

GOODNESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY 20th JULY 2016

Present:

Councillors Plumptre, Phillips, Ellison and O’Sullivan. Clerk Sophie Walker. Tim Clement.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from District Cllr Trevor Bartlett.

2. Public Contribution Time

Tim Clement asked when the barbeque to mark the official unveiling of the Chillenden Hall windows was to be expected. It was agreed that Tim would liaise with Steve Fennemore and that the clerk would assist in publicising the event once a date had been set.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 30th May 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

The clerk reported that she had recently learned that there had been a new Community Development Officer appointed at Aylesham. The council agreed that the new CDO should be invited to the next meeting and the clerk agreed to arrange this.

5. District Councillors invited to report on DDC

No district councillor was able to attend the meeting and no report had been submitted to the clerk.

6. Community Policing

No crimes had been reported in the parish since the previous meeting. Between this meeting and the publication of these minutes, the police website was updated to show that one crime of criminal damage and arson, was reported ‘on or near a sports recreation area’ in Chillenden in May, indicating the cricket pitch.

7. Goodnestone CE Primary School

Cllr O’Sullivan reported that new play equipment had been installed at the school.

8. Footpaths

Cllr Ellison had no specific comments in relation to footpaths. The clerk reported that she had contacted KCC to obtain the area officer’s details to try to pursue the issue with the wire protruding from the Rowling-Chillenden footpath.

9. Village Pond

It was reported that Maria Himsworth, who investigated the pond for her dissertation, had found that the water quality was surprisingly good. Cllr Plumptre offered that the Goodnestone Estate would fund the removal of the hazardous tree.

10. Highway Matters

Cllr O’Sullivan reported that he contacted DDC on a number of occasions in relation to the general/dog waste bin in Goodnestone which had not been emptied for some time and was overflowing. The clerk agreed to make contact with the council to resolve this. It was reported that there had been a series of flytipping incidents along Buckland Lane. Cllr Phillips reported an ongoing issue with overflowing rubbish from one of the residential properties just above Chillenden Windmill, and provided photos. The clerk agreed to find out the address of the property and to write to the occupier and to Veolia, who had not picked up the rubbish around the bins. Cllr O’Sullivan also reported a blocked drain on the S-bend bend at the Wingham end of Claypits.

11. Goodnestone Millennium Shed

The shed has now been creosoted and strimmed around, with thanks to Cllrs Phillips and Ellison, Tim Clement and his team from Beech Grove. The interior has yet to be sorted out. It was reported that the tables and benches are in fair condition, and suggested that perhaps a new gazebo should be purchased, which could then be hired out to parishioners for a deposit.

12. Community Fund

The clerk agreed to ensure that some of the remaining fund money was ringfenced for the proposed additional facilities for Goodnestone Church, discussed in the January meeting.

13. Finances

13.1 *Payments for approval:*

The following items were approved for payment:

i. Kent Association of Local Councils £189.02 Cheque no 336

Proposed by Cllr Phillips, Seconded by Cllr O'Sullivan

ii. Bridie Birch – internal audit £40.00 Cheque no 337

Proposed by Cllr Ellison, Seconded by Cllr Plumtre

14. Planning

Cllr Phillips reported that his company was bidding for the tender for the extension to the Parsonage in Chillenden and so he would abstain from commenting in relation to any planning discussions about this property.

15. Written Correspondence

A parishioner had verbally reported to the clerk and council before the meeting that bird scarers had been going off frequently during the night and early morning. Cllr Plumtre agreed to speak to them to ask them to keep a log.

16. Councillors Reports on Parish Matters

Cllr Ellison reported that he had recently attended a CCTV presentation meeting at Aylesham. Cllr Ellison had learned that rubbish dumping and antisocial behaviour are generally the main issues that prompt councils to install CCTV, but there are many issues for councils in doing this, e.g. privacy. DDC have reportedly made successful prosecutions in Aylesham by using mobile cameras in partnership with the police. This approach could possibly be used in problem areas such as Cherry Garden Lane between Goodnestone and Chillenden.

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

The next meeting will be held at Chillenden Church Hall on Wednesday 21st September at 7.30pm.