

GOODNESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY 16th MARCH 2016

Present:

Councillors Plumpton, Phillips, Compton, Ellison and O'Sullivan. District Councillor Sue Chandler. Clerk Sophie Walker. Tim Clement.

1. Apologies

No apologies had been received.

2. Public Contribution Time

Tim Clement asked when the new windows would be fitted at Chillenden Church Hall. Cllr Phillips responded that he expected them to be fitted in late spring to early summer, but that it is now in the hands of the PCC.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 20th January 2016

The minutes of the meeting were signed as a true version of events by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the Agenda

There were no matters arising.

5. District Councillors invited to report on DDC

District Cllr Chandler read out her report on matters in the district, summarised below:

Cllr Chandler reported that the Draft Corporate Plan and Budget had been approved by DDC two weeks beforehand.

Social housing

DDC has sufficient funds in the short to medium term to service the loan that was taken out when the Council refinanced social housing, but it cannot afford to build as many as it had previously hoped.

Neighbourhood forum at Sandwich Guildhall

As traffic is a major issue in the town, an 'except for access' weight restriction will soon be implemented which will cover the whole of Sandwich. This should help to reduce through traffic while still allowing delivery vehicles through. Cllr Ellison asked whether Waitrose were still planning to open a store in the town. Cllr Chandler reported that Waitrose had pulled out, as had Sainsbury's.

Manston

The future of Manston Airport is a very complex issue, but may be housing. Thanet Council are considering three main options for the site, including aviation.

Discovery Park

There are to be fewer houses than planned on the Discovery Park, but this is because those built will be larger and more spread out. The commercial aspect is still doing very well. Christchurch University are opening a campus there which will have undergraduate and postgraduate students working with mediscience companies.

Queen's Birthday

The weekend of the official birthday is 10th-12th June. DDC is holding a big event at Kearsney Abbey called 'Parade in the Park', which will involve a picnic and entertainment including marching bands.

6. Community Policing

The clerk reported that there had been one report of burglary on or near Fitzwalters Meadow in January. The investigation has been completed and no suspect has been identified. It was established that the parish does

not have an official Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr Chandler reported that some parishes have informal arrangements, but it is the official organisations that generally receive police information.

7. Goodnestone CE Primary School

There was nothing to report from the school.

8. Footpaths

Cllr Ellison had no specific comments in relation to footpaths, but reported that the flytipping on the path to Chillenden Mill had been removed. It was reported that some rubbish had been noticed on Station Road close to Chillenden, but it looked like the Council were already there and dealing with it.

9. Highway Matters

There were no specific issues to report.

10. Goodnestone Millennium Shed

Cllr Ellison reported that he had had little luck in finding volunteers to help creosote the shed. Tim Clement offered to provide some volunteers. The council debated the future usefulness of the current marquee, which is in poor condition.

11. Community Fund

Cllr Phillips provided two estimates in relation to upgrading the heating at Chillenden Church Hall using the fund, as the current infra-red heaters are insufficient in very cold weather. A quote was chosen which involves replacing the five heaters with new ones which will provide instant heat and silently, using the existing points, for £1,250 + VAT. The Goodnestone Village Hall Committee have requested £200 from the fund towards replacing the felt on the porch roof. The parish council are happy to contribute towards this.

12. Village Noticeboards

The clerk reported that the noticeboard by Goodnestone Village Hall, which had recently been painted, was stuck shut in places. Cllr Phillips agreed to investigate.

13. Chillenden Village Hall

There was nothing to report.

14. PC website funding

The clerk had been contacted recently regarding the availability of government grants towards the establishment of parish council websites. The council agreed that the village website is more than sufficient and that no separate website is needed for the parish council.

15. Finances

- *Payments for Approval*

The following items were approved for payment:

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| i. Sophie Walker (Clerk's salary) | £900.51 | Cheque no 326 |
| <i>Proposed by Cllr Phillips, Seconded by Cllr O'Sullivan</i> | | |
| ii. Action with Communities in Rural Kent | £50.00 | Cheque no 327 |
| <i>Proposed by Cllr Ellison, Seconded by Cllr Plumpton</i> | | |
| iii. PKF Littlejohn (Audit service) | £540.00 | Cheque no 328 |

Proposed by Councillor O'Sullivan, Seconded by Councillor Compton

- Sector-led body – it was agreed that there was no need to 'opt-out' of the new arrangements for the appointment of auditors for small councils.

16. Planning

There were no planning applications requiring the Council's comments at the time of the meeting. Consultations that fall in periods away from meeting dates are discussed amongst the council outside of meetings and comments made at the time.

17. Written Correspondence

There was no correspondence to discuss.

18. Councillors Reports on Parish Matters

The high level of litter on the verges adjoining the A2 were discussed. Cllr O'Sullivan reported that the new dog poo/litter bin had not been being emptied weekly as was arranged with the council, but the situation seems to have improved.

Cllr Compton reported that various people had asked whether there will be a fete this year, but this is not really parish council business.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.45pm