

AGENDA

SWALE RURAL FORUM MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 18 November 2014

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Selling Village Hall, Selling, ME13 9RQ

Membership:

Councillors Barnicott, Bobbin, Monique Bonney, Lloyd Bowen, Bowles, June Garrad, Nicholas Hampshire, Lesley Ingham, Gerry Lewin, Prescott (Chairman), Pat Sandle, David Simmons (Vice-Chairman), Ben Stokes and John Wright.

Other Organisations:

Kevin Attwood, Swale National Farmers' Union
Mr Mike Baldock, Kent Association of Local Councils
Peter Blandon, Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)
Alastair Brooks, Swale National Farmers' Union
Bill Gardiner, Kent Association of Local Councils
Mr Tom Gates, Kent County Council
Keith Harrison, Action with Communities in Rural Kent
Rollo Parsons, Swale National Farmers' Union
Canon Caroline Pinchbeck, Diocese of Canterbury
Mrs Pamela Prescott, SEESwale
Sara Tucker, Kent Association of Local Councils
Inspector Gavin Wade, Kent Rural Police Force

Quorum = 9

Pages

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes

To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 August 2014 (Minute Nos. 183 - 194) as a correct record subject to the inclusion of Councillor Lloyd Bowen as in attendance.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillors should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves or their spouse, civil partner or person with whom they are living with as a spouse or civil partner. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

The Chairman will ask Members if they have any interests to declare in respect of items on this agenda, under the following headings:

(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) under the Localism Act 2011. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared. After declaring a DPI, the Member must leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or vote. This applies even if there is provision for public speaking.

(b) Disclosable Non Pecuniary (DNPI) under the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council in May 2012. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared. After declaring a DNPI interest, the Member may stay, speak and vote on the matter.

Advice to Members: If any Councillor has any doubt about the existence or nature of any DPI or DNPI which he/she may have in any item on this agenda, he/she should seek advice from the Director of Corporate Services as Monitoring Officer, the Head of Legal or from other Solicitors in Legal Services as early as possible, and in advance of the Meeting.

4. Public Session

During public session, members of the public living in the Borough of Swale may make a statement, submit a petition, or ask the Chairman any question on any matter on which the Council has powers or duties, in respect of rural matters.

Questions or statements shall be read at the meeting and shall not last more than three minutes. An answer from the Chairman may take the form of a direct oral answer or be in writing. Questions submitted to the Democratic Services section in writing (including email) at least three days before the meeting will be taken first.

5. Update from Kent Police - presentation about rural crime figures for Swale

To receive a verbal update from Kent Police and a presentation about rural crime figures for Swale.

Questions from members of the public are welcome.

6. Market Survey and Analysis of the Irrigation Services Sector in Kent

To receive a presentation about the Market Survey and Analysis of the Irrigation Services Sector in Kent.

Questions from members of the public are welcome.

7. Update on the fibre high speed broadband for Wormshill and Throwley exchanges

Bredgar Parish Council have requested the following item:

“Update on the fibre high speed broadband for Wormshill exchange”

The Throwley exchange will also be considered.

Questions from members of the public are welcome.

8. Community Warden Service

Newington Parish Council have requested the following item:

‘Revision of the Community Warden Service’.

Questions from members of the public are welcome.

9. Rural Business Opportunities

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To consider the Rural Roundup (attached).

Questions from members of the public are welcome.

10. Venue for next Meeting (10.02.15)

The meeting on Tuesday 10 February 2015 will be held at Lower Halstow Memorial Hall, School Lane, Lower Halstow, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 7ES.

Issued on Monday, 10 November 2014

The reports included in Part I of this agenda can be made available in **alternative formats**. For further information about this service, or to arrange for special facilities to be provided at the meeting, **please contact DEMOCRATIC SERVICES on 01795 417330**. To find out more about the work of the Rural Forum, please visit www.swale.gov.uk

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Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT