

Minutes of the meeting of Lower Halstow Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 November 2014 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall, Lower Halstow.

Present: Cllr Mick Drury (Chair); Cllr Steve Gates (Vice Chair); Cllr Chris Mayes; Cllr Steve Parker; Cllr Nigel Randell; Cllr R Smith; Cllr Barry Tucker and Parish Clerk Mrs C Fordham.

County Councillor Lee Burgess and 6 members of the public

Action

1. **Apologies** Borough Councillor Ben Stokes; all apologies were accepted

2. **Public Question Time**

Concerns were raised by three residents about the inconsiderate and illegal parking by some users of the public house. It was difficult to drive past the pub at busy times as it was impossible to see if anyone was coming the other way. Photographic evidence was provided of cars parking on the pavement at the end of Burntwick Drive, blocking the visibility splay for cars exiting the road.

Residents had noted increased litter in the village and the Council advised that they had not been able to find a replacement when the litter picker left in July. The handyman had agreed that he would carry out occasional litter picking starting in November.

A resident wished to pass on congratulations to the Council and the Friends of the Brickfields for the work on the Memorial Plinth and woodland

3. **Declarations of Interest**

a) **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Cllr Drury disclosed an interest in items 12j) ii) iii) and iv)

b) **Disclosable Non Pecuniary Interests.**

None

4. **Minutes of the October Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr Tucker, seconded by Cllr Smith that the draft minutes of the October meeting on Lower Halstow Parish Council be accepted as a true record; all Councillors were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

5. **Matters Arising**

The Clerk still needed to follow up with the authorities about the London Southend Airspace Consultation.

Clerk

6. **Visitors**

a) **Report from Borough Councillors** See apologies

b) **Report from County Councillor**

Cllr Burgess advised that he had allocated up to £500 for a new growing Christmas tree for the village. The Council decided they would like to order the Nordmann Fir at £321 plus carriage and delivery.

Clerk

Cllr Burgess advised that there had been similar parking issues in Borden and he would send the Clerk the contact details for the parking enforcement officer.

7. **Decisions/Actions/Proposals**

a) **Standing Orders**

On discussion it was agreed that Public Time would be set at 15 minutes, with the Chair retaining the discretion to extend the time in exceptional circumstances. It was proposed by Cllr Gates, seconded by Cllr Smith that the revised standing orders be approved; all were in favour and the standing orders were duly adopted.

Clerk

8. **Correspondence**

a) SBC email of 9.10.14- Swale rural forum at Selling on 18.11.14. It was noted that the next Swale Forum would be held in Lower Halstow on 10 February 2015.

All Cllrs

b) KALC email of 13.10.14 – KCC Budget Consultation.

- c) KALC email of 14.10.14 – Parish News.
- d) SBC email of 15.10.14 – Trustee Network Events
- e) SBC email of 20.10.14 – Agenda items required for Swale Rural Forum.
- f) ARC Kent email of 21.10.14 – invitation to AGM on 20.11
- g) KALC email of 22.10.14 – Community Resilience and Emergency Planning Training. The Council would include the EA Flood risk plan on the website. It was agreed that a Working Party, consisting of Cllrs Randell, Mayes and Parker, would be set up to draft an emergency plan for consideration. *Clerk, Cllrs Randell, Mayes & Parker*
- h) Michal van der Straaten email of 23.10.14 – Information re sculptures. It was clear that there was some difference of opinion amongst the Friends of the Brickfields about this proposal and the Council decided that they did not wish to pursue the idea at this point in the development of the wood. *Clerk*
- i) Judy Telford email of 23.10.14 – Information re sculptures.
- j) ARC Kent of 23.10.14 – Funding sources.
- k) SBC email of 24.10.14 – Draft Statement of Intent for comment.
- l) Three Tuns email of 26.10.14 – Happy to discuss public access defibrillator. Clerk to find out details of cost of cabinet and Chair to speak to owners of Three Tuns. *Clerk/Chair*
- m) P&CC email of 27.14 – Consultation on Policing
- n) KALC of 22.10.14 – invitation to AGM on 22.11.14. Cllrs Smith and Mayes would attend. *Cllrs Smith & Mayes*
- o) Swale Area KALC email of 29.10.14 – SBC Statement of Intent for discussion. Cllr Smith had attended the meetings and advised that Councils were concerned that none of their comments seem to have been taken into account. He asked Councillors to let him have any comments on the draft. *All Cllrs*
- p) KALC of 29.10.14 – Update of Fire brigade Strike.
- q) KALC of 30.10.14 – Election materials
- r) Kent Police of 30.10.14 – Public Safety Campaign. It was agreed that an item would be included in the Newsletter re cold calling tradesmen. *Clerk*
- s) Swale Area KALC 2 emails of 31.10.14 – Update on Government Position on passing on LCTS.
- t) Resident letter of 4.11.14 – Concerns about illegal and inconsiderate parking. The Council agreed that they would ask the Parking Enforcement officers and PCSO to visit the area to deal with offenders. *Clerk*
- 9. Planning**
- a) SBC email of 23.10.14 – Update on Planning application process
- b) KCC email of 29.10.14 – Property and Planning Conference
- c) Summaries 10.10, 17.10, 24.10
- d) The Chair advised Councillors that there was a new category of Planning Application called Prior Notification, which covered permitted developments, which if not commented on within 7 weeks were automatically approved.
- 10. Clerk's Report**
- a) The Clerk held £20 in allotment rent to be banked.

