

**DRAFT****Minutes of Halling Parish Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at the Jubilee Hall**

Present: Chair Sally Brady; Vice-Chair Chris Herbert (CH), Bob Morton (BM), Alan Herbert (AH), George Wenham (GW), Jim Sutherland (JS); Les Hitchcock (LH); Andy Simpson (AS) and Matt Fearn Bill Swan – Clerk (WS) and 9 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** –  
Mark Joy(MJ) – reason accepted.
2. **Disclosure of any other Business**  
JS – 2 items – poppy at the school and Community Centre Committee; AS – 1 item - report on RLC; Clerk – 1 item on policing; Les Hitchcock – trees in Recs.
3. **Declaration of Pecuniary and Prejudicial Interests**  
JS and AH declared a pecuniary interest in item 11 – 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:  
Tree on Plough path; No right turn at St. Andrews Park; Ownership of Jubilee hall; Voluntary Groups from young people; Safer routes to school.
5. **Reconvene meeting and Minutes of Parish Council meetings**  
The -Chair reconvened the meeting and asked if the Minutes of the 11th March 2015 meeting were a true record. LH proposed, seconded by GW, that they be accepted. All agreed apart from SB who abstained as she was not at the meeting. The Chair duly signed them.
6. **Matters Arising from Minutes of last meeting**  
Item 6 – JS asked what the planning issues were with the football pitches. SB replied that there were problems with the height of electricity cables over the area..
7. **Halling Marsh Grazing**  
The Clerk passed round the Kent Wildlife Trust's report on his site visit to the marsh with GW, having already emailed this to Members before the meeting.. GW proposed, seconded by LH, that the Parish Council accept the report and invite Tenders based upon the recommendations of the KWT report. All agreed apart from MF who abstained. The Clerk will send out the tender documents for return by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015.
8. **Footpaths** –  
GW reported that the path by Maximilian Drive has now been treated with type 1 aggregate together with the steps at the gate on Marsh Road. Barry Barnes thanked Martyn Court for the work on the paths and stiles. The footpaths are in good order following the dry spell. RS201 will be closed for at least another six months until Redrow are ready to reopen it. Part of the path from Whittings Farm to the plough path is owned by Medway Council who are keeping in touch with Barry Barnes.
9. **Recreation Grounds**  
JS reported that the Working party has been to the school and was well received. Maria Cook has also been to the Youth Club and Bo-Peeps to get their views.  
CH said that if the youth shelter is removed from the lower rec., this would only move the anti social behaviour elsewhere in the village. This view is also held by the police. It was decided to put up laminated signs in the shelter warning that if the anti social behaviour continues, the shelter will be removed within six months

10. **Planning** -  
MF reported on the following applications received since last month's meeting.
1. MC/15/0912 – 61 Rochester Road, North Halling – 2 storey side extension
  2. MC/15/0998 – 41 Vicarage road, Lower Halling – single storey sided summerhouse/shed
  3. MC/15/1041 – 21 Pilgrims Road, North Halling – 2 storey side extension.
- The sites had been visited and the Parish Council had no comments to make on any of these.
11. **Redrow**  
SB said that there had been no update and that Redrow have been very slow over the matter of the football pitches.
12. **Halling Fire Station.**  
CH said that he and the Clerk had visited the fire station with Robert Beswarick of Hicks and Co. who is preparing the planning application for change of use. The Clerk is taking up the matter of the rate demand from Medway Council as this does not have any relief shown.
13. **Annual Parish meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015**  
The Clerk said that the Community Centre had been booked for between 12 noon and 3 pm and Invitations have been sent out to those bodies with a local interest in Halling for residents to meet and question as appropriate. The WI will be providing the refreshments.
14. **Kent Community Rail Partnership.**  
BM reported on the 26<sup>th</sup> March meeting in Maidstone. Halling Primary School gave a presentation on improvements needed at Halling Train Station. This was a very creditable performance. It was agreed that the station needs some "TLC" and volunteer groups are sought to help with the work. SE Trains promised an improvement in rail connection times at Strood. The next meeting is on 22<sup>nd</sup> April at Halling Community Centre.
15. **Article in Cuxton Parish Council's newsletter.**  
SB said that Cuxton PC had misunderstood completely HPC's suggestion that the electors in North Halling who have to vote in Cuxton at the present time, could perhaps use the New Town Social Club in future elections. Cuxton PC said that HPC was trying to move the polling station away from Cuxton. SB is to attend the next meeting of Cuxton PC on 9<sup>th</sup> April to put them right.
16. **Receipts.**  
None
17. **Payments**

			<u>Budget Head</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Vat</u>	<u>Gross Total</u>
<u>Needing ratification</u>						
<u>Date</u>						
02/03/2015	Zurich Municipal Insurance	Cover for Fire Station	G/A	112.64		112.64
02/03/2015	Tom Bailey	Work on Upper rec	EST	97.50		97.50
02/03/2015	Jubilee Hall	Hire of hall	G/A	12.00		12.00
04/03/2015	Clive Stanley	Web fees for Feb 15	G/A	72.00		72.00
09/03/2015	B T Cook	Work on Lower rec	EST	80.00		80.00
09/03/2015	Total Property	Work on Cemetery gates	Halling Assoc	420.00		420.00
11/03/2015	Paula Wilkins-Smith	Delivery of Halling View	HV	60.00		60.00
11/03/2015	British Telecom	Phone and broadband	G/A	167.14	33.42	200.56
20/03/2015	B Print	Printing	HV	1200.00		1200.00
Totals				2221.28	33.42	2254.70

It was proposed by MF, seconded by BM, that the above payments be ratified. All agreed.

**18. Dates of forthcoming meetings of the Parish Council**

Annual Parish Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at the Community Centre from 12 noon until 3.0 pm.

Annual Parish Council meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at the Community Centre at 7.30 pm.

**19. Any Other Business**

JS – the ceramic poppy is being looked after at the school. LH and JS wish to know what their position is on the Community Centre Committee. It was agreed to leave this over until the next PC meeting but in the meantime, the Clerk will ascertain the position.

The Clerk informed the meeting that there is now only one PCSO covering Cuxton and Halling namely Alistair Hardy.

AS reported on his first Rural Liaison Committee meeting at which mobile policing units and their timings were discussed. Among other policing matters were shed alarms being given out at Cuxton allotments. Inspector Ada Leppard said that all crimes however small should be reported to the police. Neighbourhood plans prepared by Parish Councils can be a help in tackling crime. The next meeting is on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and AS asked if HPC could host it.

LH said that the trees in the Lower rec. have been cut back and that the contractors will do an annual inspection free of charge.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.