

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULATION COMMITTEE MEMBER PANEL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Regulation Committee Member Panel held at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on 16 March 2006.

PRESENT: Mrs P A V Stockell (Chairman), Mr A D Crowther, Mr D S Daly and Mr J A Davies.

OFFICERS: The Principal Case Officer – Public Rights of Way, Mr C Wade (with Miss M McNeir); the Employed Barrister, Ms M Hoque; and the Democratic Services Officer, Mr A Tait.

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

2. Application to extinguish part of Public Footpath AW318 at Kingsnorth, Ashford

(Item 3 – Report by Divisional Director Environment and Economy)

(1) A site visit to the public footpath took place prior to the meeting. It was attended by representatives of the Ramblers Association and local residents.

(2) Late representations from Hallett & Co Solicitors were tabled. These consisted of comments on the Ramblers Association's objections on behalf of their clients, the applicants.

(3) Mr S Godden of the Ramblers Association spoke in opposition to the proposed alternative footpath along Steeds Lane and Bond Lane.

(4) Mr D S Daly moved, seconded by Mr A D Crowther that the recommendations set out in Paragraph 18 of the report be adopted.

Carried unanimously

(5) RESOLVED that an Order be made under the provisions of Section 118 of the Highways Act 1980 to extinguish the part of Public Footpath AW318 at Kingsnorth shown in the Plan in Appendix A of the report, on the grounds that the path is not needed for public use.

3. Application to register land at Sandyhurst Lane, Ashford as a new village green

(Item 4 – Report by Divisional Director Environment and Economy)

(1) A site visit to the land at Sandyhurst Lane took place before the meeting. It was attended by representatives from Boughton Aluph Parish Council, Sandyhurst Lane Residents Association and Ashford Borough Council.

(2) The Principal Case Officer explained the circumstances which had resulted in the outcome of previous consideration of this application being quashed in the High Court.

(3) Mr R Honey from Boughton Aluph Parish Council and Mr H Leclerq, the applicant spoke in favour of the recommendation for a non-statutory public inquiry. Mr P Girling representing Ashford Borough Council (the landowners) spoke in opposition to the application.

(4) Mr J A Davies moved, seconded by Mr A D Crowther that the recommendations set out in Paragraph 7 of the report be adopted.

Carried unanimously

(5) RESOLVED that the advice from Counsel be endorsed and that a non-statutory Public Inquiry be held into the case to clarify the issues.

06/aa/regcmte-regpanel/031606/minutes