

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DYMCURCH PARISH COUNCIL** held on  
**MONDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2017**, at 13 Orgarswick Avenue, Dymchurch.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Cllr. Roger Wilkins, Cllr. Russell Tillson, Cllr. Richard Blackwell, Cllr. Arran Harvey, Cllr. Karen Lewis, Cllr. Denise Meyers, Cllr. Terry Mullard.

**APOLOGIES:**

Cllr. Ian Meyers – working

Chairman informed members that if they wish to speak during the meeting, councillors must raise their hands. Everyone will be given the opportunity to discuss their views. There are to be no across the table discussions.

Cllr. Blackwell apologised for speaking out of turn at the last meeting.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

No member of the public present.

**MINUTES:**

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING:**

Page 3. To receive reports on meetings attended:

Cllr. Mullard attended the Village Hall Management Committee AGM and wanted the opportunity to discuss the content of the meeting.

Cllr. Blackwell requested an update on SDC Report C/14/02 Permanent Occupation of Non Residential Caravans. Both items were addressed during the meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Shepway District Council:**

Notification received that SDC's proposed council tax base for Dymchurch Band D is £1,301.74. This is an increase of £14.14 on last year. KCC's element of the Council Tax is yet to be announced.

The next Town and Parish User Group meeting has been changed and will now meet on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, at the Civic Centre.

**Kent Highways:**

Following the parish council's request to establish at what point will the condition of Eastbridge Road trigger a budget provision for improvement. Clerk read response from Kent Highways. The matter was discussed later under separate item for Eastbridge Road.

**Kent Fire and Rescue:**

Response received regarding the removal of a tree. Clerk read the correspondence.

**National Association of Local Councils:**

Notification received that Government has announced that Council tax referendum principles have not been extended to parish councils in 2017/8.

### **Romney Marsh Forum:**

Romney Marsh Forum has changed the way that it operates. New Romney and Lydd Town Councils have agreed to pay the costs of administering meetings so that subscriptions from parish councils are no longer required. The membership is no longer restricted to those parish councils which agreed to pay the subscriptions and therefore all parish councils are invited to send representatives to future meetings. The next meeting is on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm, Lydd Guild Hall and will focus on policing and safety on the Marsh. Cllrs. Blackwell and Tillson agreed to attend.

### **DYMCHURCH VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

Minutes of the AGM have been received. Cllr. Mullard gave a report on the meeting, highlighting a number of issues that were raised during the AGM and the meeting that followed.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**Y16/1334/SH** Felling of two sycamore trees situated in a conservation area.  
41-43 High St. Proposed by Cllr. Mullard, seconded by Cllr. Tillson, that  
No Objection be raised.  
Voting: For: 7 Against:0 Abstentions:0 Interest declared:0

**Y16/1326/SH** Erection of a single storey rear extension.  
Land at rear of Proposed by Cllr. Mullard, seconded by Cllr. Denise Meyers, that  
7 Lower Sands No Objection be raised.  
Voting: For: 7 Against: 0 Abstentions:0 Interest declared:0

### **ACCOUNTS:**

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Mullard, that the accounts be accepted. Agreed.

Salaries:	£1696.41
HMR&C	544.68
Keith Rouse	84.00
BT Broadband	115.46
Veolia ES (UK)	93.67
BT Telephone/rental	82.51
Mr. D. Morris	125.00
Crown Estate	149.00

### **DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:**

Cllr. Wilkins informed SDC officer Catherine Igoe has resigned from her post. The meeting planned prior to next month's council meeting is now cancelled.

Opportunitas, the independent company operated by SDC, is doing well and has recently purchased property in Dover.

### **CLERK'S REPORT:**

Following Council's request to SDC for an update on Report C14/02, Permanent Occupation of Non Residential Caravans, it has been established that an existing officer has been tasked with producing a further report on the subject. The clerk has invited officers Briony Williamson and Arthur Atkins to the next Planning and Strategy Working Group meeting to enable councillors to highlight their views and concerns.

Dave Henley is making good progress and hopes to return to work soon.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Contact has been made with Dymchurch Twinning Association regarding the recently installed bench at the slipway. The Twinning Association like how the bench is sited and do not wish it to be repositioned.

The broken tap at the seawall toilet block will be replaced by SDC for the start of the season. St. Marys Road maintenance works have been completed but further works may be required.

### **TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

Cllrs. Denise Meyers and Richard Blackwell informed the Friends of Martello Tower No. 24 is progressing well. There are 18-20 volunteers offering their services to open the tower from 11am-2pm during the summer season. Charitable status for the group is being applied for and the group is hoping to attract funds to assist with initial start-up costs and advertising. Cllr. Redding to incorporate contact details and web-site on the new Dymchurch leaflet.

### **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS:**

**Assets and Amenities Working Group - next meeting 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 at 9.30am.**

Initial sketches for development opportunities were tabled to steer the working group's recommendations to council. Proposed by the chairman that council continues to explore opportunities for development. Voting: Unanimous.

**Planning and Strategy Working Group – next meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, at 10am.**

SDC officers Arthur Atkins and Briony Williamson will attend.

**Beach Advisory Group – next meeting 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2017, at 9.30am.**

### **EASTBRIDGE ROAD:**

Councillors expressed exasperation at Kent Highways for not taking seriously the poor condition of Eastbridge Road. The parish council has persisted over a period of four years, to request the road be under-pinned due to subsidence, but Kent Highways fails to see its importance and insists the road is not in a dangerous condition. KCC is monitoring the condition of the road. KCC will be carrying out maintenance patching to the road in the next couple of months. Chairman to seek advice from Damian Collins MP regarding the matter.

### **CCTV:**

DPC has already approved the cost of two additional cameras to the CCTV system. There now offers an opportunity for the system to be monitored that will enhance security and safety at the beach and High Street. Clerk provided information and cost options.

Proposed by Cllr. Tillson, seconded by Cllr. Karen Lewis, that the CCTV system be monitored 24/7, as outlined in Option 1. Voting: Unanimous.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Cllr. Denise Meyers raised concern about the brightness of the newly painted Ice-Cream shop. Cllr. Blackwell informed the Martello Group will be looking to sell badges & souvenirs incorporating the name Dymchurch and sought approval to use the name. All agreed.

Cllr. Karen Lewis informed she will be painting the shutters at The Arcade a sky-blue and also suggested the sign at the top of the slipway be removed and the brand name of a 'Children's Paradise' be re-considered.

Cllr. Mullard enquired when the village sign is to be repositioned.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the next meeting of **DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL** will be held on **MONDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2017** at 7.00pm, at the Parish Council offices, 13 Orgarswick Avenue.

## **AGENDA**

- 1) Receive apologies for absence
- 2) Declaration of Interest (*Councillors should disclose pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest/s in any item/s on this agenda. Councillors with a pecuniary interest must describe and give details of the interest. Unless the pecuniary interest amounts to a prejudicial interest, he/she may participate fully in the meeting.*)
- 3) Public Session
- 4) Approve the Minutes of the last meeting and discuss matters arising
- 5) Read Correspondence
- 6) Consider Planning Applications
- 7) Consider Payment of Accounts
- 8) District Council Report
- 9) Clerk's Report
- 10) Chairman's Report
- 11) To receive reports on meetings attended
- 12) To receive reports from Working Groups
- 13) Eastbridge Road
- 14) Any other business (at Chairman's discretion)

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Clerk to Dymchurch Parish Council.