

Harrietsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27th February 2019 at 7.30pm in the Booth Hall.

The Chairman, Cllr Dean, welcomed the Lenham Parish Council representative Cllr A Ratcliffe and members of public to the meeting.

Community Warden Report: Martin Sherwood reported on the continuing issue of scam phone calls. He also informed all present that, on the Keep Lenham Safe Facebook page, there had been reports of 3 males trying to stop cars between Lenham and Headcorn. He asked that people remained vigilant and kept their car doors locked.

Police Report: PCSO Boyd reported on the ASB which had occurred in the village. Since this has been monitored, the issue has stopped. He added that Kent Police believe that they now know who the culprits are and, if correct, they are from outside the village.

Public Discussion

A resident apologized for a previous comment relating to hedge cutting around the village. It is now clear that it was not the Parish Council's employed contractor as Kent Highways have recently cut along the A20 and have caused serious damage to a number of trees along the road.

A resident raised concerns with a new bollard that has been installed as part of the A20 Improvement Scheme. There is no lighting in the area and cars have been hitting it, causing damage to tyres, due to not having any warning. Kent County Cllr Prendergast stated that she would look into this. Cllr Roots offered to take some photos.

ACTION: County Cllr Prendergast

A query was raised relating to the Church Road footpath.

Kent County Cllr Prendergast reported that the KCC budget has now been set and the annual cost of the Young Person's Travel Card is rising to £350. Highways will have an additional £96million investment to pay for more engineers, staff for the drainage team and additional highways stewards. There will also be an additional £29million for post Brexit planning. Shellina is also pushing for the determination of the Harrietsham Primary School planning application. She added that she has been giving regular updates to Cllr J Sams (as Borough Councillor).

Cllr Dean commented that Kent Highways never object to planning applications, even when the roads are gridlocked. County Cllr Prendergast stated that severe harm needs to be demonstrated for an objection to be submitted. She added that, if the Parish Council has an issue, it should be taken up with the Cabinet Member.

Cllr Stanley queried the tarmac work that has been completed on the A20 and Cllr Prendergast was unable to confirm the current position.

1. **Present**

Cllr G Dean, Cllr J Moore, Cllr F Stanley, Cllr V Foster, Cllr C Roots, RFO Mr M Cuerden, Community Warden Martin Sherwood, PCSO John Boyd, Kent County Cllr S Prendergast and the Clerk Mrs A Broadhurst.
1 Member of the Public

2. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr E Powell, Cllr T Griffiths, Cllrs T & J Sams

3. **Minutes of the last meeting**

Parish Council Meeting 30th January 2019 - The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Stanley, seconded by Cllr Moore; with four in favour and one abstention.

4. **Disclosures and confidential items**

Changes to the Register of Interests

No changes were submitted.

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 approved planning applications were noted.
- 5.3 The refused planning applications were noted.
- 5.4 **Other Planning Matters:**

The Clerk reported that there would not be a planning meeting on Friday morning.

The Clerk informed all present that MBC are starting a Call for Sites request on the 28th March 2019.

6. Environmental

6.1 Recommendations from the Environmental Committee: There were no recommendations.

6.2 Other Environmental Matters:

- Christmas Tree to be planted on the Village Green: The Clerk asked for this item to be deferred as Cllr T Sams had given apologies.
- The Clerk reported that Cllrs T & J Sams would like to hold the Annual litter pick on Saturday 6th April. Commencing at 9.00am on the Village Green (outside the shop). All Councillors agreed with this.

7. Finance

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

7.2 Other Financial Matters:

There were no other matters to discuss.

8. Highways

8.1 Highways Issues: The Clerk reported that the possibility of a bus stop on the A20 has been discussed with Jennie Watson (KHS) and she has passed the request on to the Bus Stop Team for further investigation.

8.2 Church Road Footpath: The Clerk informed all present that Cllr T Sams has written to 3 members of the Booth & Baldwin Trust requesting a meeting to discuss the possibility of purchasing a strip of land. He has not received any response to date.

9. Lenham Parish Council

Cllr Griffiths had been unable to attend the meeting, due to work commitments.

Cllr Roots reported that residents had attended the meeting as they were unhappy with an application for 70 homes. Cllr Ratcliff gave further information on this site. He also added that the toilet issues had been discussed further, with a possible solution being to have locks with coin deposit entry. This money could then help fund the maintenance of the building.

There was discussion relating to the A20 crossroads and Cllr Ratcliffe stated that a further meeting had been arranged, as the Parish Council has an idea which may assist with the current issues.

Cllr Ratcliffe said that he would be interested to know what the Parish Council's success rate is with regards to planning decisions.

ACTION: Clerk

10. Renewal of Annual Membership to CPRE

The Clerk reported that the annual subscription to Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) is now due for renewal at a cost of £36.00 (unchanged from last year). Cllr Roots proposed that the subscription be renewed, this was seconded by Cllr Foster; with all in favour.

11. Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk reported that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held in St John the Baptist's Church on the 25th April at 8.00pm. The Clerk reminded all present that this would usually follow a shorter Parish Council meeting that commences at 6.30pm. The Clerk asked whether this should be 7.00pm instead, as there tends to be a large gap between the two meetings. All Councillors were in agreement with starting at the later time. It was noted that the speaker for this year will be a representative from The Alzheimer Society. The Clerk asked Councillors whether they wanted to offer tea and coffee refreshments, which was agreed by all present, and the Clerk added that she would speak to Cllrs T & J Sams, who usually arrange these. The Clerk also reported that articles had started to be received for the booklet, as there is an earlier deadline this year.

12. Future Events

6th April - Annual litter pick from 9.00am on the Village Green

24th April - Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm in St John the Baptist Church

8th May - VHT AGM

2nd June - The Big Lunch

13. Items for Future Consideration

There were no further items.

14. Date of next meeting

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

With no further matters to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.14pm.