

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Herne Mill, Mill Lane, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7DR

Tel: 01227 742700

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held at Herne Mill, Wootton Room, on Thursday 9th December 2010 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Day, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Jones, Cllr Davis, Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Moore, Cllr Sargent, and Cllr Brealy.

- 267/10 To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons. County Cllr Marsh, City Cllrs Vickery Jones and Bissett.
- 268/10 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda. Cllrs Jones, Taylor and Moore a prejudicial interest in item 281/10, they will participate.
- 269/10 The minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2010 were agreed as a correct record.
- 270/10 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only. Parish councils can install and empty litter bins.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. (ANYTHING ELSE AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION)

Members of the public to identify themselves, state their name and address

Two members of the public were present, none spoke

- 271/10 **Chairman's Announcements.** The Chairman told members that there was an invitation to attend The Lord Lieutenant of Kent's annual Civic Service at Canterbury Cathedral on Tuesday 29th March 2011. If anyone wished to attend please let the clerk know. Cllr Day told members that following the last meeting three resignations had been received. He said Peter Vickery Jones enthusiasm and sense of fun would be missed. John Baylis who was a founder member for almost 14 years and spoke his mind but was a great support to new members and finally Bill Whiffen who was chairman for all but 18 months of his time on the parish council, he was a great leader and will be sadly missed.
- 272/10 **Warden's Report.** The weather has obviously played a factor in the last few weeks. Tom has been monitoring the salt bins to check on levels. On the whole they seem to have been well used and have not been totally depleted.
During the very bad weather last week he ensured that the footpath by the junior school was salted as this can be very slippery during freezing weather. He also checked on the elderly in the area as best he could. He attended a conference in Canterbury last week dealing with winter death's in the elderly and is currently distributing literature to residents surrounding this topic. With a view to educate and inform as to the dangers of not heating homes sufficiently. Also giving advice as to financial assistance for this purpose.
He organised a litter pick at the end of November which was very well attended. Indeed Parish Councillors were keen to lend a hand. They all managed to collect quite a lot of litter and he was very pleased with the result.
He is concentrating on trying to raise the profile of Trading Standards and making people aware of scam's that are around. He has leafleted a large number of properties on this subject, and given a talk to the over 50's club.
He will be attending the children's Christmas party this Sunday, which he is very much looking forward to. Cllr Davis asked if Tom could distribute data pots when visiting the elderly.
- 273/10 **Police Matters/Crime report.** PCSO Sue Radcliffe reported that there had been two criminal damage incidents, four burglaries and two arrests have been made in connection with one of these, another burglary is undergoing forensic evidence. There have been three vehicle crimes and a stolen moped which has been recovered. Another vehicle was stolen and the blue badge stolen, the vehicle has been recovered. The figures are down on this period last year. Speed checks and the drink driving

- campaign are now in operation.
- 274/10 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.** City Cllr Sonnex reported that Serco will not empty the dog bin on the corner of Hunters Forstal Road and Mill Lane but when reported full they will come out and empty. Although Hunters Forstal Road was on the gritting list the road was not gritted until a couple of days ago. There has been a change of ownership at The Plough. CCC budget consultation has started. City Cllr Sonnex gave her apologies for the next meeting.
- 275/10 Planning and Highways matters.** To receive planning minutes of meeting held on 8th December 2010 and take questions. Cllr Blatherwick spoke about the five applications considered. Two were objected to on the grounds that it was over development, and also back land development and the refusal reason given by the inspector re 70 Mill Lane still applied. The application for Albion Lane for three dwellings in the back garden were refused for much the same reasons the committee felt the design had little architectural merit.
- 276/10 Finance**
 To ratify payments made since last meeting. Youth club cheque for £60
 To resolve the approval of payments presented at this meeting; to approve bank reconciliation and earmarked reserves as supplied. These were approved.
 To report on income received. None
- 277/10 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.** Cllr Hobbs reported that the next pond task day will be on the 3rd Sunday in January. Cllr Davis reported that the Energy meeting had only been attended by a few people but six energy monitors have been lent out.
- 278/10 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.** The cameras in Cherry Orchard are all live now and will be monitored from the central control in Canterbury.
 Cllrs Davis and Hobbs, Bill Whiffen and the clerk attended the funeral of the previous parish clerk Val Stevens on 23rd November at Thanet Crematorium.
 The newsletters have all been delivered and the feedback has been good, the clerk thanked all those who delivered. The bookings for the children's Christmas party have been taken and there should be about 65 present on 12th December. The Santa float will tour Herne after the party and will tour Broomfield on the following Saturday 18th.
 The football coaching sessions are currently being paid for by the parish council, it appears that CCC is also running sessions following ours. It has been suggested that we combine and share the cost of their sessions. They are planning 8 week sessions with a break of 8 weeks and then a following 8 weeks; this is because sessions normally drop off after the 8 weeks. It was agreed to look at sharing with CCC and perhaps running our own sessions when these are finished.
 The clerk reported that she had attended a KCC Pension Forum today and that pension contributions were likely to increase over the next three years and that it looked like the final salary scheme would go and be replaced by an average earnings scheme as yet there are no details. A system is being set up to enable employers to access the data base which has all the employee details so that these can be amended on line. There are some changes to ill health and death in service. The interim Hutton report was considered to be measured and good. Next meeting will be in June 2011.
 The clerk reported that she would be out of the office on 15th & 16th December.
 Finally the clerk wished everyone a happy Christmas.
- 279/10 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, etc), and any meetings attended by members on behalf of parish council.** KALC meeting had been attended by Cllrs Brealy and Hobbs. About 200 delegates attended. A new Highways officer (John Burr) had attended and he reported that he had pulled apart the contracts to give better incentives to the contractors, pot hole repairs will not be quick filled but will be done properly. Utility repairs only have to last for 12 months before they then become the responsibility of KHS, 40% of these repairs are inspected. Ragwort was discussed but is not high priority. Kent Police new Inspector Ian Learmouth attended the meeting. Members were told that the minister for decentralisation wanted to see more powers passed to City and parish councils. There

