

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Herne Mill, Mill Lane, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7DR
Tel: 01227 742700

Minutes of the Herne & Broomfield Parish Council meeting held at Herne Mill, Wootton Room, on Thursday 13th June 2013 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

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

- 123/13** To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons. None
- 124/13** To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda. Cllr Brealy prejudicial interest 139/13, Cllr Sargent personal interest 139/13. Cllr Hobbs 133/13.
- 125/13** The minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2013 were agreed as an accurate record.
- 126/13** To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only. No entries have been received for the quiz night yet. The fencing around the pond in the Wildlife Area has been installed. The Awards for All grant application for the allotments has not been successful.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC TO SPEAK

None in attendance

Members of the public to identify themselves, and confirm they are resident in the parish.

- 127/13** **Chairman's Announcements.** The chairman offered condolences to the clerk on behalf of all council members, on the recent death of her son.

- 128/13** **To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.** City Cllr Sonnex sent a written report.

'There were five sacks of rubbish dumped in Hoopers Lane. On inspection it appeared to be largely full of wallpaper / decorating debris. I contacted Michelle Weston KCC Warden who dealt with the matter. She did check through the sacks to try and identify who had dumped it but did not find anything.

There has been further flytipping in Bogshole Lane. There were several drawers dumped and again, Michelle is looking into this together with the community safety department with the hope of getting the land owner to tidy the area up. The day before yesterday there appeared to be garden waste that has been piled up on the bonfire site.

I was contacted by a resident regarding the grass around Broomfield pond that had not been cut and was unsightly and unkempt. I made enquiries and was advised the contract to cut this area had recently been passed from CCC to KCC. On contacting them they sent through maps showing their responsibility and this didn't cover the area of concern. Together, with co-ordinating between CCC and KCC we managed to get the grass cut just before the Garden Safari. Carol Davis had also been contacted by concerned residents and we are both monitoring the situation. There is still doubt as to whose responsibility this is but whilst this is being looked into, at least we got it cut in the meantime.

There has been some anti-social behaviour in the car park of the church hall in The Meadows. Teenagers were seen climbing on the storage equipment used by the playschool. The playschool, church wardens and Michelle have all been informed.

Carol Davis contacted me regarding tree felling in Canterbury Rd. This was investigated by John Lambourne the council's Arboricultural officer but he found nothing untoward, though did confirm there has been some tree felling for highways purposes.

I hope to attend next month's meeting and Bob and I offer Monica and her family our condolences at the recent loss of her son.'

City Cllr Vickery Jones congratulated Cllr Tony Day on his re-election as chairman. He reported that there had been issues with the new bin collections. He has dealt with a housing issue where a resident was allocated a house on Talmead given a moving date and at the last minute the offer of the house was withdrawn. This has now been sorted out. There had been highways issues at Hillborough but these were KCC not CCC. CCC has now received a planning application for the new bridge at Blacksole and the plans will be dealt with at committee. He had supported the parish council application at the HBAMP meeting for funding for the allotments, the application received £2,000. Cllr Harvey thanked Peter for his help.

County Cllr Marsh told members that he had been around his whole division with a highways engineer looking at issues. There was work which would be carried out. One of the areas looked at was the road surface at the junction with Broomfield Road and Ford Road which is continually breaking down. Alan told members that he had been contacted by a resident who was concerned about the traffic in School Lane and another resident who would like Herne Street to be Local Traffic only. Alan said there was no easy answer to the traffic problem through the village because it is an A road and would be very unlikely to be re classified, unless Herne had a by-pass. He has contacted Sir Roger Gale MP who will come and visit the area during the summer recess. He had attended the last JTB meeting and 2 of the 5 recommendations were passed. Alan is now Vice Chairman of the JCB and will be chairman next year. He had agreed for a new grit bin to be installed for Little Acorns. Much of the draft Local Plan hinges on Highways issues and Alan said there were 7 major proposed developments and 5 of those were in his area. All the funding for the highway infrastructure will come from developers, as there is no money available from Local Authorities. Alan told members that the Pantomime this year is Babes in the Woods and the dates are 18, 19, 20 December.

Cllr Moore raised the issue of the chippings put down on the A291 and how they are loose for a long time and cause problems for drivers.

129/13 Police Matters/Crime report. PCSO Sue Radcliffe reported that there had been an increase in reports of sheds and cars being broken into, residents should be aware of cold callers and bogus callers operating in the area. There had been some problems with youngsters in Strode Park and Orchard Close area of Ash Close. Sue is now working closely with Michelle the warden and they are hoping to carry out speed watch. On 7th August they are holding a Speed Awareness day at Canterbury Fields. Sue stated that every call to 101 had a unique number attached to it and the caller should ask for that number.

