

HALSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2012 AT 19.45 IN THE PAVILION, STATION ROAD, HALSTEAD

PRESENT: Cllr. David Taylor, Chairman
Cllr. Terry Brooker
Cllr. Barrie Blundell
Cllr. Chris Ford
Cllr. Karen Grosvenor

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, District Cllr. John Grint, 10 parishioners, 3 visitors

The meeting convened at 19.45 with questions from the floor.

- 1 **APOLOGIES** were received from Cllrs. Baldwin and Bent who were both on holiday. Members present signed the attendance register.
- 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS** not already noted in members' Register of Interests. Nil.
- 2.1 **DISPENSATIONS; ITEM 15 Code of Conduct**
This matter relates particularly to Precept discussions and agreement of same.
After discussion the Chairman proposed that the following motion should be accepted, carried unanimously.
Resolved: that under section 101 it was delegated to the Clerk to receive written requests from councillors for dispensations enabling them to participate in discussions and to vote on matters even if he/she has a Declarable Pecuniary Interest relating to Appendix A or B. These letters would then be put before Council for the granting of any dispensations.
- 3 **RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8 October 2012 were Approved and Signed as a True Record.**

4 FINANCE

4.1 **RESOLVED: That the Accounts as itemised be paid**

Proposed by **Cllr. Blundell**, seconded by **Cllr. Grosvenor** and carried unanimously

Payments include VAT where relevant.

CQ379	Protect Kent, tickets planning debate	£ 20.00	
CQ380	7Oaks Electrical, Recreation Ground bollard lights	£ 86.00	
CQ381	A Tulett, boiler service, Pavilion and Parish Room	£ 216.00	
CQ382	Homemade cleaning Parish Room and Pavilion	£ 242.00	
CQ383	PJ Garden Services, mowing 9 th	£ 90.00	
CQ383	PJ Garden Services, strimming 9 th	£ 50.00	
CQ383	PJ Garden Services general clearance	<u>£ 85.00</u>	£ 225.00
CQ384	Royal British Legion, S137	£ 50.00	
CQ385	Viridor, refuse collection Pavilion	£ 48.05	
CQ386	British Gas, Parish Room	£ 163.25	
CQ387	<u>Clerk's expenses incurred while carrying out her duties:</u>		
	Internet, monthly allowance	£ 16.66	
	Postage	£ 10.80	
	Mileage: 1x Swanley @ 19; 4 x bank @ 11; 1 x SDC @11; 1 x Otford @ 6 = 80	£ 36.00	
	Light bulbs Parish Room	<u>£ 9.98</u>	£ 73.44
DD	EDF Pavilion	£ 51.00	
DD	EDF Parish Room	<u>£ 25.00</u>	<u>£ 76.00</u>
	TOTAL PAYMENTS as at 14 November 2012		£1199.74

Plus salary payments:

Mrs King Scott, Clerk. CQ388

The cheques were signed at the close of business by **Cllrs. Blundell and Ford**

4.2 **Receipts:**

BACS	Cock Inn, sponsorship flower beds	£ 25.00
V1111	Mrs Watts, Parish Room (Inv 62)	£ 72.00
V1112	Mrs Wilcox, Parish Room (Inv 57)	£ 56.00
V1113	Cricket Club, 2 nd 50% of Licence Fee (Inv 61L)	£ 507.50
V1114	Miss Bryer ., Parish Room (Inv 37)	£ 126.00

V1115	Ms Summers, Parish Room (Inv 63)	£ 42.00
	VAT repayment 2 nd quarter	<u>£ 337.02</u>
	TOTAL RECEIPTS as at 12 November 2012	£ 1165.52

4.3 RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 22 October 2012 were Approved and Signed as a True Record

4.3.i Cleaning of the Pavilion and Parish Room

Cllr Blundell proposed that Homemaid, the company that cleans Council's two properties, should carry out another two weeks cleaning per annum per property which means that the buildings will be serviced for 50 weeks per annum, seconded by Cllr. Grosvenor and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: that Homemaid be engaged to undertake two extra weeks cleaning per annum in each property.

4.3.ii EDF Business

The current electricity tariff is to increase on 19 November. Council has been offered a three year contract at a reduced rate whereby the standing charge would be 21.39p instead of 23p; unit cost would be 11.47p instead of 12.33p. Cllr. Blundell proposed that the reduced rate and three year contract should be undertaken, seconded by Cllr. Ford and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: that Council enters into a three year fixed contract with EDF Business at the agreed rate as noted.

5 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr. Grint mentioned that Badgers Mount Residents Association had been involved in correspondence with Highways concerning speed and safety issues in Old London Road. Council requested copies of the correspondence.

The District Council will formally agree to the creation of a Badgers Mount Parish Council at the meeting in November. This will come into existence in 2015.

6 CLERK'S REPORT

6.1 Policing - 1 incident

1 x burglary of a dwelling in Clark's Lane.

6.2 Speed Indicator Displays

The posts will be installed in the near future; the signs are being manufactured.

6.3 Defibrillator

The Heart Foundation provide grants. The grant applicants would be responsible for on going maintenance of the device. The appliance must not be locked away; it must be located where demand is great; the device will give instructions on usage but it is recommended that training is undertaken. The device would not be insured.

