

Harrietsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th June 2017 at 7.30pm in the Booth Hall.

The Chairman welcomed all present, including the Lenham Parish Council representative Cllr N Osborne and stated that the meeting was being recorded.

Public Discussion

Community Warden: The Community Warden reported on a recent rogue trader that has visited two homes at the Garden of England. The incidents have been reported to the Police on 101, submitted via an intelligence form to the KCC Intel Team and he has advised one of the residents to contact Action Fraud (0300 123 2040) and the Citizens Advice Consumers Helpline (03454 040506).

Police Report: PCSO Waring reported that there had been 4 crimes since the last meeting, one was criminal damage, one was theft from a motor vehicle, one was vehicle interference and the other was a burglary. Three of these had occurred in West Street. There had also been a number of ASB incidents which included, rogue traders, drugs, nuisance youths, poaching and a suspicious event that involved a vehicle driving around a property. PCSO Waring also reported that there has been a large number of trailer, horse boxes and attempted plant thefts in various areas across Maidstone. He asked that residents be vigilant and report any suspicious vehicles with trailers late at night.

1 Present

Cllr E Powell, Cllr G Dean, Cllr J Sams, Cllr J Moore, Cllr F Stanley, Cllr M Allardyce, Cllr T Griffiths, RFO Mr M Cuerden, Community Warden M Sherwood, PCSOs Ryan Waring & Mike Buckfield and the Clerk Mrs A Broadhurst.

4 Members of the Public

2 Apologies for absence

Cllr T Sams, County Cllr S Prendergast, PCSO D Rowley

3 Minutes of the last meeting

Parish Council Meeting 31st May 2017 - The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Dean, seconded by Cllr Allardyce; with all in favour.

4 Disclosures and confidential items

Changes to the Register of Interests

No changes to the Register of Interests were declared.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

Cllr J Sams declared an interest in Agenda Item 5.1 (Planning - Outstanding with MBC) if 17/502457 were to be discussed. The Clerk confirmed that this application would not be discussed at the meeting.

Requests for Dispensation

No requests were submitted.

5 Planning

5.1 The current planning applications were noted.

5.2 The approved applications were noted.

5.3 Other Planning Matters:

Cllr Dean reported that 37-39 West Street (16/506490) had recently be refused at the Planning Committee meeting.

Cllr Powell reported that MBC have now confirmed that they have a 6.3-year land supply, which is good news. He added that the appeal decision for Bell Farm South is still awaited.

The Clerk reported that she had received an email from Circle Housing to inform the Parish Council that new properties are to be advertised in the village imminently. On checking the lettings plan the local connection criteria has only been applied to those interested in the shared ownership properties and they think it should apply to all of the affordable housing units rented and shared ownership. Circle Housing had reported that MBC are keen to stick with the lettings plan as it presents now, as they believe there to be a lack of local housing need. They have stated that, if the Parish Council stipulate the rented units must be considered for those with a local connection too, MBC are asking for some proof of individual's interest/local housing need otherwise the properties will be advertised and let to whomever bids and is otherwise eligible. The Clerk reported that, on the 25th July, the following properties will be available:

2 x 1 Bedroom 2nd Floor flats

6 x 2 Bedroom 1st Floor flats

6 x 2 bedroom Ground floor flats

2 x 2 Bedroom houses

Circle Homes need to know straight after tonight's meeting how many people have expressed their interest/what size property they require for the rented units. If there is enough interest perhaps MBC will allow the lettings plan to be amended, if not they suspect the properties will be advertised to everyone. The houses are to be advertised by MBC on/by Monday 3rd July, as the adverts are live for a week before they need to verify the bidders. Any later and Circle Homes will run out of time before the handover to get them allocated. The Clerk reported that the Local Needs Housing form has been uploaded to the website under the 'Standard Documents' menu heading.

Cllr J Sams asked that Hyde Homes (Church Road development site) to be contacted to ensure that they include the Local Needs Housing criteria and to ask that they give the Parish Council as much notice as possible before they advertise the properties on the site. **ACTION: Clerk**

6 Communications

6.1 Recommendations from the Communications Committee:

There were no recommendations.

6.2 Other Communication Matters:

There were no matters to discuss.

7 Environmental

7.1 Recommendations from the Environmental Committee:

There were no recommendations.

