



HERNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 26th June 2019 from 8:00pm to 9:35pm.

Present: Cllr J. Geliot (Chairman of meeting) Cllr B. Heller Cllr S. Castle
Cllr P. Couzens Cllr C. Page Cllr A. Rumble Cllr S. Edgington

Also Present: Mrs R. Parr (Clerk) and 5 members of the public

21 **APOLOGIES**

None received

22 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None declared.

23 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the following meetings, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman;

1. Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 29th May 2019 (minutes 1-16).
2. Parish Council meeting held on 17th June 2019 (minutes 17-20)

24 **MATTERS ARISING**

- A. **Local Needs Housing.** The Chairman confirmed that an Extraordinary Meeting is to take place specifically to discuss the Local Needs Housing on the 16th July. and that the meeting was also to include the architect and this had been agreed with Alison Thopson at English Rural. Agenda items are currently being finalised by the Chairman but will include;
 1. What is needed following the results of the survey
 2. Site maintenance and site access
 3. Building materials
 4. Environmental aspects
- B. **Annual Allotment Inspection.** It was agreed that the annual allotment inspection would take place at 3pm on the 17th August with a visit by the Councillors.
- C. **Update on the salt bin at Staplestreet.** The council are waiting to hear from SBC whether we are successful.
- D. **Noticeboard at Waterham.** The board has been made. We are waiting on the owner to undertake site clearance and preparation for a new hedge before installing.
- E. **Neighbourhood Watch.** Peter Wilson has agreed to act as village coordinator. It was decided to create a new Councillor role for Neighbourhood Watch as support. It was agreed that Cllr. S. Castle would undertake this.
- F. **Parish Newsletter.** The Chairman spoke with Alan Taylor who has agreed to only post relevant information to Hernhill from Helen Whateley's online newsletter. The

Parish Clerk is to contact Cllr Tim Valentine and Cllr Alastair Gould to arrange to be on their circulation list for news.

- G. Annual Review of Policies. The councillors undertook a review of the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Media Policy, Privacy Notices and Risk Assessment. It was agreed that the Risk Assessment Policy was to be updated and that Cllr C. Page would be responsible for undertaking the work. All other policies were unchanged and renewed for a further year.
- H. Fostall Turn-off - No HGVs. The Parish Clerk has contacted KCC Highways requesting for No HGV signs at the Thanet Way turn-off and was awaiting a response.

25 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- A. Cllr. P. Couzens and Cllr. C. Page had attended the local Planning Enforcement briefing held on the 18th June at Swale Borough Council. The main item of note was that there were only three planning enforcement officers covering the whole of Swale and therefore there were sometimes delays in responding to matters raised.
- B. Cllr B. Heller attending the KALC AGM on the 17th June. A talk was provided by Inspector Alan Rogers at the AGM, who highlighted an increase in telephone fraud especially with vulnerable people. He also commented that there were fewer burglaries and that there were other areas of Swale that were hard pressed and required attention. Mr Green from Planning suggested that Cllrs should familiarise themselves with the National Planning Policy Framework and that those council that had a Neighbourhood Plan (which can identify sites for development) had a stronger position when it came to planning matters. It was agreed that the Parish Council would look to create their own Neighbourhood Plan as a winter project, helped by a SBC representative. It was noted that Dunkirk have already created their own Neighbourhood Plan and that we would invite Dunkirk Cllr J. Tutt to our September Parish meeting in or that he could provide some guidance on the process.

26 PLANNING

- A. Planning Application.119/501962/FULL - Creation of new entrance, driveway and gate to the east of the property, fencing off existing entrance and reshaping existing stock proof fence to form a splayed inlet. *Homeside House Butlers Hill Dargate Faversham Kent ME13 9HQ*. The Council had no adverse comments and supported the application on grounds of safety.
- B. Planning Application. 19/502928/LBC - Listed Building Consent for a structural timber repairs to jettied end wall. Reinstatement of associated rendered side panel in lime render to replace existing remnants of sand/ cement render. *Waterham Farm House Waterham Road Hernhill Faversham Kent ME13 9EQ*. The Council had no adverse comments.
- C. Planning Decisions: None received.

27 FINANCE

- A. The Clerk showed the bank reconciliation report dated 19th June 2019 which was approved and signed.
- B. The following payments were approved by those present:
 - Chq-1432 A Chapman (Hernhill News - mileage) £28.35
 - Chq-1433 A Rumble (Dynamic Councillor Course) £60.00
 - Chq-1434 KALC (Dynaic Councillor Course (C Ingram-Page)) £60.00
 - Chq-1435 Hernhill Bookings (May Hall Hire) £15.00
 - Chq-1436 Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (Mowing) £133.16

Chq-1437 KCC (Photocopier) £82.12

Chq-1438 A Chapman (Hernhill News - paper) £14.00

S/O- R Parr (Advice Only - Clerks Salary and expenses) £240.13

- C. The new bank mandate to remove M. Woodcock and M. Cooper as signatories and to add the new Cllrs A. Rumble, C. Page and S. Castle was approved and signed.

28 ADMINISTRATION

- A. None.

29 CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Countrywide Ground Maintenance. The Clerk had received correspondence confirming that the recent wet and warm weather they were aware it had led to the fast growth of vegetation of which the company were prioritising work where possible. They also confirmed that it was too soon to cut hedges due to the nesting of birds.
- B. Road Closure - A299 Thanet Way, Brenley Corner to Monckton. The Clerk had received notice that overnight closures were planned from the 1st July for 9 weekday nights between 7pm and 5am. Full details will be provided on the Parish website and noticeboard.
- C. KALC Councillors Conference. Notification had been received of their annual conference on the 18th July 2019. It was agreed that the Parish would not be attending. The Clerk is to provide the Cllrs with password access to the online member's area of KALC and NALC.
- D. Draft Parking Supplementary Document from SBC. The Clerk had received notification of a new Parking Planning document on parking standards that would be reported to SBC Local Planning Meeting on the 25th July with any comments received. It will then be amended as appropriate before a formal 8 week public consultation. The Clerk is to forward a copy to the Cllrs.
- E. Dunkirk Lorry Thefts. Cllr J. Tutt from Dunkirk had contacted The Clerk to advise that a number of fuel thefts were occurring from laybys in their parish and that the Parish Council were looking to place notices in laybys in several languages to warn drivers. Cllr Tutt was enquiring as to whether this was something that Hernhill wanted to consider and whether we had any site in the parish where such signs would be appropriate. It was discussed by the Council who decided that there was no need for our Parish.
- F. Men of Trees. Now that the Council had re-joined the Men of Trees Society, correspondence had been received in respect of the society undertaking a Tree inspection for the village. It was agreed that Cllr Heller would contact the society to arrange for an inspection.

30 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were invited to address the Chairman with their comments on Parish matters.

- A. The new Neighbourhood Watch was discussed. Reports of any activities would be provided to Alan Taylor for inclusion in the Hernhill News. They would also liaise with our local PCSO representative Jason Hedges. A requirement to link into the Local Rural Task force watch scheme for which Cllr S. Castle would assist. It was mentioned by Cllr S. Castle that if a crime had occurred, it should still be reported, even if no action was likely to be taken as the more crimes that are flagged in an area, the higher up the area of priority, which meant it was more likely an area would be reviewed. The Clerk was to liaise with Peter and Cllr S. Castle in respect of creating a new page on the Parish Council Website devoted to the Neighbourhood Watch.
- B. Ms Morgan raised the issue of tree diseases in order to raise awareness and to ask people to undertake plant monitoring. This was particularly in relation to the Oak

Processionary Moth particularly given our proximity to the Continent. The Chairman asked Ms Morgan if she would prepare an article for the Hernhill News explain what people should look out for and to provide the relevant online links to DEFRA for more information.

- C. It was raised that the footpath between Boughton and Hernhill was overgrown. Cllr S. Edgington would arrange for this to be reported on the SBC website.
- D. A member of the public raised that at the new Thirwell Farm there had been tipping and fires which was of concern. It was agreed that one of the Cllrs would investigate and report to SBC Planning Enforcement if appropriate.
- E. Concerns were also raised in respect to the deterioration of the barn of Dale Farm Oast behind the old village shop. The Parish Council had in the past previously raised concerns regarding the site and would like the Clerk to contact SBC Planning for an update on the situation.

31 CHAIRMAN & CLERK's SUNDRY REPORTS

- A. Grass Cutting at the Playing Fields. Both the Chairman and the Clerk had been contacted by Mr P. Rawlins from the Village Hall Association who had concerns regarding the standard for the mowing being undertaken. The playing fields had recently been mown and the Cllrs felt that the standard of work was acceptable. Mr Rawlins is appreciative of the cost of the work undertaken by the Parish Council for the benefit of the village hall but would like the Council to consider alternatives if possible. Mr Rawlins would be seeking to provide an alternative quote for the work for our consideration.
- B. Allotments. The Clerk confirmed that there had been interest in the spare allotments and this was now let subject to contracts. The Clerk is to provide details to Cllr S. Castle of the current allotment holders in respect of his new role with responsibility on the Parish Council for allotments.

32 ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON JULY AGENDA

- A. Local Needs Housing
- B. Annual Allotment Inspection
- C. Salt Bin
- D. Noticeboard at Waterham
- E. Neighbourhood Watch
- F. Risk Assessment
- G. Autumn Litter Pick
- H. Update of Fostal No HGVs
- I. Update on Thirwell Farm
- J. Update on Dale Farm Oast
- K. Update on Footpaths
- L. Neighbourhood Plan

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is to be on Wednesday 31st July 2019. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.35pm.

CHAIRMAN