The Clerk would make further enquires and the matter will be passed to the Amenities & Highways Committee. *Agenda item next committee meeting*

6.4 Hawthorn Tree/shrub - Parkside/Knockholt Road

Highways operative had indicated that the shrub is not its responsibility. The Clerk will enquire about its removal.

6.5 R5/R10 bus service

A parishioner has made contract concerning an incident whereby he and his wife were left stranded in Orpington due to unofficial termination of the R5 plus costs he incurred because of this. TfL is ignoring his letters. The Clerk will contact TfL to ascertain what the situation is with this complaint.

6.6 Make Kent Quicker - Broadband campaign

Following a meeting at SDC offices an article will be included in the newsletter plus leaflets will be delivered to every home encouraging people to sign up. Every member of the household can register. Businesses, including home-workers, are encourage to write to SDC or the Parish Council registered their support for the campaign.

6.7 Men of Kent Trees - competition

Halstead Parish has been awarded a tree in the competition and is recognised as one of the top ten villages in the County for its trees. Council will also received a Jubilee Oak.

6.8 Planning enforce enquiries.

6.8.1 Land at Polhill between Polhill Garden Centre and the Indian restaurant.

The owner is clearing the land. This is permitted and planning consent is not required.

6.8.2 Fosters Yard.

The site has been vacated except for a couple of vehicles which will be removed shortly.

7 PLANNING COMMITTEE

7.1 RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 5 November 2012 were Approved and Signed as a True Record

- 7.2 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
 SE/12/02723/LDCEX OAK TREE FARM, LONDON ROAD
 Confirmation use as residential garden - **for comment only**
- SE/12/02722/CONVAR LIP LAP FARM, OTFORD LANE TN14 7EG
 Remove condition 7; demolish existing bungalow, erection of one detached bungalow for occupation by agricultural worker.
 Construction of cess-pool. **Council objected to this application**
- 7.3 APPLICATION DECISIONS
Granted
SE/12/01925/HOUSE THE DORMY, STONEHOUSE ROAD
 Provision for new 1st floor over existing ground floor and new tiled roof. Alterations to fenestration. - **noted**
- SE/12/01850/HOUSE THE OLD POST OFFICE, CHURCH ROAD
 Mixed use retail(A1); Tea Rooms(A3); Fabric workshop(B1); B&B(C1); Residence(C3). - **noted**
- Refused**
SE/12/02118/LDCEX 15 LONDON ROAD
 Erection of raised pool surround and pool to rear of garden. - **noted**
- 7.4 Permitted Development Rights
 Ms Salter, SDC Planning Manager had explained about Permitted Development Rights. Most are supported by a Lawful Development Certificate which will be dealt with by District Council. The Parish Council will not be consulted on these.
- 7.5 Watercrofts Wood
 Letter received from Mr Ellis on behalf of the Plymouth Brethren who are considering purchasing the wood. Council has advised him that his clients could give a presentation prior to the next Planning Committee Meeting. He has been advised that Council is unable to make any comments or recommendations as this would compromise Council's position in relation to any planning application. The meeting with Mr Ellis' clients will be publicised and mentioned on the website. Many parishioners had made comments during parishioners question time particularly in relation to the wildlife in the wood. Concern had also been expressed by parishioners about the trees that are hanging over Watercroft Road from the wood and the reduction of the width of the road due to encroaching vegetation. These matters will be looked into.
- 8 AMENITIES & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE**
- 8.1 Allotments
 Acceptance and the signing of the transfer documents had been formally **Resolved** at the October Parish Council meeting. Cllr. Brooker proposed that this take place, seconded by Cllr. Grosvenor, carried. The Chairman and Clerk duly signed the documents accepting the transfer of land in Beldam Haw from Sevenoaks District Council. (LGA 1972, S124).
- 8.2 Damaged tree Recreation Ground.
 Permission had been received from Sevenoaks District Council to carry out these works. Quotations had been received from Bartlett Tree Experts £90+VAT; AJM Trees £275+VAT; Mr Derek Bowen £180. Cllr. Brooker proposed that the quotation from Bartlett be accepted, seconded by Cllr. Blundell, carried unanimously. **RESOLVED: that the quotation from Bartlett Tree Experts in the sum of £90+VAT should be accepted.**
- 8.3 Yellow lines cross roads - formal consultation.
 The consultation will be included in the next batch of consultations. Mr Bracey does not know when this will be.
- 8.4 Winter programme and risk assessment
 It was agreed to ask for volunteers for the Winter Team in the newsletter. *Agenda item Amenities & Highways Committee.*
- 8.4 Highways Seminar report had been circulated - noted
- 8.5 Play-area, safety surface
 Wicksteed do not repair the current type of surface as the work cannot be guaranteed. RoSPA identified this as low risk. Prices had been provided for information only to completely replace the surface under the swings, slide and rope ride. *Agenda item Amenities & Highways Committee.*
- 8.6 Cllr. Brooker requested that light excluding hedges should be on the agenda. *Agenda item Amenities & Highways Committee*
- 9 INFORMATION**
- 9.1 KALC AGM Saturday 17 November, 9.30am Ditton Community Centre. - **noted**
- 9.2 Basic Training on using a defibrillator SDC offices, 7 December 9am - 4pm - **noted**
- 10 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**
 Monday 10 December 2012 in the Pavilion, Station Road at 19.45