

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held at Herne Mill, Wootton Room, on Thursday 14th July 2016 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Davison, Cllr Sargent, Cllr O'Donnell, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Saunders, and Cllr Moore.

Not present: Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Davis, Cllr Wells and Cllr Rafferty.

To Note: Clerk to the Council, Monica Blyth was not present due to the sudden, sad death of her husband Mark. All Councillors wish to offer their affection and condolences at this sad time. Mark played an important role in the life of the Parish of Herne and Broomfield and his generous input will be greatly missed.

Cllr O'Donnell took notes at the meeting.

- 127/16 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.** Cllr Davis' granddaughter's birthday and Cllr Wells his wife and he are attending a presentation, Cllr Nicholson who is working. Reasons were accepted.
- 128/16 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda and requests for dispensations.** None received.
- 129/16 The minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2016,** were agreed as a correct record.
- 130/16 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.** KCC have decided not to withdraw the funding for the website. The clerk thanked Cllrs Wells, Moore and Sargent for filling the skip and clearing the rubbish at the Community Centre.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC TO SPEAK

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

2 residents present

Draw for 100 Club

1st No 6 2nd No 16

- 131/16 Chairman's Announcements.** Mark's funeral will be on Monday 25th July. 9.20am at Barham Crematorium, All are welcome and afterwards at 11.30 at Holy Cross Church in Hoath a thanksgiving for Mark's life. Refreshments at the Catholic Club in Herne Bay will follow. There is an open invite so that all can join in the celebration of Mark's life.

Cllr Blatherwick reported on her talk to Herne Junior school, she based it on the theme of Community and the role of the Local Authority and the Parish Council in the community - how we look after them and provide services and opportunities, ie the Multi Games Area and the BMX track. She explained about the new Community Centre and how they could help by providing prizes for the Tombola stall at the Fun Day. Cllr O'Donnell will pick up gifts and take to Cllr Davis.

- 132/16 Police Matters/Crime report.** None

- 133/16 Warden's Report.** None

- 134/16 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.**

City Cllr Robert Jones. A quote has been received to clean the graffiti from the underpass £650 need, and a request for the Parish Council to help. (decision needed at the next meeting) The Broomfield Post Office owner has been in very regular contact with Alan Marsh, also MP Roger Gale, Ann Blatherwick, re seeking compensation for loss of earnings due to access restriction. County Cllr Marsh has advised such compensation should come from Utilities, as KCC not responsible. The issue is Utilities can't find the sewer and are still digging. Provisional date for completion 21st July.

City Cllr Sonnex

- Road works by the utilities and the subsequent road closure is causing a loss of business to the Broomfield Post Office which is causing concern as there is no clear end date (A. Marsh to report further)
- Report concerning the fence at the bottom of The Meadows a Google Earth search has revealed how this area used to be laid out)
- Sheep running wild in Curtis Wood were reported to the police

- 3 accidents in 1 week at Bushey Road/ Bullockstone intersection, foliage is overgrown, Cllrs agreed speed was more the issue than overgrown foliage
- Ford Road currently only single vehicle access - this will be reported to Highways Bus Seat outside the Plough had been treated.

County Cllr Marsh wished to record what a valuable asset Mark Barnett has been to the Parish.

Re Local Plan

The Position Statement: Alan Marsh: “Much improved – pleasing solution to the issues raised’ Cllr Blatherwick is still to read the new document in full and then to report back. The Local Plan hearing is next week and she will be using the information in the report then. Cllr Mitchell raised concerns, KCC had agreed 1,506 houses, 4,000 of those houses are earmarked for Thanington. The 5 year housing supply plan needs to be robust, last year it was 800 houses short on the target.

135/16 Planning & Highways Issues. Richard Jenkins has offered to put double yellow lines outside 31 & 33 Albion Lane, the clerk asked for a slightly longer section.

There are revised details for Strode Farm development, (residents are already active), concerning the roundabout at the southern end and a footpath parallel to the road. Responses are requested by 29th July.

136/16 Finance

To ratify payments made since last meeting. None.

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. The clerk supplied a list of payments for approval. It was noted that Howfields had a cheque payment entered twice, this to be checked. The clerk has cancelled the quarterly audit and will re-arranged for a future date. Payments were approved.

To report on income received. Donation towards BMX fencing from club £1,486.80, Advertising £60, Funday £45, Garden Safari £1,934.50, Flower tubs donation £250, Interest £145.33, Hall hire £466.46, 100 club £60, Fundraising hall £176.50 Total £4,624.59.

The clerk reported that she had needed to cancel the quarterly audit but would re-arrange as soon as possible.

137/16 Clerk’s Report/Correspondence. The clerk sent her thanks to all those who have been in touch at this difficult time, she and her family really appreciate the kind thoughts and messages. The next few months are going to be challenging, so the clerk hoped members would bear with it.

It will be necessary to make some arrangement to collect the float from Keat Farm.

138/16 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden’s Report. Cllr Davis is absent. Pond Task Day & BBQ on 26th June in Broomfield took place.

139/16 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations.

Cllr Harvey reported that the Allotments require a working party to sort out a series of holes, a strimmer has been bought to clear edges. A new NATWEST account had been set up, and all subscriptions have been paid. The toilets have been completed.

