

# Harrietsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 31st October 2018 at 7.30pm  
in the Booth Hall.

The Chairman, Cllr Powell, welcomed all present to the meeting.

The Clerk reported that there had been two crimes reported since the last meeting. One was damage to a vehicle and the other was an attempted break in at a property. There have also been two dog related incidents in the village. In one, a lady had been bitten, quite severely, on the arm; this is an ongoing investigation. In the other incident, a dog had killed a cat and the owner is to receive a visit from the PCSO and Community Warden.

## Public Discussion

A resident stated that the lady who had been bitten has still not received a visit from Kent Police and the Clerk offered to discuss this with the PCSO. **ACTION Clerk**

A resident queried whether the heras fencing on the Crest Nicholson site boundary, close to Lee Davey caravans, is to be removed. After brief discussion Cllr J Sams was asked whether Cllr T Sams could investigate this further. **ACTION: Cllr T Sams**

A resident reported that there are vegetation issues along the A20. The Clerk reported that these will be reported to Kent Highways. **ACTION: Clerk**

A resident raised concerns with the work being completed at the Oast House in the Crest Nicholson development. There has been asbestos sheeting being smashed and the complete roof has been burned on a fire. There seems to be very unsafe working practices taking place on the site and work is being carried out at very unsociable hours. It was noted that this has already been reported to MBC, however the resident wished to bring this issue to the attention of the Parish Council. The Clerk offered to look at the conditions placed on the planning application approval, to see whether the Planning Committee can help in anyway. **ACTION: Clerk**

## 1. Present

Cllr E Powell, Cllr G Dean, Cllr J Sams, Cllr J Moore, Cllr T Griffiths (from 7.35pm), Cllr F Stanley, Cllr C Roots, RFO Mr M Cuerden, Lenham Representative Cllr M Ballard and the Clerk Mrs A Broadhurst.  
2 Members of the Public

## 2. Apologies for absence

Cllr V Foster, Cllr T Sams, Community Warden Martin Sherwood, PCSO Boyd

## 3. Minutes of the last meeting

Parish Council Meeting 26th September 2018 - The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Dean, seconded by Cllr Roots; with five in favour and two abstentions.

## 4. Disclosures and confidential items

### Changes to the Register of Interests

No changes were submitted.

### Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

No declarations were submitted.

### 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 The declined to determine application was noted.
- 5.5 Other Planning Matters:

The Clerk reported that there would be a planning meeting at 9.30am on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

The Clerk reported that there had been a concern raised regarding the open space provision, which is currently being created in the Chantry Green development. The work seems to have formed a 15ft embankment, which the new residents had not been made aware of before purchasing their properties. This has been reported to MBC but the resident wished to make the Parish Council aware of the situation. After brief discussion, Cllr Moore offered to view the site before the planning meeting on Friday morning. **ACTION: Cllr Moore**

Cllr Roots reported on the meeting recently held by MBC relating to the Review of the Strategic Plan (2019-2045). All Councillors that attended had condemned all 8 draft objectives detailed by the speaker and it was noticed that there had been a serious omission relating to the lack of infrastructure. All infrastructure (including roads, transport, schools, doctors etc) should be put in place before there is any further

development in the Borough. There had been a two hour discussion which had concluded with the organiser saying that MBC would listen to Parish Councils in the future.

## 6. Environmental

6.1 Recommendations from the Environmental Committee: The Clerk reported that the next meeting is to be held in November.

6.2 Other Environmental Issues:

Cllr Roots thanked the volunteers who have been litter picking along the A20. He asked that a letter of thanks be sent to them and this was agreed by all present. **ACTION: Clerk**

## 7. Finance

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

## 8. Highways

8.1 Highways Issues: Cllr J Sams reported on the following points:

- The outstanding issues in the village are being chased.
- There is an increase in the number of road closures, showing that work is now being progressed.
- The need for tactile paving on Armistice Way has been reported to KHS.
- Tree issues at the Garden of England are being investigated, with a letter having been sent to the landowner.

The Clerk reported that KHS had quoted £560 for the two 'walkers in road' warning signs and posts, but that this did not include the cost of the highways management that will be required to install them. The Clerk had received an additional price from the RBLI, who can also produce highways signs and their quote was £217.94 (inc. VAT). The Clerk suggested that this project required further investigation and all Councillors were in agreement. **ACTION: Highways Cttee**

Cllr Moore reported that the newly opened Co-op store is already causing traffic issues in the Saxon Place development. The bollards outside some of the houses have been damaged and the cost of replacing this will be down to the Management Company on the estate, which the residents are very unhappy about. The delivery lorries are parking at the front of the store rather than going around to the delivery bay. Cllr J Sams confirmed that, as Borough Councillors, they had sent a formal letter to the Manager of the store and added that the delivery companies need to be paying for the damage. It was also noted that driveways are already being blocked around the store.

