

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Herne Mill, Mill Lane, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7DR

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held at Herne Mill, Wootton Room, on Thursday 9th January 2014 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

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

Not present: Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Harvey and Cllr Tobin.

- 01/14** To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons. Cllr Hobbs who is still unwell, Cllr Tobin who is also unwell and Cllr Harvey who is in London. All 3 City Cllrs are at a full council meeting in Canterbury.
- 02/14** To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda. None.
- 03/14** The minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2013 were agreed as a correct record.
- 04/14** To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.
None

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC TO SPEAK

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

1 in attendance

- 05/14** **Chairman's Announcements.** None
- 06/14** **Police Matters/Crime report.** None
- 07/14** **Warden's Report.** Speedwatch will be starting again at the end of Jan (weather permitting)
Kent Police will be risk assessing a spot in Broomfield Rd- as requested by Parish Council. Received training on Police "Themis" system. Will be able to access updates/reports on people highlighted as vulnerable or at risk.
Youth Intervention Programme at Whitstable Fire station has now completed and our young person from Herne successfully completed the course and received his certificate.
Received two referrals from Kent Police to support two vulnerable adults. Have referred them to KFRS vulnerable persons team for an assessment and made contact with social services.
First Coffee morning was quiet but early days!- more advertising to be done.
As part of Emergency planning team for KCC-Have been on call evenings and weekends for flooding evacuation and rest centre coverage.
Police raided a property in the parish this week and a woman was arrested and a number of cannabis plants, and growing equipment, were removed from the property.
- 08/14** **To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.** None from City Cllrs. County Cllr Marsh suggested that with regard to speeding perhaps an ANPR system could be linked with the interactive speed sign. He told members that CCC was dealing with a petition asking for executive members to resign, at tonight's meeting in Canterbury. It doesn't seem likely that Barton Court will move to Herne Bay due to a lack of funding but he has put forward a proposal for a satellite school at the golf course site. He has set aside £500 towards the fun day and £200 towards the War Memorial repairs. Members funding for the coming year has been cut by half. Due to this Alan will push for all highways issues to be dealt with under the statutory responsibility of the highway authority (KCC). John Burr and David Brazier should be contacted about road issues via Alan. The lorry sign opposite the church has been removed. All the lampposts have now been tested for structural defects and those that failed have been cut down
- 09/14** **Highways.** Lots of issues with trees being blown down and excess water due to the weather conditions over the last few weeks. Cllr Moore mentioned the yellow lines in Dove Close, residents are more than happy for yellow lines in the close. The clerk reported that she had already responded to Richard Jenkins supporting the yellow lines.
- 10/14** **Planning Matters.** To receive minutes of the Planning meeting held on 7th January 2014.
- 11/14** **Finance**
To ratify payments made since last meeting. None
To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied.
To report on income received. £475.78 donations float, newsletter advert £100, funday

sponsorship £132, children's party food donation £24, bank interest £36.13, hall hire £308.96, fundraising £33.70, calendars £90.72. Total £1,201.29. It was agreed to reduce the price of the calendars to £2.50.

To discuss the quarterly audit. The quarterly audit was completed on 6th January and everything was in order but Kevin did point out that the payment to Unity Bank for opening a new account needed to be done as a transfer and not a payment, this has now been done. He also questioned whether the interest paid by Unity was untaxed; the clerk has checked and it is. Report circulated.

12/14

Clerk's Report/Correspondence. The clerk wished all members a Happy New Year. She then thanked members for her Christmas presents, a voucher for Marlowe theatre and two squirrel proof bird feeders. Due to the bad weather over the Christmas holiday period the clerk checked the community centre several times, unfortunately some of the roofing felt was stripped off by the strong winds. The roofer was contacted and he has been to look and has taken away the felt that was stripped off and left in the car park. He has advised that we wait and see where we get the leaks and he will re-felt and put battens across to try and prevent the same thing happening again. There has been a slight leak near the ladies toilet, this will be monitored.

The Christmas float toured twice before Christmas and was very well received, a big thank you to all those who went out with the float etc. Cllrs Sargent, Nicholson, Day and Blatherwick, Martin Rafferty and all others who were involved. Quite a lot of meetings have been arranged in connection with the new community centre, a meeting was held with the contractors yesterday and a report on this will follow item 15/14.

A meeting has also been arranged with a solar farm supplier to try and get some grant money for solar for the new Community Centre. A meeting was requested by the developer who is hoping to develop the land at the Huntsman & Horn and this was held this morning. The developers are looking to put 8 properties on the site behind the Huntsman and Horn. There is a mix of terraced and detached houses. They propose 5 x 3 bed terraced, one 4 bed terraced and 2 x 4 bed detached properties. Access will be onto Margate Road and they are confident they have good visibility splays. They have left copies of the proposed plans in the office. Letters will be sent to nearby properties informing them of the proposals before they submit a planning application.

The new copier is to be installed on Friday 10th Jan. A meeting has been arranged with John Hawkins on 16th January to discuss this year's fun day paperwork.

Correspondence received. The Lord Lieutenant of Kent invite for the chairman to attend the annual Civic Service on 11 March at Canterbury Cathedral. A phone call from a resident complaining that the bins had not been emptied and that he had not received notification.

