**DOCKENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Held on Tuesday 8th June 2021.**

**At The Church of The Good Shepherd**

**at 8.00pm**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Paul Wood Chairman

Chris Sutton

Ian McLean

Jill Trout

Clerk: Jessica Hobday

**In attendance:** David Harmer SCC Councillor

Rev Jane

Debbie and Michael Foster

**1. Apologies for absence:**  Richard Blackburn

**2. Members Disclosure of interests for items on the agenda**

* There were no disclosures of interest.

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 2oth April 2021** having been circulated via email and were taken as read, approved by Chris Sutton, seconded by Paul Wood, and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising.**

* There were no matters arising.

**5. Members of the Public wishing to speak.**

There were no members of public.

**6. Future of the Good Shepherd**

* Rev Jane Walker spoke about how she would like help from the Parish Council regarding keeping the church in Dockenfield.
* Attendance at the church has been dwindling throughout the years.
* The Church of England is to start a study of the viability of churches in England.
* The Good Shepherd is used for many activities not just religious. For example, Pilates, Cello Lessons, PC Christmas parties and other functions.
* Jane described The Good Shepherd as a church that serves the community not a community space that happens to be a church. She wishes this to carry on.
* Ideas put forward are Church café with round tables and coffee and cake. This would need volunteers. The Church will be having 48 new chairs provided. The monies are set aside for this. This will enable the space to be more user friendly.
* Jane would like to see more promotion of the church in the DNL.
* A volunteer is needed to open the church each day.
* Encourage people to value the building for its Arts and Crafts History by having a monthly Arts and Crafts exhibition.
* It was **resolved** for a campaign piece to go in the DNL expressing Janes concerns. Asking the residents if their needs are being met by the church, if not what would it take for those needs to be met? This information will be collected, and the PC will return to the subject at a later meeting. **Action Michael Foster, Rev Jane Walker this will be emailed to Cllrs before it goes to print.**

**7. Open Spaces Group**

* The committee have been looking at filing the ruts in the new field with soil from David Harmer’s field.
* Hatch Pond is still retaining water.
* David Harmer noted the purchase of Hatch Pond has not yet completed. He suggested the PC were to lease it from him instead with an exceptionally long lease. **Action Clerk to check with Richard Blackburn.**

**8. Phone box**

* There has been no further news regarding the phone box.
* It was **resolved** to bring any updates to the next meeting.

**9. Surrey County Councillors Report**

* David Harmer updated the PC on SCC.
* The first meeting has taken place at the new County Hall.
* Conservatives still have control of the council.
* A concern is there is no investment in the countryside and looking after it.
* Frensham common is being destroyed by off roaders. The National Trust and Waverley are to approach Your Fund Surrey about monies to help rectify this problem.

**10. Waverley Borough Councillors Report**

* No WBC Councillor attended this meeting.

**11. Planning**

* There were no planning applications.

**12. Approval of AGAR to send to External Auditor**

* The internal auditor hopes to be completed by the end of this week.

**13. Payment Approvals**

* Msp Invoice £203.52 Accounting Support
* Clerks Wages £750.00
* Harvey Ricketts £65 Cutting Fritz field.

**14. Next Meeting Date**

* **Tuesday 20th July at the Church of the Good Shepherd. 8pm**

**Chairman**