

HIGH HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HIGH HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2016 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, THE STREET, HIGH HALSTOW AT 8.00 pm**

PRESENT: Cllr George Crozer Chairman
 Cllr Martin Andrews
 Cllr Mrs Linda Atkinson
 Cllr Ray Collins
 Cllr Gary Jerreat
 Cllr Bill Khatkar
 Cllr Carl Mitchell
 Cllr Mrs Christine Watson
 Cllr Brian Williams

Mrs Roxana Brammer Clerk

In attendance 4 members of the public

Item No	Action Point
Minute No 2016/17/	

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

247 All parish councillors present.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (DPI, conflicts of interest and personal) and alterations to the Register.

248 Cllr Mitchell declared a potential conflict of interest in item 16b, High Halstow Times, as working for the printers.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 OCTOBER 2016

249 It was proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2016 be signed as a true record.

4 MATTERS ARISING

250 No matters were raised.

5 PLANNING

a Applications

251 **MC/16/4048:** Southview, Sharnal Street: Construction of a dwarf wall with pillars and railings above together with installation of gates to front - Resubmission of MC/15/2610

No objection.

- 252 ii **MC/16/4467:** 11 Ruggles Close: Construction of single storey extension to rear with chimney flue to rear elevation

No objection.

- 253 b **Decisions**

The decisions as listed on Appendix A were received

- c **Appeals and Other Matters**

- 254 i **MC/16/1896:** Verge opposite 7 & 9 Eden Road and The Street: Telecommunications mast

It was noted that works had commenced.

6 **GRANT FOR CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE**

- 255 It was proposed by Cllr Khatkar that the Parish Council discontinues its policy of making an annual grant under S 215 of the LGA 1972 to the Parochial Church Council towards maintenance of the churchyard. The motion was seconded for discussion by Cllr Crozer. Cllr Khatkar was of the opinion the Parish Council should not be paying for something that was the responsibility of another organisation and that it left it open for other organisations and businesses in the village to expect that their responsibilities could be paid for also. Cllr Crozer said that the decision had originally been taken as residents took pride in the village. The PCC had used volunteers but they no longer had people willing or able to cut the grass and as the Parish Council had a power to do so, the policy had been established that the Council's greenspaces contractors should include the churchyard in their schedule. The annual amount was given separately in the tender. Cllr Andrews said he agreed with Cllr Khatkar and seconded the resolution for a vote. The resolution was lost by 2 votes in favour and 7 against.

7 **REPLACEMENT OF BUS SHELTERS**

- 256 It was proposed by Cllr Williams that the Parish Council continues its policy of replacing the bus shelters throughout the village and budgets annually accordingly, under S 4 of the LG (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953. The motion was seconded by Cllr Mitchell and was carried unanimously.

8 **FINANCE**

- 257 a **Bank Balances**

The bank balances as listed on Appendix B were noted.

- 258 b **Payments made since Last Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr Jerreat, seconded by Cllr Collins and agreed the payment made since the last meeting as set out on Appendix B be ratified.

259 **c Accounts for Payment**

It was proposed by Cllr Jerreat, seconded by Cllr Collins and agreed the accounts for payment as listed on Appendix B be paid (cheques 100896 – 100900), with the addition of £103.68, Kent County Council (cheque 100901) and £684, Cousins Design and Print (100902).

260 **d Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting**

The draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 31st October were noted.

261 **e Budget 2017/18**

The budget for 2017/18 as recommended by the Finance Committee had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Collins and agreed the budget be adopted.

262 **f Precept 2017/18**

It was proposed by Cllr Collins and seconded by Cllr Mitchell that the precept for 2017/18 be £42,840. The motion was carried by 8 votes in favour and 1 against.

9 GRANT APPLICATIONS

263 None.

10 MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LAND AND PROPERTY**a Recreation Ground**264 **i General Matters**

Cllr Williams referred to the youth shelter and said he felt more damage would be done to the cricket fence if the youth shelter were removed.

265 **ii Boundary with Windy Ridge**

The Clerk reported that Mrs Bird had not come back to her with a list of dates for a meeting with her representative. It was agreed she be sent a formal letter, asking for a response by the end of the month. If this was not forthcoming, she would be asked for details of her solicitor.

266 **iii Trees**

Cllr Collins suggested trees be planted to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War. Eleven trees would cost £440. This was agreed.

b Playpark267 **i General Matters**

Nothing to report.

268 ii **Cantilever Swing**

The Clerk reported that the manufacturer of the cantilever basket swing had not responded when contacted and she would approach Park Leisure to see if they could deal with it.

269 c **Car Park**

Cllr Mitchell said the Parish Council needed to decide what was required so that comparable quotations could be obtained. Cllrs Williams and Jerreat said there ought to be dedicated bays.

d **Allotments**270 i **General Matters**

Cllr Mrs Watson had nothing to report.

271 ii **Appointment of Responsibility**

Cllr Mrs Watson announced her resignation as the councillor responsible for the allotments. She proposed Cllr Mrs Atkinson to replace her. This was seconded by Cllr Crozer and agreed, Cllr Crozer proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr Mrs Watson for her past work with the allotments.

272 e **Forge Common**

Cllr Collins reported that a resident had asked for the trees at the rear of his property to be trimmed back and Turfsoil would be asked to do this when they cut the hedges.

273 e **Village Grounds Maintenance**

The Clerk reported that she would be sending out tender documents for the new contract period.

11 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTa **Public Rights of Way**274 i **General Matters**

Nothing to report.

275 ii **Path Ruggles Close to The Street**

Cllr Williams reposted that the path was finished. He would monitor any flooding.

276 b **Street Cleaning**

Nothing to report.

277 c **Tree Warden's Report**

Cllr Collins had nothing to report.

278 d **Mobile Food Van**

Cllr Crozer reported that a resident had spoken to him. He had approached Medway Council, who had asked for the vehicle number. Cllr Williams said that surely a better place could be found in the village. The car park was suggested but on a vote being taken to defer the item, 2 members were in favour and 7 against.

279 e **Bus Shelters**

Cllr Andrews said the seat on the new shelter in Christmas Lane needed looking at.

12 HALLS

280 a **Recreation Hall**

Cllr Collins reported that the works were now complete.

281 b **Memorial Hall**

Cllr Collins had nothing to report.

13 RURAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

282 The next meeting was on 6th December.

14 POLICE LIAISON

283 The next meeting was on 15th November.

15 KALC/MAC

284 Cllr Williams reported on the last meeting. He said that parishes had reported that vandalism was on the increase. An application for 400 dwellings in Hoo had been dismissed on appeal, but there were plans for 250 homes and 50 retirement homes in Cliffe and Cliffe Woods. Cliffe was holding a meeting about their neighbourhood plan.

16 COMMUNICATION

285 a **Surgery**

Cllr Mrs Watson said a resident had asked if the house next to the shop had received planning permission. She had also been asked if the bushes next to the right of way in Ruggles Close could be cut back. This request would be passed on to Turfsoil.

286 b **High Halstow Times**

Nothing to report.

287 c **Website**

Cllr Mrs Atkinson said she had spoken to Gary Thomas about the website, but felt he was not keen to relinquish it. Cllr Crozer said he thought Mr Thomas would not mind if Cllr Mrs Atkinson wanted to take it over. Cllr Mrs Atkinson suggested a new website hosted by Hugo Fox.

17 **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

288 Nothing to report.

18 **YOUTH**

289 a **Youth Club**

Nothing to report.

19 **HIGH HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL**

290 Cllr Mrs Watson said there had been no meeting of the School Council.

20 **FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S**

291 Nothing to report.

21 **RELIEF IN NEED**

292 It was understood from Mrs Peek that the next meeting would deal with requests made following the October edition of the High Halstow Times.

22 **CONSULTATION**

293 No documents received.

23 **CORRESPONDENCE**

294 None received

24 **REPORTS AND CIRCULARS**

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

25 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

296 a **Training Policy**

Cllr Mrs Atkinson asked that a training policy be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

297 b **Bus Shelters**

Cllr Williams asked that bus shelters be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman suspended the meeting for the public session.

No matters were raised.

The Chairman thanked councillors and members of the public for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

SignedChairman

On theday of2017