

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Herne & Broomfield Parish Council meeting held at Herne Centre on Thursday 9th January 2020 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Davis, Cllr Day, Cllr Saunders, Cllr Collins, Cllr Davison, Cllr Harvey, Cllr O'Donnell, Cllr Sargent, Cllr White and Cllr Harvey.

Not Present: Cllr Knight.

- 01/20 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.** Cllr Knight has a school meeting. Reason approved City Cllr Dekker at a CCC meeting.
- 02/20 To receive declarations of interest on items on Agenda and requests for dispensations.** None
- 03/20 The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2019 were agreed as a correct record.**
- 04/20 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.** The Velux in the roundel is now working. Precept request has been submitted.

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

4 & 37

- 05/20 Chairman's Announcements.** Cllr Blatherwick thanked all those involved in helping with events and float over the Christmas period and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

- 06/20 Police Matters/Crime report.** None

- 07/20 Warden's Report.**

Here is a selection of activities carried out during December.

Assisted with the Parish Christmas lunch at the Institute Hall run by the church, around 60 residents were treated to a delicious 2 course lunch, refreshments and mince pies for a small donation. One of the Parishioners did all the cooking and two wardens helped with serving the food. This was a great opportunity for some Community Engagement. Sainsbury's donated Christmas crackers.

Attended and assisted at the Herne Fun day on 14th December and assisted on the Christmas float around the Herne area on the 21st December. My colleague Kevin was a very enthusiastic Father Christmas. She also assisted at the Children's Christmas party on 7th December.

She has been joined a couple of times for lunch, by the local Youth Engagement PCSO at Herne Juniors, which has been popular with the school. This is something they did again on the day they broke up and plan to do from time to time in the new year. An invitation was requested by the school to extend to local Police Officers when they can make it.

She has done a couple of patrols at school pick up time, with the PCSO, around trouble spots like Streetfield and plans to try and arrange a monthly joint patrol with a PCSO, Parking Enforcement Officer and Fire Officer subject to availability.

Looking at a date for a Dementia Friends session for the Parish Council. Monica has circulated a suggested date 28th January, and this will be confirmed when people have responded.

The first of the *Come and join us table* events at Sainsburys of the year has been held. This was off the back of a successful session done there during Adult Safeguarding Week. Sainsburys have agreed for this event to take place on the first Tuesday of every month. This is important for people on their own. We will be joined by various guests such as Age UK, PCSOs etc from time to time. This will be a good opportunity to publicise the Broomfield Coffee morning, which is still low on numbers.

Mandy has been selected to be part of a 3-year Community Connector project called Intereg. *"I will continue to be Herne and Broomfield's Community Warden for half*

my week and based in Ramsgate for the other half. This will probably look like 2 days in one location and 3 in the other swapping every week. The project has partners in other parts of the country and in France and looks at combatting social isolation and Social Prescribing for older people. This will hopefully also enhance my role in our community and apparently will help shape how the Community Warden Service operates in the future.

My colleague Roger, who some of you have already met, will be contactable and will be available to support the area in her absence, so Herne and Broomfield will still have a continuity of cover. Roger is currently based at Herne Centre and works in the Greenhill area.”

08/20 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.

County Cllr Marsh wished everyone a Happy New Year. He reported that KCC will increase their share of the Council Tax by 4%. This is to cover adult social care and for the disabled. The government budget meeting will be on 11th March and hopefully councils will be allocated more funds. Alan will come straight from County’s budget meeting on 13th February. On the planning front there is a lot going on, but nothing guaranteed especially regarding the road situation the Sturry relief road is £12M short on the funding. Stagecoach have taken on board the need for lighting at some of its bus stops in the more rural locations and will be installing a solar light at the stop near Canterbury Garden Centre.

City Cllr Howes reported that CCC are looking at charging to empty green bins, they are the only council, at the moment, who do not make a separate charge for this. There is also going to be increased parking fees. There will be more electric charging points. An external company compiled a report, and this will be discussed at HB Forum meeting. Both are currently out for consultation. CCC have now taken on a graffiti officer who will try to get graffiti cleaned off within 48 hours. KCC’s Roger Gough has stated he wants to work more with the Districts and also with discussions on Affordable Housing. Dover is hosting Community Housing events and Joe thought it might be useful to hold a meeting here. A housing Needs Survey could also be carried out. With the ongoing Local Plan consultation there will be a call for sites to come forward. City Cllr Dekker has been working with Richard Jenkins at CCC regarding yellow lines to be discussed at the Joint Transport Board. He will be writing to KCC regarding the increase in the student bus pass. He still has £1,000 grant monies for any local groups or organisations.

