

Minutes of Halling Parish Council held on 7th May 2014 at the Community Centre

MAY14/01

Action

Present: Sally Brady (SB), Les Hitchcock (LH), Chris Herbert(CH), Jim Sutherland (JS); Bob Morton(BM) George Wenham(GW), Matt Fearn (MF) Alan Herbert (AH) Bill Swan – Clerk (WS) & 12 members of the public.

1. To elect the Chair for the ensuing year

Sally Brady said that she was willing to stand as Chair and there being no other nominations, she was duly appointed.

2. Signing of the Declaration Book.

Sally Brady having been appointed as Chair duly signed the Declaration Book and took her place.

3. Apologies for absence

Mark Joy and Kevyn Wightman gave their apologies the reasons for which were accepted.

4. Disclosure of Any Other Business

JS – possible changes to Doctors' Surgery.

MF – sewage pipe from St Andrews Park.

5. Declaration of any Pecuniary and Prejudicial Interests

MF has a pecuniary interest in White Pit and any Cemex matters

LH – declared a prejudicial interest in item 22 -

6. Adjourn meeting for Parishioners' Questions.

The Chair adjourned the meeting and invited the public to ask questions of the Parish Council.

The following points were raised:

The possibility of a Pharmacy being opened in Cuxton which would affect the Doctors' dispensaries
Safety fencing; Trees in Red Hill; Planning application at Mayfield.; Medway Valley Train Sewrvice; Halling marsh; extending RS 320 through Cemex land. Speeding traffic in Village.

7. Reconvene meeting and Minutes of April 2014 meeting.

The Chair reconvened the meeting and asked if the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2014 were a true record. CH said that the last sentence of item 6 (Fire Station) should have read as follows;

“not 50% of the difference between the purchase and sale price” It was proposed by CH, seconded by GW, that subject to the above amendment, the minutes should be approved. All agreed and the Chair duly signed them.

8. Matters Arising from Minutes of last meeting. - none

9. To elect Vice-Chair and Committee Portfolio holders.

The Chair nominated CH as Vice-Chair and there being no other nominations, CH was duly appointed.

LH said he was prepared to continue as the Portfolio holder for Estates. Barry Barnes was prepared to be co-opted as a non voting Member of the Parish Council as the Footpaths Officer serving on the Footpaths Committee and aided by GW. All agreed.

MF volunteered to act as Portfolio holder for Planning and Development

JR volunteered to act as Portfolio holder for Community and CH offered to continue as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

10. To appoint Members of Committees and representatives to other bodies.

KALC and Rural Liaison

JR volunteered

Halling Association

Chair and Vice-Chair

School Governors and Jubilee Hall

Mark Joy willing to continue

Community Centre

JS to continue

Halling View

KW, JR and Clerks to continue

Lafarge/Redrow

Committee of whole Council

TS

TS

LH

KW

11. To agree dates and venues for 2014/2015

It was agreed to accept these as detailed by the Clerk.

TS

12. Fire Station Purchase

CH circulated the draft contract to all Members and pointed out that the covenant has been amended to allow disposal of the property. HPC is awaiting its Solicitors comments on this before proceeding further.

TS

13. Annual Parish Meeting - report

The Chair said that it was a great success for a meeting with a new format. It will be held next year at the Community Centre on 25th April 2015.

TS

14. White Pit

JR reported that Cemex has outsourced the management of this to another company and that perhaps HPC could ask for an extension of the lease. It was proposed by GW, seconded AH, that the lease be allowed to lapse in June 2014. MF declared an interest otherwise the vote was unanimous. .

TS

15. Halling Village Fayre 2014 (HVF14)

The Chair reported that arrangements were well under way and it was intended to keep the costs down for residents and their families to ensure an affordable day out.

16. Bishops Palace – no report**17. Halling Marsh Grazing**

JR reported that Andrew Lingham's response to the non grazing this season is that he fully understands the reasons but has signed up to a Stewardship scheme for the Marsh whereby he has to have access to the Marsh. The Clerk reported that there is another local farmer who would be prepared to cut the grass free of charge provided that he be allowed to keep the cuttings for hay. It was proposed by JR, seconded by LH, that HPC approach Andrew Lingham re cutting the grass and involving the NFU re this. All agreed.

JR

18. Cooker for Community Centre

The Chair said that this was more properly a matter for Halling Association and that she would raise it with them.

19. Customer First at Medway Council

The Clerk said that this has now been discontinued and that the office have to spend a lot of time on the phone waiting in the queue on the 333333 number. Cllr Ray Maisey said that there is now a new portal on Medway's website called "love medway" which was now the appropriate way to report complaints etc. The Clerk will put this on the office PC and his smart phone.

WS

20. Polling Stations

The residents of North Halling will have to vote in Cuxton for the European elections but Cllr Maisey that Medway Council will be see how this goes before ant decision on the elections due next May 2015.

21. Traffic Issues

Discussed earlier in PQs. CH suggested that HPC ask again for a 20 mph limit.

22. FW13 progress

CH said that there has been no progress on the accounts but he and the Chair will be getting together on this before the next meeting and will report back then.

CH

23. Cemetery complaints clarification.

JA said that this is owned by the Church not HPC but we were getting lots of complaints about the state of the grass. The Clerk is to contact Rev Knight to get something done.

WS

24 & 25 Receipts and payments

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS IN APRIL 2014ITEM24 INCOME

<u>Date</u>			<u>Total</u>
01/04/2014	Du4 accounts	HV2014_15	150.00
07/04/2014	Medway Council	RLG	6991.09
08/04/2014	Medway Council	Precept	40680.00
		Total	47821.09

ITEM 25 EXPENDITURE

			<u>Net</u>	<u>Vat</u>	<u>Gross</u>
<u>Needing ratification</u>					
01/04/2014	Clive Stanley Website March 14	G/A	102.00		102.00
08/04/2014	Ben Cook Lower Rec	EST	80.00		80.00
10/04/2014	Zurich Insurance Rnl for 2014/15	G/A	2002.25	102.14	2104.39
10/04/2014	KALC Rnl for 2014/15	G/A	664.08	132.82	796.90
10/04/2014	Total Property Repairs to N/B	EST	35.00		35.00
24/04/2014	Ben Cook Work on recs	EST	90.00		90.00
24/04/2014	Hygiene Supplies Hand dryers	Section 137	267.49	53.50	320.99
29/04/2014	KALC Books	G/A	39.99		39.99
20/02/2014	KCC Legal fees	G/A	693.60		693.60
					4262.87

Needing approval

None

It was proposed by the Chair, seconded by the Vice-Chair, that these payments be ratified. All agreed.

26. **A.O.B.**

MF said that HPC should not accept the £5,000 from Redrow until clarification has been received from their engineers about the proposals for the sewage and water pipes. This was seconded by JS and all agreed.

The Vice-Chair proposed that HPC must approach its Solicitors about the agreement which will incur legal costs. Seconded by MF and all agreed. Clerk to arrange this.

27. **Dates of upcoming meetings of the Parish Council**

Parish Council meeting on 10th June 2014 at the Jubilee Hall at 7.30pm/.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.