

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 11 December 2014 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Robert Jones, Cllr Tracey Jones, Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Day, Cllr Rafferty, Cllr Sargent, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Moore, Cllr Nicholson and Cllr Davis.

Not Present: Cllr Blatherwick and Cllr Harvey.

- 228/14 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons,** Cllr Blatherwick at school concert, Cllr Harvey in London. These reasons were accepted. City Cllr Vickery Jones is at an Executive meeting County Cllr Marsh attending Thanet DC meeting.
- 229/14 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda** and requests for dispensations. None received
- 230/14 The minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2014** were agreed as an accurate record.
- 231/14 To report on matters arising from the minutes,** not on the agenda, for information only. Cllr Davis reported that details and pictures of Japanese Knotweed were on the web site.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC TO SPEAK

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

One attended but did not speak.

The clerk was given a Christmas gift from council members.

- 232/14 Chairman's Announcements.** Cllr Robert Jones chaired the meeting in Cllr Blatherwick's absence, he thanked all those who helped at the children's Christmas party and those who worked on the float, which looked amazing. Cllr Jones told members that he had been asked to correct a quote in CCC District Life re contaminated recycling, it does not go to landfill but is recycled, but in a different format.
- 233/14 Police Matters/Crime report.** PCSO Sue Radcliffe was not able to attend but sent a written report. "Sorry that I am not with you this evening but I am spending time at home with my husband on his birthday.
- Due to the time of year we are getting an increasing amount of persons knocking on doors selling goods claiming to be 'naughty boys trying to turn themselves round' and earn money etc. Please do not let them in. If you buy you are encouraging them. It has been reported that some are great at giving sob stories and others are just rude etc when told no. I would suggest that if you have anyone knocking on your front door that they should show you ID and if possible have a good look so that you can remember the name on the card. This will help if you decide to call the Police. If you do call it in details of clothing etc are a great help and the direction they go off in. Also if they are with anyone else. It is always a good idea to have pen and paper by your front door so that you can jot down details so as not to forget when telling the control room. In the last few weeks three males were arrested in Whitstable as one of them had entered a house and stolen from the occupant. So even if they are okay with you it is an idea to call in the details as they may be looking for vulnerable residents.
- Other things to be aware of is advertising your latest big purchases. Leaving the boxes out on display lets certain people know that inside is a brand new TV and with the dark evenings it is easier for them to know that no one is home as homes are in darkness. So it is also a good idea to have a timer on that turns a light radio on so that it looks and sounds as if someone is home. It may seem a bit of a hassle but as it is now dark by four o'clock and you are going to be out until later it is something that will put these people off.
- One question from me. I had no one get in touch about the contractors/workmen making a mess on the road. If this needs some attention from me please let me know.
- On that note I shall bid you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year as your next meeting is not until 2015." Cllr Davis told members that calls to the 101 number are charged for.

234/14 Wardens Report. Michelle reported as follows

"I found out this week that KCC are hoping to keep all the wardens that are currently in post. This is a huge relief to me and I would like to say a big thank you to all of you who completed the consultation document or signed the petition. A special thanks to Monica, your parish clerk, who has tirelessly fought to keep me in post to support the local community, here, in Herne and Broomfield. Michelle then presented the clerk with some flowers.

Here are a few things that I have been involved in this month.

Community Café/Surgery continues to be well attended on a Friday at the Community Centre.

Following some alarming scam calls to some residents, I have completed reassurance visits and distributed literature to every household in the affected areas.

Completed Speed watch days with local volunteers - details of four speeding vehicles have been sent to Kent Police for advisory notices to be sent to offenders.

Presentation about bogus callers to residential accommodation in Grimshill.

Attended Yr 1s "Dark night" event and gave a talk on "Being bright and being seen".

Patrolled outside junior school with our PCSO, following reports of cars parking on zigzags.

Met with new housing officer for Town and Country re Talmead.

Visited resident with Trading Standards officer following deception through scam mail.

Took part in Op Nonagon – Rural Crime.

Completed further Incident Liaison Training for Emergency Response re Airwaves and flooding.

Attended Parish Children's Christmas Party.

Spent a morning with agencies at Domestic Abuse "One stop shop"

This Friday we will be holding our Coffee Morning at Herne Infants school- This is for local residents to see the school and meet some of the pupils. 1000Hrs- 1115Hrs. All are welcome !

On Sat, I have volunteered to put on an Elf costume and assist with the Santa sleigh going around Broomfield!!"

