

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 12th April 2012 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

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

- 078/12 To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons. Cllr Moore who has had some problems at home and is giving the police a statement. City Cllrs Sonnex & Vickery Jones. County Cllr Marsh has gone to Chislet Parish Council meeting first.
- 079/12 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda. None
- 080/12 The minutes of the meetings held on 8th March & 15th March 2012, were approved.
- 081/12 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only. The BMX club has moved the container.

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

3 members of the public attended

- 082/12 **Chairman's Announcements.** Cllr Day reported that HAT had put in a bid for the Upper Red; it was more what their ideas for the pub were and nothing more has been heard from Punch Taverns. It is not known whether the public meeting due to be held in the church on 24th April will go ahead. Cllr Brealy asked if it was possible to have a report from HAT on their consultation that went out by email, to see how many replies were received and what had been suggested. The quiz night due to be held on 21st April has been postponed to September due to a mix up with hall bookings and a lack of support.
- 083/12 **To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.** City Cllr Vickery Jones has sent a written report. He has offered any help he can give to HAT re the Upper Red Lion but has not received a response to date. He attended a meeting at Manston where he managed to persuade the committee to set up noise monitoring in Herne Bay; this will be placed in his back garden. The leader of Thanet Council vigorously objected to this but was out voted. City Cllr Vickery Jones is still running the new traffic system at Westgate Towers, which, apparently, according to some seems to be working. The schools are closed for Easter at the moment though. County Cllr Marsh did not have a report but did attend.
- 084/12 **Police Matters/Crime report.** None
- 085/12 **Wardens Report.** None
- 086/12 **Planning and Highways matters.** Planning meeting held on 22nd March; six applications were discussed, copies of the draft minutes have been distributed. All applications were approved. The clerk reported that she had received a complaint from a resident about signs not collected following the road works in Broomfield Road. This had been reported and the signs have now been collected. Cllr Day commented that Broomfield Road was far from defect free. Cllr Davis reported a loose drain cover outside the Institute hall. Cllr Taylor mentioned the salt bin had been tipped over again in Hawe Farm Way.
- 087/12 **Finance**
To ratify payments made since last meeting. Tozers land registry fee £50, Wendy Le Las £245.00, Heron Workwear £36.00, EDF £112.49, Will Lee £250, British Gas £89.15, Anna Taylor £150, EKS £7.38, Royal Mail £2.85, Petty Cash £47.23, BJK Insurance £78.94, Kent Youth £50.00. These payments were ratified.
To resolve the approval of payments presented at this meeting; to approve bank reconciliation and earmarked reserves as supplied. The payments were approved. The clerk reported that the accounts had been closed for the year ending 31 March 2012, and as

members can see from the figures for the reserves, the general reserve has reduced to just under £35,000. This will need to be carefully monitored in the coming financial year, as the council is advised to keep at least 50% of the precept in general reserve. Spending from the general reserve, in the current financial year will need to be strictly controlled.

To report on income received. Hall hire £498.50, Interest £2.56, Grants Youth £250, grants HAT etc £650, donations bags £3. Total £1,404.06. The grant cheque for £20,000 from Viridor has been received for the Community Centre.

To discuss donations to Kent Enterprise House. The clerk suggested it might be a nice gesture to make a small donation to Kent Enterprise House for the use of their facilities for the Annual Parish meeting. It was agreed to donate £50 which will be a S137 payment and come from that budget. Herne Bay in Bloom donation of £60 vouchers as a prize for the hanging baskets competition has been suggested by E & L committee. This was agreed and will also be a S137 payment. These two payments will come from the S137 earmarked reserve.

088/12 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report Cllr Davis reported that a pond day will be held at Broomfield on 22nd April at 10am. The green flag has gone missing from Curtis Wood Park, this has been reported and a new one ordered. Cllr Davis gave a vote of thanks to Irene Harding and Kay Heyward for clearing up the litter and dog mess in the track alongside 104 Broomfield Road. Much of the dog mess was in bags supplied to residents by the parish council.

