

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 to be held at Herne Mill, Wootton Room, on Thursday 13th August 2015 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Davis, Cllr Moore, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Sargent, Cllr Rafferty, Cllr Davison, Cllr O'Donnell, Cllr Mitchell, and Cllr Saunders.

Not present: Cllr Harvey, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Jones and Cllr Nicholson.

- 141/15 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.** Cllrs Harvey, Jones, are away Cllr Nicholson is visiting his Mum in hospital, Cllr Blatherwick has a prior engagement. These reasons were approved. County Cllr Marsh has another meeting and is not sure he will get here, City Cllr Jones is away and City Cllr Sonnex is visiting her Dad. Cllr Davis will chair the meeting.
- 142/15 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda and requests for dispensations.** None
- 143/15 The minutes of the meeting held on 9th July 2015,** were agreed as a correct record.
- 144/15 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.** The clerk reported that she had not had time to look into defibrillators and this was not on the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC TO SPEAK

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

Draw for 100 Club, No 6 was drawn first and then No 36

- 145/15 Chairman's Announcements.** The chairman reminded members that there was a race night on 26th September.
- 146/15 Police Matters/Crime report.** None
- 147/15 Warden's Report.** Michelle supplied a written report.
- As you are all aware, I now have to carry out duties outside of our Parish. Unless these impact directly on our residents, I will not include them in my report, but you are welcome to have that information if you require it at any time. Here is a brief outline of some of the actions that I have dealt with here-*
- *Talks on distraction burglary and advice on "Cold Callers"*
 - *Spent a week with work experience student explaining about my role*
 - *Weekly inspections on Mugga Court*
 - *Alcohol Awareness workshops at local grammar school*
 - *Various welfare calls on our more senior residents*
 - *Removal of graffiti at several sites in the village*
 - *Following a complaint about speeding vehicles in Margate Rd – Leaflet dropped whole road seeking volunteers to man Speed Watch equipment and set dates for "Gun" work with PCSO Radcliffe to evidence issues.*
 - *Community Café/Surgery – Continues to be a success and I receive resident's on a regular basis, to discuss local concerns/problem solving.*
 - *Recently I have supported a 94 yr. old resident in Streetfield(ongoing)*
 - *Issue with fly tipped bike and other rubbish in pond by Curtis Woods. A big thank you to Andrew Brealy for pulling it out for me so Serco could dispose of it.*
 - *Liaised with Environmental services re barking dogs in Broomfield.*
 - *Info submitted to police RE disqualified driver*
 - *Various Highways issues affecting the village*
 - *Traffic Control – Herne Funday*

- *Advice/support given to resident (concern for welfare)- Police report submitted.*

148/15 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors. County Cllr Marsh told members stage 2 of the Local Plan hearing would be crucial. He had spoken with Simon Cooke at CCC, he stated that CCC will not be building on the car parks in Canterbury. He talked about the cost of the Sturry bypass and that developers would need to provide £23M plus towards this. He stated no schools, no roads, no development. All development needs to be sustainable. He felt that the inspector was unhappy with the draft Local Plan. He stated the A2 slip would not be funded by KCC therefore it was unlikely to happen. He said he was happy to take the lead from the parish council and he would do his best to get what they wanted. Cllr Mitchell stated that the parish council could not just put their faith in KCC because if the developers go to appeal and win, then the parish could be left with nothing. County Cllr Marsh gave the dates for this years Pantomime 16 & 17th December at 2pm and 19 & 20th at 2.30pm. he asked the clerk to let local groups etc have the details. This year it will be Aladdin.

City Cllr Sonnex supplied a written report. *‘Following concerns from a local resident regarding vehicles speeding in Margate Rd, Michelle and Sue had arranged some sessions using the speed gun. This was arranged for the beginning of this week but due to the gun being unavailable, it was cancelled at short notice.*

A couple of months ago I reported to KHS that the vegetation needs to be cut back between the Post Office in Margate Rd and the Huntsman and Horn. This is partially on a blind bend and the nettles are forcing pedestrians into the road. Reference No. 164281. Walking along there last week, they have cut back the stretch between the Post Office and the Herras fencing where the new development is being progressed but the stretch between the fencing and the Huntsman remains untouched. I followed this up this morning and a new order has been raised. No 17047739. This is a shame as the stretch that has been done has been completed to a good standard.

Fly tipping in the form of a dumped mattress was reported to me. This was left near the entrance to Strode Park. I reported this in and it was cleared the same day.

This week, bins remained uncollected in a large number of streets. Last night I received an email from Peter Davies. Apparently, two trucks have been out of service due to breakdowns and the closure of Sturry Rd / Island Rd on Tuesday were responsible. Many roads in the area were affected and they will do their best to catch up as quickly as possible. Robert Jones and I had a meeting with Andy Clarke, one of the Enforcement Team. Andy is hardworking and enthusiastic and keen to make a difference. We all found the meeting very productive and are looking forward to working alongside Andy for the good of the ward.

149/15 Planning & Highways Issues. To receive minutes of planning meeting held on 11th August 2015. All members had received a copy. The issue of the overgrown hedge at the property on the corner of Mill Lane and Broomfield Road, the clerk will ask Michelle to look into it.

150/15 Finance

To ratify payments made since last meeting. Funday payments Julie Feist £100, Jane Wells £100, C Bosworth £90, Paul Parker £200. 100 club Andy Harvey £12.00, Andrew Brealy £4, and V Cooper £12.

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

To report on income received. VAT refund £1,724.35, Fighting Fund £1,100, Newsletter advertising £240, Fun Day £635, Bank Interest £3.02, Hall Hire £449.80 Total £4,152.17

To receive Minutes of Finance & Resources meeting held on 30th July 2015. Copy supplied to all members.

151/15 Clerk’s Report/Correspondence. The clerk stated that with the Inspectors hearing for the Local Plan it has been very busy, with some very long days of 12 hours or more. Report on this to come.

Peter is still off sick although making a slow recovery. I think those that have been covering for him for the last 6 months have had enough and we need to look at how we are going to cover his job until he comes back. The clerk said she was going to visit to find out if he still intended to return. Cllr Moore offered to fill dispenser and clear rubbish and do the weekly inspection.

The tree work in the Wildlife Area has now been completed and perhaps there needs to be a working party organised to tidy up.

The ball court fencing is damaged in several places, the clerk has contacted the company that installed and they have suggested stronger panels where the goals are, as it appears the balls are being kicked really hard and breaking the welds. The mesh at the top on the road side also needs re-fixing as the tree branches have grown and pushed it in. Cllr Sargent has very kindly cut the branches back to enable the re-fixing.

All the fun day equipment has been stored away and Cllr Harvey has taken down all the signs.

The float is being stored in the barn at Keat Farm in Reculver Road and Cllrs Harvey and Sargent have made alterations to it to reduce the height in order to get it in the barn. This means the roof can be lowered for storage and raised when it goes out. Not ideal perhaps but at least it is in the dry.

The copier is being problematic, there is a major problem with it when the weather is damp or humid. This wastes both time, paper and ink continually trying to get it to print.

Tracy at Strode requested a meeting and that is being held on Tuesday it will be Strode Parks 70th Anniversary next year.

The Race Night is on 26th September so please get a group together and come along, the last one was a lot of fun. The cost is £7pp and includes Sausage and Chips and a 50p bet.

Eric Banning from KCC Highways called in last week he has been out to inspect the work done by UK Power Networks. The road closure for the gas works in Herne Street has been postponed.

The IT contract with Edge needs to be sorted out, as this was not done when the new computer was purchased, the clerk suggested this should be done at a cost of £10 per month for the office one the same for the laptop. The company also suggested changing from Norton to AVG and also using drop box instead of Livedrive both of which will be cheaper. Members agreed this.

