

DENTON with WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

www.dentonwithwoottonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

MINUTES

Of the meeting held on: **Monday 31st March at 7.00pm at Denton Village Hall**

In attendance: Cllr Hodges; Cllr James; Cllr Roberts; Clerk and three members of the public

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Hodges welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Akehurst and Cllr Thomas.

2. COUNCIL - Declarations of Interest:

Cllr James declared an interest in agenda item 9b.

3. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION TIME

One resident congratulated the PC for the new tourist sign on Denton Village Green.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2025

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

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

None.

6. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

None.

7. COMMUNITY MATTERS & REPORTS FROM POLICE/PCSO

Latest newsletter from Kent Police has been circulated to Councillors.

8. PARISH

a. Highways

The damaged 30mph sign on Church Hill Wootton has been reported. Cllr Thomas to arrange speed session with Kent Police. Cllr Beaney has written to KCC with video evidence of the recent traffic control by LHRC. Response was that KCC met with LHRC to discuss this and there are ongoing talks about Nov event. There is still no update on Wootton "Welcome" signs so Clerk to keep chasing.

b. Footpaths/Public Rights of Way

Style on Denton Way need attention so clerk will ask Cllr Thomas to report this to Denton Court. Christmas tree field now level.

c. Village Halls & Wootton and Denton Recreation Ground

Wootton Village Hall reported the successful litter pick with coffee and nibbles in the hall afterwards. Jill's garden is now 80% complete (to front of hall) and a bench has been donated. There are five weddings booked for this year and so far, three for the following year.

Wootton & Denton Recreation Ground has seven bar events planned for summer including a VE day party on field. The ground is well used especially by dog walkers.

Denton Village Hall now has new audio-visual equipment and expressed an interest in collaborating on VE Day celebration.

d. New Noticeboards for Denton

The noticeboard is now in place in Denton. Cllr James to ask Julian Cranfield to resite/remove the old noticeboard in Denton. Village Hall expressed an interest in the old noticeboard.

e. Village Clean Up Day

As above this was completed and well attended (18 people in Wootton with 25 bags collected and seven people in Denton with 10 bags collected).

f. Footpath Information Boards for Denton and Wootton

Now installed.

g. Holiday Lets

Cllr Thomas has now written to Planning Enforcement and is awaiting a response.

9. FINANCE

The bank balance as of 31st March 2025 was £24,738.96 (£588.13 in current account and £24,150.83 in savings account)

a. Payments:

Unity Trust – Service Charge (January & February) - £12

Hugo Fox – Website Charge (February & March) - £23.98

Ionis – Email Charge (January & March) - £8.40

Stephanie Woods – Salary (February & March)

Stephanie Woods – Reimbursement for laminating (Folkestone Printers) - £10.00

KALC – Annual Membership - £260.02

J Cranfield – Noticeboard Denton - £128.36

A £1,000 transfer from the savings account to the current account and the above payments were proposed Cllr James and seconded by Cllr Roberts – ALL AGREED AND SIGNED OFF BY CHAIRMAN.

b. Grant Request – Wootton and Denton Recreation Ground

Chair of committee gave reasoning for new car parking spaces. PC unable to discuss/decide on this item due to Cllr James declared interest and two councillor absences. Clerk to arrange extraordinary meeting in weeks time to discuss this item with all councillors present.

c. Grant Request – Denton Village Hall

Committee member gave further information on the bid which is to contribute to electrical sockets outside the hall. Amount sought £1,000 for a total project cost of £1,635.00. After discussion Cllr James proposed that the full project amount be granted, which was seconded by Cllr Roberts. ALL AGREED. Clerk to arrange the grant payment. Amendments to Financial

d. Financial Regulations

Clerk has received email to inform there are amendments to the NALC regulations. Clerk will review changes and update at next meeting.

10. PLANNING

a. LHRC

There was another consultative meeting at the end of January. A complaint by attendee has been made about the meeting and the CC Secretariat to DDC planning. There were also errors on July 2024 minutes which Cllr James sent to secretary as requested. Chair sent inappropriate email in response. It was agreed that the CC is not fit for purpose and the Constitution still has not been approved to date.

b. Deacons/Woodside Development

Concerns were raised about site and works recently conducted. The trees were supposed to be left at boundary and there has been no response so far from DDC Planning Enforcement. Bats were also

roosting in removed trees. Fencing has also not been done around site. Cllr Hodges to remind Cllr Beaney to follow up on his email regarding the road requirements in line with KCC road standards.

c. Local Planning Matters – items of interest/updates

25/00171 - The Old Chapel, Denton Lane, Wootton - Erection of 1.5 storey rear extension, addition of rooflights and associated external works – support with no comments.

11.ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION.

Ecological and planning group.

12.CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:03.

Next meeting: 19th May 2025 at 7pm in Denton Village Hall (Annual PC and Village Meetings)

DRAFT