



Dormansland Parish Council

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Minutes of the 215th Meeting of Dormansland Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 3 April 2019 in The Parish Rooms, The Platt, Dormansland RH7 6RA

1 Roll Call

1.1 Members present:

Councillor Mrs Maureen Young (**Chairman**)
Councillor Mr Guy Kaiser-Davies
Councillor Mr David Bright
Councillor Mrs Dawn Cook
Councillor Mrs Judy MacKenzie-Dunn
Councillor Mrs Susan Calamassi

1.2 Also in Attendance:

County and District Councillor Lesley Steeds, District Councillor Sir Nicholas White, 18 members of the public and the Clerk.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Mr Harry Fitzgerald.

3 Declarations of interest

As trustee of the Memorial Hall, Councillor Cook declared an interest in agenda item 12.

4 To receive minutes of the 214th meeting held on Wednesday 6 March 2019

4.1 **Members approved** the minutes of the 214th meeting held on Wednesday 6 March 2019 previously circulated to all members, be signed as a true record. Chairman signed the minutes.

5 To receive reports from County and District Councillors

County and District Councillor Lesley Steeds reported:

- Made many site visits to pot holes.
- Had new signs put up at the junction of Mutton Hill and Hollow Lane and all signs have been cleaned in Dormansland.
- Hollow Lane road has been resurfaced, white lines in the area repainted.
- Liaising with elderly people in the village who have needed help with various issues.
- Traffic lights on Moor Lane due to the bridge being unsafe. Councillor Steeds has had a meeting with the cabinet member and there cannot be any diversion made. This investigation will be going on some for some weeks/months. The case officer is looking at the gullies and brick work and drawing up plans to renew and remake the bridge.
- Arranged for news signs in Felcourt for “pedestrian crossing”
- Councillor Steeds reported that Surrey and TDC are currently both in a transformation programme.
- Councillor Steeds addressed the public and asked that if anyone has any problems to contact her directly.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Steeds for arranging the new signs at Mutton Hill/Hollow Lane junction.

District Councillor Sir Nicholas White reported:

Commented on the new village entry signs and how nice they looked.

The speed limit along Haxted Road/Lingfield Common Road has been reduced from 50mph to 40mph. Councillor White attended the Lingfield Parish Council meeting and they asked if police could do occasional spot checks. They were told that no notice would be taken until 6 months after the date of the change of speed restriction. A member of the public asked whether speed watch could be carried out and it was again confirmed that after a change of speed restrictions no speed monitoring can be carried out for 6 months.

CHAIRMAN SUSPENDED THE MEETING

6 Public Question Time

Members of the public wished to raise questions relating to agenda item 12.1 and the Chairman agreed these could be asked at point 12 of the agenda after an update had been received from the trustee.

CHAIRMAN RE-OPENED THE MEETING

7 Planning

7.1 **Members approved** minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 27 March 2019 previously circulated.

8 Chairman's Comments

The Chairman was pleased to report that the planning application for Frith Manor has been refused by Tandridge District Council. The Parish Council strongly objected to this application.

9 Correspondence and Communication

9.1 **Members noted** various items of correspondence and communication previously circulated by the Clerk.

10 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported:

- It had been brought to the PC's attention that there have been cases of speeding along Hollow Lane. The Clerk contacted Marita Saffery the Speedwatch coordinator. She needs to speak to SCC regarding sites because they are pre-approved. Marita will request the Hollow Lane site is reactivated.
- The PC can receive free paint for the Defibrillator. Adam Neill has agreed to carry out the works and members approved the quote for this.
- SCC have approved a new grit bin for New Farthingdale.

11 Neighbourhood Plan

11.1 Nothing to report.

12 Dormansland Memorial Hall

12.1 Members of the public asked various questions relating to the Memorial Hall. Concerns were raised with regards the steps taken by the trustees to ensure they would not profit or benefit from this transaction. There appeared to be confusion of the distinction between the Memorial Hall and Memorial Club. Members of the public were concerned that they had not been kept in touch with what has been happening. It was believed the Trustees were duty bound by the Charity Commission to call a public meeting and that the original public meeting had purely been to elect new trustees. Those present wanted a public meeting to be arranged by the Trustees. Residents also felt there could have been alternative sites for the hall including the parish rooms or the tennis courts.

