

DRAFT**Minutes of Halling Parish Council held on 10th February 2015 at the Jubilee Hall**

Present: Chair Sally Brady (SB), Vice-Chair Chris Herbert (CH), Bob Morton (BM), Alan Herbert (AH), George Wenham (GW), Jim Sutherland (JS), Matt Fearn(MF) and Andy Simpson (AS) Bill Swan – Clerk (WS) and 12 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** –
Les Hitchcock (LH)and Mark Joy (MJ) – reasons accepted.
2. **Disclosure of any other Business**
AS – 1 item –CCTV; SB – 1 item – WW1 graves
3. **Declaration of Pecuniary and Prejudicial Interests**
JS and AH declared a pecuniary interest in item 10 – Redrow Homes
4. **Adjourn meeting for Parishioners' Questions**
The Chair adjourned the meeting and invited questions from the public present.
The following points were raised:
Cemetery gates - SB said that the repainting has been completed. Seat at Browndens Road bus stop. Name plate for Forge Green. Phone box in Lower Halling.
5. **Reconvene meeting and Minutes of Parish Council meetings**
The Chair reconvened the meeting and asked if the Minutes of the 14th January 2015 meeting, the Finance Committee on 21st January and the Extra ordinary meeting on 4th February 2015 were a true record. MF proposed, seconded by AH, that they be accepted. All agreed apart from SB and CH who were not at all of the meetings. The Chair duly signed them.
6. **Matters Arising from Minutes of last meeting**
Item 13 – MF asked how the new office hours were settling in. WS said that it was going well.
7. **Halling Marsh and footpaths**
Barry Barnes reported that as regards the possible permissive path from Whittings Farm to Cemetery Road, the tenant farmers could see no problems with the plan and he is waiting to hear further from Lafarge. As regards the possible path from the Marsh to the A228 across Cemex land, the only way to get to the A228 is through the narrow rail tunnel which is used by vehicles and is probably a “no go”
GW said he has bumped into Wildfowlers on the marsh and asked them to chase up their Chairman about the small piece of land in question. MF said he will contact Alan Jarrett concerning this. GW and WS met with Steve Weeks from the Kent Wildlife Trust on 4th February who came up with ideas about the future management of the marsh. He will be sending in a report as soon as possible. Barry Barnes said that the only way to stop trespassing on any piece of land is for the owners to fence it off.
8. **Recreation Grounds** –
JS said that Maria Cook is still off work following her operation and HPC sends her its best wishes. WS said that Maria was very pleased with the bouquet of flowers. The Clerks have approached the Veolia Trust for funding and have been told that this is within the criteria needed. The closing date for the next series of grants is 29th May 2015. JS, LH and AS visited the play areas at Ditton and Loose with Maria Cook and saw just what can be done.
9. **Planning**
MF said that the only item is a revision to the plans at Court Farm to which HPC had no objection.

10. **Redrow Homes** -
SB has spoken to Glen Wells of Redrow who said that there is a planning issue with the football pitches.
11. **Purchase of Halling Fire Station**
CH reported that HPC's Solicitors are going ahead with the purchase and that Hicks of Snodland have been asked to act on our behalf. The Clerk is to ask KFRS for detailed site plans so that HPC can move ahead with a change of use application to Medway Council
12. **Traffic Survey and parking in the Village.**
JS said that he was disappointed with the information supplied by Medway Council in the latest traffic survey. He wanted to know the details of vehicles exceeding 30 mph and asked if HPC could do its own speed check. CH said that the survey had statistics for all traffic in the latest information from Medway Council. JS felt that HPC should ask for a 20 mph limit in the High Street. CH said that there are practical concerns with this. AS said there is an ongoing problem with parking on pavements. SB proposed that HPC meets again with Phil Moore, the Highways Manager of Medway Council to discuss these issues. All agreed and the Clerk will invite him.
13. **Permanent location of the Ceramic Poppy**
JS asked where the poppy should go. He felt it should be placed in a suitable container at the school. SB said that she had been asked if HPC could leave annual tributes on the WW1 graves over the next 5 years. Martyn Court had today laid flowers on the grave of Private William Kemsley who was killed in WW1 at the age of 16. He had noticed this while carrying out the work on the Cemetery gate. It was suggested by the Assistant Clerk that perhaps a plaque showing the names of all those from Halling who died in WW1 could be displayed along with ceramic poppy at the school. JS is to approach the Head Teacher about this and will report back.
14. **Receipts**
See attached spreadsheet
15. **Payments**
See attached spreadsheet.
It was proposed by SB, seconded by CH that the payments be ratified. All agreed
16. **Dates of forthcoming meetings of the Parish Council.**
Wednesday 11th March 2015 at the Community Centre at 7.30 pm.
17. **Any other Business**
AS said that he is looking into the possibility of having CCTV in the Village and will be preparing a feasibility study. He has spoken to the PCSO – the guidelines for covert CCTV are quite strict. SB said that HPC had looked into this before but took no action. AS will report back at a future meeting. SB's AOB has been dealt with in 13 above.

The meeting closed at 8.17 pm