

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the next meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Community Centre Committee held at Wootton Room, Herne Mill, on Thursday 5th July 2012 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Davis, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Robert Jones, Alan Ratford, Mabel Wright and Linda White.

Absent: Cllr Day

12/12	Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Day who is away.
13/12	The minutes of the meeting held on 15 th May 2012 were agreed as a correct record.
14/12	Declarations of interest. None.
15/12	Matters Arising. The hall manager is happy to put up a couple of display boards. It was suggested that these should be monitored and not advertise events elsewhere.

Public adjournment

The meeting will be adjourned to allow members of the public to speak about items on the agenda. Name and address to be given

None

16/12	To discuss a working party to clear the site of all rubbish etc. The clerk reported that she had had a meeting with Helen Bennington of CCC to discuss getting the land cleared by the Community Payback team. She is very keen to have it as a project for them and will confirm that it is suitable when the lady who allocates the jobs comes back from holiday. Painting the external areas of the building may also be possible but the parish council would have to supply the paint. Helen will talk to Serco about removing the green waste and the parish council will have to pay the cost of removing anything else. Members approved this, but also agreed that if this does not go ahead a working party would start the clear up. Cllr Robert Jones told members that there might be enough metal on site to sell and raise some funds. The clerk reported there is a vehicle parked at the entrance to the car park which doesn't appear to have moved and another which is there on a regular basis. The one at the entrance is parked right over the water meter to the hall, which means the meter can't be read and the water cannot be turned off in an emergency. Following discussions it was agreed that the clerk would write a note to be left on any vehicles that should not be parked there, asking for the vehicles to be parked in the public car park and not in the private hall car park, it will also state that they are trespassing. If vehicle owners do not comply it may be necessary to install some sort of barrier. Only hall users have a right to park there.
17/12	To discuss the report on the consultation and to make recommendations to full council. Members went through the report, a question was asked as to why some of the responses had not been counted. It was explained that some were duplicates, photocopies and some had ticked more than one answer, however their comments had been noted with the others. There were no further questions on the report. The question of access was raised and Linda White stated the residents didn't want any improvements to St Martin's View. Cllr Blatherwick stated that it may be necessary to improve the road to allow access for heavy vehicles as otherwise services could be damaged which would cause disruption for residents. The parish council has looked into the possibility of access via the School Lane car park but if that is not possible then it will have to be via St Martin's View. Linda White stated that there was no legal access for large vehicles. It was pointed out that there is a

	right of access, this is not conditional on a specific type of vehicle. Cllr Blatherwick stated that it was better to pre-empt any issues rather than have to repair afterwards. Linda White told members that the residents of St Martin's View didn't feel they had been consulted. Cllr Davis explained that they had been given the chance to come along and speak to members at a meeting set up specifically for them but no one came, quoting it was too short notice. The offer was made that the parish councillors were prepared to meet with them at any time they just had to give a date, this offer was not taken up. Cllr Robert Jones suggested another attempt be made to have a meeting with the residents and to give them about 3 weeks' notice. Several meetings would be arranged for the various areas. This was agreed.
18/12	To report on the meeting with CCC Planning officer. Cllrs Blatherwick and Davis along with the clerk met with a planning officer from CCC. The officer said that in principle she couldn't see a problem with a slightly larger building but height would be a consideration. She thought a modern building would be acceptable but said the best way forward would be to get some drawings done to give an idea of the scale and design. It may be possible to retain the current building while a new building is erected. Environmental considerations and soundproofing would also need to be factored in. The new building would need to be light, have a reasonable parking area, although the fact that there is a public car park adjacent is helpful. An outside area for recreational use would soften the impact of a new building and add to the look of the building. As there is currently a hall on the site, there would not be any problems replacing it as long as the scale and massing is acceptable. The way forward now will be to get some basic designs drawn up and then have further discussions with the planning officer. She also advised that it would be useful to speak with a KCC Highways officer. The clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Highways officer.
19/12	To discuss an offer made by Duncan Murray from Directline Structures. The clerk had been told about Duncan and had emailed him to get more information. He is willing to come and look at the site and give us some advice as to what could be built, he would explain environmental options for the building etc and may be able to give some indication as to cost. There would not be a charge for this advice. He has requested that when it comes to the tender process that he would like to be able to give a quote. They are a local company who have built schools and leisure centres and come recommended. This is purely for information and other companies/architects will also be asked for ideas to help get a view of the options available. Cllr Blatherwick told members that there was a company in Maidstone that did a similar thing and she would give the clerk their details. It was agreed that a meeting could be productive but there would be no strings attached. The clerk will also contact other halls to find out who the architects were and whether they used a design and build company or an architect and building firm. Members were keen to use local people.
20/12	To look at the income and expenditure for the hall to date. A copy was supplied to all members. The hall had made a small profit in the first quarter of the year and was definitely covering its costs.
21/12	Reports from members. Cllr Davis told members that there will be a Village Hall Conference on 13 th October if members wish to attend.

Following the meeting there was a site visit.

Meeting closed 8-40pm