235/14 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors. City Cllr Vickery Jones attended the planning meeting to discuss the solar farm in Owls Hatch Road, this application has been deferred until January. He is still trying to get pedestrian access from Talmead to Canterbury Road. County Cllr Marsh is still working to get Manston Airport re-instated, he asked the clerk to wish members a Happy Christmas.

236/14 Planning & Highways Issues. To receive minutes of planning meeting held on 27th November 2014. All of the applications discussed were approved. Yellow lines were discussed and recommendations were made for the Annual Parking Review. Request for yellow lines Mill Lane as you come off Thanet Way slip road, yellow lines Curtis Wood Park Rd on bend and extend others further back. Curtis Wood Park Road/Albion Lane junction.

236/14 Finance

To ratify payments made since last meeting. Cllr Nicholson £92.93 for float.

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

To report on income received. Fighting fund £500, Advertising £240, Bank Interest £1.74, Hall hire £1227.90, hall fundraising £9.70, calendars £81.25. Total £2,060.59

To approve purchasing a cover for the float. It was agreed to purchase covers for float and caravan up to £200 for both. Cllr Davis suggested that if possible the lights should be removed from the float and stored. Cllrs Nicholson and Rafferty will look at this. Cllr Nicholson thanked Andrew Brealy for providing drinks to those on the float.

Notification from SLCC re salary increases in line with the national agreement and employment contract. 2.2% from January. A non consolidated payment in Dec 2014 for £100 and one in Apr 2015 for £30. This does not need council approval as the clerk has a contract and is paid in line with the agreed spinal column.

Request from Friends of the Mill for a donation towards the new heaters for Wootton

- Room, the cost of the heaters is £594. It was agreed that a donation of £100 would be made.
- 238/14 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.** The clerk reported that she had attended Helen Bennington's funeral.
- There have been problems with leaks in the Community Centre, repairs have been made but it may be necessary to carry out some major work on the roof in the future.
- The clerk reported that she had dealt with a planning enforcement inquiry but following discussions with a planning officer it was confirmed no planning was required.
- The clerk is attending the Pension Conference in Lenham on Monday.
- A meeting has been held with Milsom & Betteridge and Jenners to look at the quote received, it was necessary to talk to them to make sure that what was in the tender document had been included and that no extra's had been included. As a result of this meeting it was obvious that there were some aspects that needed to be looked at before the figures etc could be brought to full council. It is hoped that this will now happen in January.
- The application for a grant from Viridor was submitted but a decision was deferred and a request for further information received. They want a strategy for fund raising. Cllr Davis and the clerk are now contacting fund raising specialists to see what help is available.
- The advice from the grant funders is to register as a charity as soon as possible and one parish clerk who went through the process 3 years ago has recommended a specialist solicitor, he also helped Blean with their application. A meeting will be held with him in January. The clerk told members she was delighted that the wardens are to be retained with little or no changes.
- The clerk had contacted Keep Britain Tidy re dog fouling notices, they were launching a new campaign but the posters and stickers were quite expensive and it was decided that the old poo fairy ones would be printed off and given to those who requested them.
- The clerk wished all members a very happy Christmas.
- 239/14 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.** Trees in Wildlife Area need some work following an inspection. It was agreed that the contractor who gave the lowest quote would be asked to carry out the work. This is a requirement for the insurance as any issues that are made known need to be dealt with. There will be a task day in Broomfield in January and CCC are going to put a rural path in around the pond. Cllr Taylor arrived at this point.
- 240/14 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, etc).** Cllrs Robert Jones and Taylor attended a Street monitors meeting. They spoke about Helen Bennington and how passionate she was about recycling and how she will be greatly missed. Cardboard recycling needs to be broken down into smaller sections otherwise it clogs the machine. Attendees met the manager of Ocean who look after the public toilets on behalf of CCC, who told them that their biggest problem was needles and they were installing boxes for these. The clerk said she thought they were installing blue lights to stop people using the toilets to inject. Cllr Taylor raised the issue of the overhanging trees in Cherry Orchard and someone will look into it.
- 241/14 Update on Local Plan.** The clerk reported that there had been a great many emails going back and forth re the District Plan, from the interested parties. There is a meeting with Wendy Le Las on 16th December which the clerk will attend along with the other interested parties. As the parish council has employed Wendy to advise, it was agreed she would write to Eric Pickles stating why the Local Plan is considered unsound and to try and galvanise him into doing something! A copy will be sent to Julian Brazier MP and Sir Roger Gale MP.
- It is expected that the Inspector will be contacted following Tuesdays meeting with the reasons for the opposition to this Local Plan.
- 242/14 Update on Curtis Wood Park notice board.** Members approved the quote of £916 plus VAT for Earth Anchors.
- 243/14 Update on Concurrent Funding.** CCC has found an additional £32,000 towards Concurrent funding the amount pc will receive will be £6,244.38
- 244/14 To discuss nominating a councillor to be responsible for Health & Safety.** Cllr Day stated that both he and Cllr Tracey Jones had been nominated as health & safety advisory group and they needed guidance from the council as to what needed to be done. It was agreed that Cllr Rafferty would join them.
- 245/14 Report on Children's Christmas party and Float.** The clerk reported that the party held on 6th December at the Institute Hall was a great success. Just over 50 children between 4-8 attended as well as some younger ones. Quite a few parents stayed with the children and