152/15 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report. Cllr Davison reported that there had been a Beast Walk in Curtis Wood and about 15 attended. The information sheet supplied was good and she has suggested that a copy of this is put in the noticeboard. Crickets were found in the trees and grassland.

153/15 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations. 3 members attended the KALC training for new councillors, which they found very informative. Cllr Sargent had attended a meeting for the VC celebration, he had been asked to inquire as to whether the parish council would contribute to the day. The clerk pointed out that the parish council had paid for the relaying of the paving around the memorial. It was agreed that a breakdown of costs be supplied to the parish council and the shortfall that was required.

154/15 Update on Local Plan. There are a good many developers and organisations who are unhappy with the way the consultation has been handled.

There has been many hours of discussion and argument over the last 3 weeks at the hearing. Ian Brown stated at the outset that they wished to protect and enhance villages! It was later stated that Herne was not a village but part of urban Herne Bay! Cllr Blatherwick and the clerk reacted strongly to this and have written to the inspector to put forward the case that both Herne & Broomfield should be part of the village hierarchy. They both have a church, post office and pubs amongst other things.

On behalf of the parish council it has been suggested that Strode Farm should not be put in the urban boundary and that is the green space which between Herne village and Greenhill/ Herne Bay.

It looks like the Herne Bay sites planned for development will run past the date for the end of the plan. It is also looking like CCC will not meet the 5 year housing land supply mainly due to the Position Statement put out jointly by KCC & CCC which states there can be no development this side of Sturry crossing until the Sturry bypass has been built; as this is not likely to happen for about 5-6 years at the earliest all development in this area will be held up! There are now discussion going on between developers and CCC to see if they can get round this situation. All the local developers are stating that their developments won't have much of an impact on Herne, which is of course ridiculous. There are also air quality issues in Herne Village at peak times which are close to the maximum. It came to light, that, for some reason, student housing is not included in the housing numbers; when you consider how much student accommodation there is within the Canterbury District, this adds to the number of housing that has to be provided.

KCC Highways and CCC have stated that the Herne Relief road is required if there is to be development in Herne and Herne Bay, the issue with this is the standard of the road and when it will be delivered. The planning application submitted by Hollamby Estates sees this being done at the end of the development, when the last phase is completed. This means that all the traffic generated by the new development would go through the village. This is just not acceptable and the case was put to the inspector during the hearing.

When it comes to the supply of affordable homes it appears that most developers are stating they cannot meet the 30% target required due to the high infrastructure costs that are having to be met. In fact Hollamby are stating they could only do 4% that is 29 out of a housing number of 731. It was stated that the change to government policy was likely to reduce the amount of affordable housing, but developers will need to demonstrate why they can't meet requirements. It appears that CCC has already accepted that the strategic sites will not be able to meet the affordability targets. It was suggested that CCC should put out a call for rural exception sites.

There were lengthy discussions regarding the Highway provision, the A2 slip in Canterbury, the Sturry bypass and Herne Relief road being the main ones. It is far from clear whether enough funding can be secured to deliver the required infrastructure. There were complaints that CCC had not produced the Infrastructure Delivery Plan soon enough and that it was still in draft format. Local Development Strategy has only just been approved by full council. Many documents for the Local Plan have only just appeared on the web site. There are many reasons why the inspector could find that the plan is not legal or compliant.

There are still plans to build on the car parks in Canterbury especially Canterbury West, this seems ridiculous when they are promoting sustainable transport and the car park already has insufficient capacity. CCC seems under the impression that a development could also provide parking for station users, but this doesn't help taxi's etc.

The traffic modelling that was done is outdated with the main figures from 2008 and just updated by Amey in 2012 but this would not have included the 2011 census figures.

There were questions regarding water supplies. The new Management Plan produced by S E Water states that there will be a supply that can cope. All properties will have water meters and eventually Broad Oak Reservoir will be built but this will be smaller than originally planned.

