

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 on Thursday 14th February 2019 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Davis, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Moore, Cllr Knight, Cllr O'Donnell, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Moore, Cllr Davison and Cllr Saunders.

Not Present: Cllr White and Cllr McCann

- 19/19 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.** Cllr White and Cllr Davison are at meetings at the school and will get here if they can. Cllr McCann who is working late. City Cllrs Sonnex and Jones who have a full council meeting.
- 20/19 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda and requests for dispensations.** None.
- 21/19 The minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2019** were agreed as a correct record.
- 22/19 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.** The holiday owed to Mrs Ash was agreed at 1.5 days and she provided a doctor's certificate up to 31st January.

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 no 10, 2nd no 61

- 23/19 Chairman's Announcements.** None.
- 24/19 Police Matters/Crime report.** The clerk reported that she had received a call from a PCSO at Herne Bay station saying that he hoped to attend a parish council meeting about 3 or 4 times a year.
- 25/19 Warden's Report** Mandy Quay-Verlander supplied a written report.

UPDATES

The Community Litter pick in Bullockstone Road was a great success with 22 volunteers attending in the morning and 6 in the afternoon, as well as myself and my colleague Dave. We cleared the whole 2-mile stretch from the Canterbury Road junction to the Lower Herne Road junction, approximately half a ton of rubbish bags. Cllr Liz White provided a very generous spread of refreshments, which were very much appreciated on the day. A large number of volunteers were from Wednesday Wanderers (Walking Group) and everyone unanimously stated they would love to help out again, so I am keeping contact details for future reference. We spoke about a possible Community Beach Clean Sweep and picnic at Herne Bay in the summer, but these could also be potential volunteers for other projects around the community such as the pond and wooded area on Cherry Orchard.

I have had a meeting with Red Zebra with regards to getting support around Social Prescribing, they will talk at the Warden Team Meeting and possibly train us up as referrers, so we can have access to their database. We could also publicise things that we are doing in the area to be promoted on the database.

I met with Herne and Broomfield Surgery Manager and Action in Communities in Rural Kent and booked the Information Coffee Caravan this will set up in the garden area next to the surgery, once a month from April to October, people will be able to have a free hot drink and

cake, and have access to information and a chance to meet new people. This is something the Surgery will be able to publicise and feed socially isolated patients into.

Ongoing work with the school, I assisted with their SMSC week and facilitated printing activity. I also did a Road Safety presentation to Years 5 and 6 after reports of children riding around the area dangerously on bikes. I did a general safety talk and also brought in a bike and showed practical safety checks and discussed possible dangers.

I met with the Reverend Carol at the First and Last Pub and awarded a Community Warden Commendation Certificate to the Proprietor for her generosity with the free Christmas Lunch.

DEVELOPMENT

The road sign competition will be launched at the school soon, I will make an announcement during morning worship and assist with judging. I had a productive meeting with the Manager at Sainsburys, she offered me the opportunity to have a multi agency presence in the main reception area, a table whenever I wish, to advise on scams and personal safety. I can also have a monthly presence in the café area, a table, to advise, signpost and also encourage people to come and meet up with each other for coffee. This can also be used to publicise the Coffee Caravan at the Surgery and she has agreed to allow the school to display shortlisted work from the road sign competition, therefore spreading the message about speeding down Mill Lane.

HIGHWAYS

I have reported various issues to Highways including broken signs, posts and potholes. Cllr Moore thanked Cllr White for the refreshments she had provided for the litterpickers. Cllr Sargent arrived at this point.

26/19 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors Sonnex & Jones.

City Cllr Jones sent a short report. Richard Tolson who was the CCC Officer I worked very closely with regards to rubbish collection littering and fly tipping, has now retired, he had worked for CCC for over 40 years and I can say Richard will be very much missed.

There have been a few fly tips in our area the past month, which is very frustrating to say the least. There is now on the CCC website, a link to report graffiti which will help to have it removed quickly and it is easy to use.

County Cllr Alan Marsh reported that he had been at County Hall all day and they had set the budget for the new financial year. There will be an increase of approximately £58 pa, there is extra in the budget for adult social care, the total for this is now £469M It is expected that by 2021-22 this will be in excess of half a million pounds. There are no plans to close libraries or any other services. There is more money from central government for potholes, this will be the third payment of £3M and 80,000 potholes have been filled. Cllr Blatherwick asked if there were any plans or funding for resurfacing work as the filling of the potholes was not dealing with the root of the problem. Alan confirmed that there was not any funding to do this. The Freedom Pass is now £350pa, when it started it was free, it then steadily increased in price, members felt this was unfair as the secondary school children had no option but to catch the bus to get to school. Alan agreed that it was not ideal and that another senior school was required on the coast. More primary schools were also needed. Alan told members that he would like to see councils building low cost housing for local residents but District Councils seemed to be reluctant to do this.

27/19 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.

