

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes the Parish Council Meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held at Herne Mill, Wootton Room, on Thursday 8th March 2012 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Day, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Robert Jones, Cllr Sargent, Cllr Moore, Cllr Tobin, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Davis, Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Sargent and Cllr Brealby.

- 051/12 To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons. Cllr Taylor who has another meeting to attend, Cllr Sargent who is visiting family, Cllr Tracey Jones who is working. County Cllr Marsh has to go to Chislet PC before coming here, City Cllrs Vickery Jones, Bissett and Sharron Sonnex and PCSO Sue Radcliffe is not on duty today.
- 052/12 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda. Cllr Day on item 066/12 as a HAT committee member.
- 053/12 The minutes of the meetings held on 9th February & 23rd February 2012 were agreed as a correct record.
- 054/12 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only. Wendy Le Las has been appointed the parish council's consultant to help with the Tesco planning application. CCC is happy for the parish council to put a bench in Curtis Wood they suggested liaising with Cllr Davis on position and Serco to install. Dave Skinner has been asked to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. The complaint about lack of lighting at the ticket machines in School Lane car park has been passed on to parking services.

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

- 055/12 **Chairman's Announcements.** The Annual Parish meeting is being held on Friday 30th March at Kent Enterprise House, refreshments from 7pm meeting starts 7-30pm.
- 056/12 **To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh** reported that he has contacted planning officers at KCC and they are ready to help with advice as soon as a planning application is received from Tesco, he will have a meeting at the end of March with one of the top planners at County Hall. It is very important for the parish council to have as much information as possible as they are a Statutory Consultee. Nothing further can be done until the planning application arrives. He congratulated everyone on the procession on Sunday, he thought it was brilliant. He told members he would be attending the RAMP meeting next week there had been 15 applications for Capital grants and 13 had been successful with 5 of those going to Littlebourne, he stressed that it could often be better to break a project up into small amounts and have more applications. Herne & Broomfield's application had not been successful. He reported that Manston Airport was up for sale. On Monday 12th March Sturry Fire Station will close and all the equipment will be removed, security measures on the building will be improved; Sturry Parish Council has put in a bid to purchase the building. The Library in Sturry had a fire and the library has been closed, it will re-open with 4,400 new books and new computers, as the insurance will cover these costs, this has saved it from closure.
No reports from City Councillors.
- 057/12 **Police Matters/Crime report.** None
- 058/12 **Warden's Report.** None
- 059/12 **Planning and Highways matters.** The clerk informed members that Sturry crossing would be closed over the coming weekend. Cllr Day spoke at CCC Development Control meeting on Tuesday against the proposed extension at 18 Norton Ave. The application was Passed. Cllr Blatherwick and the clerk attended a Planning Awareness Event organised by CPRE, ACRE and KALC and funded by Communities & Local Government. Report has been sent

to all members.

060/12 Finance

To ratify payments made since last meeting. Insurance to cover procession £53.

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. Bank interest £4.46, Sales stamp 36p, Donations poo bags £15, Fun Day £70, Newsletter adverts £120, Community Centre including KCC grant for disabled entrance £1,790, Total £1,999.82.

061/12 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report. Cllr Davis reported that there had been complaints about the coppicing in Curtis Wood, she explained that it looked worse than it actually was and that it was good for wildlife and the biodiversity of the area. Two of the schools are looking for an area for the children to get involved in woodland etc. Dan Binfield had asked about the area in Cherry Orchard which currently belongs to the developer of Ruskin's View. The clerk has passed George Wimpy's details on to him. Cllr Davis thanked Cllr Sargent for planting the new trees on the green in Lower Herne Road there are 5 birches and 1 oak. The Pond AGM will be held on 12th March.

062/12 Clerk's Report /Correspondence. The clerk congratulated both the youngsters and Cllr Nicholson for organising the quiz night, although numbers were not as good as hoped those that attended had a great time.

