

Minutes of the meeting of Lower Halstow Parish Council held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in the Memorial Hall, Lower Halstow.

Present: Cllr R Smith (Chair); Cllr K Howard-Challis (Vice-Chair); Cllr S Gates; Cllr Parker; Cllr Dadson; Cllr Stiles; Mrs A Smith (Clerk) and 7 members of the public.

**1. Apologies**

The Chairman welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Cllr Beerstecher KCC Councillor Mike Whiting and Swale Borough Councillor Duncan Dewar-Whalley.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None

b) Disclosable Non-Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Smith declared an interest in item 9d (Lighting).

**3. Public Session**

A resident of Wardwell Lane complained that two drains in Wardwell Lane are blocked and water is running down the lane, which will run into the telephone exchange box.

A resident from The Street, wanted to highlight the meeting being held at 10.00 am in the Memorial Hall on the 15<sup>th</sup> February with the Police and Crime Commissioner as a rare opportunity for parishioners to speak to him.

A resident of Cumberland Drive reported to the council that there is now a new PCSO in post.

**4. Visitors reports or comments**

a) SBC Councillors.

No reports received.

b) KCC Councillor

**Report from KCC Mike Whiting:**

I am pleased to be able to assist the Lower Halstow Over 60's with some KCC Member Grant funding toward their 2019 Christmas Party, which was so well attended and enjoyed last month. I have also offered to assist Friends of Lower Halstow Brickfields to install an interpretation board at the entrance of the Brickfields. It would display a map and some description of the industrial heritage and nature of the site. I am waiting on a reply from highways regarding no parking signs on verges. Hopefully Highways has contacted your Clerk with respect to lighting and parish maps and provided a response to questions about salt bags in the village. I raised all these matters on the Parish Council's behalf and left officers to respond directly. I have sent your Clerk a copy of the weekly pothole report, showing how many potholes have been filled in our roads and in our footways in Swale. This is a weekly report and I will forward it to the clerk as I receive it. I have also sent your clerk the notice regarding the reduced speed limit in Boyces Hill, reducing it from 40mph to 30mph.

c) PCSO

No report.

d) Friends of the Brickfields

No report.

**5. To agree Minutes of the Meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.**

The Minutes of the meeting of Lower Halstow Parish Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> January were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Howard-Challis and seconded by Cllr Dadson. Agreed. The Minutes were duly signed.

The Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Lower Halstow Parish Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Howard-Challis and seconded by Cllr Stiles. Agreed with one abstention. The minutes were duly signed.

**6. Correspondence - To discuss and agree action on the following:**

a) Letter regarding Westfield Car Park

It was considered that the letter sent to all Westfield Cottage and Club Cottage residents in December has answered the query.

b) Email regarding Street Light in Crouch Hill Court

The light in the turning circle of Crouch Hill Court has been swamped by the conifers.  
This will be discussed at item 9d.

**7. Finance**

- a) Quotes regarding grounds maintenance – revised quote received from Landscape Services. Further quotes will be sought.

**Action: Clerk**

- b) Quotes regarding Burial Ground fence posts.  
It was **resolved** to award the work to Ransley Projects Ltd.

**8. To discuss and agree response (if any) to the following Planning Applications:**

Chairman's brief on planning applications.

As from April 2019 hard copies of planning applications will not be provided by Swale Borough Council. The proposal of a questionnaire to be sent to residents of Westfield cottages regarding a future planning application was not seconded.

**9. To discuss and agree action on the following:**

a) **BRICKFIELDS & PLANNING**

An email has been received regarding the expenditure on interpretation boards and finger posts. Deferred to the next meeting.

b) **PARKS & LEISURE & PLANNING**

Cllr Howard-Challis thanked Cllr Stiles for repairing the slide. Brackets are being made for the installation of the bench in the play area.

c) **DOCKS & BARGES and CAR PARKS**

An estimate for £100,000 has been received for the dock repairs which has proved not only difficult to obtain but beyond the Parish Council's reach currently. The Council may have to consider applying for a Coastal Communities Lottery Grant. Mr Gransden has responded regarding the renewal of the licence for the Edith May. It was **resolved** to defer the increase for a year on the condition that Mr Gransden arranges and pays for the new licence legal fees.

d) **FOOTPATHS HIGHWAYS LIGHTING and HEDGEROW MAINTENANCE**

All street lighting is working. Complaints has been received that the new LED street light in Westmoreland Drive is too bright and that the light in the turning circle of Crouch Hill Court is impeded by conifers. Cllr Smith considers the new LED street light in Heron Close is not bright enough with regard to recent anti-social behaviour.

**Action: Cllr Dadson**

e) **FLOOD PLAN, EMERGENCY PLAN, TOTAL QUALITY ITEMS (POLICY, SAFETY, AUDITS)**

Nothing to report.

f) **VILLAGE INVENTORY, PARKING and HANDYMAN LIAISON**

It was noted that there had been no effect on the parking in Breach Lane from the comment in Village News. Parking on the verge next to Four Wents has churned up the grass.

g) **GENERAL/MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.**

Cllr Dadson raised the recently received planning application regarding Neptune Orchard. There were no comments.

**10. To acknowledge Reports on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council:**

a) **KALC Rep**

No report

b) **Memorial Hall Rep**

No report.

**11. Clerks Report:**

The Clerk has rented out the last remaining allotment plot at the Memorial Hall and is showing a prospective tenant the last remaining plot at Tutt's on Wednesday. The Clerk has received £100 for two Memorials for the Burial Ground. The Clerk has received two complaints about the new LED street lighting, one that is too bright and the other that the lights outside Neptune Bungalow and at the junction of Vicarage

Lane and The Street are not working. They are not as bright as the previous lights, giving the resident the impression that they are faulty. The bank balance is £65555.50 as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

**12. Items for information only:**

Cllr Gates will arrange with Mr Randall that the Household Emergency Plan details issued by Kent Resilience Forum will be uploaded to the website.

The Clerk will request that the councillor's details are updated on the website.

Cllr Smith tendered his resignation as Chairman of Lower Halstow Parish Council. He thanked KCC Councillor Mike Whiting, Swale Borough Councillors Duncan Dewar-Whalley and Ben Stokes for their help and particularly their financial assistance. He also thanked the Parish Councillors for their support during his tenure.

**13. To receive agenda items**

Correspondence received regarding the Brickfields.

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019

The meeting closed at 20.10 hrs.

**Date:**

**Signed:**

**Cllr. K Howard-Challis  
Acting Chair**

Cheques February 2019

It was proposed to accept the cheques for payment by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Howard-Challis. Agreed unanimously. The cheques were duly signed.

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount £</b>	<b>Cheque No.</b>
Lower Halstow Memorial Hall Trust Fund	Hire of Hall 4/12/18 - £24 and 8/1/19 - £25.50 Invoices: 80 and 95	<b>49.50</b>	100429
Mr E Stiles	Items for repair of swing	<b>17.28</b>	100430
Streetlights	Replacement of Column 14 in Burntwick Drive – £1170.00 Supply and install 39 SL8 LED lanterns - £14069.24 Invoices: 10185 and 10194	<b>15239.24</b>	100431

Other Payments:

Standing Order 25<sup>th</sup> February - Clerk's Salary £300.00