

ST MARY HOO PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 30 JANUARY 2018 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, THE STREET, HIGH HALSTOW AT 7.30 pm**

PRESENT:	Cllr Bill Budd	Chairman
	Cllr Paul Hassell	
	Cllr Mrs Carol Heyburn	
	Cllr Mrs Pat Kelly	
	Cllr Terry Ballard	
	Mrs Roxana Brammer	Clerk
	Mrs Linda Atkinson	Assistant Clerk
In attendance	Mr Clive Stanley	Webmaster

Item		<i>Action point</i>
Minute number 2017/18/		

1 APOLOGIES

98 All parish councillors present. An apology for absence was received from Cllr Phil Filmer, Medway Council.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

99 None.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2017

100 It was proposed by Cllr Budd, seconded by Cllr Mrs Kelly and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2017 be signed as a true record.

4 MATTERS ARISING

101 No matters were raised.

5 RETIREMENT OF CLERK AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCCESSOR

102 The Clerk confirmed that she would be retiring as Clerk on 31 May 2018. The Clerk said that she had been in conversation with Mrs Linda Atkinson who is a Parish Councillor for High Halstow. Mrs Atkinson had expressed an interest in taking up a post as a Clerk and had requested that St Mary Hoo Parish Council consider her application. The Clerk confirmed her recommendation to employ Mrs Atkinson as Assistant Clerk with a handover period of 4 months. There was some discussion with Mrs Atkinson and all Councillors as to her experience and suitability for the role. It was then proposed by Cllr Hassell, seconded by Cllr Budd and agreed unanimously that Mrs Atkinson be employed as Assistant Clerk and promoted to Clerk when the handover period had finished. Her starting salary would be £9.40 per hour.

6 PLANNING

103 **a Applications**

None.

104 **b Decisions**

None notified.

105 **c Appeals and Other Matters**

None.

7 FINANCE

106 **a Bank Balances**

The bank balances as listed on Appendix B were noted.

107 **b Cheques Signed Since the Last Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr Budd, seconded by Cllr Hassell and agreed the cheques signed since the last meeting as listed on Appendix B be ratified.

108 **c Accounts for Payment**

It was proposed by Cllr Ballard, seconded by Cllr Budd and agreed the accounts for payment as listed on Appendix B be approved (cheques 101050 - 101053), with the addition of £300, W Budd (Grass Roots) (cheque 101054).

109 **d Budget 2018/19**

The Budget was discussed at length and each item considered. It was proposed by Cllr Hassell, seconded by Cllr Ballard and agreed unanimously that the budget for the year to 31st March 2019 be adopted.

110 **e Precept 2018/19**

It was proposed by Cllr Budd, seconded by Cllr Hassell and agreed unanimously the precept for the year to 31st March 2019 be £6,500.

8 GRANT APPLICATIONS

111 None

9 MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LAND & PROPERTY

112 **a Nature Reserve**

Cllr Budd reported that he was waiting for Laverock Tree Care to survey the trees. Grass Roots had carried out a general tidy-up. Cllr Hassell said he would arrange the

storage container. The Chairman and Mrs Atkinson would arrange to meet the Council's solicitor about registration of land.

113 **b Pond and Village Green**

Laverock Tree Care had carried out a lot of work and the area was looking good.

114 **c Noticeboards**

Re-siting of the board at the Fenn Bell Inn remained a problem as the landlord was seeking permission from the brewery. Cllr Ballard observed that the landlord should just move it. It was also mentioned that the landlord wanted to construct a conservatory and the board would have to be moved anyway.

10 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

115 **a Public Rights of Way**

Cllr Budd reported that as yet he had not found anyone to act as volunteer Footpaths Officer.

b Other Transport or Highways Issues

116 **i Flooding**

Cllr Mrs Heyburn reported that there had been flooding issues in the fields where the horses were kept. The tenants had set up a pump to remove the excess water but the hose had fallen short of the drain and the water was flowing on to the grass verge leaving a huge puddle, which slowly flowed into the drain. This had the effect of if anyone was walking along the grass (there is no pathway) to walk in deep water and mud. Cllr Budd requested that should this happen again then he should be notified and would then discuss the situation with the tenants.

117 **ii Meeting with Portfolio Holder for Highways**

Concerns were expressed that since the meeting held with Cllr Filmer and his officers in September 2016, nothing seemed to have happened. Cllr Mrs Heyburn commented that it had taken months after that meeting for the minutes to have been circulated. It was agreed to seek another meeting.

11 RURAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

118 **a Representative's Report**

Cllr Hassell reported that he had attended the meeting but was disappointed that there had been no police representative present again. The agenda was also very poor with little relevance to rural issues.

12 KALC/MAC

119 **a Representatives' Report**

The Clerk said the next meeting was on 21st February and that Cllr Filmer would be in

attendance.

13 POLICE MATTERS

120 a Police Liaison Committee representative’s report

Cllr Hassell had been introduced to 2 junior PCSOs but felt the meeting was a waste of time. There had been some discussion on the policing in the Parish. It was considered that the biggest risk for crime in the Parish was the Zoo but the proprietors had already taken steps to counter crime with extra security.

14 COMMUNICATIONS

121 a Magazine

Cllr Budd reported that the Editor had asked for more articles and photographs.

122 b Website

The Webmaster introduced himself to Mrs Atkinson and discussed the future of the website. He requested new photographs to upload on the site.

15 CONSULTATION

123 No documents received.

16 CORRESPONDENCE

124 None.

17 REPORTS AND CIRCULARS

125 None.

18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

126 No matters were raised.

The Chairman thanked councillors and the Webmaster for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45 pm

SignedChairman

On theday of2018