



Dormansland Parish Council

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Minutes of the 221st Meeting of Dormansland Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6 November 2019 in The Parish Room, The Platt, Dormansland RH7 6RA

1 Roll Call

1.1 Members present:

Councillor Mrs Maureen Young (**Chairman**)
Councillor Mr Harry Fitzgerald (**Vice Chairman**)
Councillor Mr David Bright
Councillor Mrs Dawn Cook
Councillor Mrs Susan Calamassi

1.2 Also in Attendance:

County and District Councillor Lesley Steeds, District Councillor Sir Nicholas White, 2 members of the public and the Clerk.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Guy Kaisers-Davies.

3 Declarations of interest

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

4 To receive minutes of the 220th Meeting held on Wednesday 2 October 2019 (previously distributed)

4.1 **Members approved** the minutes of the 220th meeting held on Wednesday 2 October 2019 previously circulated to all members, be signed as a true record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

5 To receive reports from County and District Councillors

Report from District Councillor White

- Councillor White expressed his concerns relating to the closure of Moor Lane. He felt this would cause a great strain on Haxted Road because the bus service now uses this road as well as many large HGVs. There are likely to be accidents at some point.
- At West Street Councillors White and Steeds have been in touch with SCC and hoping to contact Southern Water who are responsible for the drains there. There used to be a ramp for water to run and drain away into the ditch but this is now running straight down the bridal way which floods the area. Southern said they could only send an emergency vehicle out when it is raining. Number 18 Jeddere Cottages installed a dropped kerb which is contributing to a large puddle being created. This requires a small drain built to alleviate the problem.
- GACC Annual Meeting - it was announced that CAGNE are being refused any access into and from GACC. Tom Tugendhat took GACC to task at a recent meeting. GACC said they don't want CAGNE involved however both parties are fighting for the same cause. The Chairman of GACC has not sent out any communications that the meetings are taking place.

Report from County and District Councillor Steeds

- Councillor Steeds met with Anita Guy and Steve Cunnah regarding Wilderwick Road. It is thought a French drain will not work. The issue has been reported to the flooding team so it is now listed as a wet spot which requires the team to come down and look at it. Councillor Steeds needs to contact the Flooding Officer to see when he can come out to site. Councillor Steeds has been persistent with her concerns. A recent meeting was held regarding funding for County Councillors and Councillor Steeds has expressed that next year if the funds are available she wants the money to be spent in Dormansland on Wilderwick Road and on the drainage system at Jeddere Cottages. Many areas of flooding could be avoided if residents swept leaves away from the top of drains.
- Councillor Bright explained that several gullies were still silted up. He reported these and had a standard response to say these would be looked at during the next cycle in October however these weren't done. Councillor Steeds asked that Councillor Bright email her so she can visit the gullies with the Highways Officer. **Action: Councillor Bright**
- Councillor Steeds visited the Baby and Toddler Group and was delighted to see her contribution of £400 towards new toys had been well spent and enjoyed by the children.
- SCC are looking to alter some of the libraries throughout Surrey however Lingfield will not be affected.
- SCC are considering moving offices from Kingston to Woking.
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are being looked at because these areas are not working properly.
- Councillor Steeds met with the Head Mistress of Dormansland Primary School and TDC have agreed to give them land to extend school.
- Plans for the Childrens Center are going well. The centre will be held in the Victoria Sporting Club in Lingfield. Funding is desperately needed and TDC are behind the project.
- There was an urgent road closure in Blackberry Lane due to a falling cable which created a large hole in the road. Repairs should be finished in 2-3 days and Councillor Steeds asked that this be listed urgent for the road to be redone. Power Network are completing the work.
- Imberhorne Lane Tip – A local committee wrote to the cabinet member regarding the use of Imberhorne Lane. Operatives are now wearing special jackets with cameras because of the number of irate people wanting to use the facility. SCC and West Sussex are asking for a lot of money for Surrey residents to use it and negotiations are ongoing.
- Councillor Steeds reported there was currently a lot of problems at Lingfield Station with vandalism. The Station officer has asked for British Transport Police to get involved but they are not responding. Councillor Steeds has a list of all incidents in the last month. There will be a meeting with the police at the station to see what can be done. If you see anything please report it.
- Councillor Steeds met Mr Trowbridge regarding the garages at Hollow Lane and New Farthingdale. TDC are looking to develop both sites and but won't be taken forward until sometime in 2020 with a view to starting on site in 2021. Councillor Bright expressed concerns with the green at New Farthingdale and suggested the PC write to Mr Trowbridge asking that their proposals take into consideration and deal with the problem of the large TDC vehicles turning on the land. **Members agreed. Action: Clerk**

THE CHAIRMAN TO SUSPEND THE MEETING

6 Public Question Time

- 6.1 A member of the public wanted to express his delight at how polite all the children were on Halloween. Approximately 60-70 children visited the pub for Halloween treats and their behavior was impeccable.

