

Harrietsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30th October 2019 at 7.30pm
in the Booth Hall.

Cllr Dean welcomed all present to the meeting.

The Clerk reported that one urgent items needed to be added to the agenda. The Remembrance Poppy Wreath will be discussed under Finance (Agenda item 7.1).

Community Warden Report: The Community Warden informed all present that he was only aware of one crime since the last meeting which was damage to car tyres in Southfields Way. He has been looking at the crime in the surrounding area and there is an increase in thefts from vehicles and shed break-ins. He added that there is a higher volume than he would have expected. Kent Police has just issued information on protecting homes, gardens and outbuilding, which he will condense into an article to be placed in Network. Martin reminded all present that, in the lead up to the festive season, everyone should think about keepings items safe.

Cllr Moore reported on a recent HMRC scam which is targeting the self-employed and Cllr Stanley mentioned an Amazon Prime scam that he had been made aware of.

A resident asked about the Surgery and the s106 money outstanding. The Clerk gave a brief update on this.

A resident queried when the light is to be reinstated on the A20 opposite Church Road. The Clerk reported that KCC has confirmed the lighting will be the last item to be dealt with in improvement scheme.

A resident queried what was happening with the large mound in Chantry Green and the Clerk reported that an application has been submitted to MBC by the developer.

Concerns were raised that Harrietsham surgery isn't arranging flu jabs, residents are having to travel to Lenham for them. The Parish Council was asked to contact the Practice Manager to highlight that residents wish to support their local surgery rather than having to keep travelling to Lenham.

ACTION: Clerk

1. Present

Cllr G Dean, Cllr F Stanley, Cllr C Roots, Cllr R Dayes, Cllr J Sams, Cllr T Sams, Cllr T Griffiths, Cllr J Moore, Lenham Representative Cllr N Osborne, RFO Mr M Cuerden, Community Warden Martin Sherwood and the Clerk
Mrs A Broadhurst
2 Members of the Public

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr E Powell, Cllr V Foster, County Cllr Prendergast

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Parish Council Meeting 25th September 2019 - The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Griffiths, seconded by Cllr Days; with 6 in favour and 2 abstentions.

4. Disclosures and confidential items

Changes to the Register of Interests

There were no changes.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations.

Requests for Dispensation

No requests were submitted.

5. Planning

5.1 The current planning applications were noted.

5.2 The refused planning applications were noted.

5.3 Other Planning Matters:

- Pilgrims Retreat: The Clerk read out a brief report from Cllr Powell giving an update on Pilgrims Retreat, following the recent Planning Committee meeting. It is likely that a new application will be submitted by the applicant, which may be viewed more favourably. They have attended a meeting with MBC but, as a consultee, the Parish Council are not allowed sight of the minutes.
- Cllr Dean reminded all members of the Planning Committee that the meeting on Friday had been cancelled.

6. Environmental

6.1 Recommendations from the Environmental Committee:

There were no recommendations for Full Council.

6.2 Other Environmental Matters:

Cllr T Sams reported that there are 6 posts outside the war memorial that are damaged. They are protecting a grassed area and require work before the Remembrance Service on the 10th November. After

brief discussion it was decided that the Clerk should be given delegated powers to progress this as soon as possible, due to the short time frame. The Clerk commented that she would use the same company who had supplied the bollards around the Glebe Field. It was then proposed by Cllr T Sams that the Clerk arrange for the 6 posts to be replaced with ones matching those on the field. This was seconded by Cllr Stanley, with all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

Cllr T Sams gave a brief update on the Teers Meadow project. Work is due to start this week, clearing the scrub and erecting fencing around the site.

Cllr T Sams reported that, following his recent repair, Percy the Monk is looking rather orange. There was brief discussion and Cllr J Sams offered to contact the sculptor to ask whether this will weather. Advice will also be sought on applying the protective oil.

ACTION: Cllr J Sams

7. Finance

7.1 The Income/expenditure finance sheets were proposed as accurate by Cllr Roots and seconded by Cllr J Sams, with all in favour.