4th September is the BBQ.

A request for £150 for prizes has been requested. (This may now not be necessary because of the generosity of the parents of Herne Juniors).

140/16 Minutes of Environment & Leisure meeting held on 21st June, including reports on event at Strode Park and Garden Safari. Discuss any issues arising from minutes.

Garden Safari 2016

The weather was perfect, the sun shone for us. Although numbers appear down on 2015, the visitors to the gardens created a steady stream. All the new garden owners had really good feedback following the event. They really enjoyed it, although they found it more tiring than they had anticipated. Many people visiting the gardens were new and some from quite far afield.

All those that opened were happy with the visitors that they had come round their gardens and said what nice people they were, there were quite a few families and more children than usual. There were lots of places doing teas, coffee and cakes and cream teas. So far the donations have raised £616.50 which includes £113 taken on the raffle. Entry money so far is £1,152 which means that 288 people attended, compared to 374 in 2015. Hopefully there may be a bit more entrance money to come in still.

Perhaps next year we need to go back to the original date as we are likely to clash with Sci-Fi by the Sea and Father’s Day which is always around that date.

Report on Strode Park event. The event went well although numbers were somewhat disappointing, but there was a lot going on around the area to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday. The parish council ran a tombola and had a teddy stall and also the key game. Many thanks to Cllr Davis and her family and Cllr Taylor for dealing with this. Thanks to the

councillors that attended to help set up and take down the gazebo. It had also been agreed to run the fun races. Unfortunately Cllr Rafferty did not turn up but Paul Parker, Cllr Davison and Sue Davis got organised and the children that took part enjoyed themselves. Thanks to Cllr Davison, Paul and Sue and also Tracey Jones for the loan of equipment. The takings were £179.50 and this will go towards the Community Centre Fund.

141/16 Update on Fun day progress and helpers. Will need people to collect equipment, the clerk suggested Ian, Andy, Geoff, Peter and Robert. If they can collect on Saturday 30th ready for the early start. Saturday marking up will need to be done. Permission to use Cherry Orchard has now been received from CCC. It was agreed to hire a van to transport the equipment for the fun day.

142/16 To discuss the event at St Martin's Church on 16th July. St Martin's Church, Saturday and Sunday with a concert. Councillors will be running an information stall on a rota basis on Saturday, there will be table displaying plans of the new Community Centre.

143/16 Publicity including Social media & Logo's. Discussion about Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and their appropriate use by the PC. Cllr Blatherwick's daughter made a useful contribution as to their respective merits.

It was agreed that the windmill logo would be used on all High Vis Jackets (as used on the aerial film of Herne) plus the words ' Working with you'

144/16 Update on Local Plan. Inspectors hearing starts 19th July and will run for 3 days. Cllr Blatherwick will attend. Cllr Saunders recorded thanks to Ann Blatherwick, the clerk and all Councillors involved for their hard work.

145/16 Update on Community Centre progress and approve further payments in order to produce Bill of Quantities for the tender documents. It is hoped that the Bill of Quantities will be ready to go to tender in about 3 weeks. At the recent meeting the parish council was advised not to rush the process but to take the time to ensure that everything was in place and correct, due to this it is unlikely that any work will start until early 2017. It is very important that the grass is kept short on the land around the Community Centre. It was agreed to approve further payments as required.

146/16 Update on the use of Wildlife Area.

Report on Wildlife Area/Forest School

As some members will be aware there have been some issues regarding the use of the area and a conflict of interest between parties that are using the area.

There was an issue with an area of overgrown brambles etc which had been cleared by the guides, this wasn't an area that they were supposed to clear, and it is also the wrong time of year to be carrying out this type of work.

The clerk was notified by the Nursery, who were very upset this had happened. A meeting was held with Guide representatives and then a representative from the Nursery. An agreement for how the site would be used and when was produced for the parties involved (Nursery, Guides and Scouts groups). Whoever signs the agreement would be responsible for those using the area, in their group.

Subsequent to this, a site meeting was arranged and all parties invited to attend. Only Paul Parker from the Nursery attended and following a walk round the area, Cllr Davis suggested that the area that had been cleared could be left as grassed space with some seating around it, however the area of land close to it, would need to be left to re-grow as the ground contained items that the Parish Council had been unable to remove and it was not a safe area to use. This area has been roped off.

The area designated for wild flowers between the pond and Ruskin's View would need to be cut down later in the year (August) and the cuttings removed, this could be composted elsewhere on the site. It would need to have wild flower seed on it the following spring. Cllr Davis thought that this area and the newly cut area would be sufficient and that no other areas needed to be cleared for wild flowers.

The logs left in the wildlife area would not need to be moved, as they are good for both the children and the wildlife. Both Cllr Davis and Cllr Blatherwick were happy with the positioning of the yurt and toilet tents, which were hidden from open view within the site.

Paul Parker will provide the Parish Council with an updated map of where the paths are and various other areas.

The nursery and the scout group have signed the agreement, nothing has been received so far from the Guides group.

147/16 Members Reports. Cllr Harvey reminded members about the Barn Dance.

148/16 The next meeting of the parish council will be the Parish Council meeting on 11th August 2016 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.