130/13 Warden's Report. Michelle Weston reported that she had been busy dealing with a variety of issues. She had attended the speed watch training and was hoping to form a volunteer group. CCU in Canterbury had a SID machine which they could borrow and Chestfield Parish Council also owned one, so it might be possible to work together with them. Michelle is going to be attending the Herne Junior school assembly on 24th June where she will explain what her role is to the youngsters. Cllr Harvey thanked Michelle for dealing with the fly tipping issues in Broomfield Road.

131/13 Highways The clerk reported that there was a complaint regarding the footpath to the school, this was dealt with by Michelle the KCC warden. Cllr Brealy told members that the road sweeper had been down Lower Herne Road and had lifted part of the new resurfacing

132/13 Planning Matters
To receive minutes of Planning & Highways meeting held on 10th May. Members did not raise any issues.

133/13 Finance
To ratify payments made since last meeting. CNG £19.82, K Melton £1475.50, KCC £698.55.

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. All payments were approved.

To report on income received. Concurrent funding £4,577.49, Donations £4,483, Grants £5,613.20, newsletter advertising £258.33, Bank interest £5.07, Hall Hire £622.49 Total £15,559.58.

Request for a contribution to Herne Bay in Bloom. Cllr Hobbs asked if the parish council would donate £60 again this year. The money would be spent on vouchers from Vincent Nursery as prizes. This was agreed, Cllr Hobbs did not vote.

134/13 Pond Tree Wardens Report Reports of trees being felled during the bird nesting season on KCC land were passed on to the police environmental officer. The problem with the grass cutting around Broomfield pond had been dealt with in this instance but had not been fully resolved, perhaps the ward and county councillors could try and sort it out. It wasn't just the grass cutting but the arisings and hedge cutting as well. There will be a task day & BBQ on 23rd June at Broomfield pond. Cllr Davis asked what was happening to the flower bed in Herne, as it looked a mess, the clerk said she had contacted Serco but had not, as yet, had a response.

135/13 Clerk's Report/Correspondence. The clerk thanked Cllrs Davis and Taylor for

covering the office while she was away. It is hoped that there will be 5 designs available for comments for the new Community Centre, the consultation will be held on 12th July from 1pm-7pm at the Community Centre, members will hopefully be able to view before then.

Garden Safari The safari was held on Sunday 9th and about 350 people attended plus children, there were more children attended this year.

Numbers were not as good as hoped which is disappointing, but it was such a cold day it is not surprising, having looked at the entries there is not a huge difference to last year with regard to the number of people attending. 23 Gardens were open including Strode Park who opened for the first time. Some gardens provided refreshments and most of those did very well especially if they had somewhere to sit out of the cold wind! Both the schools had a good number of visitors and a large number of gardens had around 200-225 visitors. The clerk thanked all those who had opened their gardens, they had had a difficult time getting their gardens ready due to the weather. She also thanked Cllr and Mrs Day, Cllr Hobbs and Cllr Davis for their help on the day. It is hoped that the figures will not be too different to last year when they are finalised.

The thank you BBQ for those who opened their gardens will be held on 8th September at Cllr Harvey's. Thanks to him for offering to host the event.

CCC will have the Local Plan documents available for collection from the council offices next Thursday.

The clerk thanked Cllrs Sargent and Brealy for siting the container at the allotment site in Ford Road. She also thanked everyone for their messages and cards following her son's death.

Correspondence

Letter of thanks from Kent Enterprise Trust. Letter from Canterbury District Community Transport asking for donations.

- 136/13 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, etc).** Cllrs Robert Jones and Taylor attended a street monitors meeting. It was explained that there was now a strict timetable for grass cutting and that that KCC now are responsible for cutting their own areas the two did not always get done together, they are trying to resolve this. KCC pay Serco to remove graffiti but there is not a lot of funding, therefore only racists or highly objectionable graffiti is being removed. There is a new contract for public toilets which has gone to a company called Ocean.

- 137/13 To agree details of public consultation for Community Centre.** Five companies have been asked to produced designs for the public consultation and each company has been asked to mount the drawings on display boards, they have also been asked to attend to answer any questions residents may have. There will be a short questionnaire asking residents for their views, preferences and suggestions regarding the designs. There will be a ball park figure with regard to costs as it was thought if each design had a cost attached, it may be that the cheapest would be chosen and not necessarily the best design. The hall has been booked for 12th July from 1-7pm. Following the consultation the results will need to be studied to ascertain whether there is a definite preferred option; the results will be reported to the hall committee and then come to full council for formal approval to move the project forward. It was agreed that there needed to be another consultation held on a Saturday perhaps 13th July to enable residents who work to attend. Leaflets could be sent to the schools to go home to parents and also to the local shops, posters will be put into the notice boards and details in the press. Cllrs Davis and Blatherwick along with the clerk will collate the results of the questionnaire.

