

Harrietsham Parish Council

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

Cllr Powell welcomed all present to the meeting.

Police Report: PCSO John Boyd reported on the following crimes, which had occurred since the last meeting in October:

Chegworth lane - Damage to a residential garden

St Welcomes Way - Car stolen from a resident's parking area

Quested Way - Window on a van broken and tools stolen

Ivens Way - Shed broken into and several items stolen

Station Road - Van damaged in an attempt to break in (nothing stolen)

Hook Lane - Caravan broken into. A chain & lock were stolen and there was also an attempt to steal a dog

Horwood Way - Burglary

PCSO Boyd stated that there had been a report of poaching from Pilgrims Lakes. A patrol had attended but the male had already left.

There has been an RTC in West Street, which involved a vehicle from the pub. The PCSO will be visiting the premises with the Licensing Officer. There was a report of suspicious activity, close to Lee Davey caravan sales, but there was no sign of anyone when the patrol arrived.

A resident queried the parking of contractors along the A20 from the Bellway site as they are ruining the grass. Cllr Roots responded that there was no condition attached to the application which required the developer to find parking onsite for the contractors.

A resident commented that there was a constant lack of residents attending the meetings. It was noted that this has always been the case, unless there is an issue in the village.

It was noted that the Friends of St John's are selling Christmas cards, 5 for £3.

1. Present

Cllr E Powell, Cllr F Stanley, Cllr C Roots, Cllr R Dayes, Lenham Representative Cllr M Ballard, RFO Mr M Cuerden, PCSOs J Boyd & J Powell and the Clerk Mrs A Broadhurst
3 Members of the Public

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr V Foster, Cllr G Dean, Cllr J Sams, Cllr T Sams, Cllr T Griffiths, Cllr J Moore, Community Warden Martin Sherwood

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Parish Council Meeting 30th October 2019 - The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Dayes, seconded by Cllr Roots; with 3 in favour and 1 abstentions.

4. Disclosures and confidential items

Changes to the Register of Interests

There were no changes.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

Cllr F Stanley - Agenda Item 7.1 (Other Financial Matters - Grants & Donations) as he is a Trustee of the Village Hall Trust who has submitted a grant request.

Cllr C Roots - Agenda Item 7.1 (Other Financial Matters - Grants & Donations) as he is a Trustee of the Village Hall Trust and Treasurer of Harrietsham in Bloom who have both submitted a grant request.

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:

- Call for Sites: Cllr Powell reported on the Call for Sites list, which was made public on the 4th November. There are 15 sites in Harrietsham, although the sites need to be assessed. The final number of sites to go forward in the village will be known in Spring 2020. Cllrs Powell and Dean have attended a meeting with MBC to discuss the sites highlighted. It was noted that the Parish Council will be trying to limit the housing number as much as possible. During the meeting with MBC,

Councillors had requested that Pilgrims Retreat be included in the housing number, if permanent residency is approved in the future. Councillors asked that the village RSC status be reviewed and it was noted that if Harrietsham were to be downgraded to a larger village, it would reduce the housing figure. Future infrastructure needs were briefly discussed.

- The Clerk reminded all present that the next planning meeting will be held on Friday 6th December.
- It was also noted that the Land at Church Road application (19/503104) may be going to Planning Committee on the 19th December. Cllr Powell reminded all Councillors that they are welcome to attend to see how the meetings operate.

6. Environmental

6.1 Minutes of the Meeting held 12th November: The Clerk asked for this item to be deferred. All Councillors were in agreement.

6.2 Recommendations from the Environmental Committee:

- New Allotments on the Saxon Place Amenity Land: The Clerk asked for this item to be deferred. All Councillors were in agreement. The Clerk added that the report previously circulated by the Amenity Manager would be amended, before the January meeting, as further information is now available.