they also enjoyed the entertainment. There was a hitch with the disco as they had all their music etc on computer and they had a computer crash. The Disco section was a bit chaotic to say the least. Thanks to Paul & Bunny Parker for providing the Disco and carrying on despite the difficulties with the computer and the fact neither were very well.

Following this the children sat down for their party food. Sandwiches, sausage rolls, sausages, crisps and lots of cakes and biscuits were enjoyed by all. Once finished the children were sat down to watch Pip the Clown do her magic. The remaining food was offered to the parents who stayed, along with tea and coffees. The helpers very kindly started clearing tables and putting them away. Once Pip had finished Father Christmas arrived on the float and came into the hall to distribute presents to the children. This took some considerable time as he spoke to each of them and posed for photo's. Once every child had received their present Father Christmas returned to the float. Thanks to City Cllr Peter Vickery Jones for doing this.

The clerk thanked all the volunteers, Pat Brealy, Carol Clark, Linda White, Sheila Day, Bill Whiffen, Cllr Blatherwick and family, Cllrs Robert & Tracey Jones, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Hobbs and husband Doug, Cllr Davis and her husband Trevor and the clerks husband Mark. Thanks also to wardens Michelle and David who made sure that children were checked in and left with the right people!

The clerk reported that she had successfully applied for a grant towards the cost of the party, from the Linda Hogan Community Fund, £100, and she had also received £100 from County Cllr Marsh from his Community pot.

The float looked spectacular, with lots of lights, thanks to Cllrs Sargent, Nicholson and Rafferty for the work carried out to make it look so good. Thanks also to Paul Parker for the sound system.

The float toured Herne on Sunday 7th December, the clerk reported that she had received one complaint from a resident who waited at Lower Herne Green and didn't see the float. The clerk explained that it goes from Strode Farm to Bullockstone Road, therefore it doesn't go past the green. The response was that it doesn't say that on the route details!

Otherwise the feedback from people who have seen the float has been very good. Thanks to Cllrs Sargent, Nicholson and Rafferty for taking the float out and all the other volunteers who have accompanied. The float will tour Broomfield on Saturday 13th December and is being used by Rotary on 14th December. Thanks to Andrew Brealy for the loan of a generator. The donations collected in Herne came to £150.14.

246/14 To discuss advertising a vacancy and co-opting a new member. Following the resignation of Cllr Tobin the clerk notified CCC and the vacancy notices sent by CCC were put in the notice board and on the web site. Members agreed that they would co-opt and the clerk was asked to distribute the notices for the notice boards and web site. Cllr Robert Jones thanked Cllr Tobin for his time on the council. It was agreed that the parish council chairman and vice chairman and the chairs of the committees would carry out interviews with prospective councillors.

247/14 Members Reports. Cllr Davis reported that Peter Lewsey who had been a councillor for 10 years had died at the end of November. Cllr Hobbs said she had been approached by someone who wanted to borrow the float, it was confirmed the float could only be towed by a councillor due to insurance. Cllr Day reported that he intended to take photos of Christmas lights in the parish for the December month for next years calendar. Cllr Rafferty asked if there had been any progress on the cars for sale in Hawe Farm Way, the clerk reported that CCC had been in touch with the house owner and the occupant and the number of vehicles had been reduced. He also asked about the green in School Lane where vehicles were parking, the clerk said there used to be posts but they had rotten and gone. It was agreed this would be an agenda item for next meeting.

Cllr Robert Jones wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.
248/14 The next meeting of the parish council was confirmed as being on 8th January 2015 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.