

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held on Thursday 14th January 2021 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

The meeting was held via Zoom.

Present: Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Davis, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Hill, Cllr Strong, Cllr Checksfield, Cllr Cheeseman, Cllr Collins, Cllr Sargent, Cllr Wilson, Cllr Davison and Cllr Saunders.

Not present: Cllr White

- 01/21 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.** Cllr White who is at a KALC meeting.
- 02/21 To receive declarations of interest on items on the Agenda and requests for dispensations.** None requested.
- 03/21 The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2020** were agreed as a correct record.
- 04/21 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.** None.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No residents spoke

Draw for 100 Club 1st 36, 2nd 11

- 05/21 Chairman's Announcements.** The Chairman wished everyone a Happy New Year. She also thanked the residents for their generosity the donations of food and cash for the food hampers. It was a marvellous response.

- 06/21 Police Matters/Crime report. Supplied by PCSO Thomas Ralph Crimes of Note**

Criminal Damage- Damage to a door- Herne Street- Morning- 17/12/2020

Vehicle Crime- Wingmirror smashed- A2990- Afternoon- 17/12/2020

Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:

- Covid Breach*- School Lane- Evening- 02/12/2020
- Bad Driving- A2990- Evening- 03/12/2020
- Covid Breach*- Curtis Wood Road- Evening- 04/12/2020
- Nuisance Vehicle- Margate Road- Afternoon- 10/12/2020
- Nuisance Vehicle- Holbourn Close- Morning- 14/12/2020
- Covid Breach*- Swale Close- Afternoon- 20/12/2020
- Covid Breach*- Braid Drive- Evening- 26/12/2020
- *Covid Breach is a report of a person or group not following Government guideline Continuous high visibility patrolling using car, bike and on foot

Words of advice being given to drivers around Anti-social use of vehicles

Anti-social behaviour preventing patrols on evenings and weekends

Delivering food parcels to members of the community

07/21 Warden's Report.

Things are quiet due to the current lockdown and restrictions. I have been receiving calls from residents with queries and concerns about Covid regulations, breeches etc. The Community Wardens have been tasked with visits for Canterbury City Council to residents they have concerns about and have not been able to contact.

The Canterbury Coastal Community Wardens have another article in the Net Magazine, and I have just submitted another one for this month. We are continuing to advise people who need support to contact Kent Together and have been publicising Trading Standards Checked to ensure people know where to go to get hold of reputable trades people as scams and rough traders continue to be an issue.

Roger and I appeared in the Community Nativity film over Christmas along with other well known faces, we really enjoyed being part of that and were impressed with the finished film done in spite of the challenges with social distancing.

Charlotte and I assisted with the Christmas float on the nights that it was able to go out. Families were genuinely thrilled to see Father Christmas and were respectful of social distances etc. There was an issue in one area where apparently a lady in a car had been going round and telling the people waiting that the float had been cancelled and never found out who that was.

I continued with deliveries of the Parish Goody Bags which were greatly received and appreciated.

Roger and I delivered some of the Christmas Hampers on the day before Christmas Eve and drafted in the local PCSOs to assist. Cllr Blatherwick and her husband also assisted, and these were also greatly appreciated. There were a couple which were given back because they did not feel that they needed them and therefore they were re distributed to someone else who needed them. The family ones were collected from the Herne Centre.

Roger and I were invited to make artwork for a calendar for raising money for the NHS, Roger is January and I am May. These are available to purchase for £7.00 with 100% of the money going to the NHS. The link is <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/JuliaSlade2> to order online and find out more about the back story, with a small delivery cost or Roger and I have some which can be left at the Parish office if anyone wishes to purchase and collect from there when restrictions allow.

08/21 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.

County Cllr Marsh wished everyone a Happy New Year. He reported that there will be 2 JTB meetings to deal with Parking Regulation Review these are to be held on 16th & 18th March. There are proposals for two 20MPH zones in Canterbury. Brexit has gone well at the moment there are about 40 lorries at Manston, these are the drivers who have failed Covid tests or haven't got the correct paperwork. 46 lorry drivers have been fined £300 for illegal parking and some have been clamped. He said he was very disappointed to see the high numbers of people testing positive for Covid, in Herne & Broomfield. He said that there was hope now that the vaccine is being rolled out and encouraged everyone to wear masks, keep the required distance apart and stay safe. He reported that Highways staff were working flat out due to flooding issues as a result of all the rain that had fallen. There were not enough staff to deal with this but it is currently the priority over everything else. Alan also reminded members that it was important to respond to planning applications.

