

CLIFFSEND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 14th May 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Members Present. -Parish Councillors Hovenden(Chairman), Wendholt(Vice - Chairman), Searle, Lyon, Ratansingham , Rogers and Turner.

In Attendance - Ashley Stacey (Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer) and approximately 40 members of the village

01 Welcome & Apologies

Cllr Hovenden opened the meeting, and explained the emergency exit procedures. There were no apologies.

02 Chairmans address

Cllr Hovenden gave an update of the Councillors and addressed the meeting. **Cllr Hovenden** gave an brief explanation of Project Nemo, and advised that the up to date plans were available this evening for viewing. **Cllr Hovenden** also advised that there was a copy of the Local Plan available and 2012/13 Parish Council accounts are on display.

03 District Councillor Reports

There were no district councillors present.

04 Reports from visiting/village clubs/groups

- **Douglas Bush – Thanet Cycle Forum**

Mr Bush gave a presentation regarding his involvement in the Thanet Cycle Forum for the past 15 years. Thanet was the first district to produce a Cycle plan, which resulted in cycle paths across the district. In Cliffsend specifically there is the Viking Coastal trail and new path next to the EK Access Road. This has involved joint working with KCC regarding safety issues.

Mr Bush is currently promoting the National organisation, 20's plenty for us which encourages the introduction of 20mph speed limit in built up areas and urban roads. In Kent there are a couple of areas where the limit is 20mph. 20's plenty for us are currently working with a third of the councils in England, promoting that lower speed improves the environment and reduces air pollution. The petition has been in the village shop, and support for a 20mph scheme in the village had been well received. Mr Bush advised there is a meeting on 7th June at 6.30pm at Charles Dickens School to promote this, and he would also be willing to come back to work with the Parish Council at a later date.

Mr Bush was asked how could we get this in Cliffsend? – by a working group getting together to inform local, and county councillors. Helen Knowles, Chairman of the CCPG advised this was something which had come out of the CCPG report as wanted by the villagers, and she would be willing to work with the PC on such a project.

Sandra Wynne – Cliffsend Residents Association

Mrs Wynne read a report from the CRA advising of its history and membership. In 1900 there were 19 properties, today there are over 800. The

RA was formed in 1951, and Sheila Verrier is the current President. Mrs Verrier has lived in the village many years, and is possibly the person who has been resident in the village for the longest time. The RA has been involved in and responsible for major developments within the village such as the building of the village hall and the formation of the Shop Association. The RA would like to thank all the people that volunteer and give their time free to work in the shop. The RA was responsible for the formation of the Parish Council, after gathering evidence that there was a need for one and this was formed in 2003. The RA would also like to thank Vera Hovenden for all her hard work and dedication to the association. She organises quiz nights, teas and events for Christmas and was also responsible for the celebration event for the Jubilee last year.

The RA aim is to continue to be involved with other organisations within the village. Working together we should be able to access every branch to flourish and develop. Unity within the Community.

Ann – Cliffsend Keep Fit Club

Cliffsend keep fit club has been running for 17 years but membership is reducing and they are keen to encourage new members. They meet on a Wednesday evening 8.15 pm – 9.15 pm at a charge of £1. If you are unable to attend there is a charge of 75p. Four weeks are allowed for holidays and there are 2 social events a year, May and October.

Dave Snow – Village Hall

Dave gave a report on the activities at the village hall. There is something on nearly every day, but he would be happy if someone would like to organise events in the evenings. The VHA have tried to make improvements, by way of plants and flowers and would encourage any donations. He thanked the parish council for providing the grant which has enabled the hall to renew its heating system. The parish council have also placed a cabinet in the hall which will be displaying artefacts from the archaeological dig. **Cllr Hovenden** advised she will update on this later.

If anyone wishes to book the hall call Thanet 594261.

Brenda Jones – Indoor Bowls Social Club

Mrs Jones advised that the bowls club meet on a Wednesday afternoon between 2pm-4.30pm. The matt and bowls are already provided and new age curling is also available. There is also a darts board. Membership is £5 for a year and out of the membership fees you get an Christmas lunch, a trip to the pantomime and sometimes summer events. The fee is £2.50 per session, with free tea and coffee. The bowls club is looking to recruit new members, and the club is open to both men and women.

Helen Knowles – Village Shop Association

Helen advised that the AGM was on 7th June 2013 at 7.30 in the church and would welcome everyone to attend. The shop association are currently urgently looking for a treasurer following the resignation of the current treasurer on 7th June 2013. This is very important as without a treasurer the Village Shop cannot trade.

Pat Kelland - Gardening Club

The gardening club meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7.30pm. The meetings are to discuss plants, gardens, however speakers are becoming too expensive so they only attend every other month now.

Membership is £10 per year, with £1 entry on the night. There is also a raffle on the night. The gardening club are desperately trying to recruit new members.

Pat Kelland – St Marys Church

Every Wednesday morning there is a coffee morning in the church at 10.30am. They would encourage parishioners to attend as it is a good social network.

Cllr Hovenden advised the Kent Wildlife Gardening awards are currently open for entries and she would encourage anyone to take part.

Cllr Hovenden read an extract from the Highway Code rule 243 regarding parking 10m from a junction. Bad parking is a regular occurrence within the village and should be reported. **Cllr Turner** advised that if a car is breaking the rules of parking then their insurance will be null and void.

Cllr Hovenden advised that the parish council had purchased the cabinet which was now mounted in the Village hall for the purpose of displaying artefacts from the recent archaeological dig. **Cllr Hovenden** is in contact with Simon Mason the KCC historical officer and the items are currently being catalogued. The items belong to the farmers who own the land where they were found, so they will need to be approached to confirm they are happy to display them in Cliffsend Village Hall. This is a long process but please be assured it is underway.

05

Public Questions

Footpath across the meadow – will this be concreted?

Cllr Wendholt replied on behalf of the Meadow Sub Committee, and advised that this is currently being dealt with. The sub comm have spoken to the farmer and he does not want the path concreted but happy to have honeycomb netting. We are awaiting confirmation from the footpath rep from KCC and will be investigating prices.

Will any of the plans of the meadow affect the memorial trees?

No not at all, we are looking to work on the other side of the meadow, the trees will not be touched.

Can the Neighbourhood Watch have a meeting as people do not know who their representatives are ?

Cllr Hovenden advised that there will not be a meeting for the neighbourhood watch. All the information required is in the Cliffsender and also on the website. There has been an alert today regarding cold callers saying they work for Age Concern, which no longer exists. It is now called Age UK. Karen Peck, Community Warden, has provided literature and stickers for tonight's meeting which is available for you to take away.

Please be aware that the scrap metal lorry has been seen in Foads Lane this week, Be vigilant.

Can people on the cycle path be reported for cycling too fast?

People walking on the path have reported cyclists travelling very fast and not using bells. They are not abiding by the limit. Perhaps Mr Bush could take this to the cycle forum? There are also problems with cars and vans driving along the cycle path and exiting Hugin Green over the kerbs.

It has also been reported that people have been cutting down the wild fennel on the Kent Wildlife path. Please take a note of their registration number if you see anyone doing this and report it.

06

Any other business

There was no further business

Cllr Hovenden thanked everyone for attending and supporting the meeting and closed the meeting at 9.00 pm. Refreshments were available after the meeting. .

**Clerk to the Council: Mrs Ashley Stacey, 3 Rossetti Road, Birchington CT7 9ER,
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