

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GUSTON PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 4th November 2019
at Guston Village Hall -7pm

PRESENT: Parish Clerk: Mrs Glynis Farthing. Parish Councillors: Chair: Mrs Tracey Creed, Mrs Julie Gray, Mrs Claire Gurraj, Mr. Keith Gowland, Cllr. Oliver Richardson, Cllr Geoff Lymer

ABSENT:

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS/PUBLIC: None

The Notice of Vacancy was be posted on Monday 9th September. This has now expired and the Parish Council may now co-opt to fill this vacancy.

3947 Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Steve Manion

3948 Declarations of Interest

None

3949 Minutes of the last meeting

Proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Gray, seconded Cllr. Gowland.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2019 be accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman closed the meeting for public participation.

3950 Public Participation

Any items raised maybe added for inclusion on the next agenda or for Cllrs to respond by email as appropriate.

No members of the public were present.

Chairman reopened the meeting.

3951 Guston Green

a) Guston Green

The disabled ramp has been repaired. A great improvement. There is a need to undertake a thorough clean of the area, this will be undertaken in the Spring. Cllr. Gurraj will look into this.

b) Mini- Meadow Play Park

The play equipment needs to be cleaned. See above.

3952 GVHT

There are now regular meetings of the Trustees. Bookings are going well the hall is really busy. There is now a leaflet to distribute advertise events. Cllr. Gray is happy to deliver within the village area.

The Burgoyne Heights Pre-school held an event which was very successful and well attended by the Burgoyne Heights community.

Guston school Carol Concert – Wednesday 11th December. Clerk is liaising with the school to organise this event.

Cllr. Gowland has a large Christmas tree and lights available. There will also be an outdoor tree erected. Cllrs discussed various options.

3953 Burgoyne Heights

Meeting took place on Wednesday 11 September at Guston Primary school. It was very productive and Minutes have been circulated to all in attendance and to the PC. Issues were identified and an indication of those who could deal with various

items. Minutes available. Cllrs. discussed the issues that had been raised. Everyone now is aware of the various contacts who are able to deal with concerns.

3954 Feedback/Matters arising from Council Representative(s)

Clerk attended annual Clerk's conference which was useful and informative. The current website arrangements will come to an end in September 2020 and in future PCs will need to find a new website provider. KALC have already been dealing with this. PCs will now need to allocate funds to pay for the new 'host'. This is likely to be in the region of £1000. At that time all websites will all need to be digitally accessible and there are a number of criteria that need to be met.

Visual impairment, Motor difficulties, Hearing impairment, and Cognitive impairment. There will be financial penalties for non-compliance. Information on all the regulations is available via www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/

There was also a module related to social media and how to use it effectively and avoid problems. This particular module created a great deal of discussion on how to manage posts and acceptable comments.

Clerk also attended Code of Conduct /DPI meeting at DDC offices. This covered the statutory regulations regarding the completion of DPI forms and that they should be returned fully completed. Clerks discussed the issues encountered. There are two groups who operate in Shepway and Thanet who are currently looking for areas where PCs and local authorities are not complying with regulations.

Dover Area KALC Committee Report for Meeting held on Wed. Oct. 30th. 2019

There was an excellent Presentation by Douglas Robertson of Kent Police's Rural Taskforce on it's work in tackling crime in rural areas such as poaching, hare coursing, fly tipping, travellers, wildlife conservation by a variety of means. These include tactical ops. dash cams, property marking, and other 'high tech' means. It is a 24/7 operation carried out by a County Resource of 12 PC's with each of Kent's Three Divisions, East, West and North having 4 PC's plus a Sergeant. There is a lot of organised crime with specific items such as farm equipment, vehicles etc. being stolen to order.

The unit works with the RSPCA, Local Authorities, KCC and Natural England to name but a few.

Dover's Area Commander (Stuart Norris) was due to give an update of policing in Dover District but was unable to attend due to a change of operational role.

Matters of Mutual Interest covered an update regarding Railway Station Parking Charges which may cease as a result of a recent meeting of South Eastern Trains .and other interested parties.

There was concern from some Member Councils about Traveller issues which is the subject of a Motion from Walmer P.C. to be put before the KALC AGM in November asking for a review of current legislation to give a more balanced approach to Traveller issues and activity.