City Cllr Dekker reported that as Sheriff she had delivered hampers before Christmas there were two left over and families were contacted to see if they would like them, she said sometimes people liked to be told in advance that they were going to receive a hamper. She also did some local radio shows and put out the Christmas message. She spent an afternoon with small shop keepers in Herne Bay and judged the best shop window display. She attended the Christmas service at the Cathedral. There had been a meeting with Sarah Bingham from Strode Park to discuss events that might be held later this year. She was pleased to be able to attend parish planning meetings as this helped when there was an application that members thought should be refused. It also helped with the new process for calling in applications. She is also attending some of the CCC Planning meetings to get a better idea of how it all works. She has attended the Community Engagement meetings which have replaced the old Forums. Members are looking at Herne Bay as a whole to ensure that they get it right when it comes to the Local Plan. Serco will hand over to the new company set up by CCC during February, there will be some new vehicles, which initially will be leased, Serco are currently having staffing issues due to illness and there is some disruption with regard to collections. City Cllr Howes reported that he was making inquiries into the proposed mast in Herne and he will meet with the planning officer to discuss the application. The applicant wasn't good at engaging. Canterbury have a meeting next week to discuss the applications for grant funding. The Regeneration Committee would meet to discuss car parks and the budget setting would be done in February. The Annual Parking Regulation Review was now out for consultation.

09/21 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.

The clerk wished everyone a Happy New Year, even though it has not had a good start. She also like thanked members for her Christmas present.

She said the numbers of people testing positive for Covid have risen dramatically resulting in us being in Tier 4 and once again in lockdown. Due to the high numbers of people being affected locally, it was decided to close the office and for Michele and her to work from home. They will need to go into the office from time to time as there are some things that can't be done remotely, this will be on a when the need arises basis. They are picking up answerphone messages and dealing with the emails etc. She and Michele have agreed to meet up in the office on a Wednesday morning in order to deal with anything that needs to be discussed etc and also to check there aren't any issues with the working from home etc.

It is a very difficult and worrying time for everyone and hopefully the vaccine will be rolled out quickly and we can look forward to getting back to some sort of normality later this year.

The Centre is going to be used for asymptomatic testing and while this is happening the before and after school clubs are moving to Herne school.

There is a problem with the drop down ladder for the loft, it isn't dropping down! The company who supplied it has been contacted and they have sent through instructions, in order to release the catch and are supplying a new catch. Dale will bring someone from Faversham on Friday to look at it.

We HAD an amazing response to the appeal for the Christmas Hampers, residents did not disappoint the amount of food, puzzles, games etc that were dropped at the Centre was amazing on top of that residents donated an astounding £1,215. More on the Hampers later.

The electricity contract has now gone over to West Faversham and they have been sent the details of the final invoice and will repay the parish council for the electric costs from 1st November. Once they have had an invoice from the new electricity company they will contact CCC to take over the business rates. Michele has applied for the Additional Restriction Grant from Canterbury City Council, so thank you to her for completing the form and we keep fingers crossed that we get approval.

The replacement posts for the fence surrounding the BMX track have been delivered, FOC and Kim will fit them when the weather and other conditions are suitable.

Report from Assistant clerk.

1. Website.

- I am continuing to keep the website updated. There has been quite a bit to do with the changing Covid-19 information.
- I have set up the new pages for the 2021 council and committee minutes.

2. CiLCA.

- I attended the fourth virtual session on 15th December 2020. This covered Unit 5 Community Engagement, which is the final unit.
- I have begun to upload the work I have done so far onto EMMA, the online portal. The first task has been submitted and I am awaiting feedback. Once that has been received, I will submit my work for Unit 1.
- The next session is on 15th January 2021. This, and the final session in February, will be a catch-up session, where any questions and issues can be raised.
- While I am working from home, I will concentrate on completing as much of the CiLCA as possible.

3. Other.

- Dealing with the donations for the Christmas Hampers. The volume received was amazing and was a real reflection of the community spirit that exists at the present time.

10/21 Finance.

To ratify payments made since last meeting. None

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. Circulated prior to meeting. Members approved all the payments on the schedule and the clerk went through the reserves.

To report on income received. Donations £1,215, Newsletter adverts £86.40 Interest £2.92, Amazon Refund £37.20, 100 club £12 Total £1,353.52 inc VAT.

11/21 Planning & Highways.

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2021. Cllr Blatherwick reported that there had been concerns raised about an application in Woodrow Chase which City Cllr Dekker would take up with the planning officer, the clerk reported that the initial response was that there weren't any valid planning reasons for refusal.

12/21 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.

Careful plans were made for the safe planting of the Living Henge Project and community hedge but after lockdown was announced, these have had to be

revised. Discussions were had with the Tree Council, David Carey and Cllr Carol Davis to come up with a new strategy and all those interested in being involved have been notified. As you are aware, the Henge is being postponed and the silver birch are residing at the tree nursery for the time being. Cllr Liz White has been to the allotments on several occasions to check on the trees and carry out minor work.

Attached is a photo to show progress so far.

The Elm tree awarded from the Tree Council to celebrate The Tree Warden Scheme's 30th Anniversary has just arrived! Unfortunately, it couldn't be delayed despite the restrictions so Cllr Liz White changed the delivery to her residence as it was felt that being at the community park all day waiting for its arrival would go against the rules.