It was reported by a member of the public that there had been another car accident at the Memorial Hall crossroads a few weeks ago and that something needs to be done about the junction asap. Councillor Steeds explained the speed table had been delayed because Moor Lane is now closed and SCC will not be allowed to start work on the crossroads until approximately May/June 2020. Councillor Steeds asked that the member of the public email her with details so she has a record of the incident.

THE MEETING TO BE RE-OPENED

7 Chairman's Comments

The Chairman was disappointed that the 2019 Poppy Appeal launch held on 26 October wasn't supported by the public and only members of the PC, Clerk, Councillor Steeds and 2 members of the public attended. The RBL representative came down from Brighton. The launch had been advertised but no one appeared to be interested.

8 Correspondence and Communication

- 8.1 **Members noted** various items of correspondence and communication previously circulated by the Clerk. In particular an email had been received from the owner from the Village Shop with concerns over damage caused to his property by flooding. **Action: Chairman**

9 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following:

- A request had been received from a resident asking for a dog water bowl to be installed in the recreation ground. The Clerk spoke with TDC who confirmed they have no funding or resources to provide this.
- The 2019 Poppy Appeal took place on 26 October and was poorly attended by residents. Only the Clerk, members of the PC, County Councillor Steeds and the RBL representative attended.
- The Clerk recommended providing Adam Neill with a hi-viz jacket to wear whilst carrying out work for the PC. These are approximately £5-7. **Members agreed** with this proposal. **Action: Clerk**
- Agenda item 10.2 – The Clerk contacted TDC and they have moved the dog foul bin and salt bin in the recreation ground.
- Agenda item 13.1 – The Clerk received the post installation report on the outdoor gym and has forwarded this to TDC as requested.
- Agenda 10.7 – Residents who own a farm in Moor Lane run a pop-up shop and are concerned that the road closure will affect their businesses. The resident has contacted SES and is waiting for the case officer to call her back.

Update from matter's arising at October's meeting:

- The transition to using PC emails was revisited. The Clerk followed this up with the IT company who had been delayed in their response due to issues with the upgrading of their website server. They would respond to her as soon as they could.
- The Clerk asked TDC about the option for one-off larger plans to be printed and being able to "opt-in" to Service A or B at a later date. TDC confirmed this would be at their discretion depending on the resources available at that time and the type and size of the development. They confirmed the PC could opt into a service at any time and the fee would be on pro-rata basis.

10 Village Environment, Highways and Infrastructure

10.1 To receive updates on blocked drains/gullies and other highways issues.

Councillor Bright noted there were still many blocked gullies in the Village. Councillor Steeds asked that he give her a list. **Action: Councillor Bright/Councillor Steeds**

10.2 To receive update on relocation of dog foul bin near outside gym in the Recreation Ground.

Noted in Clerk's report.

10.3 To agree which village benches have been identified as in need of replacing

There is a bench outside the Royal Oak Pub that needs replacing. The landlord of the pub confirmed the family who purchased the original bench would have no objection to the bench being replaced as long as the plaque is fixed on the new bench. The bench on Newhache green, West Street, New Farthingdale/Dormans Close junction will also be replaced. The same make and model of benches previously purchased in the village would be bought for continuity and any existing plaques will be placed on the new benches. Clerk to liaise with Adam on whether to purchase weighted or bolted benches. **Action: Clerk**

10.4 To discuss placing sleepers and wild flowers on the green by the Plough and Station Road

Members discussed placing sleepers and wild flowers on the green by the Plough and Station Road. The Chairman spoke to the owner of the land by the Plough who was happy for the PC to do this however he was not entirely sure where the boundary finishes and SCC. Councillor Steeds agreed to ask Angelo Lamprou at SCC to look into this. **Members agreed** this would be a nice idea but that it was too late in the year to plant anything and this would have to be done in the spring next year. Soil would need to be prepared in the Spring and plants put in over Autumn. High Weald have an advisory service to explain the requirement of different wild flowers. The Chairman agreed to get some estimates for the planters. **Action: Chairman**

10.5 To consider details for arranging a litter pick in the parish and possibly erecting "Take Your Litter Home" signs

Members confirmed they did not want more signs put up around the village. The PC felt there should be a routine system for going around the village picking up litter. It was discussed and agreed that a Community Day should be organised for a "litter pick" and this matter would be revisited after the winter once the weather had improved.