8.2 Church Road Footpath: Cllr J Sams reported that Jennie Watson, from KHS, had raised some queries regarding the proposed footpath and stated that it did not appear to be a viable project. A response has been sent to remind KHS that the Parish Council is intending to pay for this project and also highlighted some issues with the queries raised.

8.3 Parking around Harrietsham Primary School: Cllr Griffiths reported that the competition is progressing, with the deadline for entries being Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. The school will judge the most suitable drawing to be made into a banner. Cllr Griffiths then reported on the most recent issues relating to parking at the school. This had resulted in an altercation when a driver was challenged over where they had parked. The Police are now monitoring the situation. Vehicles are being parked on the crossing point used by the children and several options were discussed to see if there were options for stopping this. These included bollards or cones being placed in the road, as happens outside Milstead Primary School (Cllr J Sams to investigate further). This is an issue which may require input from MBC's parking enforcement team and the Clerk offered to discuss this with the Community Warden. **ACTION: Clerk/Cllr J Sams**

Cllr Griffiths added that the recent parking issues were a serious obstruction for emergency vehicles and the buses that travel along West Street.

8.4 Play Area Safety Barrier: The Clerk reported that a quote of £330 been received from KHS for the installation of the safety barrier. It was proposed by Cllr Griffiths to accept this quotation. This was seconded by Cllr Moore, with all in favour. **ACTION: Clerk**

## 9. Lenham Parish Council

The Clerk reminded all Councillors that Cllr Moore had previously circulated a report. Cllr Moore stated that there was one action point from Lenham's last meeting and that was to discuss whether Harrietsham Parish Council wish to be involved in a joint meeting with the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner to discuss the ASB issues in the area. After brief discussion it was agreed that Councillors would like to be involved but that expectations are not high. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Ballard added the following points:

- Lenham is having the same parking issues around their Co-op store.
- It is hoped that the 50mph reduction will be in place soon.
- KHS have replaced the bollards at the bottom of Faversham Road.

- It was noted that The Paddocks development has no traffic management plan for construction vehicles.
- 600 people had attended the draft Regulation 14 consultation event for their Neighbourhood Plan.

**10. Speedwatch**

Cllr J Sams reported that a meeting is to be held in Platts Heath in a couple of weeks with a view of then inviting the Co-ordinator to assess the sites to be used in Harrietsham. Any volunteers need to complete an on-line test before being authorised to be involved in the scheme. It was noted that the equipment is working well in Platts Heath.

**11. Changes to Committee Membership**

The Clerk reported that Cllr Roots had offered to join the Planning and F&GP Committees and also the Highways and Charity groups. Cllr Powell proposed that these additions be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Dean, with 6 in favour and 1 abstention.

**12. 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 Griffiths; with all in favour.

**13. Christmas Crib Festival**

The Clerk reported that an invitation had previously been circulated inviting the Parish Council to participate in a Christmas Crib Festival. After brief discussion Councillors felt that they would be unable to create a nativity scene but would be happy to make a donation to The Friends of St Johns instead. Cllr Griffiths proposed £100, but this was reduced to £50 after further discussion. Cllr Moore seconded, with 6 in favour and 1 abstention (CR).

**14. WW1 Beacons of Light**

Cllr Griffiths reported that all of the arrangements are now in place for the beacon lighting, as he has tested the equipment currently being stored by the RFO. The Clerk reminded all present that the beacon is to be lit at 7.00pm on the 11<sup>th</sup> November for 1 hour. Concerns were raised whether there was enough gas and Cllr Moore reported that she had an additional canister that could be used as a back-up. The RFO reported that one of the Church Wardens is happy to assist with the setting up of the beacon.

**15. Invitation for the Mayor to attend the January Parish Council Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr J Sams that the Mayor be invited to the meeting in January, with the Clerk arranging the usual refreshments. This was seconded by Cllr Dean, with all in favour. **ACTION: Clerk**

**16. Future Events**

11<sup>th</sup> November (9.45am) - Blessing of the new paving and Roll of Honour at the War Memorial  
 11<sup>th</sup> November (10.15am) - Remembrance Service  
 11<sup>th</sup> November (7pm) - WW1 Beacons of Light (Beacon lighting at the Church)  
 30<sup>th</sup> November - Santa's village visit  
 1<sup>st</sup> December (12.00 - 3.00pm) - Harrietsham School's Christmas Fair

**17. Items for Future Consideration**

Cllr Roots queried whether there should be an agenda item for Councillors to give individual reports. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had moved away from this, due to the length of some of the reports. If a Councillor attends a meeting, generally a report is circulated to all Councillors instead.

**18. Date of next meeting**

Full Parish Council Meeting - **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018** from **7.30pm** in the Booth Hall

*With no further matters to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.39pm.*

The following were raised during Public Discussion:

- There was a query relating to the bin installed by the junction of Church Road. **ACTION: Cllr J Sams**
- The temporary fencing under the bridge on the A20 is being placed in the middle of the road by youths, causing vehicles to stop in the road, leading to traffic issues. **ACTION: Clerk**