

**HIGH HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, THE STREET, HIGH HALSTOW AT 8.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Gary Thomas In the Chair  
 Cllr Martin Andrews  
 Cllr Stuart Bailey  
 Cllr Ray Collins  
 Cllr Gary Jerreat  
 Cllr Mrs Lesley Munday  
 Cllr Mrs Christine Watson  
 Cllr Brian Williams

Mrs Roxana Brammer Clerk

In attendance 14 members of the public

**Item no***Action point**Minute no 2014/15/***1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

83 An apology for absence was received from

Cllr George Crozer indisposed

It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and agreed this apology be accepted by the Council.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND MEMBERS' REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

84 Cllrs Thomas and Mrs Munday declared personal interests in item 11a, Recreation Hall, as members of the Management Committee.

**3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2014**

85 It was proposed by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Collins and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2014 be signed as a true record.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

86 No matters were raised.

**5 PLANNING****a Applications**

87 i **MC/14/1407:** Flanders Farm, Ratcliffe Highway, Hoo St Werburgh: Retention of two smoking shelters

No objection

- 88 ii **MC/14/1418:** Flanders Farm, Ratcliffe Highway, Hoo St Werburgh: Change of use of land and creation of a area of hardstanding to provide for the stationing and storage of 6 caravans for agricultural workers

No objection

- 89 iii **MC/14/1415:** Flanders Farm, Ratcliffe Highway, Hoo St Werburgh: Retention of diesel fuel storage tanks and delivery point

No objection

- 90 iv **MC/14/1414:** Flanders Farm, Ratcliffe Highway, Hoo St Werburgh: Retention of hardstanding for the storage of agricultural fruit bins

No objection

- 91 v **MC/14/1429:** Flanders Farm, Ratcliffe Highway, Hoo St Werburgh: Variation of condition 14 on planning permission MC/08/1121 to allow changes to the hours of operation

No objection

- 92 b **Decisions**

The decisions as listed on Appendix A were noted.

- c **Appeals and Other Matters**

- 93 i **Lodge Hill**

It was noted that it was likely this would be considered by a special meeting of Medway Council's planning committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

- 94 d **Licensing Applications**

None.

## 6 **FINANCE**

- 95 a **Bank Balances**

The bank balances as listed in Appendix B were noted.

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

None.

- 97 c **Accounts for Payment**

It was proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and agreed that the accounts for payment as listed in Appendix B be paid (cheques 100661-100667). It was agreed that Cllr Williams attend the KALC councillors training day.

**7 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

98 None.

**8 MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LAND AND PROPERTY****a Recreation Ground**

99 i. General Matters. Cllr Williams referred to the boulders installed as part of the older children's scheme by Medway Council and said he had seen someone trip over them. He considered them a hazard. It was agreed that as the RoSPA inspection was due in July, the matter be brought to their attention for advice.

100 ii. Fences. Cllr Crozer was investigating the history of the fence on the boundary of Mr Hannen's land. *GC*

101 iii. Car park drain. It was suggested that Complete Moling be asked to investigate and repair the drain. Cllr Collins would contact them. *RC*

102 iv. Telecommunications pole. Cllr Thomas reported that village opinions had been sought through High Halstow Times and the website. Nearly all views had been against the proposal. A pole would probably be placed on Merdway Council's land and the telecommunications company was looking to find a site outside High Halstow. It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Collins and carried unanimously that the pole would not be permitted on parish council land.

**103 b Playpark**

Cllr Williams reported damage to the ladder on the old climbing frame. John Balciunas would be asked to remove the ladder and make the equipment safe.

**104 c Football**

High Halstow Football Club had requested use of the pitch for friendlies on certain dates from 21<sup>st</sup> June to 16<sup>th</sup> August. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Mrs Munday and carried by 5 votes for and 3 against that they be given permission for fortnightly matches between these dates. They would be charged the cost of the marking out and lining of the pitch as these dates were outside the contract with Turfsoil. Turfsoil would be informed.

**105 d Allotments**

Cllr Mrs Watson reported that one half-plot was now available.

**106 e Forge Common**

Nothing to report.

**107 f Village Grounds Maintenance**

The Clerk reported that Jack Gallivan had complained about brambles at the end of Forge Lane, which were making his job difficult. The brambles were growing on what was probably land belonging to the church. After discussion it was agreed a quote be obtained from Turfsoil for dealing with the brambles.

## 9 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

### a Public Rights of Way

108 i. General Matters. Nothing to report.

109 ii. Path from Recreation Ground to Ruggles Close. It was explained to Cllr Williams that the land belonged to Medway Council under Highways and that the powers the Parish Council operated under did not extend to highways, except as an agreed devolvement from Medway Council. It was agreed to ask Medway Council what they intended to do about it.

### 110 b Street Cleaning

Cllr Collins reported that the litter bin by the church wall had disappeared. It was reported that Jack Gallivan had returned to work and he had been asked to provide a medical letter to confirm he was fit to work.

### 111 c Tree Warden

It was reported a tree in Harrison Drive near the school had been felled.

## 11 HALLS

### 112 a Recreation Hall

Cllr Thomas reported the architect would be signing off phase 1 and was trying to get the snagging finished. There would be a later meeting to discuss phase 3. Cllr Mrs Munday reported vandalism to the exterior lights.

### 113 b Memorial Hall

Nothing to report.

## 12 YOUTH

### 114 a Youth Club

Cllr Mrs Munday said the last session before the summer break would be on 8<sup>th</sup> July, when a barbecue would be held. She would continue to be associated with the Club and act as treasurer, but would retire from active weekly participation. Cllr Thomas proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr Mrs Munday for her years of work with the Youth Club.

### 115 b Future Provision

i. Skateboard facility. Cllr Mrs Watson said that 20 positive replies had been received following consultation. She had not received any negative responses. Cllr Thomas said a letter of objection had been received from the Cricket Club, objecting to the proposed siting as it would interfere with bowlers' sightlines and it might pose a danger to users of the half-pipe from loose cricket balls. It was suggested the facility could be sited on the other side of the kick wall. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Watson, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed unanimously that a half-pipe be provided.

Consultation would be undertaken on the alternative siting. Cllr Mrs Watson reported she was still waiting for a reply to her grant funding request to National Grid. It was agreed the Clerk apply for £3,000 from the 2014/15 rural liaison grant allocation and for £5,000 from the general rural liaison fund.

### **13 RURAL LIAISON COMMITTEE**

#### **116 a Representative's Report**

Cllr Collins reported that the police had spoken about vehicle nuisance on the Ratcliffe Highway. There would be 2 dispersal areas for 6 months from 13<sup>th</sup> June between Medway City Estate and Hoo. Next year Kent would be celebrating 800 years of the signing of Magna Carta, 200 of the Battle of Waterloo and 350 of the Dutch sailing up the Medway. Wessex Power was proposing a 25ha solar power farm at Malmaynes in Stoke. There would be 48,000 panels producing 25Mw for 25 years. There had been a presentation on rural liaison grants. Cllr Thomas said he would apply for £15,000 from the £35,000 general fund for the hall. A representative from the local committee of KALC would be asked to sit on the Rural Liaison committee.

### **14 KALC MEDWAY AREA COMMITTEE**

117 No meeting.

### **15 POLICE LIAISON**

#### **118 a Police Liaison Representative's Report**

Cllr Andrews reported on an incident at Kingsnorth roundabout, which was being dealt with by the police in conjunction with VOSA. Some cars had been altered, invalidating the insurances. PCSO Chris Price had attended the Parish Council's surgery the previous day and had been invited to attend next month.

### **16 COMMUNICATION**

#### **119 a Councillors' Surgery**

Cllr Mrs Watson said that Cllrs Jerreat and Williams had also been present. There had been complaints from the cottages in The Street about cars in the car park in the evenings and loud music being played. The PCSO had said he intended to walk through the village and be visible.

#### **120 b High Halstow Times**

It was suggested Cllr Williams write an article to introduce himself.

#### **121 c Web Site**

Cllr Thomas reported the website was up to date, with the exception of the March, April and May minutes

### **17 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

122 Nothing to report.

**18 RELIEF IN NEED**

123 Nothing to report.

**19 FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S**

124 Cllr Thomas reported the next meeting was on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, then various events were coming up.

**20 HIGH HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL**

125 Cllr Mrs Watson had nothing to report.

**21 CONSULTATION**

126 No documents received.

**22 CORRESPONDENCE**

127 None.

**23 REPORTS & CIRCULARS**

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

**24 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

129 a **House Alarms**

Cllr Andrews said that house alarms were likely to go off due to warmer weather.

130 b **"Stoke Harbour"**

It was reported that the charity Shelter was running a competition for new housing developments in the UK. One, "Stoke Harbour" was on the short list for a prize. It showed 40,000 house on the Hoo Peninsula and could be viewed on the Kent Business Link website.

131 c **Bus Shelter**

Cllr Thomas reported he had asked the Medway Transport team if the bus shelter by the veterinary surgery could be moved at the same time as the construction of the path to the bus stop in Christmas Lane by Half Moon Way.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

The Chairman suspended the meeting to enable members of the public to speak.

A complaint was made about the parking for cricket matches, when it was sometimes impossible to walk on the Christmas Lane footway. It was agreed parking was well organised on days of mini youth games.

A challenge was made to councillors about adherence to the Code of Conduct in connection with the

discussion about the skateboard facility. The Chairman stated that as far as he was aware no councillor had a pecuniary interest.

The Chairman thanked councillors and the public for attending and closed the meeting at 9.59 pm.

Signed .....Chairman

On the .....day of .....2014