Education was discussed and Cllr Blatherwick raised the issue of children in both Herne & Herne Bay losing out due to all the development in Canterbury especially senior school pupils. The education officer from KCC told the meeting that Cllr Blatherwick was 100% correct in what she had said and that there was a lack of both primary and senior school provision. In the Kent area there was a deficit of 900 places currently. The primary schools did not have any spare capacity and schools will need to expand and new schools to be built. Large developments will need to meet the cost of providing new schools. Any new schools will have to be Academy's. The government will not fund new housing requirements, therefore all developments will need to contribute to meet its own needs.

The Inspector requested more details of the proposals for Wincheap and also the Sturry and Herne Relief roads. He also requested more dialogue with Dover DC as this appeared to be lacking.

Yesterday the Inspector produced a letter to CCC and notes for them to deal with, it is most disappointing.

He is asking for an increase in the housing numbers from 780 per annum to 800 for the plan period. He has also asked them to look at the 30% affordable housing again as to whether this is achievable.

When it comes to Infrastructure and particularly the Position Statement regarding Sturry Crossing it appears the Inspector does not consider that the fact it is currently a problem to be an issue and has stated 'The Framework requires that development should only be prevented or refused on transport grounds where the residual cumulative impacts of development are severe. As such, it must be demonstrated that the traffic produced by developments proposed in the plan would have a severe impact if allocations are to be phased or delayed until transport infrastructure is delivered.

The presence of an existing congested network is not of itself evidence that adding some additional traffic would have a severe impact. The justification in the evidence base for the Sturry (and Herne) relief roads is limited. If the Council intends to maintain the position it

had agreed with the County Council there needs to be robust evidence that this would be the case. ‘

KCC Highways have been contacted, Alan Marsh is aware of the report from Inspector as is our highways consultant and planning consultant. Very disappointing outcome.

155/15 Report on Fun Day. The event went very well as was very well attended. There were a lot of helpers to set up and take down and that all went very smoothly.

Lots of stalls and fun rides etc and the addition this year of Pony Rides and Kent Fire Fit.

The Pony Rides have asked to attend again next year, but I do think we need to find a way of signing where they are as being over the far side of the field people did not necessarily know they were there. Kent Fire Fit challenge was a great success but how do you get the fit young dads to take part? The youngsters took part, Paul & Bunny did a great job on the PA and also taking part in the challenge, we even had a pensioners team! All greatly enjoyed by the spectators. The fun races and displays were also enjoyed. Plenty going on all through the afternoon.

The car parking was dealt with most efficiently by the Rotary Club and a big thank you goes to them and all our volunteers. Tony Day and Tim Blatherwick got rings up in record time. Straw was loaned by Ken Goldsmith and Pauline Woodland dealt with all the money on the day and the final counting the following day. Cllr Ian Sargent collected chairs loaned by Strode Park and returned the straw at the end of the day.

Due to the great weather conditions there was excellent attendance, over the course of the afternoon approx. 2,500 people and stall holders etc did well. It is hoped that the total profit on the day will be in the region of £3,000. The wardens and PCSO did a good job on the gate and everyone did what they were supposed to do on the day which was wonderful. The clerk thanked Sue Davis and Alan Jarvis for their work organising stall holders The scouts and ice cream van were busy all afternoon and I don't think there were any complaints about anything. All in all a good but very long day. Cllr Davis thanked the clerk and her husband for all their hard work on the day.

156/15 Villages Petition. The clerk reported that following the Local Plan hearing it had been suggested that getting a petition up and running for local resident to sign, could be of benefit when the hearing continues later in the year. Members agreed this and will get as many signatures as they can. Cllr Davis will try and get a report in the local paper.

157/15 Members Reports. The clerk was asked to chase up the issue of the fence at the junction of The Meadows and Broomfield Road.

158/15 The next meeting of the parish council will be on 10th September 2015 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.

Meeting closed 9.40pm