Cllr Davis had to leave at this point.

09/20 Clerk’s Report/Correspondence.

The clerk thanked members for her Christmas present and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Christmas tends to be a fairly quiet period as most organisations etc are closed between Christmas and New Year.

The clerk congratulated Michele who has successfully completed her ILCA, she will attend the KALC CiLCA introduction course by March and then hopefully will continue with her training with both the course and in the office.

The clerk thanked Cllr Saunders for clearing out the drain again, going into the car park.

The clerk met with Sarah Bingham and the date for the Community Fun Day is confirmed 26th July and the clerk has sent the initial application to CCC.

Sarah also confirmed the dates for St Martins Christmas Fair as 21st November and Strode 28th November.

The wooden floors in the centre have been sanded and coated this was done just before Christmas and meant it had plenty of time to dry properly before being used again.

The carpets were also cleaned by WFCAs staff.

The centre staff had a day where they blitzed the kitchen, activity room and storage cupboards, all ready for the start of the new year.

CCC organised some tree pruning to the trees in the corner off the car park, near the public access path to St Martin’s View.

The final figure for the Community Fun day in July is £1,541.73. The clerk suggested the money raised went into the Community & Amenity Fund. Members agreed with this.

CCC have been in touch and a meeting will be set up to discuss the Local Plan, this will be for parish council members only, date to be confirmed.

The clerk has audited the Allotment accounts.

There is a quiz night on 21st March, please work on getting teams together.

Michele and clerk took the Christmas decorations down and Dale helped get them back into the loft.

Correspondence

Thank you letter from Kent Air Ambulance for the donation, and from Royal British Legion for the contribution for Poppy Wreath.

A query regarding a 13-year-old who wants to do work experience as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. The clerk has passed on to Rev Carol and Strode Park to see if they can help. Mandy suggested help with the coffee mornings, but it would need to be at the weekends.

A resident had been in touch regarding the demolition of an outbuilding at St Martin's Church. The clerk contacted Rev Carol and she said it was an old boiler house where the gas meter was and they hadn't been able to get in to read the meter, she assured the clerk that all the necessary permissions to demolish were in place.

10/20 Finance.

To ratify payments made since last meeting. Will Lee, football training £350.

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. Payments were approved and the clerk went through the reserves.

To report on income received. Poo bag donations £10, float donations £492.51, newsletter advertising £144, donations children's party £27.05, Christmas fun day £843.61, Interest £7.54, Sales £10, Total £1,534.71

11/20 Planning & Highways to receive minutes of the planning meeting held on 2nd January. (Circulated)

Cllr Blatherwick went through the minutes and spoke about the application for Herne Street, which the committee has recommended refusal. Cllr O'Donnell spoke on the application for 9 Blenheim Close at the CCC meeting, the application was approved.

12/20 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.

Cllr Davison reported she had a volunteer to help with Goldspots Pond. Cllrs Davison and White were looking at a tree application to fell 2 oaks which had TPO's on them at Brook Cottage, Forgefields.

13/20 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations.

Cllr O'Donnell reported that she had attended an Allotment committee meeting where a great deal of time was taken up with the issue of an allotment holder who had caused a few problems.

14/20 Update on web sites. Details circulated.

The clerk suggested a small working group look more closely at the options. Cllrs Hill, Saunders and Davis along with Michele and the clerk. This was agreed. A meeting will be arranged.

15/20 Report on the Children's Party, Christmas fun day and Float and Christmas events going forward for this year.

Children's Party held on 7th December 2019

Over 70 children attended the party and all the parents stayed. All our volunteers turned up and helped prepare the food onto the plates and get it all into the roundel. Top Hat Kids did a great job with keeping the children entertained for the first hour from 2.45pm and then the children sat down. All the helpers went out with food and drinks and served the children at the tables.

The amount of food was about right with little left over, the parents helped!

