

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 7th January 2010 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

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

001/10 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons. Cllr Baylis too slippery underfoot, Cllr Davis, unwell, Cllr Vickery Jones, another meeting and Cllr Parker who is working. County Cllr Marsh, Ward Cllrs Bissett & Sonnex.

002/10 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda. None

003/10 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2009. Cllr Parker did attend the last meeting. The clerk reported that she had amended the minutes to show Cllr Parker attended the last meeting.

004/10 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only. None.

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 but did not speak.

005/10 **Chairman's Announcements.** The Chairman asked members to consider for next month's meeting whether the council should enter any of the NALC competitions for Council of Year Clerk of Year and Councillor of the year. This will be an agenda item next month. He is also going to put an item on the agenda to encourage members to take the SLCC Working with Your Council training.

006/10 **Warden's Report. None.**

007/10 **Police Matters/Crime report.** Apologies from PCSO Suzie Waldie who attended her grand fathers funeral earlier today and Sergeant Dave Garland who had intended to be here as Suzie wasn't, but he is stuck in Canterbury. PC Bev Horan reported the crime for the last month; there have been 3 criminal damage, 2 burglaries and 3 vehicle crimes, this is down on last month and 50% down on this time last year.

008/10 **To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.**

Ward Cllr Sonnex reports the charity collection bin in the Plough has been moved to the far side of the car park. This is good news as she was previously concerned it blocked visibility for cars approaching the roundabout.

She has been promised that the bus perch will be fitted in the bus shelter in School Lane by the 15th January. The extreme weather conditions, may affect this as Highways have their work cut out maintaining essential services.

She was asked to check the street lighting in Streetfield. The streetlights were all ok, but all but two of the down floods lighting up the road signs were not working. This has been reported into KHS and is being dealt with.

With regard to the parking review, as ward councillor she requested the Turning Head in Norton Avenue be double yellow lined, as an emergency ambulance was unable to reach a resident. When the review came out, the whole length of Norton Avenue had been highlighted to be double yellow lined. She spoke with Richard Moore at CCC who informed her that the residents had requested one side of the whole road as they were fed up with school parking.

The clerk told members she had asked for clarification as to how many residents had wanted double yellows along the length of the road. There was only one and several objections to the proposal.

Stagecoach stopped buses using Windmill Rd and Mount View Road yesterday due to the road not being gritted. Today all buses have been stopped in Broomfield on safety grounds.

There has been a request for a salt bin to be put in place at Hunters Chase slope, perhaps members would like to discuss this?

A gentleman knocked on her door to complain about the prevalent dog fouling in

Margate Rd.

She also has concerns regarding the number of retrospective planning applications for log cabins and summerhouses, not just in this ward, but district wide. It seems a number of people are purchasing these in good faith and all innocence, without realising they may need planning permission. She is considering how this can be tackled.

When in Herne on New Year's Eve around 7 30pm, she was horrified at the speed and total disregard cars were approaching the roundabout. There were two nasty near misses in the fifteen minutes she was there, and to turn right out of School Lane you were literally taking your life in your hands. She realises this has been an issue for many years, but something needs to be done before there are fatalities at that roundabout.

Finally, she wished everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

009/10 Planning and Highways. Report on leaks in the School Lane/ Mill Lane areas. The road has been dug up despite a hold up with the bad weather. A mains water leak has been found and the drain had collapsed, both have been repaired. The clerk has reported several pot holes that have appeared following the bad weather. County Cllr Marsh has managed to get a u turn with regard to parish councils purchasing salt bins and we have been asked to let him know where we would like new ones.

010/10 Finance

The clerk reported that the quarterly audit had been cancelled due to the weather.

To ratify payments made since last meeting. Serco £11.38, Victim Support £50.00, Peter Vickery Jones £72.74 (float), Ann Blatherwick £41.01 (books), C Bosworth £60.00 (Pip the Clown)

Payments presented at this meeting were approved after a double entry had been removed. Schedule and bank reconciliation supplied showing both the general and earmarked reserves.

To report on income received. Total of £339.41 Interest £1.41 Advertising £338.00

011/10 Tree & Pond Warden's Report. Cllr Hobbs reported that due to the current weather conditions it was likely that the next pond task day would be cancelled.

012/10 Clerk's Report/Correspondence. The clerk thanked members for her Christmas gift and wished everyone a happy new year.

Report on Children's Christmas Party

The children's Christmas party was a huge success with 63 children attending. The afternoon kicked off with Shout Disco, following all the dancing the children sat down to eat. After a good feast they enjoyed fun and games with Pip the Clown. At 4-45pm Santa arrived on his sleigh and the children were each given a present. Following this they waved Santa off and went home. A great time was had by all. The clerk thanked all those who had helped on the day and those who had provided food. A special thank you to Cllr Taylor for organising a few games at the start and to Cllr Parker and his wife for giving up their time.

Report Christmas Presentation evening Dec 09

The Christmas presentation evening held on 19th Dec was enjoyed by all, but attendance was low. It was an extremely cold evening and there were lots of colds and flu about. The cheque for £1,600 was presented to Strode Park who was most appreciative. Money received this year has gone to new equipment and there are proposals to improve the mini buses to enable residents to get out more.

Santa Float

The float was appreciated by all those who turned out to watch, unfortunately they were running late when they toured Broomfield and it was a bitterly cold evening but people still waited to see Santa. A big thank you to all those involved.

