

# BROOKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Page 480

## MINUTES 119

*[ DRAFT – to be accepted at next Meeting ]*

### Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at The Village Hall, Brookland on Monday 17 February 2014 at 7.15 pm

**PRESENT:** Mr C Hill (Chair), Mrs M Andrews, Mrs K Coleman, Mrs H Lewis  
and Mr R Hyman

**PARISH CLERK:** Mrs J Batt

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** Mr D Baker

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** There were 5 Members of the Public present for part of the  
meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no Apologies for Absence.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

Mr Hill declared a Pecuniary Interest in items relating to the land at the rear of the  
Village Hall.

**Declarations of Significant Interest**

There were no Declarations of Significant Interest.

i) **Updating of Declarations of Interest for the Code of Conduct**

The Clerk reminded Councillors that they should update their Declarations of Interest  
with the Monitoring Officer if necessary.

3. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Minutes 117 of the last meeting were accepted and it was unanimously agreed that  
Mr Hill should sign them.

**Proposed Mrs Coleman    Seconded Mr Hyman**

Minutes 118 of the last meeting were accepted and it was unanimously agreed that  
Mr Hill should sign them.

**Proposed Mrs Coleman    Seconded Mr Hyman**

4. **PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Nothing to report.

5. **MATTERS FOR REPORT ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

There were no matters for report that were not covered on the agenda.

**6. PUBLIC INTERVAL**

The meeting was opened to Members of the Public present from 7.30 – 7.40 for questions and comment.

**8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The 100 square miles – 27000 hectares – of Romney Marsh is designated by the Environment Agency as a Grade 3 flood plain, in a region which is agreed to be the 11th most likely area to flood in the UK. As a flood plain it is basically doing what it is required to do in holding excess water until it can be released through sluices, pumps and the Rother Estuary into the sea.

The open drainage system of the Marsh is hundreds of years old and considering that it was constructed by manual labour using hand held tools it still functions incredibly efficiently.

The Internal Drainage Board and the Environment Agency do a tremendous job within the constraints of their financial resources and labour force to make sure that it continues to do so.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE, FINANCE AND OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS****Correspondence**

Kent Wildlife Trust

KCC Public Consultation on the Pre Submission Document Draft of the Kent Minerals & Waste Local Plan

NatWest

Cllr David Baker

**Email Correspondence – all emails forwarded to councillors with email**

Cllr David Baker re Brack Lane

KCC re Horse Warning Signs

Came & Co re winter flooding

DCLG re Sustainable Communities Act re wind farms and solar panel farms

KALC

**Finance****Bank Reconciliation**

<b>Balance per Cash Book</b>		<b>Balance at Bank</b>	
Opening Balance	20304.67	Current Account	25265.54
Plus Receipts	<u>14277.75</u>	Plus u/c receipt	<u>0.00</u>
	34582.42		25265.54
Less Payments	<u>7542.54</u>	Less u/c cheques	<u>1544.12</u>
	<b>27039.88</b>		23721.42
		Plus Reserve a/c	<u>3318.46</u>
			<b>27039.88</b>

**Accounts to be paid**

<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>NET £</b>	<b>VAT £</b>	<b>GROSS £</b>
Mrs J Batt	Salary Expenses	166.61 50.13		216.74
M Coleman	Hedgecutting at Village Hall Leaf Clearance at MUGA	275.00 50.00		325.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>541.74</b>		<b>541.74</b>

**Proposed Mr Hill****Seconded Mrs Andrews****Earmarked Funds**

	<b>Balance 18 Nov 13</b>	<b>+/- Feb</b>	<b>Balance 17 Feb 14</b>
Youth Area Expenses	1843.33	-50.00	1793.33
Youth Area Rent	100.00		100.00
War Memorial	2000.00		2000.00
Notice Board	535.43		535.43
Cemetery Maintenance	3513.03		3513.03
Election Expenses	2448.97		2448.97
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10440.76</b>	<b>-50.00</b>	<b>10390.76</b>

**Insurance**

Nothing to report.

**Village Risk Assessment/Risk Inspection**

Mr Hill and Mr Hyman will complete a risk assessment in time for the next meeting.

**Licence for Village Hall Field**

Councillors agreed the wording of the letter to be sent to Mrs Paine.

**Proposed Mrs Andrews    Seconded Mrs Lewis****Review of Parish Council Documents**

Included on agenda in error. See September.

**CEMETERY****Cemetery Administration**

Councillors unanimously agreed with the updated list of fees which will be sent to local funeral directors, to take effect on 1 April 2014.

**Proposed Mr Hyman    Seconded Mr Hill****10. YOUTH AREA**

Mr Coleman has cleared the leaves as agreed last month.

**11. PLANNING**

Please see attached.

**12. COMMUNITY SAFETY**

From PCSO John Gorham

Just a quick catch up. I have added a few more new members, so if you have not seen this before, then welcome. I cannot believe how wet it has been, I have never seen so much water on the Marsh, very glad of our four wheel drive, the roads were about a foot deep in Old Romney area. On that note, our trusty old Defender has now been decommissioned, and we have a nice shiny new Ford Ranger type vehicle, so this will be what you will now see me out and about in.

There has been a couple of incident of four wheeled "IFOR WILLIAMS" type trailers being stolen off The Marsh; I suspect that they are sold on, as an expensive item. There has also been some hedge cutters and strimmers taken, so please can I ask that you check your out buildings for security.

There has been another incident of a Landrover Theft on the Marsh, a Defender. It appears that these vehicles are still very sought after, and as such can I ask any of you that own one, to be aware of its security.

Poaching and Hare coursing still going on, but reports have slowed down since all the heavy rain, I suspect that the fields are just too muddy to get into. It still seems to be the same few vehicles reported. We do try to get out to the calls, but by the time we get there, they have moved on.

As the spring and summer approach!!!!, and the fields start to dry out !!!!, can I ask a small request. If you see light aircraft landing anywhere on the Marsh, and it's a place that does not normally have any aircraft land, could you let me know, along with any times etc. I have a good reason to ask this. If you do see a light aircraft land, and then a few moments later take off again, it is what I would call suspicious; if at all possible, any markings on the aircraft would help.

Quick contact this month, hope to be a bit more in depth next month. Remember, we live and work in a safe place, and together we can keep it that way

**13. VILLAGE RESPONSIBILITIES****Matters Arising from the Round Robin**

There were no matters arising not previously covered on the agenda.

**Village Hall**

Councillors agreed to write to the Village Hall Committee to express concern that the heaters in the hall are not working properly and ask the committee to arrange to have them inspected by a qualified engineer.

**Proposed Mr Hyman      Seconded Mrs Lewis**

**Items to be reported to Kent Highway Services/PROW/IDB**

Mr Baker will contact Mrs Rockett regarding Salters Lane and Mr Hill will bring it to the attention of Councillor Clifton Holt.

Mr Hill will give the Clerk details of the fallen tree on the bridge in the cemetery.

**14. FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN COUNCILLORS**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Signed ..... Dated .....  
Chairman

**BROOKLAND PARISH COUNCIL  
PLANNING APPLICATION RECORD  
2013**

**FEBRUARY 2014**

Y13/1302/SH Rushmead, Rye Road, Brookland, Romney Marsh, Kent  
Erection of a single storey rear roof extension, together with an increase in roof height and other external alterations to provide additional accommodation at first floor level  
**Parish Council: Support**