

DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF DITTON PARISH COUNCIL, HELD IN THE DON CARMAN HALL AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 30TH APRIL 2018

CHAIRMAN: CLLR. M J PORTER

PRESENT: CLLRS P M DALTON, MRS J DEARDEN, MRS K DENNISON, P JOBLING, J LOVER, A R MULCUCK, MRS A THROSSELL & MRS J THWAITES

MRS NICOLA GREENAWAY (Clerk of the Council), MRS S CRAIG (Business Administrator) & MRS G JEFFS (Bookings & Events Administrator)

APOLOGIES: CLLRS MRS J COOPER, CO CLLR P HOMEWOOD, PCSO ROBINSON

ATTENDANCE: AS PER ATTENDANCE REGISTER TOTALLED 30: 9 PARISH COUNCILLORS, 3 OFFICERS, 14 ELECTORS, 6 OTHER

1. **WELCOME**

Cllr Porter, Chairman of the Council, opened the Meeting at 7.30pm and extended a warm welcome to those present.

2. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

Posting of the Notice of the Meeting was certified by the Clerk.

3. **ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VILLAGE**

Achievement awards were then presented:- Firstly, to Paul Beckett for his valued contribution into getting the proposed car wash at Bradbourne Lane refused. Secondly to Ted and Pauline Bates and to Malcolm and Marie Bennett, who are all members of the local RAFA and have provided assistance and support at the Remembrance Service on 11th November each year. Awards were then made to Simone Jones, Clive Burton, Peter Doherty, Jeff Fuller, Sue Saunders, Russ Mason, John Lover, Jane and Clive Thwaites for volunteering as road marshals to assist with the road closures on Remembrance Sunday for many years since the police stopped providing this assistance. Don Stevenson was recognised for his assistance with organising all the young and "old" uniformed contingents on Remembrance Sunday ensuring they are in the right place both for entering the hall and the march down to the War Memorial. James Turner was given an award to thank him for assisting in the hall at the Remembrance Sunday service and for reading the Exhortation and Kohima at the War Memorial. Tony and Maralyn Mulcuck and Steve Greenaway were the final recipients – Tony helps organise the annual Remembrance Sunday Service and parade on behalf of the Council and Maralyn and Steve give up their time every year to hand out the service sheets down at the War Memorial for the Sunday Service. All recipients were congratulated again for their outstanding contributions to the community of Ditton.

4. **REPORTS FROM LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS**

(a) **Maralyn Mulcuck – Ditton Heritage Centre**

Mrs Maralyn Mulcuck gave an insight into the formation and activities of Ditton Heritage Centre which is situated opposite the Church in New Road. Maralyn advised it was started approximately 20 years ago by Liz and John Day and Tony Muluck with the assistance of Eileen Jones (Parish Clerk at the time). Maralyn advised she became secretary a couple of years in to the project and they have undertaken lots of fundraising and received funding from the parish council and Rochester Bridge Trust to restore the building to its current state. It is a delightful place to visit with a small but interesting classroom with late Victorian and early 20th century desks, a blackboard and a selection of artefacts, pictures and photographs of local history on display. They hold open mornings and local children and clubs often visit. They continue to promote the centre and will be holding a special display to commemorate the 100 years anniversary of the end of WW1 with a display of the names of the fallen of Ditton, whose names are on the War Memorial. Fundraising is ongoing and they would welcome new members to join the committee.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Mulcuck for the very informative and interesting talk and wished the centre continued success.

(b) **David Cooper – Ditton Indoor Short Mat Bowls Club**

David Cooper the spoke about Ditton Short Mat Bowls Club. David informed everyone that the club meets every Monday and Friday, exclusively in the Oaken Hall at the Community Centre, between 1-4pm. The Club was formed in 1984 by Cllr Tony Mulcuck and currently has 45 members. They can cater for beginners. David advised that each year they hold a charity match (in aid of local scouts and Spadework) and they also play a team from our twin town of Rang du Fliers on alternative years and Ditton has won each time! The subs are £120.00 per year and this covers hall hire, equipment and refreshments.

The Chairman thanked David for the interesting insight into the club.

(c) **Mike Newmarch – K Sports Hockey Club**

Mike Newmarch, Chairman of K Sports Hockey Club spoke about how the club is pleased to have brought hockey back to Ditton. It was noted that the club had changed its name in line with the changes at Cobdown to K Sports. They now had a new pitch, which unfortunately was 9 months behinds schedule. He advised all teams were doing well and they had been shortlisted for England Hockey Club of the Year, the 2nd team had been shortlisted for England Team of the Year and Matt Sharp (Development Manager) had been shortlisted for “Unsung Hero” of the Year. They were currently running a junior academy pilot in secondary schools with a view to roll out to primary schools. The junior membership has increased from 4 to 30 on Sunday mornings. TMBC Activate sessions were held over the Easter Holidays. They have many ideas they are looking into such as walking hockey and getting back into hockey. Mike thanked everyone for the continued support.

The Chairman thanked Mike for the insight into the activities and achievements of the Hockey Club.