089/12 Clerk's Report /Correspondence. The clerk reported that she has been very busy with the end of year and the Easter holiday etc. Cllr Blatherwick and the clerk attended the Neighbourhood Planning Day on 29th March; a copy of the report has been supplied to members. On 28th March the clerk attended the retirement party for Bob Bennett, he is going to be missed very much, which was obvious by the amount of people who attended. The Annual Parish meeting was held on 30th March and attended by about 50 people. The main speaker was Steve Mellers from Crime stoppers who gave an interesting talk on how they operated and why they had been so successful. This was mainly due to the fact that anonymity was guaranteed. Following this Cllr Day gave his annual report and the clerk gave a brief financial report. PCSO Sue Radcliffe sent a written report and Shuna Body, KCC warden area manager, attended and gave a report, hopefully our new warden will be in position on 9th May, he is currently training. 18 reports from local organisations including the church and schools. 12 people gave reports in person; the others had sent written reports. It was very interesting hearing how the groups had progressed during the year and that they are all doing well.

The clerk thanked Cllr Moore for collecting and distributing the newsletters to the deliverers, unfortunately a complete group of deliverers were missed out, luckily some of them contacted the office and the clerk delivered the newsletters to them. Hopefully this is just a teething problem and won't happen again next time.

The clerk has contacted CCC to ask about the toilets in Cherry Orchard following a complaint from a mum who could not get a toddler and a buggy into the toilets. Richard Tolson called into the office to discuss this and the suggestion is that the disabled toilet is made available for mothers & toddlers. It is the only door that is wide enough to allow a buggy inside. It would mean removing the radar key and replacing with an ordinary lock and fitting a changing mat, vandalism is likely to be the main issue. CCC is willing to give it a try but would like a contribution towards the cost, estimated at about £400. Cllr Day thought this was double taxation, Cllr Tracey Jones thought that Canterbury City Council had a duty to provide a changing area in the toilets. It was agreed that no contribution would be made to this.

The consultation for the Community Centre closed on 31st March and hopefully Sue Davis will have the results by the end of April early May.

Correspondence. A letter of thanks from David Skinner for his lovely gift and certificate. SE Water re the water restrictions. KCC are now providing a parish council legal scheme. The annual cost for Herne & Broomfield would be £400. It was agreed that the parish council had enough cover with what it had already got, at a lower price. A letter from Awards for All was received this morning and a grant of £945 has been awarded towards

the cost of the Jubilee event.

