

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Herne & Broomfield Parish Council meeting held at Herne Mill, Wootton Room, on Thursday 14th December 2017 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Davis, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Sargent, Cllr Moore, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Wells.

Not present: Cllr White, Cllr Knight, Cllr Davison, Cllr Saunders and Cllr O'Donnell

- 228/17 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.** Cllr White who is working, Cllr O'Donnell who is away, Cllr Knight whose husband has just come out of hospital following an operation, Cllr Davison who is looking after her sick mother. The reasons for not attending were approved. The vicar also said she was sorry not to be attending tonight but she has a bad cold. City Cllr Sonnex sent apologies, she has just had an operation on her foot.
- 229/17 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda and requests for dispensations.** None
- 230/17 The minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2017,** were agreed as a correct record.
- 231/17 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.

Draw for 100 Club

1st 6 Rita McVey and 2nd no 8 Alan Ratford

- 232/17 Chairman's Announcements.** Cllr Blatherwick reported that warden Michelle Weston has now left and there was a presentation to her at the children's party. Estella the curate is leaving at Christmas and there is a special service for her on Sunday.
- 233/17 Police Matters/Crime report.** None
- 234/17 Warden's Report** None
- 235/17 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.** County Cllr Marsh reported that there had been a Joint Transport Board meeting to discuss the proposals for the bus lane in Sturry Road. This was not passed. CCC had suggested that the Area Member panels to have control of parking issues, but this was not approved. CCC has approved 300-400 more houses that were not in the Local Plan. Alan also informed members that there were a few panto tickets left.
- 236/17 Planning & Highways Issues.** Next Planning meeting will be on 19th December.
- 237/17 Finance**
- To ratify payments made since last meeting. Edge IT £875.76, Judge Architects, £1,650, Broomfield Bikers £300, Paul Parker £65, Paul Parker £75, R Millson £80
- To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. All payments were approved.
- To report on income received VAT refund £113,181.75 overpaid by £44,000, advertising £180, Interest £9.02, Payment form PLWB £474,833.75, map sales £4, hall hire £971.04, 100 club £12, fund raising £255, total £589,446.56
- 238/17 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.**
- A new laptop has been purchased and both the desk top and the laptop now have office 365 installed this means both machines will work as one and this facilitates access from any location to all the information that is stored on the computer. If the clerk needs to work from home this will allow that to happen. The emails will also be accessible, and our email address will stay with us, even if we change supplier. It was also necessary to buy a new monitor for the office, the new one is bigger which is an improvement.

Following KCC warden Michelle Weston leaving the warden service, KCC will try to get someone into the parish a couple of days a week. Obviously, there is not going to be the cover that we have had previously and things like abandoned vehicles, litter clearing and parking issues will not be dealt with so easily and will now have to be dealt with by the clerk, increasing the work load further.

The Remembrance service at St Martin's Church went very well and was well attended. The Carols around the tree at St Martin's was also well attended although quite cold.

The Strode Park Christmas Fair was very well attended and thanks to Cllr Davis who manned the Hook a Cuddly stall, which almost sold out, the clerk suggested a donation of £20 to Strode Park for allowing the parish council to have two stalls. This was agreed. Michelle and her helpers also did well with the card making.

Cllr Sargent and the clerk toured the Santa Sleigh route to look at the stops and decided where the signs should go, Michelle also had contacted a couple of residents to ask if we could put a sign in their garden.

The crockery ordered for the new hall is now in storage at Linda Still's home and the work to remove the soil around the container by the BMX track has been started.

The clerk reported that her son was going to visit next week and so she plans to take Tuesday off.

Officially the last day the office will be open is 21st December and will re-open on 2nd January 2018.

Correspondence

A request to ensure the float goes along Savernake Road and a request, again, for yellow lines in Millview Road, this will be discussed by the Planning Committee.

Had a call from Ian Stockley to discuss the planning application for High Rews he thinks he will request the application goes to committee in January. The crockery ordered for the Community Centre is now in storage. The work on removing the soil from around the container has been started.

Revd Carol Smith contacted the clerk about the lack of parking on a Sunday morning, she said it was due to the hall being used at this time. The clerk checked with the hall manager and he said the hall users often can't park themselves, the problem seems to be due to the lack of a parking ticket machine, people are leaving their cars in there for long periods. It is a public car park and there is no easy answer.

The clerk wished all members a Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year.

239/17 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report. Cllr Davis had received complaints about removal of trees in an area next to Wildwood, but it is not in the conservation area therefore nothing can be done. Cllr Davis has received a letter from TCV requesting a donation of £25 which would go towards training tree and pond wardens. This was agreed. The parish also needs a new pond warden.

240/17 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations. Cllr Taylor reported on the Street monitors meeting, as the numbers attending have dropped it was agreed to meet annually, there will be updates in between. There was a presentation by Serco and they were asked to keep the underpass in Mill Lane clean. Refuse collection vehicles will all be fitted with cameras at the rear.

241/17 To discuss and approve the management of the new building as discussed by Community Centre Committee. (Minutes have been circulated). The clerk explained to members that there had been a couple of suggestions for the running of the new building, one of the suggestions was from a local lady who had offered to look after the building, bookings etc the other was regarding a management company. The way this would operate would be the company would deal with all the bookings, cleaning, invoicing and collecting in the payments etc. The advantage of going with this sort of system is that there would be cover for sickness and holidays etc. Members thought that a management company would be a good option and the clerk and Cllrs Davis and Blatherwick were asked to put together a tender document as that would be required if the parish council wish to go with this option.

242/17 Update on progress of new building. Cllr Blatherwick reported that the progress was very good, with the roof, solar panels, doors and windows done, therefore the building is weather proof. A visit will be arranged for members and Community

Centre Committee to have a tour of the building, before the Christmas break. The building was really starting to take shape. There will be no one on site from Friday 22nd December until 2nd January. Cllr Blatherwick had dealt with an issue regarding attic trusses in the storage area of the building, this had now been rectified.

243/17 Minutes of E & L meeting held on 23rd November 2017 (circulated) and any issues arising. The issue of the fun day and bringing both St Martins Church and Strode Farm on board to help run it, was approved. Sarah Bingham will get involved a bit with the 2018 event and they will then take on the 2019 event with some help from the parish council. Bookings are underway for next year and there were suggestions re additional bookings for the children and amendments to the fees and booking form for 2018. The clerk reported that the snow machine had been purchased in time for the children's party and the float.

244/17 Update on Children's party. With nearly 70 children attending and many parents it was noisy to say the least. Paul & Bunny from Shout Disco got the children and many of the parents up and dancing and the snow machine was very popular. At the end of the disco session Cllr Blatherwick made a presentation to KCC warden Michelle to thank her for all her hard work during her time working in Herne and Broomfield. This was followed by the children sitting down to eat, many thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this, those who had made sandwiches and cakes, those who helped set up the tables and put out food and give the children drinks. There was an excellent team in the kitchen who managed the teas and coffees for the parents and did the washing up. Once the children had finished they were entertained by Reg E Mental, who did a great job keeping the children and parents entertained for an hour. During this time our wonderful volunteers cleared all the tables and put them away ready for the arrival of Father Christmas. The Santa Sleigh arrived just before 5pm and entered the building to cheers from the children. Every child present received a gift from Father Christmas and many photos were taken. Having finished his present distribution Father Christmas, got back on the Santa Sleigh and was driven off. Thanks to both Cllr Sargent and Father Christmas. A really big thank you to all the volunteers involved, it wouldn't happen without them. Feedback from those who attended has been really good and a great time was had by all. Thanks to Michelle and Linda for checking children in and out, and not having any left over at the end!

245/17 Update on float arrangements Cllr Sargent ensured the float was ready for the party and has since done some repairs to the lights and fitted new sets. The music will be provided by Paul and Bunny Parker. Signs have been made for the Father Christmas stops and the clerk will put these out on Saturday in Herne. They need to be collected in as the float stops, so they can go out on Sunday morning in Broomfield. We now have enough help on the float on both days, members and helpers need to be aware that they should not lift children on or off the float but should leave that to the adult with them, if not this could become a safeguarding issue.

246/17 Members Reports. Cllr Harvey reported that slates were being removed from The Plough roof and asked if planning could look into what is happening there. The clerk will contact them. Cllr Moore has attended at the BMX track where there are groundworks to relieve the pressure on the container. This work had proved more challenging than originally expected due to the ground being very compacted, and a larger digger was required. The soil being removed will be stored on the track and a pump track will be installed using this, in the new year. This will give the younger ones a start on BMX riding. Conor has some ideas for the Community Park and would like to come and speak to the E & L Committee in the New Year.

247/17 The next meeting of the parish council will be on 11th January 2018 at 7-30pm at Wootton Room Herne Mill.

Meeting Closed 9.05pm