

**HIGH HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 2013 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, THE STREET, HIGH HALSTOW AT 8.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr George Crozer  
 Cllr Stuart Bailey  
 Cllr Ray Collins  
 Cllr Gary Jerreat  
 Cllr Mrs Lesley Munday  
 Cllr Gary Thomas  
 Cllr Mrs Chris Watson

In attendance 9 members of the public

**Item no**  
*Minute no 2013/14/*

*Action point*

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

72 Apologies for absence were received from

Cllr Martin Andrews	At work
Cllr Josh Gordon	At work

It was proposed by Cllr Jerreat, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed these apologies be accepted.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

73 Cllrs Thomas and Mrs Munday declared personal interests in item 10a, Recreation Hall, as members of the Management Committee.

**3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 2013**

74 It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Collins and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 be signed as a true record, with the following amendments:

C/05/13/16a(i) minute 2013/14/41: Substitute “finances” for “fiancés”

C/05/13/23a minute 2013/14/60: substitute “next” for “enxt”.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

75 No matters were raised.

**5 PLANNING**

**a Applications**

76 **i MC/13/1253:** Land rear of 3 Goodwood Close: Details pursuant to condition 7 on planning permission MC/11/1334 for construction of a two storey detached 4-bedroomed dwelling with associated parking

High Halstow Parish Council would like to comment that the drawings are inaccurate as they still show the now removed bus shelter on land outside the applicant’s ownership,

which the developer of the property registered and which title has been upheld by the Land Registry.

- 77 **ii MC/13/0370:** 35 Cardigan Close: Change of use of land to residential and construction of attached double garage to side

No objection

- 78 **iii MC/13/1186:** 4 Gypsy Way: Construction of vehicular access gates and railings to front/side boundary - resubmission of MC/12/2159

It was agreed to re-submit the Council's previous comments of objection.

- 79 **Out of Time**

None.

- 80 **c Decisions**

The decisions as listed on Appendix A were received.

- d Appeals and Other Matters**

- 81 **i Buckhole Farm**

The buildings, mobile home and fence would be reported to Enforcement.

- 82 **ii Caravans on Ratcliffe Highway**

It was reported that the stationing of caravans on land on the Ratcliffe Highway were being investigated.

- 83 **iii Fence and enclosure of land at 1 Goodwood Close**

Cllr Thomas reported Planning was investigating and was likely to take enforcement action.

- 84 **e Licensing Applications**

None.

## **6 FINANCE**

- 85 **a Bank Balances**

The bank balances as listed in Appendix B were noted.

- 86 **b Cheques Signed since the Last Meeting**

None.

- 87 **c Accounts for Payment**

It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and agreed that the accounts for payment as listed in Appendix B be paid (cheques 100559-100564), with

the addition of £1,835, dgb Solicitors (cheque 100565), £1,103.25, Cousins Print & Design (100566) and £352.50, Cousins Print & Design (100567).

88 **d Accounts 2012/13**

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Munday, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watson and agreed the accounts for the year to 31 March 2013 be signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

89 **e Greenspaces Contract – Review of Contract Price**

The contractor had asked for an uplift of 2.9%. It was agreed the uplift should reflect any uplift in the amount received from Medway Council, but would be backdated to 1 April.

7 **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

90 None.

8 **MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LAND AND PROPERTY**

91 **a Recreation Ground**

Cllr Crozer said he had received a request from a football club to use the land. Some of the club's officers were present and he suspended the meeting to enable them to speak.

Sam Hall said the club had new players and 6 or 7 were from the village. They wanted to stay in the village and had changed their name to High Halstow Football Club. They wanted to get involved with the community. They would play 13 games each season plus cup games and the maximum would be 20. They would play at 2pm on a Saturday and all players were over 16. They needed changing rooms and showers and were seeking to use the Memorial Hall. They were informed that the Hall no longer had its changing rooms or shower facilities and they were recommended to speak to the Hall Committee. David Laphorn said that if dates did not clash, it might be possible for them to use the Cricket Club facilities and they should contact the Cricket Club about this. In response to a question, Mr Hall said that they were currently paying a match fee of £550 pa.

The Chairman thanked them and reconvened the meeting.

It was agreed to put an article in High Halstow Times and to place the item on the agenda for the next meeting.

92 **b Play Park and Outdoor Gym**

The Clerk reported that the hole in the wetpour would be dealt with.

93 **d Allotments**

Cllr Mrs Watson reported that all allotments were taken, with a second allotment being divided into half plots and that there was no waiting list. It was agreed a skip would be booked for 13<sup>th</sup> July so that the rubbish on the end plot could be removed as part of Project 90, then Turfsoil would be asked to spray the weeds.

94 e **Forge Common**

Cllr Collins had nothing to report. Cllr Mrs Watson asked if there were any plans to establish wild flowers. Cllr Collins informed her that the cutting of the hay and its removal from site was crucial to establishing the right sort of soil conditions. Cllr Crozer said there was a long term plan.

95 f **Village Grounds Maintenance**

Cllr Mrs Watson said a fence where the bollards were in Topley Drive between the two estates needed repair and Taylor Wimpey would be informed.

9 **HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT**

96 a **Public Rights of Way**

Cllr Collins had nothing to report.

97 b **Street Cleaning**

Nothing to report.

98 c **Tree Warden**

Cllr Collins had nothing to report.

99 d **Bus Shelters**

The second hand bus shelters donated by Medway Council had now been installed at Eden Road and opposite Longfield Avenue. There was now no shelter to install at the Christmas Lane/Half Moon Way junction. The Clerk was asked to follow up the request for a path to the bus stop.

10 **HALLS**

100 a **Recreation Hall**

Cllr Thomas reported that the building works were progressing. The hall was being kept open, but no more weekend bookings would be accepted until the electrical system had been improved. Cllr Crozer had spoken to a parent about children on the roof. They were using metal posts by the side of the hall to climb up and the hall committee was seeking permission to remove them, This was agreed. Oil had been spilt on the car park and the builders would deal with this. Cllr Collins referred to flooding in the car park and wondered if a drain needed clearing out.

101 b **Memorial Hall**

Cllr Collins said no meeting had been held.

11 **YOUTH**

102 a **Youth Club**

Cllr Mrs Munday had nothing to report.

**103 b Youth Provision**

Cllr Thomas reported that Medway Council wished to conduct a survey of what was needed in the village.

**12 RURAL LIAISON COMMITTEE**

**104 a Representative's Report**

Cllr Collins reported that the next meeting would be held on the following Tuesday.

**13 KALC/MEDWAY AREA COMMITTEE**

**105 a Representatives' Report**

Cllr Bailey reported on the meeting held the previous evening. Cllr Gordon had been re-elected Chairman. Cllr Pearce of Hoo St Werburgh had reported the discovery of a cannabis farm in the old Sturdy Club premises. He had also attended the public inquiry on the Medway Core Strategy, which had obscured the fact that the development proposals for Lodge Hill had been a major part of the inquiry. There had also been a discussion about re-cycling sacks.

**14 POLICE LIAISON**

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

In Cllr Andrews's absence, there was no report. Cllr Thomas said that a van selling mattresses had been reported. Cllr Bailey said that in Cooling sheds had been broken into and that there had been thefts of domestic heating oil from tanks.

**15 COMMUNICATION**

**107 a Surgery**

Cllr Mrs Watson said that two surgeries had been held since the last meeting. Residents had again complained of cars parked on pavements, especially by the Red Dog on the corner of Forge Lane. It was suggested that Medway Council be asked to send their camera car. She had asked what facilities people would like. These included a football cage, skateboard facility, enclosed youth shelter and a bus service to Bluewater. Cllr Crozer said this could be arranged with the Villager. A request had also been made for a maypole on the Recreation Ground. Cllr Collins said there was one and it was currently stored in his garage. The drainage lagoon near Cardigan Close had been mentioned. This was the responsibility of Southern Water. A resident had asked for signs about cold calling.

**108 b High Halstow Times**

It was understood from the Editor that more letters would be appreciated. Cllr Collins asked that a note to residents to cut their overhanging hedges be included.

**109 c Web Site**

Cllr Thomas reported the website would be updated by the end of the month.

**16 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

**110 a Project 90**

The next Project 90 would be held the following Saturday. Cllr Mrs Munday said the rabbit holes in the Rectory garden needed filling before the Jazz Festival.

**111 b Party in the Park**

The Chairman suspended the meeting to enable Mrs Mitchell to speak.

Mrs Mitchell said that the Jubilee party held in 2012 had been so successful, she and some other residents would like to hold a similar event in conjunction with the Cricket Club. The date would be Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September. Mrs Mitchell then outlined plans for the event and said she would appreciate a donation from the Parish Council.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Mitchell and reconvened the meeting.

It was agreed that Mrs Mitchell be asked to provide a list of potential costs and the item would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

**17 HIGH HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**112** In Cllr Gordon's absence, there was no report.

**18 RELIEF IN NEED**

**113** Nothing to report.

**19 FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S**

**114** Cllr Thomas reported that 14 people had joined and that standing orders were bringing in about £90 each month. A meeting was to be held with the Parochial Church Council to agree funding targets.

**20 UNREGISTERED LAND**

**115** The Clerk read an email from the Council's solicitor. The cost would be in the region of £3,000. It was proposed by Cllr Crozer, seconded by Cllr Thomas and agreed to proceed. Cousins Print & Design held a map of the village on computer and copies would be obtained to forward to the solicitor.

**21 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**116** Neighbourhood Plans had superseded Parish Appraisals. It was agreed to invite Carl Adams of Action with Communities in Rural Kent to speak on the subject at either the September or October meetings.

**22 CONSULTATION**

**117 a Southern Water – Water Resources Management Plan**

Received.

**23 CORRESPONDENCE**

**118 a Request to Site Memorial Bench on Parish Land**

A resident of Hoo had asked if he could install a bench on Forge Common as a memorial to his wife. The Clerk had asked him to provide details but nothing had been received. After much discussion as to whether permission should be given to a non resident of the parish, it was agreed the applicant should speak to Cllr Collins as to design, memorial reference and siting before permission would be given.

**24 REPORTS & CIRCULARS**

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

**23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**120 a Low Flying Aircraft**

Cllr Thomas commented on low-flying aircraft over the village the previous Sunday afternoon.

**121 b Metal Detecting**

Cllr Thomas said he had noticed a lot of people doing metal detecting recently.

The Chairman suspended the meeting for the public session.

Mrs Aldrich referred to the fencing of the drainage lagoon near Cardigan Close and said it was a Health & Safety issue and should be reported to Southern Water.

The Chairman thanked the councillors and members of the public for attending and closed the meeting at 10.20 pm

Signed .....Chairman

On the .....day of .....2013