The clerk reported that she had sent the application to Awards for All for some lottery funding for the Royal Jubilee Garden Party, if successful this will cover the cost of prizes, craft items and music etc. Cllr Blatherwick and the clerk had a meeting with EK BMX club to discuss moving one of the containers, this will be discussed agenda item 068/12.

The new changing rooms in Cherry Orchard were opened on 21st February and are a great improvement on what was there.

Another public meeting was held in the church this enabled the HAT committee to bring residents up to date on what had happened since the first public meeting, it was, once again, very well attended and informative.

The parish council's event the Procession from Cherry Orchard to Curtis Wood Park for those opposing Tesco took place on 4th March at 11-30am. The event was well attended considering the weather with over 700 people taking part. The HAT committee along with parish councillors provided the marshals who did a great job on the day with getting the road closed and re-opened and keeping the walkers moving. The road was closed for 20 minutes keeping disruption to a minimum. Diversions signs and barriers were provided by Kent Highways. The police were not in attendance, as the PCSO's were not given permission to attend. Thanks to County Cllr Marsh for all his help with road closure etc.

Serco have been up to the Community Park and cut the Wildflower Meadow, without charge.

Cllr Blatherwick and the clerk attended a Planning Day in Elham, organised by Action with Communities in Rural Kent, CPRE and KALC. The session was free to attend. Members have all received a written report. This was a morning session and was very informative.

A meeting was held between Cllr Blatherwick, the clerk and Wendy Le Las. Wendy has suggested some actions that need to be carried out before a planning application is received from Tesco, one of these is to find out where people are going when they park in the car park and how much use it gets. The HAT committee have been asked to help with this. She also suggested getting written evidence from people who have had near misses at the junction of School Lane and Canterbury Road, both on foot and in a vehicle. Photo's of the almost non-existent pavement would be useful as well. Wendy did a site visit while she was here to get a better idea of the area of the Upper Red and School Lane etc.

Tesco have held informal talks with CCC planners.

The application for a CIFT grant was not successful as we didn't have enough points, a large majority of the funding has gone to Littlebourne who put in 5 applications that were all successful, Chartham had 2 successful applications which left 6 others that were also successful.

Correspondence received Letters of thanks from Victim Support and St Martin's Church.

An email from a resident in Lower Herne Road thanking whoever was responsible for the replanting of the trees on the green. Cllr Day commented on the arrogant response that the clerk received from the Canterbury District Commander of Police, following a question as to whether there would be any PCSO's in attendance for the Procession.

063/12 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, Standards Board etc), any meetings attended by members on behalf of parish council.

Cllr Day reported that there had been a meeting of the Standards Working Party who had discussed how complaints would be dealt with in the future. District Authorities had a statutory duty to oversee conduct of councillors both in their district and for the parishes; the big issue is they have no powers to take any action other than resolving to remove that member from any committees. The group felt that a parish councillor should be on whatever committee was going to be responsible in the future, it was recommended that a Standards Committee was retained much as it has been. A draft code is to be produced and will be sent out by NALC when it is ready. Another meeting will be arranged for when this document is available. Following this the parish council will then discuss it.

064/12 To report on Youth Club. Cllr Harvey reported that at the last meeting there had been 11 youngsters in attendance. He was disappointed that the grant application to Atherton had been unsuccessful.

065/12 To report on Youth Council. Cllr Nicholson reported that at the last meeting 3 young people had attended and one of those was new. He had received a message from Frank Holden thanking the youngsters for attending the procession. Their next meeting is on 24th March.

066/12 To receive any updates on actions regarding Tesco's proposal for taking over the Upper Red Lion and the organised procession. Cllr Day told members that the procession and actions carried out had already been dealt with that there was not much to add. The HAT committee did not have a meeting following the procession, but the committee was very happy with the turnout especially as the weather wasn't that good. A second newsletter is planned. Cllr Moore told members that the Village Shop had donated £100 towards the cost of the banners that were used on Sunday. Cllr Tobin asked if the Parish Council could help with the repair to the Village Stores window which had been smashed during a break in. Members did not feel this would be appropriate.

