

# DENTON with WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Chairman - Cllr Terry Hodges

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## MINUTES

Of the meeting held on: **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm at Denton Village Hall**

**In attendance:** Cllr Hodges (Chairman), Cllr Thomas (Vice Chairman), Cllr Akehurst and Cllr James and Cllr Roberts, Clerk – Steph Woods  
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:**

*a) Declaration of any councillor's interest in agenda items other than those registered at previous meetings. b) Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests and Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests (other than those previously disclosed), and a reminder to think of any changes to the DPI Register held at DDC, such as a change of job or home. c) Voluntary Declaration of other non-significant interests. d) Review of Councillor Responsibilities*

Cllr Thomas declared an interest in item 9b.

### 3. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION TIME

WVH have applied for permission to pollard chestnut tree by front by village hall on left side and it is hoped if approved, it will protect the village hall roof may and give more daylight. Cllr Akehurst advised WVH to write to council asking that as they are preventing WVH Committee from removing the tree, are they will take responsibility for it.

A resident raised the issue of Selsted forest school and cars speeding around the walking children. The school use the woods which are in the parish boundary and there are no road warning signs. Clerk to speak to KCC Highways to see if we can get some signs or a speed change around the woods.

Wootton and Denton Recreation Ground committee have applied for four temporary alcohol licences and used three so far and have made a profit on these events. The last licence will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2024 and it is hoped more licences will be issued after this. Funds raised cover the insurance costs and upkeep of the field.

**4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AGM MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 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)**

None.

**6. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

None.

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

The June Kent Police newsletter has been circulated to Councillors.

**8. PARISH**

- **Highways**

The clerk circulated information on 30mph signage which is available for free from KCC Highways. The merchandise available displays the slogan "30mph it's a limit not a target". It was agreed that the PC would request two road banners, ten A4 posters and two A2 posters.

The Clerk updated the meeting on her meeting with KCC Highways regarding the new "Welcome to Wootton, area of outstanding natural beauty" village signs. KCC are unable to provide these signs as they are provided by Kent Downs. The Clerk has contacted Kent Downs to progress this but so far has had no response. Clerk to contact them again.

Potholes at top of Denton Lane and Lodge Lees Road were raised and discussed.

- **Footpaths/Public Rights of Way**

None

- **Village Halls**

Denton Village Hall: floor has been redone

Wootton Village Hall: wedding bookings are slow even since price reduction.

- **Wootton and Denton Recreation Ground**

Apart from licence update (see item 4 above), there has also been a booking for birthday party. As with WVH, bookings are slow. However, dog walkers do meet every evening at the recreation ground which is nice.

- **Litter Pickers**

Delivered to Cllr James and agreed to store in WVH.

- **New Noticeboards for Denton and Wootton**

Wootton's board is up and looks nice although the magnetic backing has bubbled. Notice board for Denton arrived with one of the post warped. Cllr James has gone back to company who has agreed to replace post and then we can install in Denton as planning permission has now been granted. We will need more magnets so Clerk to purchase. It was agreed to also use the noticeboard for parish events which raise funds for village assets, but not for advertising.

- **Buttermilk – Detritus Clearance Concerns**

Cllr James has received an email from a resident concerned about water pooling in road by his house at the bottom of Buttermilk.. KCC recently closed road and filled the adjacent drive area with dirt but two days later it is back to what it was. Clerk to speak to Highways on this – the problem is that the camber of the road needs altering - and the flooding risk at Wootton Park Side.

## 9. FINANCE

- a. Payments – these were proposed Cllr James, seconded Cllr Akehurst – ALL AGREED AND SIGNED OFF BY CHAIRMAN. The bank balance as of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024 was £28,655.07 (£2,854.51 in current account and £25,800.56 in savings account)

Receipts:

£1,348.77 – VAT repayment

Payments:

£68.00 – Ricky Edwards - INV 47

£12.98 – Stephanie Woods -Reimbursement plaque for WVH

£60.00 – Diane Mummery - Annual Finance Audit

- b. Grant Request – Dover & District Beekeepers Association

£50 grant request received. It was proposed to award the grant by Cllr Hodges, which was seconded by Cllr Akehurst and ALL AGREED (apart from Cllr Thomas who had declared an interest). Clerk to arrange the grant payment to the association. Cllr Thomas gave a quick update that a few nests were found in Spring and removed. They are now in the situation of letting workers build up then trap any nests.

## 10. PLANNING

- a. LHRC

The LHRC Consultative Committee are due to meet at LHRC tomorrow. Cllr Hodges and Cllr Thomas will be attending on behalf of the PC and will give an update at the next meeting.

- b. Deacons

A resident has been informed recently that the current landowner is hoping that it will be signed over to developers by end of July/beginning of August. Once this has happened they will arrange a meeting with residents. It is currently not known if the new developer will change planning application. S106 funding to Wootton and Denton Rec and car park for village hall was also discussed as there are concerns this will be removed by the new Government.

- c. Local Planning Matters – items of interest/updates:  
TC/24/00070 - Felling of a Horse Chestnut at Wootton Village Hall  
Approved.

24/00249 - Erection of a notice board at The Jackdaw  
Approved.

## **11. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

- Six-month finance review
- 2025 meeting dates

Cllr James also raised that there had been a very noisy day at LHRC practice meeting with one car going around the track, which was noisier than the actual meeting. Noise readings are not published as they should be (within 48 hrs) and when they are they are, they appear in different formats and give very little detail.

Cllr Hodges received an email from a resident regarding planning application for camping huts. This was turned down. The resident was although within the boundary of FHDC was not informed of the application even though the application site is only fifteen yards from him. Cllr Hodges to respond to resident.

## **12. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19:52.

**Next meeting: 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7pm in Wootton Village Hall**