Councillor Cook explained that all procedures taken had been approved by both the Charity Commission and solicitors. Councillor Cook confirmed the trustees have complied with all the rules

and regulations within the Trust Deed. She noted that at the public meeting held on 1 February 2018 this meeting was not only to elect trustees but to listen to proposals put forward for the future of the Memorial Hall. She explained why the existing hall could not have been refurbished and that alternative sites had been discussed.

Councillor Cook agreed to report back to the other trustees and speak with the Chairman of the Trustees and look into arranging a public meeting for the residents. A member of the public suggested this meeting should be held in a large venue like St John's Church. Reverend Hinton was present and agreed to this. **Action: Councillor Cook to liaise with fellow trustees and Chairman of Trustees**

13 Internal Disputes Resolution Procedure (IDRPs) Discretion Policy

13.1 **Members approved** the DPC Discretions policy and Defensive Discretions Policy

14 Risk Assessment

14.1 **Members approved** the Risk Assessment document 2019

15 Village Environment, Highways and Infrastructure

15.1 There has been some success at Sandhaves Hill with the 2 buried drains having been cleared. There is an issue at Wilderwick Bridge with flooding. SCC have dug a trench but this has not completely cleared the problem. Tandridge road sweeper has been around the village and the village is currently being well looked after. A member of the public has reported to SCC and TDC drainage issue in Hollow Lane. There are blocked drains resulting in flooding down Plough Road causing problems for the houses along there. SCC and TDC have not come out to view the drains. Councillor Steeds agreed to flag this up. The member of public agreed to give his details to Councillor Steeds. Councillor Bright reported that Surrey agreed the gully in Hollow Lane was fully silted up but the reason they can't clear it is because there is a problem with the grating which needs specialist equipment to lift it. This is on their list of things to do.

15.2 The Clerk has chased TDC about insurance for the Outdoor Gym Equipment and awaiting a response from Piers Mason.

15.3 Surrey County Council (SCC) will be reducing the number of urban and rural cuts for 2019. Tandridge District Council (TDC) had considered taking over the responsibility to keep the service at the same level with a view to parish councils contributing towards funding. Councillor Steeds raised this with SCC and reported they are reducing cuts to only 4 for 2019/20. If Parish Councils require more cuts they will need to pay for these. **Members noted** they had set aside funds for extra cuts but would need more clarification and information about what it will cost for the parish. **Action: Clerk**

15.4 South & South East in Bloom introduced a Parishes in Bloom scheme to encourage Parishes to get involved in the Bloom. Last year the PC investigated having hanging baskets in the village however there are no lamp posts to hang these from. Members therefore decided not to compete in this scheme. The Chairman noted both herself and Councillor Bright currently look after the planting in the village. A member of the public suggested planting Bee Bombs (tiny balls impregnated with wild flower seeds) and wondered if the PC would consider approaching the school, church and residents. A further member of the public felt that because wild flowers cannot be cut there could be the problem of tall grass. It was suggested that perhaps there could be a specific wild area in the village eg. New Farthingdale green or similar.

15.5 The Royal British Legion are promoting "Remember Together" which acknowledges the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings. Peter Wakeham RBL CFR has offered to speak/meet with the PC to discuss ways in which we can "Remember Together". **Members agreed** for Mr Wakeman to meet with them. **Action: Clerk**

15.6 At the PC open surgery in March the issue was raised of an obstruction on the footpath by Jeddere Cottages. The Clerk passed around photographs of this to members. Members confirmed the property is owned by Tandridge District Council and the Clerk to should inform them of this issue. **Action: Clerk**

