

HIGH HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2011
AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, THE STREET, HIGH HALSTOW AT 8.00 pm**

PRESENT: Cllr George Crozer
Cllr Martin Andrews
Cllr Ray Collins
Cllr Josh Gordon
Cllr Gary Jerreat
Cllr Mrs Lesley Munday
Cllr Gary Thomas
Cllr Mrs Christine Watson

Mrs Roxana Brammer Clerk

In attendance Mr Charles Crouch Footpaths Officer
2 members of the public

Item no
Minute no 2011/12/

Action point

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

226 All present

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND MEMBERS' REGISTER OF INTERESTS

227 Cllrs Thomas, Gordon and Mrs Munday declared personal interests in item 11a, Recreation Hall, as members of the Management Committee. Cllr Mrs Munday declared a personal interest in item 19, Relief in Need.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 2011

228 It was proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2011 be signed as a true record, subject to the following amendment:

C/09/2011/9g (206): add "and Medway Council" following "police".

4 MATTERS ARISING

229 **a C/09/2011/9g (206) Manhole Covers**

It was reported the manhole covers had been replaced.

5 CASUAL VACANCY

230 Angela Bostock had resigned. The Electoral Registration Officer would be informed and the statutory notice put up. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Bostock for her hard work, especially with the allotments.

6 PLANNING

231 b Applications

None received.

232 Out of Time

None.

233 c Decisions

The decisions as listed on appendix A were noted.

d Appeals and Other Matters

234 i Medway Local Development Framework: Publication draft core strategy and updated statement of community involvement

Cllr Collins reported that the document stated that the land around the village would be protected. Improvements would be made to the A228. Some of the marshes could be lost to flooding in the next 100 years. There was a proposal to link the green areas with paths. The document supported local villages in developing plans for local needs.

235 ii Lodge Hill Development Brief

Cllr Crozer gave a brief outline of the document, which was Medway Council's and not the developer's and read a proposed response to the consultation. He then suspended the meeting for open discussion. Councillors and members of the public were in general agreement with the proposed response. Mr Crouch made the point that it was important to mention that the entire infrastructure should be completed first, before any housing was built.

The Chairman then reconvened the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and agreed the response be sent, with the addition of the comment about infrastructure suggested by Mr Crouch.

236 e Licensing Applications

None.

7 FINANCE

237 a Bank Balances

The bank balances as listed in Appendix B were noted.

238 b Cheques Signed since the Last Meeting

None.

239 c Accounts for Payment

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Munday, seconded by Cllr Andrews and agreed that the accounts for payment as listed in Appendix B be paid (cheques 100388-100392), with the addition of £352.50, Cousins Print & Design (100393) and £120, Recruitment

Warehouse (100394: replacement 100333).

240 **d Asset Register**

Cllr Thomas apologised that he had not yet spoken to the property section of Medway Council concerning the valuation of the Parish Council's land and would do so. The contents of the garages would be investigated during Project 90. *GT*

241 **e Finance Committee Meeting held on 10 October**

Cllr Thomas gave a verbal report of the meeting. He was beginning to put a draft budget together. Cllrs Collins and Mrs Watson thought the precept should remain the same. Cllr Thomas said it was likely there would be a "shopping list" and that not all items would be able to be met. He asked councillors to think about items and costs.

242 **f Photographic Competition Awards**

It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Crozer and agreed refreshments be provided up to a cost of £100 from the Chairman's allowance at the awards for the photographic competition. The judges would be the editor of the High Halstow Times, Cllr Mrs Munday, representing Relief in Need and Cllr Jerreat, representing the Parish Council.

8 GRANT APPLICATIONS

243 **a Kent BTCV Tree and Pond Warden Schemes**

It was proposed by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and agreed to make a grant of £50 (cheque 100395). The grant made under S111 of the LGA 1972.

244 **b Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**

It was proposed by Cllr Crozer that a grant of £50 be made. This was seconded by cllr Mrs Munday. Cllr Thomas proposed an amendment of £60. This was seconded by Cllr Gordon and on a vote being taken was carried unanimously. The grant made under S 137 of the LGA 1972. (cheque 100396)

9 MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LAND AND PROPERTY

245 **a Registration of Council Land with the Land Registry**

The Clerk explained that there had been difficulty proving security of tenure of the Recreation Ground when completing the application form for grant funding for the outdoor gym. The deeds had gone astray and apart from the footprint of the Recreation Hall, the land was not registered. The Council's solicitors had advised the cost would be in the region of £1,500. It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and agreed unanimously the land be registered.

a Recreation Ground

246 Nothing to report.

c Play Park

247 i. Renewal of surface under kick wall. Cllr Mrs Watson had received two quotations. She would obtain a third.

CW

248 ii. RoSPA inspection. Cllr Mrs Watson was in contact Monster Play about the wetpour under the rock and cross. Cllr Collins said he could make a new rope basket for the basket swing.

249 **c Outdoor Gym**

The Clerk reported she had submitted the application to Sport England.

250 **e Allotments**

The fence had been erected. Cllr Collins reported he had asked the suppliers to provide 100 extra posts for future repairs and these were on order. The Clerk would retrieve the files from Mrs Bostock.

251 **f Forge Common**

Cllr Collins asked that Turfsoil cut back the hedge and spray the brambles.

252 **g Trailer**

Cllr Crozer had no update to give.

253 **f Village Grounds Maintenance**

Cllr Mrs Watson asked if the weeds in the gutters had been sprayed and Cllr Jerreat confirmed that this had been done. She also asked if Turfsoil maintained the roundabout at the junction of the A228 and Christmas Lane, as this looked good and was informed that they did.

10 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

254 **a Public Rights of Way**

Nothing to report.

255 **b Street Cleaning**

Cllr Mrs Watson complained that the street cleaner was never seen in Drayton Close and that there had been broken glass outside no 9 for some time. Cllr Andrews said that he and the Clerk would be setting up a staff meeting.

256 **c Tree Warden**

Cllr Collins had nothing to report.

257 **d Bus Shelters**

Cllr Thomas said the issue had been discussed by the Finance Committee. They had questioned whether the Eden Road shelter was used and Cllr Gordon had confirmed that it was. This meant that there were potentially 2 shelters to provide. Cllr Crozer commented that Eden Road was a prominent place in the village and merited a nice shelter. Cllr Thomas would investigate prices and funding. It was agreed to ask Medway Council to reconsider the provision of a path to the bus stop near Half Moon Way.

*GT
RB*

258 e **“Groundforce” Signs**

These had now been removed.

259 f **Pavement Parking**

Cllr Andrews mentioned the parking on pavements, making it difficult for pedestrians. He asked that the Clerk request Medway Council’s camera car to visit. It was understood from Mrs Smith that the car had been in the village the previous week. *RB*

11 HALLS

260 a **Recreation Hall**

Cllr Thomas reported work on the hall had begun.

261 b **Memorial Hall**

Following Mrs Bostock’s resignation, a new nominee for the Management Committee needed to be appointed and Cllr Collins agreed to fill the role. As the Hall Chairman was present, the Chairman suspended the meeting to enable her to give a report.

Mrs Smith said that the floor needed another coat of varnish. The ceiling and walls had been repainted. The problem of condensation in the former showers had to be addressed. The Committee was thinking about pushing back the wall at the back of the hall into the kitchen.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Smith and reconvened the meeting.

12 YOUTH

262 a **General Matters**

Cllr Mrs Munday reported that the Youth Club was using the school while the Recreation Hall was out of action..

263 b **Skateboard Park**

Cllr Thomas reported he had received positive comments from children but none from adults and the question of location remained. It would be a problem wherever it was sited. Cllr Crozer asked that realistically, where could it go? Cllr Mrs Munday suggested Cllr Thomas get in touch with the children who put notes on the website and ask them to speak to the Parish Council. Cllr Crozer said it would be a good idea to communicate with them.

13 RURAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

264 a **Representative’s Report**

Cllr Collins had not attended the last meeting.

14 KALC/MEDWAY AREA COMMITTEE

265 Cllr Gordon said the next meeting was on 26 October.

15 POLICE LIAISON

266 **a Police Liaison Representative's Report**

Cllr Andrews said the next meeting was next month. The new policing system would start in November.

16 COMMUNICATION

267 **a High Halstow Times**

Cllr Thomas reported on a letter submitted where the writer had asked for name and address not to be printed. However on checking, the address given did not exist. He proposed that in future no letters be published without names and addresses. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and agreed.

268 **b Web Site**

Cllr Thomas said the site had had 6,600 hits.

17 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

269 **a Project 90**

The next Project 90 would be held on 16th October. The Clerk said that Medway Council had asked that the gutter of a section of Dux Court Road be scraped. The Parish Council was responsible for this as part of the street cleaning contract.

18 HIGH HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

270 Cllr Gordon reported on his meeting with the Headteacher. They had discussed the walking bus and Cllr Gordon had offered help to restart it.

19 RELIEF IN NEED

271 Cllr Mrs Munday reported that several students had been helped with the cost of attending university.

20 CONSULTATION

272 No documents received.

21 CORRESPONDENCE

273 None.

22 REPORTS & CIRCULARS

274 The reports and circulars as listed on the agenda were received.

23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

275 **a Emergency Planning**

Cllr Collins asked if anything more had been heard from Jason Cates of Medway Council on the emergency planning for the Peninsula.

276 **b Diamond Jubilee**

Cllr Mrs Munday asked that the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

277 **c Abbey Estate**

Cllr Andrews reported on a meeting of residents with Caxtons, who were prepared to investigate either contracting with the Parish Council to maintain the communal land or to close the Residents’ Company and ask the Parish Council to take over the land.

278 **b Parked Car Advertising for Unwanted Vehicles**

Cllr Andrews referred to the car parked off the A228 near “Fisherwood”. The Clerk said she had spoken about it to Cllr Filmer the previous evening. Medway Council had been trying to get the car removed but so far they had found no legal grounds on which it could be removed.

The Chairman suspended the meeting for the public session.

Mrs Smith suggested residents be asked through the High Halstow Times for ideas for celebrating the Diamond Jubilee.

Mr Crouch reminded those present of the previous attempt to put in a path to the bus stop on Christmas Lane.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.30 pm.

SignedChairman

On theday of2011