

GOODNESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL 2018

Present:

Councillors Phillips, Plumptre and Hawksworth and Aldington. District Councillor Trevor Bartlett. Tim Clement, Stephen Hayward.

1. Apologies

Clerk Sophie Walker gave apologies in advance of the meeting. Cllr Hawksworth agreed to minute the meeting on Clerk Walker's behalf.

2. Public Contribution Time

Tim Clement confirmed the services of the Beech Grove Outreach Club in maintaining the Goodnestone village pond – and will be liaising with Cllr Phillips with respect to coordinating their efforts with the volunteers from Chillenden. Volunteers from elsewhere in the Parish are still very welcome and needed and are invited to contact Cllr Phillips or The Clerk for more details.

Stephen Hayward introduced himself to the meeting and requested clarification on some matters regarding the qualifying criteria for the role of a co-opted Counsellor to the PC. This will be clarified and reported back to him by Cllr Phillips.

Another parishioner had expressed interest in applying to be considered for the position of co-opted Counsellor on the PC. Both parishioners are invited to provide a brief statement via email to Cllr Phillips or Clerk Walker before the next meeting for consideration.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 24 January 2018

The minutes were agreed and then signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the Agenda

There were no matters raised.

5. District Councillors invited to report on DDC

District Councillor Bartlett provided a verbal report, a summary of which is below:

- The Deal Pier refurbishment contract has been awarded to HGR Construction and will commence on 9 April 2018. It comprises of essential repairs to the surface and the concrete pillars and upgrading the seats along the pier. Two styles are being considered and feedback on preferences by the public being sought. New lighting will also be installed and new tenants are being sought for the recently vacated restaurant at the end of the pier.
- There is a consultation underway regarding dog walking access routes. The consultation will conclude on 9 April 2018, please check on DDC website for further details.
- The introduction of Car Parking charges in rural areas including Wingham and Ash have been withdrawn. The review across the rest of the district as a whole continues. The proposed introduction of Sunday car parking charges has received mixed feedback, with local businesses such as restaurants welcoming the introduction as it frees up space through natural rotation of available spaces for their customers. A solution to ensuring a natural rotation of car parking spaces needs to be considered.
- The development of Whitfield Leisure Centre is progressing well.
- The Leisure Centre in Dover is now being managed by Places for People. The facilities there now include the first county standard competitive pool in Kent and four sets of equipment to enable disabled access to the pool. Free swimming for children under 8yrs of age when accompanied by a full paying adult is also offered
- The A257 speed limit between Shatterling and Wingham has now been successfully reduced to a 50mph zone.
- DDC will close its area offices in Deal and Sandwich, due to the increase in demand for DDC online services. However, in Deal the previous DDC office function will now be offered within the Citizen's Advice Bureau and in Sandwich it will be based from the Age Concern centre. Opening times are to be confirmed.

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- The ongoing Sandwich Church Chimes issue has been escalated to the Environment Secretary for his consideration.
- The 2018/2019 budgets for DDC Community Charge have been increased to just under 3%. The increase will pay towards two new posts: a transport officer and a tourism officer.
- DDC employs new Apprentices at its offices and wishes to consider taking on more in 2018.
- The DDC AGM will be held on 23 May 2018.

6. Community Policing

The Clerk will provide an updated report at the next meeting.

7. Goodnestone CE Primary School

Cllr Hawksworth reported that she has now been co-opted as Governor to the Federation of Goodnestone and Nonington Primary CE Schools for three years and will be inducted very soon.

8. Footpaths

The Clerk will provide an updated report at the next meeting.

9. Highway Matters

Cllrs Phillips and Plumtree reported that there had been road surface repairs on Griffin Hill and Short Street and Cllr Aldington reported that the persistent periodic flooding that occurs at the junction of Cave Lane and Station Road had now been addressed.

Once the support posts have been installed, the SID will be launched in Chillenden and then rotated between the locations on a four week basis. Cllr Aldington and Cllr Phillips will manage the rotation schedule and the battery charging duty between them. Cllr Aldington will download and record the data captured.

