

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 7th MAY 2024

MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday, 7th May 2024, at The Methodist Chapel Chapel Road Dymchurch.

Chaired by Cllr Dougie Young- Dymchurch Parish Council

Attended by 25 members of the Parish.

1. Apologies

No apologies received

Mr. Terry Preston gave a brief history of the Parish Meeting and thanked all those who attended.

2. Appointment of Clerk to the meeting

It was agreed to appoint Mr Jeff Lawrence as Clerk for the meeting.

3. To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by those present and signed by the chair of the Parish Meeting.

4. Report from Chair of Dymchurch Parish Council- Cllr Dougie Young

Cllr Young introduced the current Parish Councillors and gave a report of activities carried out by the Parish Council over the past year and spoke of the concerns over certain developments within the Parish. This included:

- Understood the concerns regarding the proposed development at High Knock and received questions from the audience on this matter. Many objections to the application have been submitted, and it is hoped that the appeal will be upheld and the project will not proceed. The application is for outline planning, so even if the application is agreed upon, further applications will need to be submitted before any building can take place.
- The new gate at the slipway has been fitted, but there are problems with the lock, which are being addressed.
- Hanging Baskets have been provided again by The Canterbury Oast Trust to brighten up the village, and requests for people to water throughout the season were requested.
- The Dymchurch Community Garden has been established but not entirely in place. This is an ongoing project independent of the Parish Council.
- Replacement bus shelters have been provided on the A259 at Marine Avenue.
- The local litter volunteers have been thanked for their consistent work to keep our parish clean and tidy.
- Mr. Gary Constant was introduced to the meeting as a groundsman for the Parish, working alongside Mr. David Henley
- It was also noted that the Parish Council had not raised the Parish Council Precept again this year.

5. Presentation from the Flood Resilience Team from the Environment Agency.
The meeting was presented with a comprehensive and informative presentation covering how to create a flood plan, how to report issues, and how to be notified of flood warnings through the warning website.

For more information, please refer to the Environment Agency Website.

Members of the audience raised comments that most of this seems to be reactive rather than proactive and will cost a lot of money to sort out the flooding concerns. Concerns over climate change and the effects of flooding were also raised.

6. County Cllrs Report- Unable to attend

At this point, Deana Coker, Chair of the Friends of Dymchurch Recreation Ground Charity, gave an update on the group's fundraising efforts for a new pavilion at the Recreation Ground.

- Current funds stand at £43380
- The shop is being run by volunteers where, apart from selling items, some free goods are available to those most in need, for example, school uniforms, Christmas toys and decorations. Thanks were given to all those involved.
- Planning is still going through at this time. This is due to having to make some amendments to the original plans.
- Various events have been organised to support the funds required, and everybody is thanked for their support.

7. District Councilors Reports:

District Cllr. Tony Cooper- The full report is available from the Clerk and is shown in Appendix 1-

District Cllr. Tony Hills-

- Reviewed the recent flooding event at Uden Road and questioned why an investigation was not taking place due to the number of homes
- Updated the meeting on a new culvert being installed at the location of Redoubt Estate and New Beach Holiday Camp to alleviate flooding.
- Further updates will be available on flooding and seawater quality as time goes on.

8. Residents questions-

- With the lack of drainage at New Beach Carpark- If and when our properties get flooded, have we got the right to compensation?
The response was that you have a right to make a private claim.
- When are the toilets and changing places facility being open in the centre of the village?
No time limit was given, but it is in progress.
- How often are the drains cleared in the area?
It was indicated that the drains are cleared every three years, which the meeting suggested was not sufficient for this area, especially with sand ingress. It was also asked how much this costs, but no information was available on this.

With no further questions or business, the meeting was closed at 2015hrs.

APPENDIX 1-