The clerk reported that City Cllr Robert Jones has decided that, due to personal reasons, he will not be standing for City Council at the forthcoming elections. The clerk said she was very sad to see Robert go as he had been very active and supportive of the parish council.

The clerk reported that she had cancelled Kirsty Ash's membership with SLCC and had informed KALC that she no longer needed access to the web site etc.

The shutter in the kitchen has been repaired and the drawer that was not opening properly has also been fixed. The clerk has also asked about a splash back behind the hob in the kitchen.

The worktops in toilets were to have been changed today but the replacement worktops were stuck on the M6, so hopefully the work will be done tomorrow, which is good as the building has been nominated for an award and they are coming to view it on 20th February.

The clerk has started to contact people regarding the Garden Safari and a meeting will be arranged for those who have said they will open.

The clerk has met with Sarah Bingham to move forward on the Fun Day and Cllr Knight has said she would be prepared to attend the meetings.

Cllrs Blatherwick, Davis and the clerk attended Tracy Lovatt's leaving do at Strode Park, she is going to be missed, her replacement has not yet been announced.

There has been a problem with the large sign at the entrance to the BMX track someone has taken it out and turned it round it will therefore need replanting! Conor has taken it out and laid it on the ground and has agreed to put it back if we pay for the postcrete approx. £50. Members approved this expenditure.

Cllr Davis and the clerk have updated the 100 club forms and these have been distributed to members, if everyone could sign up 2 people, it would help to increase the numbers taking part and the prize money.

As stated in Cllr Jones report Richard Tolson who had been with CCC for about 42 years has retired, Richard used to deal with most of the outdoor spaces and he was always most helpful, he will be missed.

28/19 Finance.

To ratify payments made since last meeting. HR Services £828, & £414, BEC £28,680.11, Mrs Hiorns £20 refund, Kirsty Ash £108.78 holiday pay.

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. Payments were approved and the clerk reported on the bank reconciliation.

To report on income received. VAT refund £9,957.48, Poo bag donations £4.17, newsletter advertising £360, Float £489.25, Quiz Night £698.50, Christmas Fun day £2.50, Bank interest £396.22, Refund £327.55, Map £2, Community Centre Income £2,021.45, Donation centre £40: Total £13,971.57.

The clerk reported she had transferred £20,000 from the 14 day account into the current account to cover the cost of a loan repayment, which is due to be taken on 28th February.

To confirm receipt of auditors' report. Details supplied to members.

Kim Melton has supplied a quote for replacing the fencing at Community Park, the whole length between the gates, as the posts are rotten. The materials we can order and will cost £499.62 the labour is £455. Members approved this expenditure which will be taken from the earmarked reserve for the Community Park.

29/19 Planning & Highways. Receive the minutes of the meetings held on 16th January and 7th February, and answer any queries arising.

Cllr Blatherwick went through the minutes and reported that the application in Ridgeway Road had been objected to, as it could be used as a separate dwelling. The application for 51 Margate Road has been revised and members agreed that it was now acceptable.

30/19 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.

Cllr Davis reported that the Friends of the Pond held their AGM and Viv Norman was now chair and Debbie Checksfield was Vice Chair. It is their 25th Anniversary this year.

- 31/19 **Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations.**
None
- 32/19 **To discuss and approve updated Finance Regulations. (Circulated)** The clerk explained that the Regulations needed to be updated and reviewed regularly. Members approved the reviewed Finance Regulations.
- 33/19 **To receive minutes of the Community Centre meeting held on 5th February, and deal with any queries.** (Circulated) Cllr Davis reported that 2 more large tables and three smaller ones have been ordered. The new cushions have been purchased. Joanne McCann has since agreed to be co-opted.
- 34/19 **To discuss rules for Social Media accounts.** Cllr Davis reported that there have been times when people have advertised on the parish council Facebook page and she asked member's views on this. The clerk said we need to be careful as it could look like we are endorsing them. It was agreed that business type adverts should not go on Facebook but if there is a lost dog, cat or something similar in the parish that was OK. Cllr Davison arrived at this point.
- 35/19 **To discuss the feedback from HR Services. (This item was preceded by a resolution Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude the public and press due to the confidential nature of the business being discussed)**
The clerk reported that HR had done a telephone interview with herself, our community warden Mandy, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Knight and presumably Kirsty Ash. Cllr Harvey had received the report that afternoon and he reported that HR had not upheld most of the items listed in the grievance. There were some recommendations made by HR Services. Cllr Harvey would ask HR to contact Mrs Ash to inform her of the outcome of the investigation. Cllr Blatherwick asked Cllr Harvey to circulate the report to all members.
- 36/19 **Members Reports.** Cllr Moore reported that the light above the priority traffic sign in Broomfield Road was flashing and that hedges were overgrown and encroaching on the pavement between 33 & 53 Broomfield Road.

Meeting closed 9.10pm