10. Bonnington and Goodnestone Speed Limits

Cllr Aldington reported that he had been successful in ascertaining the key criteria stipulated by KCC with regards to securing a reduction in speed limit to 30mph for Bonnington and 20mph for The Street in Goodnestone. This was discussed and queries raised by the PC with regards to the criteria and the previous success by Nonington PC in reducing the speed limit around Nonington Church and school to 20mph. Cllr Aldington will refer queries back to KCC and investigate options with regards to the PC part funding the new speed signs in the areas concerned.

11. Village Pond

The Clerk has previously agreed to locate the lease agreements for Fairfield and the Pond so that the PC can ascertain its responsibilities in their regard and this will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Also, please see Tim Clement's comments under Section 2 above.

12. Millennium Field and Decking

Cllr Phillips has been making good the indent in the field following the removal of the decking. It is estimated that several tonnes of soil would enable the area to be levelled. Cllr Plumtree offered suitable available material and transportation to the site.

13. Village Clock Maintenance – Vote

It was voted to continue to provide funding to maintain the village clock in 2018.

14. Church Fundraising

The council has this year allocated £1,000 to assist with the proposed improvements at Goodnestone church. This payment, coupled with the £1,000 previously allocated in 2017, will be included for payment in the agenda for the next meeting.

15. Community Fund

Clerk Walker will provide a revised update on the position of the Community Fund at the next meeting.

16. Finances

14.1 Payments for approval:

The following items were approved for payment:

i.	Clerk's salary	£900.51	Cheque no 361
	<i>Proposer: Cllr Aldington; Seconder: Cllr Phillips</i>		
ii.	Supply & installation SID sign by KCC (incl. VAT)	£6,908.84	Cheque no 362
	<i>Proposer: Cllr Phillips; Seconder: Cllr Plumtre</i>		

Cllr Hawksworth confirmed that the PC insurance policy includes the two Parish defibrillators. The Clerk has already agreed to ensure that the defibrillators are included in the PC asset register. Cllr Hawksworth will inform the insurance provider of the plans to purchase the new SID and advise if the insurance policy needs to be amended or increased as a result. Once it is purchased, it will be added onto the PC asset register.

The PC is required to adopt Financial Regulations in line with its financial policy and controls. Cllr Hawksworth is reviewing and amending the draft standard financial regulation policy before circulation to the PC and Clerk Walker for review and amendment by the PC before adoption of same.

17. Planning

KCC/DO/0256/2017 - The Old Tilmanstone Colliery, Pike Road, Eythorne, Kent, CT15 4ND

It was agreed that the PC views on the recent amendments to this planning application would be made by Cllr Hawksworth in writing to Cllr Ledger, Chair of Eythorne PC.

18. Written Correspondence

Following Clerk Walker's recent resignation, the post was advertised throughout the Parish via email and on the Parish noticeboards. An application for the role had been received from Christine Plummer. Following discussion, her application was accepted unanimously by the PC. Cllr Phillips will confirm the offer for the role to Christine Plummer.

Prior to the meeting, Clerk Walker has kindly agreed to stay on to ensure on the job training and a smooth handover.

District Cllr Bartlett kindly offered a copy of an employment contract used in Eastry PC for the Clerk position and this was very welcomed by the PC as a whole.

19. Councillors Reports on Parish Matters

Cllr Aldington, in his capacity as a trustee of Goodnestone Village Hall, reported that the Village Hall had raised £289.02 (net) in its recent fund raising activity towards repair works needed to the porch of the Village Hall. The PC had previously agreed to match a proportion of the funds raised, to a maximum of £150.00. The payment of £144.51 by the C towards repairs to the Village Hall will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Litter picking parties and street sign cleaning parties: volunteers are needed from across the Parish for this invaluable task. Cllr Phillips has identified suitable litter picking equipment for consideration for the PC to purchase and this will be included on the agenda at the next meeting. Please could all interested volunteers contact Cllr Phillips or Clerk Walker.

The Goodnestone dog bin has not been emptied again. Cllr Hawksworth will report this to DDC online.

Chillenden village notice board requires replacing to be fit for purpose. Cllr Phillips will source quotations for this and they will be included on the agenda at the next meeting.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting closed at 9pm.

The next PC meeting is the AGM and will be held at Chillenden Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd May at 7.30pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at Goodnestone Village Hall on Wednesday 30th May at 7.30pm.

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