

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 10th March 2011 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

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

- 47/11 To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons. Cllr Tracey Jones who has a school meeting, Cllr Brealy who also has a meeting, Cllr Nicholson has been unable to get a babysitter. Cllr Blatherwick will be late as she has parents evening. City Cllr Sonnex also sent apologies.
- 48/11 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda. Cllrs Hobbs, Davis, & Harvey on item 65/11, Cllr Hobbs 64/11, Cllr Davis 63/11 and Cllr Parker 61/11
- 49/11 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2011.
- 50/11 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only. A Public meeting had been arranged with our MP Roger Gale and representatives of other organisations, to discuss the selling off of Forestry land. The meeting was due to be held on 12th March. Due to the government's decision not to go ahead with this at the moment, it was decided to cancel the meeting. KALC Planning Training day on 12th March has been over-subscribed and Cllr Blatherwick & Cllr Day have been re-booked, the clerk will not be attending. Serco did clear the footpath around Herne Juniors. The clerk has asked for the mobile speed unit to attend in both Canterbury Road and Hunters Forstal.

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 Members of the public attended

- 51/11 **Chairman's Announcements.** Cllr Day reminded members that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 31st March at Kent Enterprise House at 7-30pm. A Quiz and Chips night will be held on 26th March at Herne Institute hall
- 52/11 **To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.** County Cllr Marsh asked about the shortfall on the funding for the Parish Plan and offered help. He told members that the economy was in a real mess. He also asked if there were any wrong priorities or injustices that they are passed on to him and he will try and deal with them. He spoke about Canterbury Road service road and the proposal to widen, it now appears residents still cannot agree on what they want, therefore this project may not go ahead and the funding will be spent elsewhere. It is possible that it will be re-directed to Millview Road and Margate Road. There were problems with teachers from the school parking in the service road area. It had been agreed that the hockey stick markings outside the properties would be repainted.
City Cllr Peter Vickery-Jones reported that he had attended various seminars on the new Localism bill and he considered it to be a waste of time. One of the major issues is planning the more development an area allows the more say and funding they will get. He was trying to encourage CCC to take more notice of parish councils. He made a plea for parish councillors to go out and talk to residents face to face. He continued to support Herne & Broomfield and hoped he would be re-elected in order to continue working in the parish. He also reported that the tenant at the Upper Red Lion had now left and there was to be a license review. He was informed the property was now up for sale. Cllr Blatherwick arrived at this point.
- 53/11 **Police Matters/Crime report.** PCSO Sue Radcliffe reported that crime had increased. One vehicle crime had been reported, theft of a motorcycle which was later found in Cherry Orchard. There was one attempted burglary and six incidents of criminal damage, mostly stone throwing resulting in broken windows. There were some issues again with youths in Strode Park and Cherry Orchard. Ongoing thefts of

lead across the county were also a problem. There will be another street briefing on 21st March between 1-.15 and 11am in Anemone Way. Sue said attendance at the street briefings varied but was generally good. She also said if there were any concerns regarding the census then residents should ring her.

54/11 Warden's Report. Tom has been off sick for 4 days with a sprained ankle and was therefore not allowed to work a late shift today. He provided a written report. He has been warning people of the lead thefts in the area and also about bogus census representative. Overall it had been a quiet month.

55/11 Planning and Highways matters. Complaints received about parking in Lower Herne Road and Streetfield had been dealt with, the clerk has asked Highways to look at the damage to the verges in Lower Herne Road and the PCSO to organise a visible presence at school time.

56/11 Finance

To ratify payments made since last meeting. £259 CPRE Planning training day.

To resolve the approval of payments presented at this meeting; to approve bank reconciliation and earmarked reserves as supplied. All payments were approved and the clerk gave details on the bank reconciliation and reserves.

To report on income received. Interest £2.97, Training day £350, Fun day £155, Parish plan grant £545, advertising £81.70. Total £1134.67

57/11 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report. Cllr Davis told members that CCC had been asked to look at installing an informal path on the grass around the south side of Broomfield pond. At the Friends of the Ponds AGM all the committee had been re-elected. A Task day was arranged for 13th March at Goldspots. It was hoped to get grant funding to remove silt from this pond to improve the water quality. Fencing needs repairing. An information board will be installed and planting will be done. The Friends have bought a trailer and tools with grant money.

58/11 Clerk's Report/Correspondence. The licensee of the Upper Red Lion has now vacated the premises, and the building is up for sale.

The lights in the ball court have now been repaired, we are testing just having the two lights working to try and save a bit on electricity costs.

Graffiti update, Cllrs Jones and Taylor did attend to try the graffiti removal chemical and it appears it will clean off the graffiti. Due to a problem with padlocks it was not possible to get access to the hosepipe. This has now been resolved and some graffiti removal will take place at the weekend.

Community Park update, Cllr Blatherwick has checked the work completed at the Community Park and although some of it is not what was envisaged, it is about complete apart from the planting. The clerk reported that she had asked Deacon's to do a few jobs that were outstanding and also about the planting.

A meeting was held with the chairman and clerk of Teynham Parish Council with Cllrs Day, Davis, Blatherwick and Cllr Robert Jones, the clerk also attended. Teynham parish council owns the land on which the Village hall stands but has no control over it other than having 2 councillors on the hall management committee. They also have a second hall which was purchased about 7 years ago which they run and manage themselves. It was quite interesting to hear the comparisons between the two systems and the information was certainly useful.