7.2 Other Environmental Issues:

- Request for delegated powers to accept quotations if agreed by the Committee - The Amenity Manager asked that delegated powers be given to the Environmental Committee to progress with the following items:
 - Removal of mound by A20 - various quotations, ranging from £780 - £1,670 (depending on options chosen)
 - Glebe Field weed killer & fertilizer - quotation received, approximately £660
 - Glebe Field removal of barbed wire - quotation received, approximately £95 (Total General Fund possible spend approximately £2,425)
 - Woodlands Walk fence renewal - quotation received, approximately £810
 - Woodlands Walk tree survey - action on one urgent item, cost unknown, but expenditure comes from Woodlands Walk fund, and both are safety-related items.

It was proposed by Cllr Stanley that delegated powers be given to the Environmental Committee, as some of the work is quite urgent. This was seconded by Cllr Moore, with all in favour.

8 Finance

- 8.1 The Income/expenditure finance sheets were proposed as accurate by Cllr Dean and seconded by Cllr Allardyce, with all in favour.

9 Highways

Cllr J Sams reported that she will chase the white lines that are required at Harrietsham School as Kent Highways have not made contact.

- Church Road Footpath: Cllr J Sams reported that Cllr T Sams had circulated an email to all Councillors asking that Councillors consider a proposal to spend money on drawing up a scheme which will ultimately provide a footpath from the area just north of the bridge on the western side of the road (Lakelands side) to the furthest point under ownership of KCC. The crossing point will then carry on to the footpath that meets with the village hall car park. Michael Heath, who has offered informal advice, suggested that the plan could be carried out in parts. Cllr T Sams had stated that the Parish Council will need to talk to residents on Church Road, who will be affected in the first instance and had suggested that the company that works with KCC (Amey) be approached to see if they can assist with the work required. Once drawings have been created the Parish Council can then look to fund it in part and, hopefully, attract future funding from other sources. After brief discussion, it was proposed by Cllr J Sams that a maximum of £2,000 be spent on drawings. This was seconded by Cllr Dean, with 6 in favour and 1 abstention.

10 Lenham Parish Council

Cllr Dean reported that the following items had been discussed:

- There is to be an open meeting on the 18th July regarding the proposed Lenham Meadow Trust.
- They have identified sites for 1,000 houses (aside from the 400 already allocated).
- The Lenham NHP and a possible grant to pay the consultant until July.
- Lenham Pool opened on the 3rd June but Lenham School will no longer provide funding as, whilst it is a community asset, it is being run as a business which is causing issues.
- CCTV in the Square.
- Glebe Pond which had been handed over to the Parish Council from a developer.

Lenham Representative, Cllr Osborne, added that MBC will not entertain any housing development on either Marley or Lenham Storage so the Parish Council now needs to find additional site for approximately 200 homes. He also gave some further details regarding the Lenham Meadow Trust. It was also noted that the Local Plan Inspector had stated that no further applications should be decided in Lenham, until the Neighbourhood Plan has been completed.

11 Use of the Glebe Field by the Early Help Team for a Parent & Child Event (Tuesday 8th August)

The Clerk clarified that they are only asking for use of the field for the event and do not require for the gates to be unlocked for any parking. It was proposed by Cllr Moore to allow the Early Help Team the use of the field. This was seconded by Cllr Griffiths, with all in favour.

12 Use of the Glebe Field for a Fitness Club

Cllr J Sams reported that a running club would like to use the Glebe Field weekly, on a Wednesday morning, and has offered to make a donation to the Parish Council's chosen charity. After brief discussion, it was agreed that a charity could be agreed over email, to give Councillors time to decide. It was proposed by Cllr Stanley to allow use of the field on a weekly basis. This was seconded by Cllr Griffiths, with all in favour.

13 Future Events

Every Saturday - 'Get Active' on the Glebe Field from 9am

1st July - 5m Pink Ribbon Night Walk being completed by members of the Sams family

2nd July - Pet Services at St John the Baptist Church 3.30pm

8th July - Church Fete in the Rectory Garden 2-4pm

22nd July - HVT Music Event

Cllr Stanley stated that there had been a misunderstanding with marshalling at a recent event, which had left the field unmanned between the last car leaving and the bollards being locked. With the amount of advertising of the Music Event around the village, he was anxious that the field be marshalled until the bollards are locked to ensure that there are no unwanted visitors.

The Clerk reminded Cllr J Sams that Cllr T Sams had intended to create a notice for the entrance of the field to inform drivers of the time that the field will be locked at the event. **ACTION: Cllr T Sams**

14 Items for Future Consideration

There were no further items to be considered.

15 Date of next meeting

Full Parish Council Meeting - **Wednesday 26th July 2017** from **7.30pm** in the Booth Hall

With no further matters to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.10pm.