



WHITFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Whitfield Parish Council held on 8th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Sports Pavilion, The Recreation Ground, Whitfield, Dover.

Present

Councillor J. Goodsell (Chair)
Councillor W. Bowman
Councillor C. Moore
Councillor C. Coleman
Councillor K. Gowland
Councillor S. Rashid
Councillor A. Lamont
Councillor J. Cummings
Councillor M. Pattenden

Apologies: Councillor D. O'Byrne

Reasons for Absence: Accepted by the Council.

In Attendance: Mrs J. Matcham (Parish Clerk), Mrs L. Rashid (Deputy Clerk), Kent County Councillor G. Lymer, Dover District Councillor D. Hannent and 2 members of the public.

The Meeting commenced with the observance of a minutes silence in memory of the late Councillor Roger Simcock, who sadly passed away in December.

194. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

195. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Council considered the Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting of 13th November 2018.

The Council considered the Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of 20th November 2018.

RESOLVED: 1) That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th November 2018 be accepted and signed by the Chairman.
2) That the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 20th November 2018 be accepted and signed by the Chairman.

196. FINANCE

The Council considered the Parish Council Finances for November and December 2018.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Report for November and December 2018 be accepted and signed by the Chairman.

197. BUDGET / PRECEPT 2019/2020

The Council considered the operating budget for Whitfield Parish Council for the 2019/2020 financial year.

The Council considered the proposed total resource precept demand on Dover District Council of £80,000.00, for the 2019/2020 financial year.

The Council considered the counter proposal of a total resource demand on Dover District Council of £107,000.00, for the 2019/2020 financial year.

- RESOLVED:
- 1) That the prepared operating budget be accepted for the financial year 2019/2020.
 - 2) That the Total Resource (precept) to be requested from Dover District Council for 2019/2020 be set at £107,000.00.

198. COMMITTEES

The Parish Council noted the minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee Meeting, which took place on 27th November 2018.

The Parish Council noted the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting, which took place on 4th December 2018.

The Parish Council considered the following Resolved to Recommend Matters, from the Recreation and Amenities Committee Meeting, which took place on 27th November 2018.

To consider the revised quotation from KOMPAN in respect of the relocation of the adult gym equipment, in the sum of £4294.95 inclusive of VAT.

To consider the quotation received from Wicksteed Leisure Limited in respect of the replacement of the 'Toddler Swings' in the old play area, in the sum of £5096.26, excluding VAT.

The Parish also considered membership of the Recreation and Amenities Committee and the Planning Committee.

- RESOLVED:
- 1) That the quotation from KOMPAN in the sum of £4294.95 be accepted.
 - 2) That the quotation from Wicksteed in the sum of £5096.26 (excluding VAT) be accepted.
 - 3) That Councillor J. Cummings shall join the Recreation and Amenities Committee, Councillor M. Pattenden shall join the Planning Committee and Councillor C. Moore shall leave the Planning Committee and join the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

With the agreement of the Members present Agenda Item 11 was considered.

199. DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Kent County Councillor G. Lymer was in attendance and gave the following report:

- That KCC Highways is committing additional resources by recruiting more drainage engineers in helping to ensure that the 250,000 drains are kept as clear as possible.
- That a programme of works is to be set out in the coming 12 months specifically to clear footways of overgrowth and other incursions. This work will also highlight those areas in need of repair.
- That KCC will be employing more Highways Inspectors in the coming months to ensure that repairs to highways are carried out to a good standard.
- KCC has succeeded in gaining a one off grant from Government to assist in preparing Kent's highways for a no-deal Brexit.
- That two test runs have been carried out with approximately 100 HGV's from Manston to Dover. Feedback from the trial is awaited.
- That new pothole blitz contracts are being awarded.

- That Waste Transfer Stations were running at capacity last week, as bin collections, delayed over Christmas and New Year started to feed into the system.
- That the KCC Councillors Members fund will be reduced to £15,000.00 for the next financial year.
- That discussions are continuing regarding the reduction of the 40mph speed limit at the top end of Sandwich Road to 30mph.

Dover District Councillor D. Hannent was in attendance and gave the following report:

- That the Parish Council will be aware of the approaching election.
- That he attended a meeting with the Developer and other stakeholders regarding the new Retirement Village proposed at the outskirts of the Parish.
- That Enforcement Officers have been asked to look into the new junction at the development site in Singledge Lane.
- That he is aware that there have been problems with blocked drains at Castle Drive. Southern Water are attending.
- That he has been liaising with the Scout association and other potential groups regarding a new facility in the Parish.
- That the Parish may send him the location of any areas where lack of street lighting is a problem.

200. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk updated the Council on the following matters:

- That the new 'flat' swings have been ordered and contact is awaited regarding installation.
- That the Clerk has made contact with the company of the vehicle that damaged the War Memorial Island and is liaising with them in regard to reimbursement of the repair costs. The incident was also reported to the Police.
- That the planned CCTV upgrade has been completed and is fully functional.
- That the agreed works to the trees on the Recreation Ground remains on-going.
- That the planned re-decoration of the Pavilion Hall did not take place over the Christmas / New Year period.

201. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk has received the following correspondence in the preceding period:

- Responses to the 'thank you' notes issued by the Clerk, to the participants of the Remembrance Service.
- A request to place a textile recycling bin in the Parish.
- Correspondence regarding concerns about speeding traffic along Bewsbury Cross Lane.
- Correspondence raising concerns about broken and removed street lighting, particularly in Nursery Lane / Downside Road.
- Correspondence regarding the burning of potentially hazardous waste in the Archers Court Road vicinity.

202. PACT

The Clerk has received information from the PCSO, of his intention to start 'Street Surgeries' in the coming months. Times and locations etc will be on the Kent Police Twitter feed.

203. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public raised no further matters for discussion, that had not already been covered at previous points in the Meeting.

204. REPORTS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Council noted the report provided by Councillor K. Gowland from the KALC AGM, which took place on 17th November 2018.

Councillor W. Bowman gave a brief verbal report following her attendance at the Chairmanship Conference in early December.

There were no other reports to note / consider.

205. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

There were no Highways and Transport issues to consider.

206. SPEEDING

The Whitfield Speedwatch co-ordinator is publicizing the group and asking volunteers to undertake the appropriate e-learning programme.

207. CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

The Parish Council considered its response to the Kent County Council Consultation on Libraries, Registration and Archive Strategy for the next 3 years.
Councillor C. Moore shall provide a response on behalf of Whitfield Parish Council.

208. RECREATION GROUND GARAGE EXTENSION

The Parish Council considered the three quotes received to appoint an Architect to draw up technical plans for the Garage Extension.

The Parish Council considered the appointment of a Project Manager to oversee the project.

RESOLVED: 1) That Quote 1, from E Z Plans, be accepted in the sum of £500.00 (plus £350.00 payable to DDC) to undertake the technical drawings and associated tasks.

2) That Gary Green shall be appointed to act as Project Manager, for the agreed remuneration of 15% of the total build cost.

209. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

The Parish Council considered the three quotes received in respect of Grounds Maintenance of the Recreation Ground and surrounding areas.

RESOLVED: That quote 1, in the sum of £3750.00 (exclusive of VAT) submitted by Countrywide, be accepted.

210. GRANTS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Parish Council considered the request from 'Lost for Words Kent Campaign' for books in schools for a donation. Following discussion, the Parish Council concluded that they are not inclined to make any donation at this time.

The Parish Council considered the request from Pegasus Play Scheme for a donation towards their 2019 running costs.

The Parish Council considered the renewal of their subscription to Local Councils Update – with Web Library Service at a cost of £100.00.

- RESOLVED: 1) That a donation in the sum of £1000.00 be made to Pegasus Play Scheme in contribution to their running costs for 2019.
- 2) That the Parish Council subscription to Local Council Update – with Web Library Service shall be renewed for 2019 in the sum of £100.00.

211. COMMUNITY DEFIBRILATOR

THE Parish Council considered the request from the Gateway Bowls Club for the provision of a defibrillator for siting at their location.

- RESOLVED: That the sum of up to £2000.00 shall be made available for the purchase and installation of a Defibrillator, to be sited externally at the Gateway Bowls Club.

212. PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Parish Council considered the suggestion from a resident to include a 'lost pets' item, in the Parish Newsletter. Following discussion, the Council concluded that they would not take this forward.

213. MEMORIAL FOR THE LATE CLIVE MEREDITH

The Parish Council considered the choice of bench for siting on the Recreation Ground as memorial to the Late Clive Meredith.

- RESOLVED: That the Eastgate Anti Vandal Seat be purchased from Broxap, at a cost of £549.00 (exclusive of VAT and carriage).

214. VILLAGE EVENTS

The Council noted the verbal report following the successful Childrens Christmas Party.

The Council noted the report following the recent Events Working Group Meeting.

215. DEVELOPMENT IN WHITFIELD

There were no Development in Whitfield matters to consider.

216. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor W. Bowman requested that a donation in memory of the late Councillor Roger Simcock be considered. Following discussion, Councillors decided to donate the sum of £250.00 to the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance. The funds shall be made available from the Chairman's Civic Fund.

Councillor C. Coleman will approach the Woodland Trust to obtain some trees, free of charge, which will be planted within the Recreation Ground boundary.

The Clerk advised the Council that the Village Hall is not available for the scheduled date of the Annual Parish Meeting. Following discussion, the Council concluded that the Annual Parish Meeting shall be held in the Sports Pavilion on 17th April 2019 commencing at 7.30pm.

The Clerk advised the Council that an approach had been made by Whitfield Juniors for alternative storage for some new goals. External storage was agreed. The Clerk will liaise with the Groundsman and Whitfield Juniors.

The Clerk advised Councillors that she will be on annual leave, and away from the office from Monday 14th January 2019. The Clerk will return to the office on Monday 28th January 2019.

217. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That, due to the nature of the business about to be transacted, members of the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting.

218. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

Natasha Bass has expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council and having submitted a short 'Pen Picture' this was considered by the Councillors present.

The Parish Council concluded that this item shall be deferred to February's Meeting, and the Natasha Bass shall be invited to attend.

The meeting closed at 10.09pm

**COUNCILLOR J. GOODSSELL
CHAIR**