067/12 To discuss dealing with issues arising from winter weather, path clearance etc. The clerk suggested that it might be possible for the parish council to purchase a push along gritter to deal with paths to the school, outside hall etc during bad weather, cost would be about £500 grit could be used from the bins. Cllr Jones told members that on some industrial estates there were private gritters clearing the roads. Cllr Day thought that clearing the roads would be a bit ambitious but keeping some areas clear such as around the school and outside the hall, would be beneficial. Cllr Blatherwick thought this was a good idea. Several councillors volunteered to use the machine. It would be quite dependant on a grit bin being available in the area where it was to be spread. Cllr Hobbs thought Serco had a similar machine so perhaps they could help with this. Storage of the spreader would of course also be an issue. The clerk will find out more details but members supported the idea in principle.

068/12 To discuss the BMX clubs request to move one container at the Community Park and for a summer camp. The BMX club asked for a meeting with Cllr Blatherwick and the clerk to discuss moving the container so that it can be used to provide refreshments. Cllr Blatherwick told members that Chris Werner had the necessary experience and she was confident that the work to move the container and cut it into the bank would be done properly although she would want to oversee it. The container once moved would be less visual than it is now. Members approved this request. Two of the club trainers travel quite a distance and have asked when they are doing a weekend training session if they can stay in their small caravan on site overnight. Members approved this request. The club is also thinking about holding a summer camp for the youngsters and asked if pc had any objection. The clerk did explain to them that they can't have any fires etc on site and the gates would need to be locked for security if the parish council agreed. The clerk was asked

to find out if this was agreeable with KCC and also to get more details.

- 069/12 To discuss the process by which applications for funding are made.** Cllr Moore suggested that there could be a more formal application by organisations for funding, they could perhaps be asked to attend a meeting to tell members why they wanted funding and what it would be spent on or a formal application form could be provided. Cllr Robert Jones thought this was overkill for small amounts requested, Cllr Hobbs said those details were usually given when a request was received and Cllr Harvey thought each application should be looked at individually as no two applications are the same and it would be difficult to produce an application form to suit everyone. The clerk pointed out that a request is received from Victim Support and it is unlikely they would be able to state exactly what it would be spent on or to get them to attend a meeting. It was agreed that the current system would not be changed and that if members felt further information was required, it could be requested.
- 070/12 To discuss producing a Neighbourhood Plan.** Cllr Day told members that there was not enough information available at the moment and he was withdrawing this item.
- 071/12 To update members on the progress of the lease for the allotment site and further action required.** The lease has been received for signing at long last, along with the invoice. Members approved the signing of the lease and this was duly done by the Chairman and the clerk. There were some details with the Agreement for Management that needed ironing out and would be done for the Allotment Societies AGM., which is being held on 13th March; Cllrs Davis and Harvey will attend. The clerk suggested that if there were major problems with the Society then it may be best for the parish council to get the necessary work done and the allotments up and running before handing the site over to an Allotment Society. Cllr Day suggested that it would be better to wait for the outcome of the AGM before taking this forward.
- 072/12 Members Reports** Cllr Nicholson told members there was a Quiz night organised for 21st April, Cllr Hobbs reported on the Herne Bay in Bloom launch which was being held at the King's Hall on 21st March, where they will be selling their meadow mix. Cllr Davis reported that she was pleased two new businesses had opened in the parish. Cllr Blatherwick told members that she was a bit concerned over the attitude of the police who were called by some youngsters following a find of drug paraphernalia in the wooded area adjacent to Cherry Orchard. They were quite matter of fact and did not say anything to the youngsters about the danger of drugs. A request had also been received for a dog bin near Ridgeway Farm. Cllr Day reported that Herne Bay Football Club were now through to the semi-finals in the FA Vase. Cllr Moore reported that only one of the lights that were out on Canterbury Road by the ball court was back on. Cllr Harvey asked if the parish council should look at charging schools using the BMX track. This will be referred to E & L.
- 073/12 The next meeting of the parish council will be held on 12th April 2012 at 7-30pm at the Wootton Room Herne Mill, Mill Lane.**

Meeting Closed at 9-10pm