Parish Charter from CCC, circulated. The date for the APM is 4th April at Kent Enterprise House, 7.30pm. All correspondence from KALC etc has been circulated to members. We were kept well informed by UK Power networks regarding the loss of power in the area.

13/14

Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report. Cllr Davis reported that KCC PROW has lost over 1000 trees in the last couple of weeks and KWT have lost several thousand. Tree planting is taking place on Saturday. The parish council has been offered a bench for the Community Park. There is a task day on 19th January at 10am, all welcome.

14/14

Reports from council representatives on outside bodies (KALC, Street monitors, etc). Cllr Robert Jones reported on the street monitors meeting. The rolling out of the new refuse bins has been completed and it is hoped that all the teething problems have now been addressed. No garden waste bags or clear sacks will be collected after 1st Feb. Serco will no longer deliver the calendars for delivery dates, these will still be available on line. The changes to collection dates over the Christmas and New Year were due to the bin routes and will be the same for next Christmas i.e. if the collection falls on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Years day, the collection will be 2 days late for the first two weeks and 1 day late on the third week. The clerk reported that residents could ask for a red lidded bin if the insert in the blue lidded bin was not big enough to take all the paper waste. She also reported that she had received an irate phone call from a resident who wanted to know why the bin collections were late!

15/14

Update on Community Centre including planning application and land purchase. A meeting was held yesterday with Andrew Walker, Matt Judge, Andrew White and David Browne from Epps, Paul Mercer, Cllrs Davis and Blatherwick and the clerk. During the meeting representatives from Strode Park attended to look at the facilities for people with

disabilities and they had some very useful suggestions which Matt was able to take on board. Matt showed the amended drawings that he had produce following discussions with the planning officer, which will reduce the impact on neighbours.

The ecological survey commissioned by the parish council will be suitable to accompany the planning application; the additional topographical survey on the land behind the hall has been completed. A full arboriculture survey will be required and there is work required to the trees, this needs to be done soon. Cllr Davis will discuss with the tree officer to see what is required. The tree work will not be more than £1,500 and the survey will be about £500. Members need to agree expenditure of up to £2,500 on these items. Cllr Davis has been liaising with KCC as to who owns the trees and is responsible for their maintenance. An archaeological desk top study would be required and Epps will get that done. All those present agreed that the proposed building was in a good position. Various other issues were discussed; rainwater harvesting, under floor heating and air source heat pumps, heat recovery, as well as solar. There was some discussion on the size of the storage areas to make sure they were suitable for purpose. It was agreed that the parish council would be responsible for the relocation of the slow worms. Epps will also contact Southern Water to discuss drainage with them. The land purchase is progressing and it is hoped that it will be completed by the end of the month. The Letter of Intent will be sent to Epps in the next week with an initial payment, which is to be confirmed by Andrew Walker. Another meeting will be held prior to the planning application being submitted. CCC has confirmed they will start organising the license for the car park at the beginning of April.

16/14 To agree where donations collected on float will go i.e. Community Centre Fund/Community Fund. The clerk reported that £475.78 had been donated when the float toured the parish just before Christmas, members were asked where they wanted to put the money. Cllr Nicholson told members he had said it was going to the Christmas Party, the clerk told members it was usual to put any donations like this in the Community & Amenity fund and the Christmas party, float earmarked fund had got £8,586 in it currently. It was agreed that the donations would go into the Community & Amenity fund. Cllr Day said he would like the procedures for the float discussed. The clerk said it would be discussed at the next Environment & Leisure meeting.

17/14 To discuss remedial work on War Memorial. The clerk reported that she had contacted Clive Sherwood from Faversham who carried out the remedial work on the war memorial some years ago. He has come and looked and the cost is £845 for the necessary work. It is hoped that we can obtain a grant for the work. Members agreed expenditure of £1000. The clerk was asked to liaise with the vicar regarding the paving around the memorial. Cllr Davis asked about the Memorial Stones that were being given to areas with a VC recipient. The clerk told members Friends of Herne Mill had asked that it be located at the mill as Harry Wells had worked at the mill. It was agreed to try and contact any family members to ask their preference.

18/14 To discuss the proposed changes at Broomfield Post office by Post Office Counters. The clerk reported that she had spoken with the owner of the post office in Broomfield and she is concerned that Post Office Counters may require them to have open counters, which she considers to be a security issue. There is currently a survey being completed and once she has the results of that she will let parish council know if she needs any help with the proposed changes. Members have all received a copy of the questionnaire and it is hoped that they will respond. Cllr Moore thought that the proposals by Post Office counters was a great idea and meant that services would be available over a much longer period of time, Cllr Day did point out that there were security issues but that was possibly between the individual shops, their insurers and post office counters.

19/14 Members Reports. Cllr Nicholson reported that he had been informed that Herne Bay would be on the list of stations to be considered for disabled access. He also reported that the Remote controlled cars club had had a clash with the BMX club while using cars on the BMX track. The clerk did point out that the track was for BMX bikes only and no other vehicles etc. This is a safety issue.

20/14 The next meeting of the parish council will be on 13th February 2014 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm