

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Herne Centre, St Martin's View, Herne CT6 7AP

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held at Herne Centre, St Martin's View on Thursday 11th April 2019 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Davis, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Saunders, Cllr Sargent, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Moore, Cllr Davison and Cllr McCann.

Not Present: Cllrs O'Donnell, Cllr Knight and White.

- 55/19 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.** Cllrs O'Donnell and White who are away, Cllr Knight who is unwell. Members accepted the reasons for absence. County Cllr Marsh who has broken a bone in his foot. City Cllr Sonnex, it is her husband's birthday. City Cllr Jones who has had some personal issues.
- 56/19 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda and requests for dispensations.** None
- 57/19 The minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2019,** were agreed as a correct record.
- 58/19 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.** Cllr Sonnex reported that the bus shelters have been repaired. The newsletters have all gone out, the clerk thanked Cllr Harvey for collecting them. The final payment and paperwork regarding Kirsty Ash has been finalised.

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 1 1st and 4 2nd.

- 59/19 Chairman's Announcements.** Cllr Blatherwick thanked the councillors who were standing down and presented them with a card. She also asked for the final nominations for the Annual Parish Meeting's award Outstanding Contribution to the Community person. There were 3 nominations, Conor from BMX club, Doug Hobbs who had done a lot of work at Broomfield Pond, litter picking and delivering newsletters and Keith Harding for his work clearing the footpaths and has volunteered at the Fun Day. Members decided they would acknowledge all three.
- 60/19 Police Matters/Crime report.** PCSO Gary Sorrell who attended in his own time reported that he was covering Herne Bay Town Centre, Reculver, Beltinge, Herne & Broomfield, Chislet & Hoath. 121 calls had been received since 1st April. The Thanet Way and Sainsbury are currently classed as Herne & Broomfield. Members pointed out that they are not in the parish. The main reasons for the calls are accidents on the Thanet Way and shoplifting in Sainsbury. He reported on the courier scam where people are asked to supply their bank details after being told their accounts have been compromised. There have been arrests and there aren't any reports of this in Herne Bay it was mainly Canterbury. Operation Heron is ongoing during the school holiday where PCs and PCSOs patrol in Herne Bay the PCSOs finish at 11pm and the PCs at 2am.
- 61/19 Warden's Report**
Written report
Mandy reported that she had been working closely with the Enforcement Officers regarding issues with parking and dog fouling. 2 Enforcement Officers attended to speak with early morning dog walkers on Cherry Orchard to highlight fouling issues

and ask if they had witnessed any concerns. The Officers placed 2 large glow in the dark signs, warning against fouling, at the entrance and further up the path.

There was a report of potential bogus callers locally, who state they represent the Water Company. They are in uniform and suggested there is a water leak that the property owner will have to pay for it.

A resident reported bogus builders who had stated they were part of a firm who had been working on his house but when the legitimate company arrived they left in a hurry.

There has been a spike of thefts from cars in Canterbury, drivers are being urged to ensure they don't leave anything of value in view and make sure cars are fully locked and secure.

The winners of the School Road Safety competition have been chosen and the shortlisted work has been displayed at the new Sainsburys. Updates on when the signs will be made and unveiled to follow.

She has attended various welfare visits locally and has been liaising with Enforcement and KCC Highways regarding a large amount of fly tipping in Owls Hatch Road.

Leaflets have been distributed to advertise the Pop Up Info café at Herne and Broomfield Surgery, which start at the end of the month.

Fabulous prizes have been collected for the raffle at the Community Swap, that she has been organising with the Engagement Officer of Age UK, which will be held in Greenhill in May.

She has arranged with the Parking Enforcement Team that they will be covering a wider area around the school, now including Norton Avenue and from time to time, we will go out as a larger group and tackle multiple areas at the same time.

She will be looking into possible funding to make banners to be displayed at the school crossing in conjunction with the new slow down signs in Mill Lane, using the childrens artwork.

62/19 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors Sonnex & Jones. None.

63/19 Clerk's Report/Correspondence. The clerk thanked Cllr Moore for coming into the office and helping a couple of mornings in March.
Conor from BMX club has contacted the clerk regarding the opportunity to purchase a gate system that is only a year old for £3,000.

The gate system which includes:

‘Control box, Ram, Lights and all associated miscellaneous parts, would normally retail for £7,000.

The club which is selling it have owned it for just over 1 year and are selling it for £3,000. Conor has placed a £200 deposit to secure it. The rest of the money would need to be in place by the end of May. The system would need collecting which Conor will do. In regards the metal gate, Ovendens are sponsoring that and are going to weld some more supports to it, and Conor will re paint the whole thing to make it suitable for the race - however this is a short- term solution and it will need replacing in the future. The Ram and new gate system would be able to be used on any new gates that are purchased in the future. Serviceable life of the system seems to be between 7-10 years. After much discussion it was agreed that the parish council would pay the cost of this, provided that Conor ensured that it was fit for purpose as there would be no guarantee with it. It was agreed that the club should contribute hopefully they will be able to get grant funding towards it, but due to time scales they need to know that they can purchase it. The clerk will talk to Conor.

As you are aware the bin at BMX track has been stolen, Conor has given a price for planting a replacement. City Cllr Joe Howes will look into whether CCC might have any spare ones before we agree the replacement.

The clerk reminded members that Victoria Soames will attending on 18th April at 7.30pm to update members on the proposals for Bullockstone Road.

There has been a problem with the blinds in the main hall, the company will come back and measure the window and the blinds will be made at their workshop and then be fitted, they will also repair the tie back.

It came to light last week that the copier doesn't scan OCR word documents only PDF's there is an add on available which the clerk would like to get at a cost of £234.04 which includes installation. Members approved this expenditure it would come out of the new office reserve.

A resident rang the clerk to complain about 4 people putting up dog fouling signs, the two wardens were out with enforcement officers in Cherry Orchard.

The clerk finished by thanking the councillors who were not standing for re-election for all their help over the years, the clerk told members that she remembered vividly the count when Cllr Taylor was elected, she won by one vote! She added that she very much hoped that they would stay involved in some way.

64/19 Finance.

To ratify payments made since last meeting. None

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. All this month's payments are by cheque because the accounts package is not set up to allocate payments from Unity account to the budget headings, hopefully this will be done by next month. There is also a problem with our system at the moment and the end of year accounts cannot be started. The clerk went through the Bank reconciliation and members approved all the payments presented.

To report on income received. Donations poo bags £7, newsletter advertising £204, Interest £2.01, Payment water £15.86, Herne Centre refund and bar takings £911.43, 100 club £144. Total1,308.16

Request for a donation towards the legal challenge re Air Pollution in Canterbury, after some discussion it was agreed to make a contribution of £100.

To approve the quote for the maintenance of the Community Park for 2019-20 cost is £4,035. This was approved. The council receives Concurrent Funding to cover the cost of maintenance at Community Park.

To approve the 2%, pay increase to the clerk as agreed by NALC for 2019-20 This was approved.

65/19 Planning & Highways. Receive the minutes of the meeting held on 28th March, and answer any queries arising. (Circulated) Cllr Blatherwick went through the minutes, she told members that the application for The Manor in Herne Street had been rejected again by the planning committee. The clerk had spoken to the officer who is minded to grant and therefore the application will go to committee.

66/19 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report. Cllr Davis reported that there had ben a pond day and clearance work had been carried out. She had passed a request to fell trees in Ash Close to Cllr Liz White who had responded.

67/19 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations. Cllr Harvey reported that the Allotment Association had their AGM. One person had left the committee and two new members had come forward, so everything was looking quite good at the moment.

68/19 Update on Garden Safari meeting and on the flower bed in the village. 5 of the gardeners attended the meeting along with Cllr Davis and the clerk.

It was agreed that the 50% share of the proceeds would be given to Catching Lives charity this year.

The event will be held on 9th June and will start from the Herne Centre this year, the price will be increased to £5 pp entry. Gardens will be open from 10am to 5pm.

It is hoped that there will be stalls at the Centre selling, plants, gardening books and equipment. There will also be Bacon/Sausage Baps for sale in the morning, which hopefully the Centre staff will organise.

Sarah Bingham has been asked if a Garden Safari sign could be put up at the church and that is fine, Margaret Burns will be asked to supply details of the Herne Rose Show. Louise Knight was asked to organise the tombola but is going to be away for the event so cannot do this, Cllr Davis said we have enough prizes. Cllr Andy Harvey was asked about putting up the signs which he is happy to do, and Friends of the Mill will be asked what they would like to put on the programme. Russell Nicholls who is opening his garden offered to design the programme.

Cllr Davison has reported that the WI have applied for a licence to work on the flower bed in the village, opposite the church.

69/19 Report on attendance at Award Ceremony. The clerk reported that Cllrs Blatherwick and Davis along with the clerk had attended the Awards Ceremony at the Cathedral Lodge on Thursday 21st March, at the invitation of Betteridge & Milsom. Unfortunately, although we were in the top 3, we did not win. We were all very disappointed that no details of our project were given, which was not what we expected. However, we have we've made it through the first round of shortlisting for the KEiBA Awards. Judges will be visiting on 16th April, Andrew Walker, Steph Harris and Matt Judge will hopefully attend as well.

70/19 Report on election nominations. The nominations for the election have now closed and the parish will not have a contested election, as there are 13 nominated for the 13 positions. There are 7 candidates for the two seats in our City Council Ward elections.

71/19 To discuss the interview panel for Admin Assistant post and to discuss the details circulated regarding signing up to the HR company. There have been 5 applications received to date. Interviews will be arranged for week commencing 22nd April. Normally the panel consists of the chair of the council and committees, with myself taking notes, Cllr Blatherwick feels that perhaps that is too many for a part time Admin Assistants post. Members agreed that Cllrs Blatherwick, Davis and Knight should be the interview panel, the clerk will take the notes and take part in the final discussions.

The clerk raised the issue of signing an HR Company, Bright, who would be able to help with holiday, sick pay, contracts etc at a cost of £9.25 per member of staff per month, details have been circulated to all members. It was suggested that a shorter contract would be more acceptable, the clerk reported that the company would do a 36-month contract and the cost would be slightly more. There were over 4,000 templates available on line and staff to help complete these. After much discussion it was agreed to sign up for thirty-six months.

72/19 Members Reports. Cllr Davis reminded members they need to return their expenses forms for the election, even if they have not got any. Cllr Moore reported a post down on the corner of Gorse Lane and Broomfield Road, the clerk said it had already been reported.

73/19 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Parish Council meeting on 9th May at 7-30pm at the Herne Centre.

Meeting closed 9.30pm