was a motion put to the meeting that prospective councillors should live within a mile of the parish, it was not carried. Another was to lengthen the time limit from six months to a year, for a by election to be held prior to the next scheduled election. There was also a motion to reduce the speed limit on rural roads to 50mph both of these were successful. Operation stack costs Kent Police £400,000 pa and they are looking at ways to prevent this.

280/10 To report on Youth Club Cllr Jones reported that the Christmas trip to Laser Rush at Whitstable went very well and everyone enjoyed it. They had one game as individual players and then some food followed by a second game which was a team game. 12 youngsters and five adults attended. Cllr Davis apologised that the article on the youth club did not go in the last parish news.

281/10 To vote on candidates for co-option. Nineteen people have applied, five withdrew before the interview stage, and four did not attend the interviews. Ten people were interviewed. Members were asked to vote on the candidates. There were 6 votes for Tracey Jones, 4 votes for John Nicholson, 4 votes for Andy Harvey, 2 votes for Ollie Gosnell and 1 vote each for Len Cant and Brian Macdowell. Therefore Tracey Jones, John Nicholson and Andy Harvey were co-opted on to the council.

282/10 Report on the presentation evening held on 26th November. About 50 people attended the thank you evening along with seven councillors and a great time was had by all. Andy Birkett brought Miss Herne Bay along and she very kindly presented the cheque for £1,000 to Paul Montgomery from Strode Park. This was half of the proceeds from the Fun Day. Paul thanked all those present for their help with raising the money and told everyone that things were expected to get more difficult over the coming months. Following the presentation to Strode Park Miss Herne Bay presented the three retiring councillors with a certificate and small gift from all their fellow councillors. Cllr Day told those present that John Baylis had been a founder member as had Bill Whiffen who had served as Chairman until 18 months ago when he handed over the reins to Tony Day. Tony said he was a hard act to follow. Peter Vickery Jones has served 8 years with the last 4 years being a dual role of City Councillor as well. Peter intends to continue as ward councillor for Herne & Broomfield. The refreshments were provided by members and the evening had a happy and relaxed atmosphere. A raffle raised £61 to go into Community projects. Apologies were received from Cllr Sargent who was waiting for his aunt to arrive home, although he did managed to get in at the end of the evening and Cllr Parker who was in London. Cllr Davis thanked Lucy Blatherwick for her musical contribution to the evening and Cllr Blatherwick was thanked for suggesting Mulled Wine as this was very popular with those who attended, so popular it ran out.

283/10 Report on site visit with Deacons re Community Park. Report on meeting with Deacon Landscapes Martyn Petroseus, Cllr Blatherwick and the clerk. Martyn agreed that the work carried out so far was not good enough and would need to be redone. There were concrete run off pipes installed at certain areas in the car park, these were too shallow and would need replacing and a cut off drain is to be installed on the footpath where there is bad water run- off. This path will also be tarmaced. The worst parts of the car park will be resurfaced and some areas of the paths. Planting will be carried out and it was suggested that guards with flaps at the bottom be fitted to discourage the rabbits. It was a productive meeting although no work has been carried out since due to the weather. It was suggested that the parish council should not use the Community Payback again as the young offenders are not well supervised.

284/10 To update members on the progress of the lease for the allotment site. The diocese is in the process of registering the land they have sorted out what paper work is required with the land registry and will submit soon. The clerk told members that she had been asked to try and get a lease to use between the church and parish council as it would be much quicker and the cost would be less. The clerk is trying to obtain one from another parish with similar arrangements. As soon as we have a model lease this can be modified and sent to both solicitors for approval.

285/10 To discuss the quote received for cleaning off graffiti on start ramp of BMX track. The quote is £691 for the removal, there is nothing available to coat the

surface to prevent this happening again, the company is looking into the chemicals that could be used to see if there is something we could use ourselves to remove the graffiti, the clerk is waiting for them to come back with further information. It was agreed to leave this for the time being.

286/10 To propose items for the next agenda. Cllr Moore asked if a Celebration for the Royal Wedding could go on the next agenda.

287/10 Member's Reports Cllr Hobbs told members that Herne Bay in Bloom were to include Briars Residents Association as they have planted daffs and crocus along the grass verge in Broomfield Road.

Cllr Brealy told members that the snow plough routes he had been given needed to be changed and as yet he hadn't been sent a revised schedule. He would do any roads that he considered needed clearing.

Cllr Davis reported that the Chicken Course organised by ADAS had been postponed until 14th December, due to the weather.

Cllr Taylor reported that the path to the school was covered in leaves.

Cllr Jones reported that Clancy Docra were moving forward with the water main installation and should be finished in Busheyfields Road by the middle of the month. He complimented the snow ploughing of Busheyfields Road which was done early on Thursday morning.

288/10 The next meeting of the parish council will be on 13th January 2011 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.

Meeting closed 8-30pm