- 090/12 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, Standards Board etc), any meetings attended by members on behalf of parish council.** Cllr Hobbs reported on the KALC meeting that she attended with Cllr Brealy. The minutes of the meeting will be circulated by the clerk when they arrive. Cllr Hobbs reported that there were two speakers David Brazier and Chris Moore both representing Kent Highways & Infrastructure, which is the new name for Kent Highways. The new 5 year contract has been awarded, which will result in staff reductions. The previously bad winters had caused a lot of damage to roads in the area and had used up large stocks of salt/grit. Thefts from salt bins were a problem with people taking stocks for personal use rather than use on the road and pavement. There was also a discussion on Manston. Cllr Day told members that there had not been a meeting of the Standards group but that a recommended code has been published (the clerk will circulate to all members) but this has absolutely no teeth.
- 091/12 To report on Youth Club.** Cllr Taylor reported that the youth club start back on 25th April and the numbers are steady. The regular youth worker was now attending and Cllr Taylor asked if members were happy for her to have a key to unlock on the nights that Cllr Taylor was not attending. Members approved this.
- 092/12 To report on Herne & Broomfield Youth.** The group now have a bank account; Cllr Nicholson reported and Cllr Day had agreed to be a second signatory. The group is looking for funding to produce a newsletter and set up and run a web site.
- 093/12 Report on Allotment Society AGM** Cllr Davis reported that she and Cllr Harvey attended the meeting. Most of the committee resigned but a new chairman and secretary were appointed and the existing treasurer agreed to stay on the committee. Cllr Davis explained that the lease had now been signed and that she hoped things would now move forward. The new committee are going to hold a meeting soon and following this there will be a site meeting to look at fencing and the car park area to enable the parish council to submit a planning application. Cllr Harvey asked that the Society be given the first year rent free and that they do not pay the rent until March 2013 in order to give the Society time to get up and running. This was approved. It was agreed that the Allotment Society would be the Managing Agents for the parish council and when the Society is ready to sign the agreement this will be done.
- 094/12 To discuss the funds remaining from the £1,000 earmarked for the fighting fund for HAT.** It was agreed that the remaining funds will just revert to the general fund as the funding given was for fighting Tesco.
- 095/12 To discuss getting drawings done for the planning application for fencing and parking for the allotments.** Cllr Blatherwick reported that she knew someone locally who could do the drawings for the planning application, they would need a digital copy of the title which costs about £15 and could then do CAD drawings. She would find out the cost of producing the drawings. Members agreed in principle that this was necessary, but could not agree appointing anyone until costs were provided.
- 096/12 To receive report on Environment & Leisure meeting held on 10th April and discuss any issues arising from that meeting.** Draft minutes of the meeting had been circulated and Cllr Taylor reported that there were a couple of issues that needed full council approval. One was the wooded area in Cherry Orchard, which is on the agenda. The other is the memorial bench for Dave Lee in Curtis Wood Park. CCC has said they are happy for parish council to put in a bench similar to what is there. County Cllr Marsh asked if it was to be a 'Dave Lee bench' or a seat with a back. He asked that as Dave Lee was well known for his bench scene in the pantomime, had the parish council thought about using this type of bench with the engraving along the edge. Members thought this was a good idea and provided the cost is under £945 the clerk was asked to action this. With regard to the wording for the bench Dave's family were happy for the parish council to make the decision on this and would like to attend the unveiling of the bench. The suggested wording is 'Well, we'll have to do it again then, won't we... whoops' plus his name and dates.
- 097/12 To discuss taking over the wooded area of land in Cherry Orchard.** The clerk reported that the solicitor had called to say Taylor Wimpey were ready to go ahead now with the transfer of land to the parish council and the parish council will receive a payment of

£25,000. The clerk had told them as it had been so long since this was agreed by the parish council she felt it needed to go back to them to be ratified again. Cllr Blatherwick has stated that the schools are interested in using the land and she will make further inquiries with them. Cllr Davis reported that the area needed to be managed as a wildlife area and a maintenance contract would need to be in place to ensure this was carried out. She has suggested that perhaps the pond could be made into a bog area to reduce risk and that the fencing around this area could be replaced with that similar to the children's play area with the same sort of gates. Cllr Day told members that it would be impossible to keep youngsters out to the area and it was felt that if fencing was low and access easy they would be less likely to go in there and abuse it. Cllr Davis will seek advice from CCC as to what can be done in there. The trees are likely to need some attention. Members agreed to take over the area.

098/12 Members Reports. Cllr Tobin reported that the trees in Albion Close had been surveyed and would be pollarded soon. Cllr Tracey Jones told members how nice The Plough looked. Cllr Sargent told members he was happy to water the trees on Herne Green to make sure they survived. Cllr Davis thanked Cllr Sargent for planting and watering the trees. Cllr Hobbs reported that Herne Bay in Bloom was giving away bark chippings on 12th May in William Street car park and plants on 16th May on Herne Bay seafront. The applications for the gardening competition were now available and there was also a photo competition. A request for a salt bin at the bottom of Woodrow Chase had been received. Cllr Brealy asked if the potholes in Lower Herne Road could be reported again. A meeting he had attended regarding Neighbourhood policing confirmed that there were fewer officers policing the rural areas.

099/12 The next meeting of the parish council, the Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on 10th May 2012 at 7-30pm at the Wootton Room Herne Mill, Mill Lane.

Meeting closed 9.05pm