Assistance will be needed moving it to site on planting day, please see accompanying photo.

"The tree is a *Ulmus* 'New Horizon' which will grow to a height of 12m and a width of 4.5m over the next 25 years. It is 100% Dutch Elm Disease resistant and suitable for all soil types. It is also resilient to urban and coastal conditions, very high and low temperatures, and windy locations", so is perfectly suited to being planted at Broomfield Community Park at the north point from the Living Henge.

Cllr Liz White has been to look over the site and mark its proposed position ready for the planting.

Cllr Liz White attended a Climate Change Action plan pre-consultation on 14th and 17th December which was informative, thought provoking and hopefully beneficial for the district. Information from it is due to be circulated soon from the organisers at Canterbury City Council.

Lastly, Cllr Liz White came across another tree application for works at the Chestnut Plantation while looking up the crematorium plans. After contacting the relevant parties, they have been reassured that the woodland management plan previously discussed is being adhered to which is excellent news.

Cllr Cheeseman reported that no task days can be held during lockdown also the AGM can't be held as not all members can access Zoom. Cllr Davison reported that the meeting that was to be held with CCC and Kent Wildlife Trust to discuss Goldspots will go ahead when lockdown restrictions are lifted.

13/21 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations. None.

14/21 Report on Float. The clerk reported that the float had been well received especially on the new Red Row estate which saw its first visit, they then visited Strode Park residents. The float also toured Herne the following night but the Sunday tour of Broomfield had to be cancelled due to the new lockdown rules, it was very disappointing to have to cancel the last night but there was no option. The clerk thanked all those involved with getting the float out. Cllr Sargent reported that the upright posts on the float have rotted and the whole float needs rebuilding. He suggested that a frame could be made up with metal posts and a roof, which could be attached to his trailer for the weekend that the float will go out. He explained that the base of the float, which was a caravan chassis was probably 40 years old and probably not safe now. It was not possible to take this forward currently due to lockdown and it was agreed that this would be discussed again as soon as some action could go ahead. Cllrs Cheeseman and Saunders offered to help if they were fit to do so.

- 15/21 Update on Christmas Hampers and Goody bags.** West Faversham purchased items to go into the hampers mainly fresh fruit and veg but also games and items for children, the cost for these was £750 which will come out of the donations received. Taylor Meats provided turkey crowns and pigs in blankets for the Family Hampers and Morrison's also donated various items and Goody Ales who supplied some bottles of beer for the older residents' hampers. The rest was donated by local residents whose response to the appeal was superb, they not only gave enough for the family hampers but also the ones donated to older residents in the parish, who had been nominated. In addition, the monetary donations came to £1,215, absolutely amazing. As you will have seen we have received the invoice for the food purchased for the Hampers, it is £750, The clerk suggested the surplus £465 be donated to the local food bank, but members thought it better to roll it over and do the same next Christmas.
- The Family Hampers were distributed from the Centre, by Centre staff, the ones for the older residents were delivered by the wardens, two PCSO's and Cllr Blatherwick and her husband. A big thank you to all those involved for making this achievable. It was such a worthwhile project and hopefully brought a lot of pleasure to local residents. It was suggested that perhaps it might be better to notify people in advance that they were going to receive a hamper. The Goody bags have been put together by Mandy, she and Roger have also delivered them, we are still taking nominations, the funding for these came from KCC Councillor Marsh.
- 16/21 To discuss events for 2021.** It is difficult to know when things will be more normal and when events can be held, we would normally be asking people to come forward with regard to the Garden Safari, but it is unlikely at the moment that people will want to consider it. Members agreed that this years event won't go ahead but people will be asked to submit photo's of their gardens and they will go onto the website for people to view.
- Cllr Davison said that 2022 would be the Queens Platinum Jubilee and that it would be a good weekend to hold Garden Safari. Cllr Cheeseman reminded members that she had the sunflowers in her shed.
- Sarah Bingham is keen to continue with plans for the Summer Funday in July and we are looking at planning as normal for now, members thought it unlikely that there would be a fun day this year but didn't think it would hurt to take plans forward for now. Evening events at the Centre obviously can't be planned at the moment, and the clerk suggested that as soon as it looks like the country is open for business again, we have a meeting and get things planned in as soon as possible. It was agreed that the Christmas Fair and Children's Christmas Party go ahead on 4th & 11th December respectively.
- 17/21 Members Reports.** Cllr Davison asked if HiVis and litter pickers were available from parish office for people who wished to litter pick. Bags and HiVis were available but there were only 3 litter pickers left, one of the regular litter pickers needs a new one.
- Cllr Harvey will help move the tree from Cllr White's to Community Park for planting.
- Cllr Davis thanked members for their calls.
- Cllr Sargent asked that no messages be sent to him after 9pm.
- 18/21 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 11th February 2021**

Meeting closed 9.15pm