10.6 To receive an update on plans to keep the Sure Start Children's Centre open in Lingfield and confirm whether DPC will be making a contribution

The Chairman of DPC received an email from TDC setting out the position of their plans for the Childrens Centre. As previously agreed the Parish Council would contribute £10,000 over 3 years, after which the Centre will be self-sufficient. TDC are going to pay for the room to be refurbished and require the further funds to help get the centre started up. **Action: Clerk to liaise with TDC**

10.7 To note road closure for water main replacement project along Moor Lane. Work commences 4th November 2019 to June 2020

Members noted the road closure and inconvenience that would be caused for many users of that road.

11 VE Day 6 June 2020

11.1 To consider arranging a special event in memory of the 75th memorial for VE Day

Peter Wakeham of the RBL had spoken to the Chairman at the Poppy Launch about 2 further events next year. One being VE Day on 6 June. The Chairman wanted to know if members would be interested in holding an event to celebrate this. The Chairman explained she is happy to host the event. The Chairman was told VE Day was on 6 June however the Clerk confirmed it was 8 May 2020. Members felt this should be put on hold for the time being and wait to see if there is any demand for an event to be held by the PC nearer the time. **Members agreed** that the large poppies should be purchased again for 2020.

12 Memorial Hall

12.1 To receive any updates from the Trustees.

Councillor Cook and Bright had been delivering flyers around the village to advertise an open weekend on Saturday 9 and 16 November 10am-2pm at the Centenary Rooms for residents to view plans for the new Memorial Hall development. It had also been advertised on Facebook and on the village noticeboards. Councillor White was concerned about the car parking which comes out onto Hollow Lane. Councillor Cook felt the positioning of the exit should not be an issue and that Surrey Highways will be involved.

13 Outdoor Gym

13.1 Members approved expenditure of £570 for a Post Installation Inspection report to be carried out on the gym equipment in the Recreation Ground as requested by TDC.

14 Reports from representatives on outside bodies

14.1 Lingfield Library – To receive any updates

The Chairman is waiting to hear when the next meeting is. Councillor Cook confirmed the Board of Trustees meeting is 15 November 2019.

14.2 Gatwick Airport – To receive any updates from Councillor Mr Kaiser-Davies

No report received.

15 Grant Applications

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

15.2 **Members approved** a grant for £500 to St Catherine's Hospice for funding the provision of expert care and support for residents of Dormansland in their own homes.

16 Accounts/Finance

16.1 **Members approved** cheques for payment.

200244	The Surrey Pension Fund		£347.75
200245	Streetscape Products and Services Ltd		£16,528.80
200246	Adam Neill		£80.00
200247	Lisa Liggins		£1,165.75
200248	Lisa Liggins - Clerks Expenses		£41.40
200249	Lisa Liggins - Office Expenses		£119.72
200250	CANCELLED		
200251	SSALC Limited		£132.00
200252	SSALC Limited		£72.00
200253	St Catherine's Hospice		£500.00
200254	The PCC of St John's Dormansland		£2,000.00
200255	Maureen Young		£12.99

16.2 **Members noted** the bank reconciliation and cash book for October 2019.

HSBC Community Account				
Balance per Bank Statement as at				26/10/2019
HSBC Community Account				74,947.38
HSBC BMM Account				36,291.68
Less unrepresented cheques as at 26/10/2019				
200243				-39.70
				<u>111,199.36</u>
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments) account for the month, as follows:-				
CASH BOOK				
Opening Balance				86,801.40
Add: Receipts				27,505.96
Less: Payments				(3,108.00)
				<u>111,199.36</u>

16.3 **Members reviewed and** agreed they were happy with the draft budget as it stands.

16.4 **Members approved** expenditure of £110 for Clerk's training on 7 November 2019.

16.5 **Members approved** expenditure for the Clerk to have a PO Box number for all correspondence. This service would be payable annually.

17 Training and Meetings

17.1 Next Planning Meeting Wednesday 27 November 2019 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room.

17.2 **Members approved** the meeting dates for 2020 and noted July's meeting would be held on 8 July 2020.

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

County Councillor Steeds gave her apologies for the parish meeting on 11 December 2019.

19 Date of next Meeting

19.1 Due to a clash of engagements throughout December **Members agreed** the next meeting of the Parish Council would be changed from 4 December 2019 to Wednesday 11 December 2019 at 7.50pm (to follow the planning meeting).

19.2 The next meeting of the Planning Committee would also be changed from Wednesday 18 December 2019 at 7.30pm to Wednesday 11 December at 7.30pm

Meeting closed: 9.02pm

Signed as a correct record:

Dated: