

**HIGH HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH 2018 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, THE STREET, HIGH HALSTOW AT 8.00 pm**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Cllr George Crozer	Chairman	Except item 6c
	Cllr Mrs Christine Watson	Vice-chairman	In the chair item 6c
	Cllr Mrs Linda Atkinson		
	Cllr Ray Collins		
	Cllr Gary Jerreat		
	Cllr Bill Khatkar		
	Cllr Michael O'Hanlon		
	Cllr Brian Williams		
	Mrs Roxana Brammer	Joint Clerk	
	Miss Cat Bloomfield	Joint Clerk	

In attendance 3 members of the public

**Item no** *Action point*  
Minute no 2017/18/

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

477 An apology for absence was received from

Cllr Martin Andrews Family commitment

It was proposed by Cllr Crozer, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watson and agreed this apology be accepted.

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

478 Cllr Crozer declared a pecuniary interest in item 6c, accounts for payment.

**3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2018**

479 It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Atkinson, seconded by Cllr Collins and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 be signed as a true record.

**4 MATTERS ARISING.**

480 No matters were raised.

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

481 i **MC/18/0441:** Barn B, Buckhole Farm Cooling Road: Details pursuant to conditions 5, 6 and 7 on planning permission MC/17/3452 - Conversion of an existing barn to a residential dwelling  
Noted.

- 482 ii **MC/18/0464:** Barn C, Buckhole Farm, Cooling Road: Conversion of an existing barn to a residential dwelling with associated parking

No objection.

- 483 b **Decisions**

The decisions as listed on Appendix A were noted.

- 484 c **Appeals and Other Matters**

None

- 485 d **Neighbourhood Plan**

An inaugural meeting of the Steering Group had been set for 21<sup>st</sup> March and Carl Adams of Action with Communities in Rural Kent would be invited to attend.

- 486 e **Local Plan**

Parish Councillors and clerks had been invited by Medway Council to a meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March. It was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting of the Council on 18<sup>th</sup> April, with the Local Plan as the main item on the agenda.

- 487 f **Deangate Ridge**

Cllr Crozer gave an update on the petition against the closure of Deangate Ridge Golf Course. He had attended a meeting of Medway Council and presented the case. The proposed closure had been referred back to Cabinet, which was due to meet on 28<sup>th</sup> March.

## 6 **FINANCE**

- 488 a **Bank Balances**

The bank balances as listed on Appendix B were noted.

- 489 b **Payments Made since the Last Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Watson, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed the payments made since the last meeting as listed on Appendix B be ratified (cheques 101006-101007).

- 490 c **Accounts for Payment**

Having declared a pecuniary interest, Cllr Crozer left the room and Cllr Mrs Watson took the chair.

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Watson, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed to approve the accounts for payment as listed on Appendix B (cheques 101004, 101007, 101009-101015) with the addition of £234, R Collins, reimbursement trees (cheque 101016); £108, KALC (101017) and £360, Meopham Fencing (101018).

The claim by Cllr Crozer for reimbursement for expenses incurred in the campaign against the closure of Deangate Ridge Golf Course was discussed and it was decided to defer the item to the next meeting.

Cllr Crozer returned to the room and resumed the chair.

491 **d Advertisement Rates 2018/19**

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Atkinson, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed the advertisement rates be increased to £11 for eighth page and pro rata from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018.

492 **e Budget 2018/19**

It was proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed the budget for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 be adopted.

**7 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

493 None.

**8 GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS**

494 Miss Bloomfield would do more research.

CB

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

**a Recreation Ground**

495 **i General Matters**

Cllr Williams reported that the Football Club were being asked to pay more to the Cricket Club for use of their facilities and the Football Club might become unviable.

496 **ii Bike Track**

Cllr Mrs Watson reported that 41 children had submitted drawings of their ideas for a bike track. She had obtained a quotation for budgeting purposes and it had come in at £12,000. She asked that this be borne in mind for the 2019/20 budget.

497 **iii Craft Fair**

Cllr Mrs Atkinson said that the operator of the current craft fair that operated in the Recreation Hall had asked if he could operate on the Recreation Ground. It was agreed this would be possible in principle, but further details would need to be obtained, such as insurance and risk assessments.

CB

498 **iv Cricket Club**

Cllr Khatkar said he had received a complaint about training sessions. Balls were causing a danger to people using the Recreation Ground.

**b Playpark.**499 **i General Matters**

Cllr Mrs Watson asked what was happening about the replacement handles for some of the outdoor gym equipment and the repair to the self-closing mechanism on one of the gates. Miss Bloomfield was asked to contact Bradley Walton of Home Counties Play to find out. CB

500 **ii Welding**

Cllr O'Hanlon reported that the sharp edge had been put right. The job would be completed when the weather conditions were suitable.

501 **c Allotments**

Cllr Mrs Atkinson had nothing to report.

502 **d Forge Common**

Nothing to report

503 **e Village Grounds Maintenance**

Cllr Collins said that leaves had been left behind the toilets, which looked untidy. Mrs Brammer reported that the Turfsoil branding was being withdrawn and that it would become Gavin Jones from 1<sup>st</sup> April. Cllr Khatkar was of the opinion that this invalidated the contract and Miss Bloomfield was asked to contact the Area Manager on this issue. CB

504 **f Village Signs**

Cllr Crozer said the signs were ready for collection.

505 **g Commemorative Seat**

Cllr Collins said that seats were various prices but were in the region of £300. It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr O'Hanlon and agreed the project go ahead. Cllr Khatkar suggested that Relief in Need be approached for a grant.

506 **h Public Conveniences**

The offer to buy the toilets was discussed. It was proposed by Cllr Khatkar, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed unanimously that the building would not be sold.

**10 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT**507 **a Public Rights of Way**

Nothing to report.

**b Street Cleaning**508 **i General Matters**

Nothing to report

509 **ii Bin by Bus Shelter**

A request had been made for a litter bin to be installed at the bus shelter outside the Recreation Hall. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Williams that a dual purpose litter/dog bin be installed. Cllr Mrs Watson proposed an amendment that the bin from Eden Road be moved over. This was seconded by Cllr Jerreat. On a vote being taken, there were 2 votes in favour, 2 against and 4 abstentions. The Chairman exercised his casting vote in favour and the motion was carried.

510 **c Tree Warden**

Cllr Collins reported that Major Martin Hales wished to sponsor one of the commemorative trees and had noticed that the adjacent tree was in memory of a former member of his regiment so had sponsored that tree as well, to a total of £120.

511 **d Bus Shelters**

Cllr Williams said the new shelters would be installed in April.

512 **e Potholes**

Miss Bloomfield had reported the potholes to Highways.

**11 HALLS**513 **a Recreation Hall**

Cllr Collins reported that the Committee was thinking about more fund raising events.

514 **b Memorial Hall**

Nothing to report.

**12 RURAL LIAISON COMMITTEE**515 **a Representative's Report**

Cllr Collins reported that the meeting scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> March had been cancelled due to the weather and a new date was awaited.

**13 POLICE LIAISON**516 **a Police Liaison Representative's Report**

In Cllr Andrews's absence, there was no report.

517 **b CCTV**

Cllr O’Hanlon said that a representative of one of the companies had offered to speak on the subject and it was agreed he be invited to give a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.

**14 KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCIL MEDWAY AREA COMMITTEE**

518 Neither Cllr Mrs Atkinson nor Cllr Williams had been able to attend the last meeting.

**15 COMMUNICATION**

519 **a Councillors’ Surgery**

Residents had complained about the water leak which was being dealt with by Medway Norse.

520 **b High Halstow Times**

Cllr Mrs Atkinson reported that she was investigating the costs.

LA

521 **c Website**

Cllr Mrs Atkinson had nothing to report.

**16 FUTURE MEETINGS**

522 **a Starting Time**

A request had been made that the start time of 8 o’clock be reviewed. Cllr Williams suggested 7 pm. Cllr Collins reminded members of the Recreation Hall meeting which would be in session at that time. He was asked if he would be able to make 7.30 pm, which he confirmed he could and it was agreed that Parish Council meetings should start at 7.30 pm in future.

523 **b Clerk’s Availability**

Miss Bloomfield said she had prior commitments for the evenings of 13<sup>th</sup> June and 8<sup>th</sup> August, which had been arranged prior to her taking up the post. It was agreed that the June meeting be brought forward to 6<sup>th</sup> June and the August meeting be put back to 15<sup>th</sup> August.

**17 YOUTH**

524 **a Youth Club**

Nothing to report

**18 HIGH HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL**

525 Nothing to report.

**19 FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S**

526 Nothing to report.

**20 RELIEF IN NEED**

527 Nothing to report.

**21 MEDWAY EVENT**

528 Medway Council had asked if the Recreation Ground could be used on 22<sup>nd</sup> September for an event to celebrate 20 years of Medway Council. It was agreed that in principle permission would be given.

**22 CONSULTATION**

529 No documents received.

**23 CORRESPONDENCE**

530 None

**24 REPORTS & CIRCULARS**

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

**25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

532 No matters were raised.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

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

Points made were:

Cans were being left after football matches and it had been observed that people were playing football on the cricket pitch.

The road repairs in Christmas Lane were not well done, cold tarmac and hardcore had been used to fill the potholes.

Trees were overhanging The Street between Forge Lane and the Red Dog and buses hit them every time.

Mr Brunt asked that it be recorded that whatever people's opinion, the Parish Council should be congratulated as there was a lot of work being carried out behind the scenes.

The Chairman thanked the members of the public and reconvened the meeting.

**CONFIDENTIAL SECTION**

**26 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

533 It was proposed by Cllr Crozer, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watson and agreed to exclude the press and public from the following items on the grounds they were legal matters.

**27 BOUNDARY DISPUTE**

533 It was agreed Cllr Crozer should introduce Miss Bloomfield to the Council's solicitor and ask for an update. GC

**28 REGISTRATION OF LAND**

533 It was agreed Cllr Crozer should introduce Miss Bloomfield to the Council's solicitor and ask for an update. GC

The Chairman thanked councillors for attending and closed the meeting at 10.08 pm.

Signed ..... Chairman

On the .....day of ..... 2018