

## **HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES of the MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held on 4 March 2013 in the Village Hall, South Darenth at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr D Mitchell(Chairman)

Cllrs I Blackamore, R House, A Lewis, T Moyle, C Page, M Stead and E Wilson

P McGarvey, District Councillor

R Gough, County Councillor

3 members of the public

In attendance: C Allart, Parish Clerk, H Rohard, Parish Clerk

Apologies for Absence: Cllr C Willson

Declarations of Interests: Cllr Blackamore declared a pecuniary interest in  
Minute 144 (schedule of accounts)

#### **136 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2013 be approved and signed as a correct record.

#### **137 MATTERS ARISING**

##### **Anthony Roper Charity**

Written reports were received from trustee Roy Cockburn on the work of this charity and the charity's accounts for 31/12/11 – 31/12/12. Mr Cockburn also attended the meeting and answered questions. He said if anyone knew of any deserving cases, they should contact one of the trustees.

##### **Website**

Cllr Mitchell reported that the parish council could use the KCC based template for parish councils free of charge. Her daughter had offered to set this up on a voluntary basis. Cllr House reported that he had researched costs from a web designer which he had available.

RESOLVED that

1. Lucy Mitchell's offer to set up the Horton Kirby and South Darenth Parish Council website on the KCC template be accepted; and
2. Ms Mitchell liaise with the parish clerk.

#### **ACTION BY – Lucy Mitchell**

##### **Post Office Step**

Cllr Page reported that the hazardous step had not been painted white as yet; owner is aware of this matter. Cllr Page will chase it up in 1 month.

#### **ACTION BY – Christine Page**

## **138 POLICE MATTERS**

### **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

It was agreed to bear in mind any matters which needed to be considered in the light of the duties imposed by section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act throughout the meeting.

### **Meeting with Police Commissioner**

Cllr House reported that he had attended the meeting with Ann Barnes and had raised the question of the lack of police presence at parish council meetings which struck a chord with many others present. The Deputy Chief Constable made notes of this.

## **139 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

### **Rotospikes**

Malcolm Green expressed his disappointment at the rotospike installation which he felt had a huge detrimental visual impact on the hall. He raised the issue of planning permission requirements and hoped that local people would be kept fully informed.

The Chairman read out the Parish Council's response which highlighted the many serious incidents of vandalism and the costs to the community as a result.

Cllr Moyle agreed that they were not aesthetically pleasing but re-iterated that the Council had considered all options and their on-going costs before deciding on the rotospikes.

### **Parking**

Cllr Stead reported that the parking at the school was still as bad as ever. Cllr Blackamore informed him that the Police had been in Forge Lane at afternoon school time and spoken to some parents. Parking at the post office continued to be problematic and Cllr McGarvey said that he would keep pressing for the district council staff to visit at more useful times.

### **Water Leak in Millstone Mews**

Cllr Mitchell highlighted an ongoing water leak which had been reported to Thames Water to no avail. Cllr Page informed the Council that this was a stream and is not on the highways but Roger Gough offered to check with KCC drainage staff to see who is responsible.

**ACTION BY – Roger Gough**

## **140 REPORTS OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

### **Council Tax**

Cllr McGarvey reported that the Council Tax increase should be less than £10 per annum per household. He offered to send a spreadsheet giving details of the breakdown between authorities.

**ACTION BY – Philip McGarvey (rec'd 6/3/13)**

## **141      REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

### **Council Tax**

Roger Gough reported that KCC had frozen its portion of the council tax however changes to the benefit charges would mean some people would be worse off.

### **Request For Salt Bin – Towers Wood**

Roger Gough reported that budgets had been spent for this year but 2 bins requested in New Road and Towers Wood would be provided in the new financial year. The responsibility for refilling and maintaining would remain with KCC. He stated that all requests for new bins should go direct to him.

**ACTION BY – Roger Gough**

### **Potholes**

Pothole work had been underway across the county but he encourages people to continue to report those that needed doing.

### **Fire Station**

Roger Gough mentioned again the “Right to Buy” option under the Localism agenda which had been discussed at previous meetings. He also reported that he would be finding out the details of the cover to be provided by Swanley fire station when Horton Kirby station is closed.

**ACTION BY – Roger Gough**

## **142      RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

The latest approved Minutes of the committee were received for information.

## **143      PLANNING**

SE/13/00280/HOUSE

22 Carleton Place

Erection of Rear Conservatory

The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

SE/13/00371/HOUCON

East Lodge Rabbits Road

Removal of conditions 1 and 2 from permission for solar photovoltaic system.

The Parish Council objects to this application.

SE/13/00467/TELNOT

South of Lilliput, The Street

Installation of dark green cabinet (Telecoms equipment)

The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

**ACTION BY – Parish Clerk**

The following decision notice has been received:

SE/12/03281/HOUSE

2 Millen Court

Replace existing rear single door and window with a bi-folding door. GRANTED

The following notice of Appeal decision has been received for information:

SE/12/00011/FUL  
4 New Road, South Darenth, DA4 9AR  
Siting of storage container APPEAL ALLOWED

The following notice of Appeal hearing has been received for information:

Land at Station Road  
Stationing of static caravan for gypsy family  
Hearing to be held on 21 May 2013 at 10 am at Civic Centre Dartford  
The Chairman hoped that some members of the Parish Council would be able to attend.

### **Rotaspikes on Village Hall**

The Council was informed that planning permission would be required for this work and that a retrospective application must be made with 28 days of 26 February.

It was agreed that there were many reasons why this work had been necessary and that all details of vandalism and damage should be included in the application. The parish clerk was asked to gather evidence in support from all who had been adversely affected by the vulnerability of the site.

A letter from Maurice Tripp suggesting that, at least, the spikes be painted to reduce the visual impact had been handed to the Chairman.

### **ACTION BY – clerk**

## **144 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **Schedule Of Accounts**

RESOLVED that the schedule of accounts, as submitted, be approved and payments made accordingly.

### **Budget vs Actual Monthly report**

This document was received for information.

### **Review Financial Regulations**

All members had received a copy of the financial regulations.

RESOLVED that the current financial regulations were satisfactory and needed no amendments at the present time.

## **145 GRANTS**

Recommendations of the Grants Committee were received.

RESOLVED that the following grants be made under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972:

1<sup>st</sup> Horton Kirby Brownies £400  
Horton Kirby Rainbows £400

Horton Kirby Primary School Fundraising Team £400  
St Mary's Church West Window £400  
South Darenth and District Branch Royal British Legion £400

**ACTION BY – clerk**

Mr Bradley asked why no grants had been made to the Scout Group this year. The Chairman explained the criteria as sent to all applicants had not been met.

**146 ST GEORGE'S DAY**

There was discussion on whether to charge for any stalls that are not run by local groups or charities.

RESOLVED that

1. not for profit organisations would be allowed a stall free of charge; and
2. others would be charged £10 per stall;
3. all applications to be made through Cllr Mitchell.

**147 PRESENTATION TO THE PARISH CLERK**

On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman presented retiring clerk, Carol Allart with a bouquet and gift with thanks for 25 years of loyal service. Cllr Page also gave her a framed letter signed by many previous parish district and county councillors.

Peter Bradley commented that he had been present at Carol's first Parish Council Meeting and now at her last.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm

Chairman

Date