

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 June 2011 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Day, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr R Jones, Cllr T Jones, Cllr Sargent, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Moore, Cllr Tobin and Cllr Nicholson.

119/11 To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons. Cllr Harvey and Cllr Brealy away, Cllr Davis family visiting. City Cllr Sonnex and City Cllr Vickery Jones at another meeting.

120/11 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda.

121/11 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2011.

122/11 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only. The accounts have been sent to the District Audit. The goldfish have been removed from Herne Pond by the Environment agency. Funding for all the tubs has been agreed, thanks to Cllr Robert Jones for securing funding for one of them. Kerbs and footway in Ridgeway Road been repaired.

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

2 Present

123/11 **Chairman's Announcements.** The chairman informed members that in future members would not need to sign the attendance register as their presence is now recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

124/11 **To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.** **County Councillor Marsh** reported that the interactive sign would return within 6 weeks as definite dates defeated the object. He worked with Little Acorns on their Royal Wedding event which was one of the best in the area. And he hopes to secure £900 to help them further. Alan commented on the accident figures which showed that there were more accidents at lower speeds and only 5% of accidents were on motorways with 3% involving people coming off their drives. He hopes that another 6 interactive signs will be sourced in the coming months. Alan has applied to have 3 road in the parish resurfaced Mill View, Hunters Forstal Road and Margate Road hopefully these will all be done in the current financial year. Alan is also trying to get another illuminated post on the zebra crossing in Herne. He was asked if illuminated posts could be installed at the zebra crossing in School Lane and he will look into it.

County Councillor Marsh was pleased to announce that the pantomime this year for the over 50's would be Scrooge at the Sarah Thorne Theatre. Cllr Blatherwick old County Cllr Marsh that she was very disappointed in the consultation regarding school travel which had not been advertised to parents. Alan suggested contacting Sarah Hohler at KCC, with her concerns and copy him in to the email and he would take the matter up. He also told members that the area needed at least two new secondary schools. Cllr Moore asked if repairs could be done to the kerbs in the service road, Cllr Marsh said he would look into it. Cllr Tobin asked about signage for Little Acorns and Alan told him that had been sorted out.

City Councillor Sonnex sent a written report. Six cars in Rye Walk were damaged maliciously. The Police advised that they all be reported individually but are not realistically expecting to find the culprit.

She has asked Richard Griffith's at CCC to look into the possibility of placing a couple of picnic tables at Goldspots. It is a lovely place to walk and is beautifully maintained and residents would benefit by being able to spend perhaps half a day there and share a picnic rather than just walk their dogs and come away.

She has been taken off the Development & Control Committee. This has now put her in a position to speak freely regarding planning applications prior to them going to committee. She hopes she can use my knowledge to assist local residents to either support or refuse planning applications wherever appropriate.

City Councillor Vickery Jones sent a written report. ‘The report on the proposed supermarket at Altira Business Park is very speculative and extremely unlikely to acquire planning consent, in fact it is very unlikely that once they have established the difficulties, a planning application will be received. Contrary to some reports they have not purchased the land but merely have an option to purchase should planning permission be granted. There isn’t a problem with the planning application for a bungalow behind the property in Albion Lane provided some provision for parking is made for the host dwelling and Ben Young is speaking with the applicant to discuss this issue. I worked with officers and the clerk to have a tree that had fallen over removed in St Martin’s View, the clerk and I had both received a call from a resident and we both contacted CCC who removed it the next day. The appeal for 36 Broomfield Road has been dismissed.’

125/11 Police Matters/Crime report. Written report supplied as Sue is not on duty. ‘I am unable to do the crime report but can say that we had four reports of damage to cars (scratches) all on the same day. Due to the time of day I do feel that this was down to young people on half term. No proof, as no one came forward. Lead/metal thefts are still happening and again no one sees or reports when it is happening. I was with Tony Day on Saturday and I had one person call in to speak to me. I feel this is a good joint event for the parish council and will support this. We did talk of how best to promote this event and I am hoping this matter will be discussed this evening. A thought I had was maybe to hold this on the first Saturday of each month and tie it in with a fund raising project. Say book exchange which charges small amount say 50p for a loan and £1 to keep. Money raised could go to a good cause such as Help the Heroes or Canterbury Hospice for example. This is just a suggestion as I am unable to be at the meeting.’