7.2 Other Financial Matters:

- Wreath and Donation for Remembrance Sunday: The Clerk reported that, last year, Councillors had agreed a donation of £100, which included the cost of the wreath. It was proposed by Cllr Dean to give £100 again this year and this was seconded by Cllr Moore; with all in favour. Cllr Roots offered to lay the wreath if the Chairman is unavailable.

8. Highways

8.1 Highways Issues: Cllr J Sams reported on the various issues around the village, which have been photographed by Cllr T Sams ready to forward to KHS. An update was given regarding the Stede Hill road closure, which residents are extremely unhappy about. This should only be a daytime closure but the organisers and workers are a shambles, with lots of debris deliberately being left on the road to keep it closed. County Cllr Prendergast has spoken with KHS, who are supposed to be preparing an official statement to pass on to residents. It was noted that KHS has told the workers to clear the area but they have ignored this instruction. Cllr T Sams has been trying to keep the road clear, with a number of residents, as it is an issue for the emergency services.

Cllr T Sams reported on an item raised at the last meeting relating to Holm Mill Lane, as Councillors had required further clarification. Residents have complained that there is a lack of lighting close to the entrance of the road, which is making it difficult to see the junction. They have requested some illumination, but this needs to be added to the Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) for KHS to investigate further. Councillors confirmed that they wished for Cllr T Sams to add this item to the HIP.

8.2 Church Road Footpath: Cllr T Sams reported that he has still not received any further update from KHS.

9. Lenham Parish Council

A reported had already been circulated by Cllr Moore. The Lenham Representative Cllr Osborne added that Lenham Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan is within days of being ratified and submitted to MBC.

10. Additional Play Equipment for the Glebe Field

The Clerk reported that the new play equipment is due to be installed in the week commencing 18th November, with the safer surfacing being laid the following week. The work, including the safety inspection at the end, should be completed by the 29th November. The Clerk added that she intends to put a note through the doors of the houses close to the area to give them warning that there may be some disruption with work vehicles parking in Church Lane.

ACTION: Clerk

11. Defibrillator Training

Cllr Griffiths reported that he had received good feedback from the first training session. He has offered to meet with the attendees in West Street to show them the defibrillator if required. There are limited spaces available for the next session on the 7th November and Councillors agreed that, if there is enough interest, further sessions could be arranged in the future. Councillors thanked Cllr Griffiths for running the training session.

12. Community Fridge

Cllr Moore reported on the Community Fridge initiative that a resident is trying to organise in the village. The Clerk reminded all present that information had been circulated during the summer. Cllr Moore has now met with the resident and confirmed that the Parish Council does not have the capacity to oversee the project, but it had been confirmed that the only assistance required was with the more technical side (grant applications etc). There are volunteers in place but a location needs to be found for the project to be set up.

13. Noticeboard at the War Memorial

The Clerk reported that the History Society had submitted a grant for funding to install a noticeboard at the War Memorial, which is owned by the Parish Council. Details of the board were given and, after brief discussion, the

Clerk was asked to contact the Chairman to confirm that the Parish Council is happy to consider the board being installed but would request clarification on the following before giving final approval:

- Sight of the proof before any order is placed
- Parish Council to choose the colour for the powder coating
- Confirmation that A3 won't be too small
- Details of the contractor being used for the installation. Councillors felt that it might be more appropriate for the Parish Council's contractor to install the board, with the History Society making a donation of £145 towards the cost (details included in the grant application)

ACTION: Clerk

14. Future Events

10th November - Remembrance Service at St John the Baptist church (10.15am)

The Clerk reported that the KALC AGM is to be held on the 30th November in Ditton and asked if anyone was available to attend. It was agreed that no representative would be sent this year.

Cllr T Sams asked for an update on the VE Celebrations and it was confirmed that the beacon will be lit on the 8th May and there is a VE Dance in the hall on the evening of the 9th May.

15. Items for Future Consideration

No further items to be added to the agenda.

16. Date of next meeting

Full Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday **27th November 2019** from **7.30pm** in the Booth Hall

With no further matters to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.29pm.