- b) Mr Knott advised that he would start litter picking from November
- c) Iwade Parish Council had advised that they would probably like to purchase the litter cart.
- d) Following Councillors' replies the Clerk had authorised the BBC to go ahead with the interview on the Brickfields in front of the Memorial tree.
- e) Alan and Jackie Swift had sent their apologies for the memorial wood ceremony.

Clerk

11. **Finance**

Payee	Description	Amount £	Cheque No.
KCC	Legal Fees	17.00	100120
	VAT	3.40	
	Total	20.40	
Profile Business Supplies	Printing first page of Village Newsletter (520 copies)	Total 57.00	100121
Royal British Legion	Donation for Poppy wreaths and crosses	Total 75.00	100122
Swale Borough Council	Planning application	Total 95.00	100123

Under the Local Government Act 1972 (Sch 2) the signing of the cheques, was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Smith; all Councillors were in favour and the cheques were duly signed.

12. **Reports from Members**

a) **Memorial Wood**

Councillors were happy with the draft timetable for the day which had been circulated.

All Cllrs

b) **Footpaths, highways and lighting**

The vegetation was encroaching onto the pavement between the club and Seaview cottages and the footpath between Breach Lane and Hollywell was becoming overgrown.

Clerk

The 30mph sign at the western village gateway was missing.

c) **Burial Ground**

The Clerk would chase up the reply from SBC about bins

Clerk

d) **Allotments**

e) **KALC**

f) **School Governor**

The extension was progressing and the rafters were in place.

g) **Play Area**

The football bench had been vandalised; the damage had been reported to the police.

The Clerk was asked to contact the donors and to ask whether a memorial plaque would be fitted.

Clerk

It was understood that the Friends of the Park were about to disband; the Council were still waiting confirmation of this.

Clerk

h) **Village Broadband**

i) **Newsletter/Website**

To be included: Christmas tree parking problems, itinerant traders; vandalism reports.

Clerk

j) **Brickfields**

i) **General Matters:**

These items were taken after Any Other Business, when Cllr Drury had left the meeting

ii) Edith May- Update on licence agreement

The owner of the barge had agreed to the new licence and the document would be prepared for signature

A request had also been made to bring an oyster smack into the dock for repair during the winter 2014/15. On discussion it was agreed that short term mooring at the dock (up to 2 weeks) would not be charged for, but after that a charge would be made. It was proposed by Cllr Gates, seconded by Cllr Smith that a charge of £25 per week be suggested; all were in favour that the Smack be allowed into the dock for the winter 2014/15 at the cost of £25 per week.

Clerk

Clerk

iii) Car Park – Planning application update

More information had been requested and as the application was for a change of use a further £95 fee was required (see item 11)

Clerk

iv) Westmoreland – Update on licence

There had not been any further communications from the trust.

13. **Any Other Business**

The Chair advised he would not be able to attend the January meeting.

14. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Lower Halstow Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 2 December 2014 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall, Lower Halstow.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Date:

Signed:

Cllr M Drury
Chair