved a new sheltered housing delivery model, which will be mostly town-based. There will be some placed in rural locations such as Preston. As clarification, Cllr Chandler said that the warden will not be removed, as some had feared. The model will look more towards independent living, with the appointment of a new health and wellbeing advisor and improved laundry services.

Preston and Salvatori

In response to a query by Cllr Ellison, Cllr Chandler reported that the developer has submitted an application for 73 houses at the Grove Road site, which is now in consultation. The Salvatori site is contaminated and close to the flood zone, so is unsuitable for housing. A community nature reserve will also be established. Refurbishment of the village hall is included in the plans. Preston Parish Council are putting a survey out to locals and will ask to extend the consultation period in order for the results to be collected.

6. Community Policing

The Clerk read out new PCSO Doreen Lee's July/August report for Goodnestone, which stated that two calls were made to Kent Police relating to Goodnestone. There were no concerns as a result of these and no anti-social behaviour calls. There was one crime reported in Goodnestone, but it could not be disclosed.

7. Goodnestone CE Primary School

According to Cllr Plumptre, Nonington and Goodnestone primary schools are to be federated. This would involve sharing a governing body and headteacher (from Nonington) and also certain resources. Cllrs Ellison and Plumptre felt this to be a slight downgrade.

Cllr Ellison reported that this year's intake was down, at four pupils, with thirteen leaving last year. Nonington CEP is to be developed as a special needs school.

Cllr Chandler asked if the federation of the schools had been decided – Cllrs Plumptre and Ellison responded that it had.

8. Footpaths

Cllr Ellison reported that the flytipping at the end of Cherry Garden lane, Chillenden has been cleared, but that there is an ongoing problem with the dumping of tyres and other items on the Goodnestone Road between Goodnestone and Wingham.

He reported that there has been little maintenance of footpaths – Cllr Chandler added that the recent showers had accelerated the growth of nettles etc.

Cllr Compton reported that unfortunately the dog fouling on School Lane has started again. She had looked into enforcement and found that this could be tricky as the enforcement officer must be present at the time of the offence (which is often committed early in the morning). Photographic evidence would be acceptable however so Cllr Ellison and her husband will be looking out for the offender. Cllr O'Sullivan asked if a bin could be provided. Cllr Chandler responded that the Parish Council could pay for one to be installed and emptied. Cllr Plumptre suggested the recreation ground as the best site as it would be accessible for the lorry. The Clerk agreed to contact DDC waste services about this.

9. Highway Matters

9.1 Short Street

Cllr Plumptre reported that he had consulted Natural England and that there were Cross Compliance rules to be adhered to regarding outdoor pigs. Cllr Ellison reported that he had consulted an NFU representative who said that the NFU have had involvement in other cases where the image of farming in the community is suffering. Cllr Plumptre expressed concern that no formal complaints had been made at the time where incidents had occurred i.e. the school bus losing grip. There was a general consensus that some hard standing at either end of Short Street would help the situation. Cllr O'Sullivan suggested that the residents should be asked to keep an incident log that could be backdated.

10. Goodnestone Church Disabled Access

Cllr Phillips reported that commencement of the works by Nick Barnes was imminent and that the site was already marked out.

11. Village Noticeboards

It was reported that Steve Bennett had quoted £250 for the refurbishment of all three noticeboards, at Goodnestone, Chillenden and Rowling. Another quote is expected from Ken Birch.

The council has yet to obtain quotes for repainting the old signpost. Cllr Chandler agreed to find out who has restored other old signs locally.

12. Vogt Solar

The Council agreed that the community fund money should be transferred into the reserve account in order to be transparent about how it is spent.

Cllr Phillips reported that the promised screening had still not been planted. Cllr Plumtre counted that hedges are not planted in summer and maybe it was intended for later in the year.

Cllr Plumtre proposed that there should a sub-committee should be elected to determine how the money should be spent – Cllr Phillips was elected to represent Chillenden and Cllr Ellison, Goodnestone. The Millennium field and shed were suggested as possible candidates for funding.

13. Updates to Local Government Regulations and Legal Topic Notes

The Clerk distributed copies of these to the councillors.

14. Finances

- *Payments for Approval*

The following items were approved for payment:

- i. Clerk's salary £881.09
- ii. Clerk's expenses £37.00

Proposed by Councillor Phillips, Seconded by Councillor Ellison

15. Planning

15.1 Two recent planning applications relating to Goodnestone Park were discussed:

- 14/0085 (Change of use and conversion to a holiday let and erection of two access gates)
- 14/0098 (internal and external alterations to facilitate change of use to a holiday let)

Cllr Plumtre left the room due to his interest in the above. After some discussion, the Council decided to positively support the application on the grounds that it would create jobs and help to preserve the building.

15.2 Millers Farm fence

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the tenant via email and that she intended to grow plants up the concrete posts and along wire between the posts using the services of a landscaper. The Council was not satisfied that this would improve on the current lack of visibility for Mr Hewer to exit his driveway, nor would it help in preventing the dogs escaping, and that it would be best if the posts were cut down to the permitted height or removed. The Clerk agreed to contact DDC about an enforcement notice.

16. Written Correspondence

There was no correspondence to discuss.

17. Councillors Reports on Parish Matters

Cllr Plumtre reported that Ash Parish Council have an interval set by in the meetings during which parishioners can express their views. He proposed that Goodnestone PC do the same and the Council agreed. This will be added to future agendas.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.07pm.

Future Meeting Dates:

PC Meeting

Weds 12th November

Goodnestone Village Hall