

SOUTHFLEET PARISH COUNCIL

Due to the Covid 19 global crisis the MEETING OF SOUTHFLEET PARISH COUNCIL to be held on Monday 6th April 2020 at 8.00pm was cancelled. Parish Council Members whilst working from home considered and resolved the subjects and matters set out in the Agenda.

Members considering the Agenda: Cllr M N Salway, Cllr I Brown, Cllr S Carter, Cllr L Tomkins, Cllr P Tester and Cllr Cliff Willis

25/20 PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS AND THE LAW: The Annual Parish Meeting was postponed on the 19th March and will be re-arranged following Government Advice. Parish Councils legally must hold 4 Parish Council meetings per annum, therefore the cancellation of the April meeting is Lawful. Matters discussed/noted during the month will be published on the Parish Council website.

26/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Cllr Brown declared a pecuniary/prejudicial interests in matters relating to Gravesham Planning: and Enforcement matters in Dartford and Gravesend; and as the Chairman of Sedley's School Governors and Member of St Nicholas PCC.

27/20 MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March 2020 were considered, agreed to be a true record and will be signed by the Chairman.

28/20 CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION: COVID 19 CRISIS. On 16th March 2020, the Government announced "stay at home" and social distancing instruction in the fight against Covid 19: The Parish Council activated the Community Action Plan on the 17th March asking for volunteers to help the community. A slip was designed for volunteers to post through the doors of their neighbours with their contact details to identify vulnerable residents, and also advertised on the Parish Council website. It is heart warming to witness the community spirit and kindness of residents helping each other, together with local businesses including the Ship Inn and Broadditch Farm Shop assisting with deliveries of food boxes and a take away meal service. Thanks have been sent to all who are helping with shopping collecting medicines etc.

29/20 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT MATTERS:

- a. Kent Highways: Highways report: Noted
- Red Street -Thames Water closed the road on 2nd April due to an old leak which started in December 2019. This caused disruption to bus services and deliveries to vulnerable residents. The PC has made complaint to TW and KCC on the lack of notice, and the time taken to re-instate the road. Promises have been made that the road will be re-opened by the 9th April if not sooner.

30/20 FOOTPATHS: It is noted that PROWs and verges are littered with rubbish. The Clerk will design a poster to ask for help in litter picking.

31/20 PLANNING:

- a. To note observations given by the Planning Sub Committee on planning applications:-
 - Yew Tree Cottage Brakefield Road DA/20/00219/FUL- Provision of electronic iron gates and front boundary fence. Comments:- The Parish Council does not oppose in principle the provision of a boundary fence (already in situ).However we raise the following matters:-
 1. The gates should be set further back into the property, so as to avoid the existing parking

problems at the narrow access/exit to Brakefield Road. this an on-going matter of complaints needs to be considered.

2. In the opinion of the Parish Council the design of the gates is over ornate and not suitable to the rural and aesthetic area.

- “Greenfield”, Red Street, DA/20/00323/FUL, Erection of a single storey rear extension and Insulate and clad lower portion of all elevations except porch. Comments:- The Parish Council does not object to the proposals, However in view of the close proximity to other dwellings, and the status of the site, we suggest a condition to prevent further development without prior planning consent.
- Rancher, Crayburne DA/20/00305/FUL, Erection of a single storey side/rear extension to provide a spa pool. Comments:- The Parish Council does not object to the proposals. However, to protect the amenities of the designated area and in light of previous extension, we suggest a condition to prevent further development without prior planning consent.
- Chapter Farm Red Street, DA/20/00298/LDC, Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for existing use of land for B1 Light Industrial Use primarily used for motor vehicle repairs. Comments:- The Parish Council is opposed to the application for an LDC. While the B1 uses are historic (used as a farm vehicle repair shop etc) as part of J J Barker Southfleet Ltd Agriculture enterprises since early 1970s farming was not so conditioned as it is now.

Secondly over some years since with the advent of Conservation Areas and Green Belt constraints, and the increased residential volume in this part of Red Street: plus the increase in traffic over time, the Parish Council has considerable doubts that workshops such as B1 are now suitable for the present state of the area.

Were the landowner so minded, a small residential enclave, using footprint of the barns, and having due respect to the important "Hall" House Listed building, might be considered a suitable alternative use.

b. To note consents granted.

- Scadbury Farm New Barn Road, DA/20/00228/AGR - Application under Schedule 2 part 6 Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 to determine whether prior approval is required for erection of an agricultural storage building- That **PRIOR APPROVAL IS REQUIRED** and has been **APPROVED**.
- 8 Axtane Hook Green Road, DA/20/00009/FUL Demolition of existing rear conservatory and erection of a single storey extension

To note refused.

- Land North West Side Of Park Corner Road DA/20/00029/COU Temporary use of land for the stationing of open storage - for the siting of intermediate bulk containers (retrospective application)

c. Enforcement Issues:

- 8 Dean Chapter Farm Cottage: DBC have issued a warning on trees cut within the Conservation Area without prior notice.

32/20 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS/POLICE MATTERS/LICENSING ETC:

- a. Police, Kent Fire and Rescue: It was noted with pleasure the return of PC Tony Quilter to the local area.

- Incidents of crime including criminal damage and unsocial behaviour. It was noted with regret a pregnant ewe has been slaughtered, allegedly by human hands, in a field adjacent to Station Road.
- b. Environment
 - Thames Water works in Betsham: KCC have requested TW return for snagging work including damage to green and amenity areas in Betsham. Under current circumstances this will be delayed.
 - c. Trees, Hedges and Bulbs: The Chairman is nurturing the purchased shrubs to plant in the Autumn
 - d. Licensing: The Parish Council was saddened to hear that the Ship Inn had been reported for operating in the current crisis. The Parish Council has sent its support to the Landlady who is carrying out a great job for the community in delivering meals and food boxes; and is not “open for usual business” as alleged.

33/20 CODE OF CONDUCT/STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, STANDING ORDERS All DBC and Forum meetings have been cancelled.

34/20 VE Celebrations 8th May 2020. It is with regret that the Event has been cancelled.

35/20 DONATIONS/GRANTS: It is agreed that all requests for donations unless they directly relate to the parish, are on hold.

36/20 SOUTHFLEET MEMORIAL FUND: The Southfleet Memorial fund is a registered charity originally known as the “Southfleet Sick Poor Fund” founded in November 1956. The name of the charity was changed in the mid 1990s as being more appropriate. The mentor of the fund is Southfleet Parish Council. (A fuller history of the fund, with copies of historical papers will be published shortly) The Fund operates in accordance with UK Data protection regulations including GDPR. The Fund is not connected in any way with other “Southfleet Groups” Any one resident in the Civil Parish of Southfleet may approach the fund for help in Strict Confidence.

37/20 FINANCE:

a. Cheques for signature: Noted and agreed

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| • Mrs J Hardinges (Salary and expenses) | £1471.20 |
| • Petty Cash | £100.00 |

b. KALC: The request for re-joining at a cost of £500.60 was noted. The Parish Council has not been a Member since 2016, and there are no current plans to re-join.

c. Annual Audit: A letter from PKF Littlejohn delaying instructions over coronavirus implications is noted. The deadline has been extended until August 2020. Mr D Johnson, internal auditor has agreed to internal audit the accounts.