126/11 Wardens Report. None. Tom is off sick.

127/11 Planning and Highways matters. To approve planning minutes for 26th May 2011. The clerk has received notification that SGN have decided to postpone the gas main replacement works that they were intending to undertake during this school summer holidays.

The works would have necessitated a road closure between Albion Lane and Park Place and would have been for approx 4-5 weeks.

It is anticipated that the works will now be programmed for next year’s summer school holidays. This will of course affect next year’s Fun Day. The clerk has requested discussions for signage before the road closure is due to take place.

The clerk reported that she has received a quote for work on the footpaths around the school and the ones from cherry orchard into School Lane this would be £100 each time it is cut etc. The contractor concerned is not renewing his spraying license but says he is able to use a DBA spray without one. This was confirmed. He thinks it will need to be done twice a year. It looks unlikely that KCC are actually going to provide any funding towards this. The clerk will look into getting a couple more quotes. Cllr Day had received a complaint about the amount of vegetation that was growing on pavements and in gutters and he asked for this to be put on the agenda for the next meeting. The clerk reported that she had asked the KCC warden supervisor if this could be done by the Community Payback team.

128/11 Finance

To ratify payments made since last meeting. Deposit for land purchase of £9,000. KALC clerks attendance at conference £72 and Kent Youth £24. These payments were approved.

To resolve the approval of payments presented at this meeting; to approve bank reconciliation and earmarked reserves as supplied. The bank reconciliation was approved and after a couple of questions the bank reconciliation was also approved.

To report on income received. Precept £88,528, Grants £9,499.00, Advertising £520.00, Fun Day £370, Donation £60, Bank Interest 60p, a total of £98,977.60.

To approve a donation to the Herne Bay Scouts. Cllr Blatherwick declared a personal interest and did not vote. It was agreed to donate £50.

To discuss and approve quote for replacement posts on Herne green. The quote for the posts is £531.72 plus VAT that is to install 12 posts 8 being donated and 4 new, these will be set in concrete. A second quote was submitted for £665.16 to supply all

new posts including installation. It was agreed that the quote for £531.72 be accepted.

129/11 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report. Cllr Hobbs reported on a very successful pond day with 15 volunteers helping on the day. The goldfish were all removed from Goldsposts pond by the environment agency. The clerk reported that she had been made aware of a tree that had been cut down in Cherry Orchard some months ago. She had contacted CCC and the tree officer confirmed it was diseased and had been removed, the clerk had requested that another be planted in its place. Cllr Nicholson reported that a resident had complained that she had been told by a councillor to cut her hedge or KCC would cut it and she would be charge, she was quite upset about this as her husband works away a lot. Cllr Day asked who the councillor was and Cllr Tobin said he had attended with the warden. Cllr Day told all members that they did not have any authority to knock on peoples doors and tell them they had to carry out work. If there was an issue it needed to be directed to the appropriate authorities. This type of behaviour was not good for the parish council and members were asked to be more careful in future. Cllr Nicholson had also been contacted by a resident regarding the lack of a dropped kerb in Hawe Farm Way, there is only one instead of two. The clerk reported to members that she had been in touch with Highways and there wasn't any funding for dropped kerbs in the current year, she did confirm that they were normally installed in two's and she would look into resolving the issue somehow. Cllr Blatherwick had also received a complaint about the lack of a dropped kerb in Albion Lane/Albion Close.

130/11 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.

The changing rooms in Cherry Orchard have been demolished and hopefully work will start on the new building soon. The plaque that was on the building has been removed by the History group chairman and he will reinstate it on the new building when it has been completed.