6.3 Other Environmental Matters:

- Treatment for the lake in Woodlands Walk: It has previously been agreed that a further treatment would be completed on the lake in the forthcoming year, however it has been noted that there are two pockets of algae which formed this year. The Clerk reported that the contractor has recommended adding additional treatment in these two areas, in the hope that this eradicates the issue. The previous cost was £1,956 for 2000kg of microchalk and 20kg of bacteria but this would increase to £2,200.50 (an increase of £244.50 for the year). It was proposed by Cllr Roots to pay for the additional treatment. This was seconded by Cllr Dayes with 8 in favour and 1 abstention.
- Allotment hedge: The Clerk reported that the hedge to the right of the allotments is getting quite high and a quote has been sought from the contractor to reduce the height before there is any further growth. The three contractors who complete work for the Parish Council had been approached to quote for the work. The contractor who oversees this area (Kent Valley) have quoted £1,300 and MBC had quoted £1,455 (JB Landscapes's quote was still outstanding). It was proposed by Cllr Stanley to approve the quote submitted by Kent Valley. This was seconded by Cllr Dayes, with all in favour.
- Bench in Garden of Remembrance: There was brief discussion relating to the damaged bench in the Garden of Remembrance. The Amenity Manager will look into the cost of ordering a replacement.

7. Finance

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

7.2 Other Financial Matters:

- Minutes of the Meeting held 12th November: The minutes of the meeting were found to be an accurate record, proposed by Cllr Roots, seconded by Cllr Stanley, with two in favour (those Councillors present at the meeting). A copy was duly signed.
- To adopt the Amended Financial Regulations: These had previously be circulated to all Councillors. It was proposed by Cllr Roots to adopt the amended Financial Regulations. This was seconded by Cllr Stanley, with all in favour.

- Grants & Donations (Recommendations from the F&GP Committee):

The following grants were proposed by Cllr Dayes and seconded by Cllr Powell; with all in favour:

Harrietsham Fish Scheme	(£600)
Friday Coffee Morning	(next year's hall hire)
St John the Baptist Church	(£1,726, 3 items)
Gardening Society	(£131.40)
Booth & Baldwin Trust	(Up to £1,000)*

*Subject to accounts being submitted to the RFO

The following grant were proposed by Cllr Dayes and seconded by Cllr Powell; with three in favour and one abstention:

Harrietsham in Bloom	(£100, for next year)
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The following grants were proposed by Cllr Powell and seconded by Cllr Days; with two in favour and two abstentions:

Harrietsham Village Hall	(£1,000)
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8. Highways

8.1 Highways Issues: The Clerk asked for this item to be deferred. All Councillors were in agreement.

8.2 Church Road Footpath: The Clerk asked for this item to be deferred. All Councillors were in agreement.

9. Lenham Parish Council

A reported had already been circulated by Cllr Roots. The Lenham Representative Cllr Ballard commented on the following:

- The Call for Sites
- The Garden Village & Action Group
- Having to constantly chase MBC for s106 money
- Pollution levels and have spoken with MBC to see how this is being monitored. It was noted that there is a monitor on the A20 bridge in Harrietsham and another old the Old Ashford Road in Lenham. Air quality is a planning issue and applications can be thrown out if pollution levels rise too high.

Cllr Ballard also spoke about the congestion close to Junction 8 and asked whether Harrietsham Parish Council would support Lenham in trying to get alterations made to the roundabout by Leeds Castle. It would be possible to widen the junction slightly to allow for vehicles heading for Leeds village to filter off to the left (Maidstone bound), which may help some of the congestion around the junction. After brief discussion, Councillors agreed that they would support Lenham Parish Council and Cllr Powell suggested that County Cllr Prendergast should be the first point of contact for this.

10. Additional Play Equipment for the Glebe Field

The Clerk reported that the new play equipment and safety flooring has been installed and the safety inspection is due to be completed on Friday. There is space for a seat and a bench and it has been suggested that rubber mulch be placed in front of these, so that they match the existing seats. After brief discussion it was noted that there is still some of the funding to be spent on the project so the Clerk was asked to progress with ordering the benches, as detailed by Maria Cook, who is overseeing the project on the Parish Council's behalf.

ACTION: Clerk

11. Defibrillator Training

The Clerk reported that the second training session had gone well.

12. Future Events

13th December - Carol Service with the Salvation Army Band, with refreshments (6.30pm for 7.00pm start)

14th December - Soup Saturday in the Booth Hall (12.00 - 2.00pm)

21st December - Film Show (There will not be an admission charge for this show)

13. Items for Future Consideration

- Climate Change - *Cllr T Sams*

14. Date of next meeting

Full Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday **29th January 2020** from **7.30pm** in the Booth Hall

With no further matters to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.14pm. Cllr Powell wished all present a very Happy Christmas.

A resident stated that, even though a response had been received from Harrietsham Surgery, they are still disappointed that there would not be a flu jab clinic this winter.