

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held at Herne Mill, Wootton Room, on Thursday 10 June 2010 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

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

Absent: Cllr Whiffen.

128/10 To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons. Cllr Whiffen who is not well. Cllr Vickery Jones will be late as there is a Canterbury City Council (CCC) meeting and County Cllr Marsh is in Brussels, City Cllr Sonnex has another meeting but has sent a report.

129/10 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda. Cllr Brealy 137/10

130/10 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2010. These were confirmed as a correct and accurate record.

131/10 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only. The clerk reported that District Audit had asked for detailed comparisons on the income & expenditure figures for the previous 2 years and explanations on the variances.

Details of village signs have been submitted for approval. Members were happy with the designs.

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

One member of the public attended.

CCC Alison Small spoke about their Youth Workers. She explained how they are recruited, the training they receive and the problems that have arisen. There have been changes within the department and there are less casual workers being employed. She hoped that the new systems that have been put in place would prevent any similar problems occurring. Evaluation forms will be sent out with invoices, this will help to recognise any problems much earlier. She asked to be notified if any problems arose with the youth workers. Cllr Taylor thanked Alison and said that the youth club had a good working relationship with her.

132/10 **Chairman's Announcements.** The chairman reminded everyone about the Garden Safari on 13th June.

133/10 **Warden's Report.** Inroads have been made into tackling the graffiti problem in the area. Residents may notice the improvement in several footpaths, principally the one leading to Cherry Orchard from Woodrow Chase. He will continue this process, as graffiti really brings down an area and if unchecked will lead to further vandalism. He received an email from Cllr Carol Davis stating that there is a problem with petty vandalism in the car park in School Lane. If she can give more information on this, he with police colleagues will look into this.

Finally at the end of the month the long awaited underpass project should be completed. He is looking forward to this, firstly because it will be good for the area, and secondly because he can move on to start another project.

134/10 **Police Matters/Crime report. None.** PC Horan and PCSO Suzie Waldie are both on annual leave.

135/10 **To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.** County Cllr Marsh is not able to attend. **Cllr Sonnex has sent a report.** As the council's representative for Herne Bay and Canterbury Shopmobility she is attending their AGM this evening.

A few items this month. She is concerned about the roundabout at the Plough. The traffic islands had to be removed to allow the larger buses to make their turns but on several occasions recently she has observed cars coming from Hunters Forstal Road at speed. Due to the lack of 'islands' they took the roundabout on the wrong side when heading towards the Huntsman and Horn. It is an accident waiting to happen.

Concerns have been raised by a resident on the Forgefields estate regarding the collection of garden waste and recycling. Apparently this issue has been going on for a number of years where apparently the green bins are not being returned and are gradually disappearing. She is currently liaising with the resident, CCC and Serco to try and rectify this issue to everyone's satisfaction.

She has received an enquiry as to whether CCC would be interested in subsidising compost bins and water butts to residents. This has been raised with City Cllr Rosemary Doyle as she is the portfolio holder. She will look into this, but it was unlikely due to budget restraints.

City Cllr Sonnex has contacted Kent Highways regarding the potholes in Broomfield Road. Apparently the ones around No 25 have been reported 17 times. They should hopefully be repaired in the next week or so.

Finally, a letter has been received from South East Water regarding water mains renewal in Herne Bay. She was pleased to see parts of Broomfield Road, Ridgeway Road and Busheyfields Road are included. Hopefully there will be minimal disruption when they are replaced.

Cllr Vickery Jones told members that the recent government announcement stating that gardens will no longer be treated as brownfield sites is with immediate effect. CCC will now review all their policies. He spoke about the rises in crime with quite a large rise in domestic violence, many of the anti-social behaviour, drug and burglary offences are committed by people with mental health problems, which is a concern as care in the community is obviously failing. A meeting has been arranged with a contractor to look at the cost of installing a foot bridge at Blacksole

- 136/10 Planning and Highways matters.** To receive planning minutes of meeting held on 14th May. Cllr Blatherwick spoke about the applications for 36 Broomfield Road she stated that the planning committee has objected to both. There is a planning hearing on 15th June which she will attend. She hoped that the change from a brownfield site would be influential on any future decisions. She will attend CCC to speak on both the application for Hunters Forstal Road and the proposed day nursery in Broomfield.

137/10 Finance

To ratify payments made since last meeting. None

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. £539.63

- 138/10 Tree & Pond Warden's Report** Cllr Davis told members she had received 3 requests for tree work and didn't have a problem with any of them provided the work was carried out by a professional. She has also spoken with residents and given advice on their pond at Canterbury Fields. Cllr Davis had also had a meeting with Dan Binfield with regard to getting local nature reserve status for the Community Park. This requires a survey. There are lots of weeds that need removing on the park including hemlock. It may be possible to get the community payback team to do this. Cllr Hobbs reported that the next task day had been postponed.

- 139/10 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.** The clerk thanked both Cllr Taylor and Cllr Davis for dealing with the post, answer phone and emails; she also thanked Cllrs Day and Blatherwick for checking the equipment in both Cherry Orchard and Community Park.

The clerk reported that the chest press had now been replaced with the updated version and this was now much better. The clerk thanked Cllr Brealy for spraying and ploughing the allotment field. Quotes have been sourced for the tarmac for the BMX berms the work is due to be carried out later this month. However there is a problem because the material used to resurface the track has gone up and it will now cost approximately £1,700 more. The BMX club can only afford to tarmac one berm because of the cost, therefore the parish council will need to cover the cost of additional materials for the other berm. The clerk told members she was trying to find grant funding towards the additional cost. The original cost was coming from Concurrent Funding the balance may have to come from the maintenance budget.