Reg E Mental then took over entertaining the children until Father Christmas arrived just after 5pm.

The children were very good while they queued up to see Father Christmas, it was a long wait, he distributed the last present around 6pm.

It has been suggested that Father Christmas needs to arrive a bit earlier as some of the younger children find it quite a long time from 3pm start. This will be discussed at the E & L meeting next week.

The Christmas fun day 14th December 2019

All the willing volunteers arrived and helped set up and everything was ready to go at 11am.

Visitors were steady all through the event and the kitchen did well with soup, bacon rolls and jacket potatoes.

Activities for the children were organised by WFCFA. Father Christmas chatted to the children and listened to their requests for his coming visit.

Although the takings are down on last year and it was not quite as busy all those who attended seemed to have enjoyed themselves. Unfortunately, there was a lot of illness around and that impacted on the event. It was of course a week later than the previous year which might have made a difference. We can't have ours on the same day as Strode Park and St Martin's as that doesn't benefit anyone. It might be worth trying it earlier in November that way our volunteers won't be tied up for two weekends in a row.

All the work done by the volunteers, both before, during and after the event was greatly appreciated, they all worked very hard. After the event finished everything had to be packed away as the Centre's Christmas Party event was being held that evening.

It was hectic but worthwhile, 17 stalls plus the raffle resulted in a profit of £635.46.

There were a few issues on a couple of stalls where stall holders didn't quite do it right!

We had a range of stalls with prices starting at 20p and naturally the prizes reflect this.

Perhaps we should think about having sweets or something for losers, so volunteers feel better when their customers don't win. We want to keep our volunteers happy because they are kind and so very helpful.

Cllr Saunders said to make it 2 spins for 50p on the fruit machine in future - also the table may have been too big for the 'machine' as it was a bit lost on the patterned cloth. The bargain box on any stall should be a minimum of 10p. The marble game was good fun.

Cllr Davis says 'Several volunteers were disappointed that we had less people visit this time. She suggests this was mainly due to holding the event too late and there was possibly a post-election effect. It was held 14 days later than last year, and many people would be out doing their Christmas shopping. We know it would have been earlier, but we had to change it because of the Christmas party organised by WFCFA at Faversham and they could not provide staff to help.

The ideal date is last weekend in November but Strode usually have that Saturday, the church usually has the week before.

If we are to have the event again, I would suggest we hold it on 14th November 2020 or at the latest 5th December, if it doesn't clash with Strode or the church; perhaps we need to talk to management early. Dale was talking about holding their Christmas Parties on a Friday.

Father Christmas Joe did an excellent job and it was lovely to see the wonder on the children's faces.

Cllr Davis said she really appreciated that several stall holders and councillors came to collect stuff from her home and bring some of it back afterwards. Without them we would not have got everything there and back.

Overall, despite the fewer people and less income it was a good event and people were saying there was a lovely community atmosphere. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way.' This event will be discussed at the E& L meeting.

Report on Float

The float went down well again in the parish. Saturday was unfortunately rather wet, but Sunday was OK. I think timings worked out quite well. There will be more work to be done on the float for next Christmas and the clerk is talking with Kevin from Hoath who did the music system to get the music louder. Donations from Herne were £252.36 and Broomfield £240.15, which will go towards sorting out sounds and hopefully getting the snow machine working. There was a request to call at

Broomfield House at the start of the Broomfield tour and Cllr Sargent has suggested a different route at the start of the Broomfield one as we no longer do presents at Willow Farm. This will be discussed at E & L. Cllr Blatherwick thanked Cllr Sargent for wrapping up the float for the winter.

- 16/20 Members Reports.** Cllr Day reported that he, Michele and two members of the allotment committee attended a training session on Allotment Law and Management, he will circulate a report when he has completed it. He pointed out that the committee needed to be a legal entity it would be of benefit if they became a Community Interest Company. He did suggest that it would be helpful if the parish council could purchase the land the allotments are on to ensure that the parish council can supply them in perpetuity.

Cllr Saunders reported that he and Michel had attended a seminar at Whitstable Castle hosted by Peninsular who are the parent company of Bright HR and deal with employment law. Michele will circulate a report on this.

- 17/20 The next meeting of the Parish Council on 13th February 2020 at 7-30pm at the Herne Centre.**