15.7 At the PC open surgery in March the issue of flooding by Plateau Bungalow was brought to the PC's attention. **Members approved** the quote from Adam Neill and for him to carry out the necessary work of redirecting the waterflow from the drain. **Action: Clerk**

15.8 **Members noted** the retirement of Anne Richards and **approved** the appointment of Fiona French as the new tree warden. The Chairman thanked Anne Richards for all of her hard work over the years. Anne was present and spoke of her 25 years' in this role and how she was very happy to be handing this over to Fiona French who unfortunately couldn't attend the PC meeting. Anne spoke of the cherry tree symbol for Dormansland Village and gave some background information about the cherry trees she had planted in the village. Several of the cherry trees were maturing and it was suggested the PC consider planting some more. Anne also spoke of the Ash dieback disease already affecting some of the trees in Dormansland. She expressed the importance of the parish council being alerted in order to inform SCC of any leaning Ahs trees over the highway.

16 SCC Children's Centres

16.1 The Chairman noted how SCC are closing many childrens' centres across the county and in particular St Piers at Lingfield. Councillor Steeds gave some background information to the uses of the centre at St Piers and its importance for vulnerable families. It is essential this centre kept open. TDC would like to keep St Piers and the one at Hurst Green open but need extra money for this year's funding. South Oxted Parish Council have allocated £25,000 towards the Hurst Green centre. Councillor Steeds has asked Lingfield Parish Council who in principle have set aside £10,000 and she is asking Dormansland to consider the same. These funds are for this year only. **Members agreed** they were prepared to contribute towards funding but the Chairman would like to visit the centre before agreeing to an amount.

17 Reports from representatives on outside bodies

17.1 Lingfield Library – The Chairman has received the Annual Report from the Library and gave this to the Clerk. This report will be available in the APA report.

17.2 Gatwick Airport – There were no updates from Councillor Mr Kaiser-Davies. Jane Vogt reported that Gatwick has a new website for complains including a telephone number. Jane Vogt to send details to the Clerk. Reverend Hinton suggested the Clerk send him these details and he would put this in the Village Voice. **Action: Clerk**

18 Grants

18.1 **Members approved** a grant for £2,000 to John's Church for the maintenance of their churchyard and graveyard.

19 Accounts/Finance

19.1 **Members approved** cheques for payment

200169	The Surrey Pension Fund (March)	£277.65
200170	HM Revenue & Customs	£353.06
200171	PCC St John the Evangelist Dormansland	£2,000.00
200172	Surrey ALC Limited	£1,021.97
200173	PCC of St John's (Room Hire Jan-March)	£132.00
200174	Lisa Liggins - (Flag and Flagpole Newhache Green)	£175.80
200175	Lisa Liggins - Salary	£988.32
200176	Lisa Liggins - Clerks expenses	£41.85
200177	Lisa Liggins - Office expenses	£163.76
200178	SSALC Limited	£44.40

19.2 **Members noted** the bank reconciliation and cash book for March 2019

HSBC Community Account					
Balance per Bank Statement as at		31/03/2019			
	HSBC Community Account				42,864.08
	HSBC BMM Account				36,249.18
					<u>79,113.26</u>

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments) account for the month, as follows:-					
CASH BOOK					
	Opening Balance				79,831.63
	Add: Receipts				1,149.43
	Less: Payments				(1,867.80)
					<u>79,113.26</u>

19.3 **Members approved** the instruction of Peter James to carry out the internal audit for 2018/19 accounts.

19.4 **Members approved** expenditure of £175.80 for the flag and pole on Newhache Green.

20 Training and Meetings

20.1 Next Planning Meetings Wednesday 24 April 2019 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room

21 Information for Councillors (for noting or inclusion on future agenda)

Contribution to Children’s Centre at St Piers

Planting new cherry trees

Cost to parish for additional grass cuts 2019/20

22 Date of next Meeting

22.1 Annual meeting of the Parish Council at 7pm followed by full Parish Council meeting Wednesday 15 May 2019 at 7.30pm in The Parish Room

Signed as a correct record:

Dated: