



HERNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 29th May 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. Ingram-Page Cllr A. Gould Cllr A. Rumble

Also Present: Mrs R. Parr (Clerk) and 3 members of the public

1 APOLOGIES

Cllr S. Edgington Cllr T. Valentine

2 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Cllr Couzens proposed and Cllr Heller seconded that Cllr Gelliot be elected as Chairman for the civic year 2019/20.

Cllr Geliot proposed and Cllr Couzens seconded that Cllr Edgington be elected as vice-chairman for the civic year 2019/20. All voted in favour.

3 VOTE ON NEW COUNCILLORS

Four candidates had put their name forward for three vacant positions, Mr Steve Waterman, Mr Steve Castle, Mr Chris Ingram-Page and Ms Angela Rumble.

Cllr Geliot, Cllr Heller and Cllr Couzens undertook a vote to choose three. Following the vote, it was agreed that Mr Steve Castle, Mr Chris Ingram-Page and Ms Angela Rumble were to be accepted to the council.

4 CO-OPTING OF NEW COUNCILLORS

Cllr S. Castle, Cllr C. Ingram-Page and Cllr A. Rumble signed a "Declaration of Acceptance of Office" document.

5 WELCOME OF NEW PARISH AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

The Chairman welcomed the new Parish Councillors and Borough Cllr Alaistair Gould. The Chairman also thanked Mr. M. Woodcock, Mr S. Norman and Mr. M. Cooper who had decided to stand down for all their hard work.

6 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

7 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 24th April 2019 (minutes 482-493).

MATTERS ARISING

- A. Parish Newsletter. The Chairman raised the issue that too much space within the parish newsletter was given to political contributions, which were of a general nature and did not necessarily cover matters specific to the parish. It was discussed whether the articles could be condensed and tailored with news relevant to the Parish. It was agreed that the Chairman would speak to Alan Taylor in the first instance.
- B. Local Needs Housing. The Chairman proposed that an Extraordinary Meeting is to take place specifically to discuss the Local Needs Housing and the result of the latest survey. It was proposed that the meeting was also to include the architect and this had been agreed with Alison Thopson at English Rural. The meeting is expected to be held early evening at the village hall and the Clerk is to arrange a suitable date and time sometime in July. Agenda items to be discussed at this meeting include;
1. What is needed following the results of the survey
 2. Site maintenance and site access
 3. Building materials
 4. Environmental aspects

It was agreed that the Clerk is to forward to the new Councillors, the results of the survey. The Clerk was to add to the Parish Councillor Website, the information from the open day, in order that people who could not attend the event, had access to the information and could still provide feedback to English Rural accordingly. An informal meeting is to be held by the Parish Councillors in order to bring the new Councillors 'up to speed' on the project, which is to be arranged by the Clerk.

- C. Update on the new Litter Bin at The Dove. The new litter bin has now been installed by Mr. M Cooper.
- D. Update on the salt bin at Staplestreet. The council are waiting to here from SBC whether we are successful.
- E. Update on the Trees at Waterham. No update has been received. Cllr Heller will chase Swale Borough Council. It was also discussed whether as a Parish Council we would like to consider if there are trees within the Parish that we consider appropriate for Tree Preservation orders. It was agreed that this is something that should be considered for the future.
- F. Neighbourhood Watch. No responses had been received following the article in the newsletter asking for volunteers to co-ordinate and revive the scheme. It was agreed to place a further request for volunteers in the Hernhill News.
- G. Update on Litter Picking. The event was successful with 15 volunteers meaning that more roads were covered across the village than anticipated. The volunteers expressed an interest for a similar event to be held in the Autumn. The Clerk had contacted SBC, who said that there was the possibility of a litter picking pack to be donated to the Parish. The Clerk is to continue to liaise with SBC accordingly.
- H. Noticeboard at Waterham. The Clerk had made contact with the owner of the land at Waterham where the previous noticeboard was sited. They are currently undertaking work to tidy up and plant a new hedgerow but would be supportive to a new noticeboard going back up in the same location. The Clerk had obtained a quote from Greenbarnes, a national supplier who had quoted £746. John Barnes, a Staplestreet resident who had replaced the Staplestreet noticeboard also provided a quote of £255. The key difference in design was that the Greenbarnes noticeboard design had an additional waterproof rubber covering to make it easier to stick in pins rather than on bare wood. It was discussed that the covering could be purchased separately if required and it was agreed to accept the quote from John Barnes.
- I. Men of Trees. Membership with the Men of Trees had lapsed a few years ago. Annual membership is £25, which also allows us entry into the Kent Trees in the

Village competition. A report would be produced and would help to assist in advising how the Parish Council could manage the Parish's trees in the future. IT was agreed that the council would re-join and that the Tree Warden on the Parish Council when assigned at the next meeting would contact Men of Trees to arrange a visit.