The clerk reported that she had received confirmation that Hollamby Estates will donate £500 towards the Funday and Crown Charitable Trust will contribute £250 sponsoring the Birds of Prey Display. County Cllr Marsh has approved £500 towards the event and both Wilbee and Chris West will cover the cost of St John's Ambulance and Pip the Clown. The clerk is looking for sponsorship for the two face painters, and the band. Serco have once again agreed to cover half the cost of the PA system.

The tables for the Quiz & Chips night on 26th March are going well, still a couple of tables to fill.

City Cllr Peter Vickery Jones has been working very hard at getting CCC agreement that parish councils can hold recycle sacks to sell to residents. City Cllr Rosemary Doyle thought they should all have a vending machine and pay for it themselves! There is now agreement that parish councils can purchase sacks direct from Serco to sell in parish offices. The clerk has been liaising with Dave Williamson at Serco who wants to discuss an alternative way forward and the clerk will discuss this with him

next week. He has agreed to waive any delivery cost.

Serco have submitted a quote for anti-climb paint on the post with CCTV camera at Broomfield, it is £123.17. It was agreed to have this work done.

The District Audit has given notification of the auditor for this year.

- 59/11 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, etc), and any meetings attended by members on behalf of parish council.** Cllr Hobbs reported on Herne Bay in Bloom, the launch was at King's Hall with the Business Exhibition. She said anyone with hanging baskets and good front gardens should enter the competition. Cllr Taylor reported on the Play Provider meeting. Five funders had withdrawn from the meeting due to lack of funding. Cllr Taylor reported that she had attended one of the workshops, which was on behaviour strategies for youngsters, this was an excellent workshop and the lady dealing with it did so with a lot of common sense.
- 60/11 To report on Youth Club.** Cllr Taylor reported that the new boys had not come back. By request there will be balloon modelling at the next meeting on 23rd March.
- 61/11 Update on the celebration event for the Royal Wedding.** Cllr Moore reported on the progress on the Picnic in the park. Everything is going to plan and most things are booked. Cllr Parker asked about PA and had concerns as to whether Radio Cabin speakers were suitable for music. Cllr Moore will check. Cllr Moore asked if there should be a charge for Face Painting and Bouncy Castle etc, it was agreed these would be free.
- 62/11 To update members on the progress of the lease for the allotment site.** The clerk reported that the lease was now being worked on and would be sent out to the parish council's solicitor and PCC for approval. The lease cannot be finalised until the land has been registered. The registration has been slowed down due to the easement on the land which was signed by the PCC. As they do not officially own the land this has had to be redone and signed by the Diocese.
- 63/11 To approve £100 expenditure on producing a Business Plan for the purchase of the land, to accompany the grant application.** Cllr Davis and the clerk found that the landfill tax grant could be used to purchase land. They obtained the grant application but because the application was in excess of £20,000 a Business plan had to be sent with the application. The clerk contacted Sue Davis to discuss the Business plan and she offered to put one together for about £100. Following discussions with the Steering group members it was decided to go ahead. This is quite a complex document, which will be needed for future grant applications and Sue has actually found it to be a lot more complex than she originally thought it would be. It has taken many hours of work to put it together. The clerk requested that Sue be paid £125 rather than the £100 previously quoted. This was agreed. The completed documents have been sent off and it is expected that the result will be known by mid April.
- 64/11 Request from Cllr Hobbs that the parish council sponsors a class in HB in Bloom competition.** It was agreed to fund the prizes for the Hanging Basket Competition for £60.
- 65/11 Request from Parish Plan Group for the Parish Council to cover any funding shortfall for the production of the update and questionnaire.** The clerk told members a request had been received for the parish council to agree to cover any shortfall on the production of the Parish Plan update and the questionnaire. These would be hand delivered to every household and a freepost address would be provided for the return of the questionnaire. Funding of £1,000 from ACRE had been expected but due to the current economic climate only £545 has been received. At the Parish Plan meeting it was decided to cut costs by not providing pre-addressed envelopes just the Freepost address, depending on how many replies are sent via Freepost will depend on the final costs. The Parish Plan Group may need up to an extra £150. It was agreed that the shortfall if required would be funded by the parish council.
- 66/11 To propose items for the next agenda.** The ongoing maintenance of the flower bed and tubs.
- 67/11 Member's reports** Cllr Parker reported that the alarms he had been looking at were not licensed for use in the UK so he was now looking at audible alarms. Cllr Hobbs told the clerk that she needed to give her different contact details for the Karate

display at the Fun Day. Cllr Davis reported that the newsletter was nearly ready. She also told members that there were going to be changes to the Archive procedure as KCC were withdrawing from the Cathedral Archives. Cllr Davis considers that the parish council needs to look into an archiving facility for the parish. Cllr Robert Jones told members he was putting together a map with the dog bin locations identified on it. Cllr Moore asked about the planning application for the changing rooms in Cherry Orchard, the clerk told members it was on the agenda for the planning meeting on 17th March.

- 68/11 **To discuss the progress on the land purchase and any other relevant issues to progress this matter. This item will 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.** The clerk reported that things were moving on with the purchase of the land. Land Registry searches had been carried out. Jo Verrico is looking at the Overage agreement to make sure that any amendments that are needed are done to the Parish Council's benefit. Cllr Day explained to members that due to unforeseen issues the legal costs were likely to be considerably more than had been originally envisaged. Cllr Davis told members that the parish council had a duty to get the best possible advice. It was agreed that the parish council needed to do whatever necessary to make sure everything was correct. As stated earlier an application has gone to Viridor for a landfill tax grant.

- 69/11 **To confirm the next meeting of the parish council will be on 14th April 2011 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.**

Meeting closed 8.50pm