

GOODNESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY 13th MARCH 2013

Present

Councillors Plumptre, Compton, Ellison, Kittle and Phillips. District Councillor Chandler.
1 member of the public.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies to record.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of the 16th January 2013

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the Agenda

It is understood that Luke Howell and Amy Kerr will shortly be signing a 3 year lease so will be continuing as tenants of the FitzWalter Arms.

4. Community Policing

Although PCSO Gary Painter was unable to attend the meeting he will be sending the Clerk monthly local crime statistics reports by email.

5. District Councillors invited to report on DDC

District Councillor Sue Chandler reported the following:

Budget

The budget has been agreed for the next year and includes a 1.8% Council Tax increase, equivalent to 6p per week on a Band D property. It is still the lowest in Kent. There are changes in the way business rates are dealt with and a portion are delegated to District Councils and taken off the settlement they receive. This was based on a snapshot before developments took place at Pfizers. As a substantial part of older site will be demolished, DDC will lose the rates from this. Therefore to alleviate some of this loss (£240,000) there has been the council tax increase. In order to protect Parish Councils, DDC has passed on the entire grant available.

Housing

DDC are gearing up for the changes in Housing benefit which come in on April 1st, as they anticipate an influx of phone calls. People have been made aware if their benefit is going to change, but DDC will not be making anybody move. They will help people move to a smaller property if needed. Some groups are exempt from this, including pensioners and foster carers.

Land Allocations Document

The consultations have finished and DDC are looking at any exceptions before it is agreed and sent back to the Government, mainly around Sandwich. The LAD designates preferred sites for development. In Sandwich there are issues around sites and the leisure centre and their wish to expand which DDC didn't know about so there may be an amendment for that and the additional retail space. As part of the document DDC have to do an evidence based retail assessment. Using the government calculation there is apparently a shortfall of food / retail / supermarket space between Deal and Sandwich. DDC therefore has to designate a space and it is considered better to protect a smaller space within the town rather than risk having a large supermarket space just outside. Unless a space is designated within the town there is no

defence to turn down a large supermarket on, for example, Discovery Park etc. The designation of the space within the town has therefore been done to protect the town.

6. Highway Matters

The meeting was closed at 7.57pm to allow a member of the public to address the council. The meeting was reopened at 8.15pm.

After discussion it was agreed that Councillor Phillips would continue to monitor the situation regarding the state of the highway along Short Street and in conjunction with members of the public would collect any photographic evidence of lorries & buses causing problems. The Clerk agreed to contact the company that use Short Street as a bus route to see if there is an alternative route that can be taken.

The Clerk also agreed to undertake a new report of the potholes in the parish on the Kent Highways website.

7. Goodnestone Primary School

The fence at the rear of the school is to be erected during the Easter Holidays, replacing the temporary metal fencing currently in place.

8. Footpaths

Extremely muddy at times, extremely wet at times, extremely dry at times. Councillor Kittle agreed to check the bridleway at the bottom of Short Street.

9. Planning

- i. Outline application for the erection of a dwelling
Site Adjoining Chillenden House, Chillenden, Canterbury, CT3 1PS

Councillor Phillips agreed to arrange a site meeting with the applicant prior to the Council giving its response.

10. Finances

- Payments for Approval
 - i. Clerk's Salary £826.95

Proposed by Councillor Kittle & seconded by Councillor Phillips.

- ii. Action with Communities in Rural Kent £65.00

Proposed by Councillor Ellison & seconded by Councillor Plumpton.

- Clerk's Salary Review SCP 25

In the Clerk's absence the council agreed a salary increase to level SCP25.

11. Written Correspondence

There was no written correspondence to discuss.

12. Councillors Reports on Parish Matters

Councillor Kittle reported he has recently had VFast installed at his property as he has sight of the mast at Grain Harvesters. There is a possibility that a repeater will be installed on Holy Cross Church, either by VFast or a similar company. This would mean Goodnestone would have access to considerable faster broadband speed than is currently available.

13. Any Other Business

There being no further items to discuss the chairman closed the meeting at 9.02pm.