5. **MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD 24th APRIL 2017**

PROPOSED by Cllr. Mulcuck, **SECONDED** by Cllr Porter that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th April 2017 be taken as **READ** and **CONFIRMED**, and **SIGNED** as a correct record of the Meeting. **CARRIED NEM. CON.**

6. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Financial Report was taken as **READ** and the Audited Accounts for 2016/2017, showed:-

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT as at 31st March 2017

	Notes			2017	2016
Income					
Precept on Borough Council				208,386	202,451
Grants Receivable				17,681	20,012
Rents Receivable, Interest & Investment Income				18,856	23,106
Income from Services				295,759	302,281
Other Income				46	254
Total Income				540,728	548,104
Expenditure					
Direct Service Costs					
Salaries & Wages				(236,248)	(236,627)
Other Costs	1			(230,064)	(269,954)
Democratic, Management & Civic Costs					
Salaries & Wages				(51,342)	(31,242)
Other Costs	1			(19,638)	(16,166)
Total Expenditure				(537,292)	(553,989)
Excess of Income over Expenditure for Year				3,436	(5,885)
Net Operating Surplus for Year				3,436	(5,885)

STATUTORY CHARGES & REVERSALS				
Transfer (to) Earmarked Reserves	24		(23,988)	7,863
(Deficit) for the Year (from) General Fund			(20,552)	1,978
Net Surplus for the Year			3,436	(5,885)
The above surplus for the year has been applied for the Year to as follows:				
Transfer (to)/from Earmarked Reserves	24		23,988	(7,863)
(Deficit) for the Year (from) General Fund			(20,552)	1,978
			3,436	(5,882)
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The Council had no other recognisable gains and/or losses during the year.

BALANCE SHEET As at 31st March 2017

	Notes	2017	2017	2016
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	11		414,097	452,099
Long Term Assets				
Investments Other than Loans	14		504,392	504,392
Current Assets				
Stock	15	6,609		4,892
Debtors & prepayments	17	613		6,966
Investments	16	50,531		50,480
Cash at Bank and in hand		<u>159,592</u>		<u>152,837</u>
		217,345		215,175
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and income in advance	18	(30,089)		(35,256)
Net Current Assets			<u>187,256</u>	<u>179,919</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			1,105,745	1,136,410
Deferred Grants	20		(20,627)	(23,587)
Total Assets Less Liabilities			1,085,118	1,112,823
Capital and Reserves				
Capital Financing Reserve	22		397,370	428,512
Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	21		504,392	504,392
Usable Capital Receipts Reserve	23		9,007	9,007
Earmarked Reserves	24		106,531	82,542
General Reserve			<u>67,818</u>	<u>88,370</u>
			1,085,118	1,112,823

These Accounts were approved by the Council on 5th June 2017.

PROPOSED by Cllr. Mulcuck, **SECONDED** by Cllr.Porter that the Financial Report be **ADOPTED. CARRIED NEM.CON.**

7. **COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN'S REPORTS** (* copies filed with minutes)

(a) **Allotment Managers***

Cllr Mrs Thwaites gave a report on the work of the Allotment Managers during the year and advised that the plots are generally well maintained by enthusiastic tenants and they had had a good season producing lots of fruit and vegetables. The wet weather last winter had made plots very muddy. She advised that the Allotment Managers carry out regular inspections. DATs – the allotment tenant association – held a BBQ and Christmas party. Thanks to a Big Lottery Grant there is a new building and toilet named the “PeaPod” which is an asset for the allotment holders. There is still a waiting list for allotments but it is decreasing. She advised tenants did well in the annual show in July. Cllr Mrs Thwaites concluded by wishing all tenants a successful growing season.

(b) **Community Centre Committee***

Cllr Mrs Dearden advised that the Community Centre is now over 40 years old and needs refurbishment and the committee is now in the process of prioritising remedial work. Cllr Mrs Dearden reported on various maintenance issues undertaken including resurfacing of the car park entrance and replacement of part of flooring in the Kilnbarn. She advised bookings at the centre are rising and the council is pleased to continue to provide facilities for a wide variety of activities. Cllr Mrs Dearden concluded by thanking the office, caretaking and bar staff for their help and hard work.

(c) **Open Spaces & Amenities Committee***

Cllr Mrs Thwaites gave a report on the Open Spaces Committee. She advised that it had been a busy year including the installation of the new play equipment at New Road Recreation Ground, which was proving popular with the younger children. She advised all were looking forward to the forthcoming Ditton Minors 50th Anniversary Celebrations. Cllr Mrs Thwaites thanked the Ditton Quarry Nature Reserve volunteers and the Quarry Working Party for all they do. Cllr Mrs Thwaites concluded by thanking all the grounds staff, administrative staff and fellow committee members.

(d) **Planning Committee**

Cllr. Dalton reported that it has been a largely uneventful year in terms of the Planning, Highways and Transportation Committee. However, there continues to be significant concerns about traffic congestion on the A20. He also advised on the planning process - that the Council receives details of planning applications from Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and is invited to make comments. It is then TMBC that grants or refuses permission. Cllr Dalton concluded that the Council remains committed to supporting residents in relation to local issues including the development of the Aylesford Newsprint site.

(e) **Personnel Committee**

The Chairman advised he would give a summary of the personnel activities in his report.

8. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman gave his report on the work of the Council over the past year including setting the precept and donations made and events organised by the Council. He also congratulated those that had received achievement awards and thanked those that gave informative talks earlier in the evening. He also spoke of the activities of the Twinning Association, the Youth Centre and others including the Community Day, Remembrance

The Chairman then gave a precis of personnel issues for the year – the Committee had a challenging year with a lot of illness and staff changes. In particular the parish office had to operate on reduced staff numbers but will be back to full strength shortly. He also reported that the Council continues to ensure that it complies with all current legislation and statutory increases.

The Chairman then thanked all the parish council staff and fellow council members for all their hard work and support during the past year.

9. **QUESTION TIME AND GENERAL DISCUSSION**

No questions had been previously submitted and no questions were raised at this time.

10. **CLOSURE & THANKS**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.09pm, thanked everyone for attending and invited them to stay for refreshments.

Chairman
29th April 2019