9 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- A. PCSO Jason Hedges from the Swale Community Safety Unit provided an insight into the current roles and issues facing the PCSO. There was currently a shortage of officers but it was hoped to fill these by the end of the summer. There is a rural team based in Faversham and there were no specific crime issues in this area. However, it was mentioned that they rely on the public to be vigilant and to contact them of any matters of concern. This could be via the Kent Police Website, telephone 101 or via email to Jason.hedges@kent.pnn.police.uk.
- B. Cllr Gould provided an update as to the position at SBC where there was now a coalition of Swale Independents, Labour, Green Party and the Liberal Democrats and a move towards more committee based decision-making. Cllr Gould acknowledge that there is pressure on housing and that there would be a review of the Garden Communities suggested under the previous administration. Cllr Gould also explained the Green Party's view on the Cleve Solar Farm in that there were no supportive as the scheme was considered too large and not appropriate for the location.

10 PLANNING

- A. Planning Application.18/506384/FULL: Land South East of Slip Road off Thanet Way, Highstreet Road, Henhill. Revised details received 12/04/19 with additional information on 02/05/19, with change of description. The case was going to planning committee on the 30th May but unfortunately no councillor would be able to attend. Cllr Gould was also unable to attend but suggested that the council contacted Cllr Valentine to pass on the council's comments at the meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Ingram-Page would email Cllr Valentine. The council commented that the main concern of the development was over intensive use of the site had not been addressed and that the local roads network was not suitable for the additional traffic movements.
- B. Planning Application. Dunkirk Parish Council had applied for a Tree Preservation Order (TPO 6), which was going to planning committee on the 30th May. The council had been informed as part of the area covered fell into the parish in the area of Little Miss Acres Farm. The council agreed to support the application.
- C. Planning Decisions: Notification was received of approval of TPO 5. concerning Thread Wood East of Thread Lane, Henhill.

11 FINANCE

- A. The Clerk showed the bank reconciliation report dated 19th May 2019 which was approved and signed.
- B. The following payments were approved by those present:

Chq-1426 ICO (Annual Data Protection fee)	£40.00
Chq-1427 Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (Mowing)	£133.16
Chq-1428 Hernhill Bookings (Village Hall Hire)	£42.00
Advice S/O R. Parr (Clerks Salary (£220.13) & Expenses (£20))	£240.13
Chq-1429 Came & Co (Annual Local Council Insurance)	£340.58
Chq-1430 Lionel Robbins (Internal Audit Fee)	£75.00

- C. The Clerk commented that the Internal Audit had been undertaken by Lionel Robbins on the 11th May and no adverse comments had been made.
- D. The annual accounts for the year ended 31st March 2019 were approved and signed.
- E. The Annual Return (Governance section) was reviewed and signed.
- F. The Annual Return (Accounts section) was reviewed and signed.
- G. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return Certificate of Exception was signed.

12 ADMINISTRATION

- A. Register of Members Interest. The Clerk reminded all Councillors that this needed to be completed within 28 days of acceptance of office. The Clerk was to forward the form to the new councillors.
- B. Electoral Expenses. The Clerk reminded all councillors appointed unopposed at the recent election were required to complete the return, including nil returns.
- C. Allotments All monies had now been received for the FY2018/19 and that a full plot had now become vacant. It was agreed to post the vacancy in the Hernhill News.

13 CORRESPONDENCE

- A. South East Allotment Forum. Invite had been received to the South East Allotment Forum on the 11th July 2019. It was agreed to pass the invite to Mr. M Cooper, who had agreed to continue supporting the council in allotment matters.
- B. Changes to charging policy for certain waste types. SBC have provided details regarding changes to the charging policy for household Waste from the 3rd June 2019. This concerned soil, rubble, plasterboard and tyres. It was agreed to provide details in the Hernhill News, noticeboard and website.
- C. Cleve Hill Solar Farm. Notification of a Preliminary Meeting was received for the Cleve Hill Solar Farm for the 30th May 2019. The meeting was concerned with procedure and not the application itself. It was agreed that there was no need to attend.
- D. KALC AGM. Invite had been received for the KALC AGM on the 17th June. Cllr Heller agreed to attend.
- E. KALC Dynamic Councillor Events. KALC are to hold a number of events across Kent. Those Cllrs interested in attending are to contact the Clerk.
- F. Dog Chip Event. The Clerk had received notice of an event organised by Boughton Parish Council for a free dog micro-chipping event on Friday 5th July between 10am -12pm at Boughton village hall.

14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

- A. Concerns were raised regarding HGVs using the lanes at Fostall as they come off the Thanet Way and getting stuck on the turn to Kemsdale. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact KCC Highways to see if it is possible to place 'unsuitable for HGV's' sign at the Thanet Way junction.

15 CHAIRMAN & CLERK's SUNDRY REPORTS

- A. None.

16 ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON JUNE AGENDA

- A. Allocate Councillor Duties
- B. Appointment of Internal Auditor
- C. Local Needs Housing

- D. Annual Allotment Inspection
- E. Salt Bin
- F. Noticeboard at Waterham
- G. Neighbourhood Watch
- H. Report on Litter Pick
- I. Noticeboard at Waterham
- J. Parish Newsletter
- K. Annual Review of Policies

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is to be on Wednesday 26th June 2019. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.35pm.

CHAIRMAN