

DENTON with WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES

Of the meeting held on: **Monday 25th November at 7.00pm at Denton Village Hall**

In attendance: Cllr Hodges (Chairman), Cllr Thomas (Vice Chairman); Cllr Akehurst; Cllr James; Cllr Roberts; Cllr David Beaney (DDC & KCC); Clerk and 2 members of the public

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Hodges welcomed all to the meeting. No apologies for absence were received.

2. COUNCIL - Declarations of Interest:

None were received.

3. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION TIME

Woodside development update was given - no further action on site since last meeting. PC met with DDC Planning Enforcement a month ago. DDC reported no action to be taken and have written to the owners re planning obligations.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agreed as a true and accurate recording of the meeting, proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Thomas – ALL AGREED AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (WHICH ARE NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA)

Speed banner for school was discussed again. Clerk has struggled to find someone who laminates A2 for the speed posters. Cllr Beaney suggested contacting Folkestone Printing.

6. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Beaney gave an update which included LHRC, flooding in Wootton (no updates to date), DDC have decided not to offer free parking for Christmas shoppers and KCC fast track service has opened in Whitfield but with diesel buses due to problems with electric bus suppliers which will be resolved.

7. COMMUNITY MATTERS & REPORTS FROM POLICE/PCSO/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

New PC details and report have been circulated. Equine police volunteer confirmed to Chairman that there is nothing to report this time.

8. PARISH

• Highways

Cllr Thomas reported that he had approached Kent Police with the idea of putting up the speed banners for a week, followed by speed enforcement. Kent Police confirmed that our local PC is being trained to use the speed gun. It was suggested to do another week in spring with banner in Wootton.

Access to the church was mentioned as the shoot are hoping to improve track and put new car park.

- **Footpaths/Public Rights of Way**

None.

- **Flooding, Wootton**

Meeting with Cllr Beaney and Cllr Hodges at Buttermilk and Park Side has now taken place. Cllr Beaney confirmed he will keep raising this with KCC Highways for resolution.

- **Village Halls**

DVH has a new chair and both halls have had AGM. WVH now has a full complement of wedding bookings and has a number of new event bookings.

- **Wootton and Denton Recreation Ground**

Planning Christmas party for 15th December which is free to attend with paid bar to all villagers. Quotations for improvements to parking area are being sought. The ground is still extremely popular with dog walkers.

- **New Noticeboards for Denton and Wootton**

Wootton's noticeboard is now completed. Cllr Thomas to arrange for Julian Cranfield to get Denton's installed.

- **PC Files/Storage/Data Retention**

Cllr Hodges, Cllr Thomas and Clerk to arrange meeting to review files kept in DVH. Cllr James to see what the PC holds in WVH.

9. FINANCE

The bank balance as of 25th November 2024 was £27,132.08 (£1,152.68 in current account and £25,979.40 in savings account)

a. Payments:

£65.50 – Stephanie Woods - NALC Clerk Backdated Pay Award (Apr-Oct 2024)

£64.00 – Ricky Edwards - INV 13

£15.00 – Julian Cranfield – Wootton Noticeboard

£6.00 – Cllr James – Reimbursement for Land Search

£50.00 – PCC – Reimbursement for PC Remembrance Wreaths

£9.99 – Stephanie Woods – Reimbursement Noticeboard Magnets

The payments were proposed Cllr Roberts, seconded Cllr Akehurst – ALL AGREED AND SIGNED OFF BY CHAIRMAN.

b. Clerk Pay Award

Details of the NALC pay award for 2024/25 were circulated to all councillors and backdated pay was agreed above.

c. Precept 2025.26

Following review of the finance document circulated to all councillors, it was recommended to keep the precept for 2025/26 the same as this year with no increase. This was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Akehurst and ALL AGREED.

10. PLANNING

a. **LHRC**

A date for the next meeting of the LHRC Consultative Committee meeting has yet to be circulated.

b. Deacons

It was reported that the new owner is considering selling each plot individually for self builds. The S106 funds originally allocated to WVH/PC was raised and clarification will be sought if the planning permissions are changed.

c. Woodside Development

Discussed in item 3.

d. Local Planning Matters – items of interest/updates

24/00778 - Badgers Mount, Denton Lane, Wootton - Erection of a replacement dwelling including the change of use of land to residential curtilage (re-advertised, amended description). Revised application all land domestic change of use. Cllr Hodges to speak to planning and give a response for submission to Clerk.

11.DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS 2025

Previously circulated and agreed at this meeting. Clerk to book village halls.

12.ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION.

It was suggested to hold the villages Spring Clean on 29th March 2025 to coincide with the Great British Spring Clean. To be agree at the next meeting. Map board for footpaths for both villages was raised and Cllr Thomas speak to DDC to replace. Think this was the historic noticeboard???

13.CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:05.

Next meeting: 27th January 2025 at 7pm in Wootton Village Hall