There has been some vandalism at Broomfield Community Park with the fencing from the field being cut to give access we think for motorbikes, the damaged fencing has now been repaired. Sue the PCSO has been informed.

The clerk has purchased some new gazebo's and has checked with the insurance company and they will be covered if stored in the container.

The fridge in the kitchen gave up, but a replacement one has been donated.

The clerk reported she had attended the Mayor Making reception on 18th May. The clerk reported that she had attended SLCC training day and there had been discussions on Localism Bill etc. the meeting was fairly short and was followed by a trip to Manston where there was a presentation by the CEO, who explained why they were applying for night flights, that the airport needed to be competitive in order to make money and that they needed an airline based there to provide package holiday flights and without night flights this would not happen. The new radar system was being installed which would be a great help as, currently when planes are over the sea the current radar has difficulty differentiating between them and the wind farms. The new system will not have that problem.

The SLCC Kent Annual conference is unfortunately on 1st July and the clerk will not be able to attend as she is on annual leave. The clerk reported that she would be on annual leave from 20th June and the office would re-open on 4th July. Cllr Davis will keep an eye on the emails and Cllr Taylor will check the post and answer phone. Cllr Day has agreed to check BMX track and fill dog bag bin, Cllr Blatherwick will check the equipment in Cherry Orchard. The clerk thanked them for their help.

The Summer newsletter has gone out, thanks to all those who delivered and especially Cllr Davis as editor and the preparations for the Garden Safari are about complete. If anyone has a prize for the raffle that would be most acceptable.

The work on the installation of the steps at Broomfield Community Park will start approx mid July.

Correspondence

A call from Broomfield PO with concerns over proposal for supermarket next to Table Table in Margate Road. Could parish council help. This issue has been covered in City Cllr Vickery Jones report.

Report from Will Lee re football coaching. Will took a team to a tournament over Easter. The Under 14 team won their competition and will be defending their title in

the summer competition. He has had 60 different youngsters attend the sessions in Cherry Orchard, to date. When he is unable to attend the sessions will continue to run as he has a coach who will take his place. The parish council needs to decide whether they would like the sessions to continue during the summer months. The clerk told members that she had been unable to source any grant funding for the sessions. There is £4,300 in the earmarked reserve. Another £500 payment will be due at the end of June. The clerk suggested running until the end of July and having a break for August and restarting on 6th September, this will leave sufficient funds to run through until at least March and adding more to the fund can then be discussed for the budget in October. Members agreed that sessions should continue with a break during August.

- 131/11 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, etc), any meetings attended by members on behalf of parish council.** Cllr R Jones reported on Street Monitors meeting. Adrian Stewart from CCC Streetscene had reported that it as a particularly busy time as the students were now leaving the area. Helen Bennington had reported that drainage works were due to be carried out in Hunters Forstal Road. KCC is taking the spraying contract back in house and spraying would only be done once a year. It was reported that Serco would like to engage more with their public and had asked to attend Streetscene meetings. Cllr Moore reported on the PACT meeting which was now a neighbourhood panel. It had been agreed to let the residents make the decision as to whether it should continue leaflets would be distributed and a public meeting would be held to see what the residents views are, and following that a decision can be made. Cllr Hobbs reported on Herne Bay in Bloom, she told members that bedding plants had been planted in Herne Bay and a litter pick carried out. The group have taken over the garden outside the Institute hall in Herne and had also done some additional planting to the trough and flower bed in Canterbury Road, with some donated plants. Cllr Tobin had offered to water the trough and flower bed. It was hoped that South & South East in Bloom would result in a Gold award this year.
- 132/11 To report on Youth Club** Cllr Taylor reported low numbers attending at the last meeting but thought this was due to it being exam time. The club had a new volunteer and also someone else who has said they might be interested. Members had received details of the bags for Sport which the youth club hoped would provide some funding.
- 133/11 To update members on the progress of the lease for the allotment site.** There is movement on the allotment lease. It appears that the parish council solicitor has had the document for 7 weeks and then decided he did not have time to deal with it. It is now being dealt with by another solicitor in the practise and hopefully will move forward. Cllr Davis and the clerk have both looked at the lease and put in comments. The clerk reported that she had now spoken with the new solicitor who is aware that she is on annual leave from 18th June and will attempt to get something in place before then.
- 134/11 To discuss welcome pack for new residents,** Cllr Nicholson has produced an amended version of the welcome letter to include details of bus services and most of the information already included on the letter that currently goes to new residents. It was agreed that Cllr Nicholson would make some additions to the letter he had produced and would email to all councillors. He proposed that the letter along with the current newsletter should be hand delivered by members when a new resident moves into the area. There were questions about how the council would get the information as to new residents and the clerk told members that an updated electoral role was received monthly which included new additions.
- 135/11 To discuss setting up a youth council.** Cllr Nicholson had contacted the British Youth Council who had been very helpful and may be able to help with funding to set up a youth council. It had been suggested that a meeting for the young people could be held on a Saturday morning and would be for youngsters of secondary school age up to 25. The clerk told members that Sturry Parish Council has set one up and it would be a good idea to contact them for advice. It was agreed that Cllr Nicholson would take this matter forward and he would report back at the next meeting.

- 136/11 **To discuss setting up a Policy Committee and Hall committee.** Cllr Day told members that parish council policies should really be reviewed annually and currently this was not happening so he was proposing a committee to deal with these to meet once a year. He also felt there were occasions when new policies would be required such as one for dealing with the press and media. This was agreed the committee would be made up of Cllr Day, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr T Jones, Cllr Moore, Cllr Tobin, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Sargent and Cllr Nicholson. The Chairman suggested that the Hall committee could be made up from the current steering group with perhaps a resident. This was approved. Therefore the committee would comprise of Cllr Davis, Cllr Day, Cllr Blatherwick and Cllr R Jones.
- 137/11 **To propose items for the next agenda.** Vegetation on pavement and in gutters. Queens Jubilee celebration.
- 138/11 **Members Reports.** Cllr Sargent reported that he had looked at most of the footpaths and the majority were ok at present. CH39 was overgrown in places mainly after the tarmac path where there is a low overhanging tree. CH38 is OK but there is some overgrowth on the bridge. Although the pot holes in Lower Herne Rd were marked for repair they still haven't been done.
Cllr R Jones reported that Canterbury Garden centre were having their large mound of spoil removed but they have restricted the amount of daily vehicle movements to reduce the impact to residents. Herne Bay Pier Trust has asked the parish council to support a request to put a recycle bin in School Lane car park to collect ink cartridges and toners. This would generate funds for the Pier Trust. This was agreed. Cllr Hobbs asked when the swing that Serco had removed from Honeysuckle Park would be returned.
- 139/11 **To discuss the progress on the land purchase and any other relevant issues to progress this matter. This item may be discussed without the public or press present, Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of the business being discussed. (This item may be withdrawn if no further information is available on 9th June).** The chairman called for a motion to exclude members of public etc for this item, all but Cllr Moore voted in favour. The clerk reported that the exchange of contracts will take place soon, it had been hoped that it would have happened by now but completion will take place in early July. The clerk asked members to approve the final payment for purchase and costs etc unfortunately she hadn't got an actual figure yet but this would need to be paid at completion and the money would need to be transferred by a CHAPS payment. Cllr Day said it would not be more than the original amount agreed for the cost of the purchase £100,000. Members therefore approved this payment. The Insurance will be required from exchange and members need to approve this cost of the cover for £300,000 approx £1,050. This is buildings cover only, contents can be added later. This quote is from our existing insurance company, other quotes have been received but were more expensive. This was approved. The remit of the hall committee was discussed. It was agreed that they would discuss and put in place any measures required for the immediate period following completion, especially finding someone to take bookings, payments, give out keys etc.
- 140/11 **The next meeting of the parish council will be on 14th July 2011 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.**

Meeting closed 9.15pm