The clerk reminded members that she would be doing Jury Service from 12th Jan and was not sure when she would be in the office.

Correspondence

Strode Park Foundation, letter of thanks for donation.

St Martin's Church letter of thanks for donation and details of what is planned for this year.

Letter from Southern Water saying they have opened an account for the parish Council for the Community Park. The clerk has contacted them and explained that there is no waste water on the site.

- 013/10 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, etc), and any meetings attended by members on behalf of parish council.** Cllr Brealy told members there was a KALC meeting on 13th January.
- 014/10 To report on Youth Club.** No meetings over the Christmas period. The youth club should start back on 13th January but this will depend on the weather. The committee are looking at applying to Kent Community Foundation for funding.
- 015/10 Report on KCC's decision re the Village Green application.** The Kent County Council Regulation Committee Panel carried out a site visit to the Cherry Orchard Playing Field, for the benefit of their members who had not visited before. The meeting to discuss whether the application was to be granted or refused was held at the Guildhall, Canterbury. The KCC officer gave an overview of the history of the application, the Inspectors report, and the response from the applicant and the comments by the Inspector following these. A late submission by the applicant's solicitor was allowed by the chairman of the committee. She basically implied that the Inspector did not look at the evidence correctly and that there had been omissions. She criticised the Inspector for not coming back with a response to the applicant's response. She also asked the members to consider making the parts of the field, not covered by the football pitches, a village green, she asked for them to not look at approving the inspectors report or the recommendations of the KCC officers. CCC Janet Taylor told members that the areas which are not marked out as pitches were not defined at the public inquiry (held 18th–20th May in Herne) as the pitches are moved regularly and therefore it would be very difficult to allow an application for Village Green on just some of the area. The point raised on locality was also not satisfied; therefore the Inspectors recommendation should stand. The applicant had changed her 'neighbourhood' area mid-inquiry from just parts of Herne to include the entire parish. As the parish had not been in existence for 20 years this could not apply. Several KCC members spoke one stating (sarcastically) that he was impressed by the solicitor's comments that opinion of counsel was just her opinion. As specialist counsel opinion had been sought by KCC, they then had to rely on that opinion. He also stated that he was not convinced by the applicants request to register part of the land. There appeared to be a lot of 'window dressing' to support this case. Another member stated that many years ago he used to play football on the pitches in Cherry Orchard and that they had always needed the permission of CCC to play and on several occasion matches had been cancelled by CCC due to pitch conditions. The pitches in those days were closer to the bungalows and balls regularly went into the gardens during matches. Having gone to counsel he too was surprised at the suggestion that they should ignore the recommendation. Another member stated that they had gone through a Public Inquiry and locality was not proven and having had a qualified person look at the issues, as members they must take the advice of learned people. The chair stated that he had allowed the applicants solicitor to make a late submission and he had found parts offensive and that members had to be guided by their legal representatives. A vote was taken and the application was refused unanimously.
- 016/10 To discuss Cllr Day's request to hold a monthly surgery.** This was ratified. Meetings will take place on the Saturday before the parish council meeting from 10-12 in the Wootton Room. There will be a review of the situation in 3 months. Cllr Moore asked if there should be a rota for members and the chairman thought this to be unnecessary. Cllr Brealy pointed out that members who attended, should make sure that if when giving an opinion that wasn't council policy, they make sure that they say it is their own opinion and not that of the parish council.
- 017/10 Update on planting up the bed at bottom of School Lane.** KCC will speak with CCC about planting the bed up with the 700 years as requested by parish council. Canterbury Garden Centre would be willing to sponsor but they would want a sign saying that they have sponsored the area. Cllr Whiffen suggested that if a sign was going to be placed on the area then it would be better for the parish council to be the sponsors of the area. The clerk will find out if this can be done and this will be an item for next month's agenda.

- 018/10 To adopt Training Statement of Intent** The clerk suggested a couple of minor alterations, professional bodies who provide training etc as approved by the parish council and a slight rewording on page 2 KALC etc also hold training sessions. This was resolved. **Asset Management Plan** This was resolved without alteration.
- 019/10 To approve Community Engagement Statement of Intent with alterations.** One of the alterations was to add a parish council surgery. It was also agreed to insert that the parish council is currently not party political and that CCC Ward Councillor and County Councillor would be added to the list of people invited to attend meetings.
- 020/10 To discuss further the 'Awayday' brainstorming session for members.** As Cllr Davis was not presented it was agreed that this should be discussed at the next meeting.
- 021/10 To propose items for the next agenda.** NALC Awards, Councillors Training, Away Day brainstorming session, Signage for planting at bottom of School Lane.
- 022/10 Member's Reports** Cllr Brealy reported that rock salt was being taken from the bins by local business'.
Cllr Day recommended an audit of all salt bins in the area and members who live close by could keep a check on them and let the clerk know when they need filling.
Cllr Moore asked about a football tournament to celebrate the 700 years anniversary, Cllr Blatherwick will mention it to Elaine Richardson at the next meeting and if she is in agreement Cllr Moore will organise.
Cllr Hobbs asked if there had been a response yet from Highways about the water problem at Broomfield Post Office. The clerk will chase it up. Cllr Hobbs will be attending a Herne Bay in Bloom meeting on 11th January.
- 023/10 The next meeting of the parish council will be on 11th February 2010 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.**

Meeting closed 8-30pm