- 138/13 Update on land for parish office.** The clerk reported that the land at Jersey Farm had now got planning consent. Mr Pearman wasn't 100% certain as to what size the area he was willing to donate to the parish council was but it definitely included the length of the timber building, it may be that the land where the tin shed is situated may be negotiable. Geoff Mitchell has looked at the site and Mr Pearman is going to talk to him about accurately measuring the land. Geoff would be willing to do some drawings for the new office, to give members an idea as to what could be achieved. It was agreed that this should be taken forward and to get confirmation of the area to be donated.

- 139/13 To discuss the latest information on the Local Plan and further action.** Cllr Brealy left the meeting for this item. The clerk had sent out the report on the meeting with CPRE to

all members prior to the meeting. As stated in the report CPRE had concerns over the large amount of development proposed and whether it was actually deliverable and they felt the numbers needed to be negotiated down. The parish council needs to consider the golf club development but Strode Farm is a different matter. It is agricultural land albeit grade 3. Cllr Sargent told members that although grade 3 land was not very good soil it did have advantages during very hot weather as it held the moisture. CPRE felt that the best efforts needed to focus on the relief road which is considered to be totally inadequate. Whether Strode Farm goes into the Local Plan or not all the proposed development will use Herne to access Canterbury where the majority of people work. Cllr Blatherwick reported that the development at Hillborough will all access onto the roundabout at Margate Road and that major transportation studies needed to be carried out. Cllr Day stated it was very important to get the message out to residents that they needed to respond to the Local Plan consultation, it was no good sending a petition or the same letter that different people sign. It must be individual comments. The parish council could produce a list of suggestions that residents could use if they wish to object, but they did need to respond individually. The other issues raised were the loss of identity, CCC not treating us as a village and of course the issue of the lack of school places. County Cllr Marsh stated that if land was given to KCC there was no money to build a new school.

It was agreed that another public meeting would be held and a handout with the points that residents could use for their letters. City Cllr Vickery Jones said the two major factors were sustainability and infrastructure. Most people want to live and work in Canterbury and Canterbury should take more of the development. He told members that the road specifications provided by the developer was very comprehensive and looked feasible. The objections to development need to have a viable alternative. Cllr Day told members that the recommendation from CPRE was to get a highways expert to give an opinion on the feasibility of the work proposed for Bullockstone Road. It was agreed to spend up to £3,000 on doing this. CPRE may be able to help out financially. Cllrs Day, Blatherwick and Moore will go through the draft Local Plan and report back to full council at the next meeting.

- 140/13 To discuss quotes for fencing at Allotment site.** It was agreed that items 140/13 & 141/13 would 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 suggested that it would be better for the parish council to install the fencing at the allotment site as parish council can claim back the VAT. Following advice from Cllr Brealy the site has been topped and will need to be harrowed; ready for the car park area being prepared and the allotment plots set out. The Allotment Society members will hopefully help with laying the surface for the car park. The quote chosen to supply fencing for the allotment site was from Kim Melton

- 141/13 Discuss the quotes for the Reptile Survey at Community Centre.** Members chose the cheapest quote for the survey which was from KB Ecology

- 142/13 Members Reports.** Cllr Hobbs reported that H B in Bloom had replanted all the planters in Mortimer Street and 40 tubs in the High Street. Cllr Day said on behalf of the parish council he would like to congratulate HB in Bloom for all their hard work.

Cllr Davis thanked the clerk and her husband for all their help at the Garden Safari.

Cllr Blatherwick reported that she had attended a SE Water exhibition with Cllr Taylor there are new proposals to improve water supplies but these won't happen until 2035 with the Broad Oak reservoir, the proposals for this are smaller than those originally planned. Various works are to be looked at over the next few years such as a desalination plant where brackish water will be pumped from Reculver to the pumping station in Ford Road.

Cllr Robert Jones reported that all the signs had been collected in from the Garden Safari. Cllr Moore reported that a resident had contacted him about rats being shot at Firwood Court.

- 143/13 An opportunity to propose items for the next agenda.** Alterations to notice board in Streetfield for use with magnets.

- 144/13 To confirm the next meeting of the parish council will be on 11th July 2013 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill. The Meeting closed at 9.55pm**