A meeting has been arranged with Deacon Landscape on 18th June. The clerk will attend the planning hearing on 15th June with Cllr Blatherwick and she will also attend a KCC Pension forum on 17th June.

The meeting with the schools to try and alleviate the parking issues has been re-arranged, date to be confirmed.

The Garden Safari is on Sunday 12th and hopefully the weather will be kind. South East Water is renewing the old cast iron water mains in Broomfield Road, Ridgeway Road and Busheyfields Road. Work is scheduled to start in June with completion of all the works in the Herne Bay area by March 2011. There is a drop in session at the King's Hall on 15th June from 4pm - 7pm to look at the details. An email has been received from Norman Sands under the Freedom of Information Act asking for copies of all correspondence between the Parish and the City Council's Planning Enforcement Section over the past five years including all email communication. Cllr Brealy had sent the clerk an email stating that Kent Highways Services did not have to act on ragwort unless they got a complaint backed up by evidence.

140/10 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, etc), and any meetings attended by members on behalf of parish council. Cllr Jones had received the report on the Street monitors meeting and told members pot hole repairs were ongoing and spraying of weeds has started and Community Payback are being used. The new recycling bags system is now in operation. Cllr Davis attended the funding Fair and all members have received a copy of the report. Cllr Davis also attended the Community Climate Change Fair, members have all received a copy of the report on that. Cllr Davis suggested that the parish council should consider purchasing energy monitors for residents to borrow. This will be an agenda item next meeting. Cllr Davis had attended a parish plan meeting and reported the update was slowly coming together. About £2000 was needed to produce and distribute the update, half of this funding was available from Action with Communities in Rural Kent and she asked if the parish council would approve £500 funding towards the cost. This will go on next month's agenda.

Cllr Vickery Jones arrived at this point

141/10 To report on Youth Club The youth worker was ill and therefore did not attend. Cllr Taylor told members that two of the youngsters were particularly difficult on the night, while at the park. The forms had been filled in for the grant for Street Art to attend the Fun Day.

142/10 Report on the progress of 700 year Anniversary and the progress of the Football Tournament. Cllr Moore reported on the football tournament. He told members that he had been helped by a young local resident, Michael. 40 teams had entered and it was also hoped that there would be a few girl's teams. St John's Ambulance was booked to attend. He had a programme that he had produced and after some discussion it was agreed that the logo on the front would have Herne & Broomfield Parish Council and St Martin's in Herne with the 700 and 2010 in figures. He would print approx 400. The cost of this would be covered by adverts in the programme. The Parish Council chairman will approve the programme. Cllr Moore had a trophy and medals to show members and it was agreed that he would organise purchasing these. There was an approximate cost of £400. Also in the programme he would like comments from the parish council chairman and the vicar and he himself would put a comment regarding the event. He hoped the tournament would be finished around 2pm. Cllr Vickery Jones congratulated Cllr Moore on what he had done to date and Cllr Parker offered a tannoy system for the day. Cllr Day told members he had contacted clubs and had managed to get 4 teams to enter, but the bulk was through Cllr Moore's efforts. Cllr Blatherwick reported that the flower bed was underway in the village and thanked Monica, the clerk, for her efforts. Cllr Blatherwick had attended several of the 700 year events. There was a new book available from Herne Historical Society called the Herne Chronicles and there were several events still to come. The clerk asked members to let her know who was available to attend the Community Fete on 4th July and asked what the parish council stall was going to do. It was agreed that a small group would work on the float and then members would be available on the day to help on the stall. The stall will have a couple of games and members will be able to talk to residents. The stall will work together with the Parish Plan group.

143/10 To discuss the lease and the progress of the Allotments. The clerk reported that she had been in discussions with the solicitor and he was looking into any other ways that the parish council could get a longer lease. He has suggested that we apply for a 25 year lease and he thinks that Land Registry will grant title on a good leasehold basis, which is a slightly different category. He thinks we can submit the same

evidence as was submitted for the grant of easement to South East Water. He thinks it is worth a try and has started work on drawing up the lease. Cllr Davis reported that since the article on the allotments had appeared in the newsletter there had been 21 new people enrol for an allotment plot.

144/10 Should local groups and associations who want to use the Community Park at Broomfield, ask permission of the PC to hold their meetings there and show that they have public liability insurance. This was discussed and it was decided no action needed to be taken at present. If the parish council becomes aware of any problems caused by groups using the site then they would need to take some action.

145/10 To discuss the horse trough for Albion Lane. The clerk explained that she needed to know who was going to look after the trough for the risk assessment. It was agreed to ask the Horticultural Society if they would be prepared to look after it. The parish council will need to agree a budget for putting it in place and planting it.

146/10 To propose items for the next agenda. Purchasing Energy Monitors and Contribution to the Parish Plan update. Set budget for trough and discuss the flower bed in the village for a permanent solution.

147/10 Member's Reports. Cllr Brealy suggested that parish council need to discuss what is going to happen to flower bed in the future.

Cllr Hobbs reported that the Herne Bay in Bloom projects were underway.

148/10 The next meeting of the parish council will be on 8th July 2010 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.

Meeting closed 9-30pm