Chair thanked Cllr. Gowland for his report and attendance at the meeting.

3955 Kent County Council

Paul Carter leader of Kent County Council has stepped down after 14 years at the helm, his successor is former Cabinet member for schools and education - Roger Gough.

The Turner Gallery has received £435k from the Arts Council and £1.28 million from Kent County Council for on going refurbishment. Whilst this sounds a hefty sum for KCC to be providing, the revenue received received by the Turner Contemporary gallery has reached far in excess of the monies provided by KCC, which supports increasing tourism to the area providing employment and a boost in business rates.

The KM incorrectly stated Aycliffe school had been in lock down during one of the mornings recently. This appears to have been a slight exaggeration as a result of the Border Forces and Kent Police requesting pupils take their quarter of an hour morning break in their class due to a suspect migrant having been seen in the immediate area, thus it would be easier to locate the person with fewer people around.

Operation Brock was commenced Monday for the last week of October, but withdrawn the same week due to delays with the proposed Brexit.

3956 Dover District Council

Cllr. Keith Morris has now resigned from DDC and after an internal election his leadership role has been taken over by Cllr. Trevor Bartlett. There will be an election for the Ward Cllr. role for Guston, Kingsdown and St. Margaret's ward on the same day as the General Election (December 12). In the meantime Cllr. Lymer is going to be supporting Cllr. Richardson in covering the Ward.

Environment and Commercial services cabinet responsibility -this is now Cllr. Richardson's new role.

DDC has declared a Climate Emergency and is considering their response and what they can do with the budget they have. There is to be a forum to include the youth of the area.

Free parking in the Dover district over Christmas period.

The Local Plan – there may be some uncomfortable decisions made which will affect all parishes.

3957 Financial Reports/Accounts/Payments

a) The Financial statement for September has been prepared and circulated to Cllrs.

Items for payment:

Cheque HSBC (No. 101963) DDC (Election expenses) £117.63

Cheque HSBC (No.101964) Mscape (Parish maintenance Sept/Oct) £1,166.84

Cheque HSBC (No.101965) Mscape (Guston Green ramp) £1,179.00

Cheque HSBC (No.101966) G. Farthing (Sept/October salary and backpay £529.10 & £793.56, +£24exp)- £1,346.66

Total £3,810.13

Proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Gurraj, seconded by Cllr. Gray

RESOLVED: (a) That the financial report for September be accepted and signed by the Chairman

RESOLVED: (b) To approve payments, cheques signed by Cllrs. Creed and Cllr. Gowland

New bank mandate is required to add signatories.

3958 Planning

DOV 19/00447

Connaught Barracks (Main Site) Dover Road, Guston, Kent

Hybrid planning application with all matters reserved, except site access, for the erection of up to 300 dwellings, associated internal access, parking, road/footway/cycleway provision, open space, landscaping, surface water drainage, ancillary works (engineering works concerning movement of aggregate), and the detailed matter of highway junction works. Letter from Homes England read to the PC.

Nothing further to report.

DOV 19/01271

Proposal: Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation

Location: Millfield , The Lane, Guston, CT15 5ES – no objections raised but concerns regarding the delivery of materials especially during the winter months.

3959 Roads & Footpaths and other Parish Matters.

- Noticeboard – Cllr. Creed has asked John Adams for a quotation for a new board which will be made of metal.
- New benches for the parish are also necessary – again Cllr. Creed will discuss this with John Adams.
- Parish Newsletter - 'What's On in Guston' –has been sent to Just Signs for printing.
- Neighbourhood Development Plan (via Langdon PC)
- Roadworks at Whitfield – this is under the umbrella of Highways England – likely to be going on for another month.

3960 Items for consultation and other correspondence received

All email correspondence and consultation documents forwarded to Cllrs.

All consultation items and news articles have been added to the parish website for information.

3961 Training/Seminars etc.

Dynamic Councillor Course – information has been circulated.

3962 Dates and venues for future meetings

Parish Council Meeting: Monday 9th December 2019
Monday 13th January 2020

This meeting closed at 20.15pm

CHAIRMAN

DATE

DRAFT