



HEADCORN PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, Headcorn Village Hall, Church Lane, Headcorn, TN27 9NR
Tel: 01622 892496 Email: clerk@headcornpc.org.uk

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on Monday, 14th January 2019 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall (Green Room), Headcorn.

Those present: Cllrs Dungey, Evenden, James, Mather, Selby & Walker

Clerk: Caroline Carmichael

There were no members of the public present.

1.
 - a. **Apologies for absence** There were none recorded.
 - b. **To seek notification on whether anyone intends to film, photograph or record any items of this meeting** There were none recorded.
 - c. **Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests** There were none recorded.
 - d. **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or other Interests as defined by the Kent Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011 on any items on the Agenda** There were none recorded.
 - e. **Requests for Dispensations** There were none recorded.
 - f. **Declarations of Lobbying** There were none recorded
2. **Public Session** – Minute book closed.
3. **The minutes of the meeting held on November 19th 2018** were approved and signed by the Chairman.
4. **To receive an update on matters arising from the last meeting**
Area next to the Costa Coffee – it was noted that the business occupying the site have advised that they would be submitting a planning application for the Cushty Crab business after the festive period.
Sign posts on High Street – the Clerk will continue to report.
Planter at White Horse Public House – The clerk advised that this project would now be undertaken by the lengthsman. Costs would be provided at the meeting in March.
Dawkes Meadow – The Clerk has reported flooding issues to Highways and have asked that the drains in that location be “flushed” so as to remove the silt that it believed to be blocking the drains.
ROSPA Independent inspections of Play Area and Open Spaces – The Committee reviewed the reports in detail at previous meetings. The Clerk is managing all remedial matters, any issues would be reported should they arise.



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Parking arrangements in the village – The Clerk reminded the committee that parking issues had been addressed at Full Council. There is however the issue of parking on Church Lane which is as yet unresolved. The matter will need to go back to Full council for further discussion.

Scattering of ashes at Parish Burial Ground – the committee agreed a location for the scattering of ashes. The Clerk will investigate further and update the committee.

Extension to the existing burial ground at the rear of the Methodist Church – the Clerk advised that there seems to have been an error with the application that has been submitted. Nick Gallavin is further investigating what is required and will revert to the Clerk. Updates as they arise.

Mowing of open spaces – the Clerk advised that the mowing will be taken on in the spring. A new mower will be acquired in the New Year. Updates will be provided as they arise.

PROW Lenham Road to Grigg Lane – the committee reviewed the area on the Open Spaces walk and agree that the Clerk should invite developer to a meeting to discuss the area.

The Clerk was asked to press the matter of a barrier that slows people and warn of an exit onto a very fast rural road. The Clerk agreed to take forward with the PROW team.

Spires Ash – The dredging of the pond remains an ongoing matter.

Litter picking in 60MPH zone – MBC have now confirmed that litter picking in 60MPH zones can be undertaken under a “rolling road block”.

Headcorn Football Club – use of Parsonage Meadow. There have been no further issues reported. The Committee would like to publicise the use of the meadow by the Club. The Clerk will approach the Club about use of a publicity photograph.

Section 106 Funds - Section 106 funds were discussed at the last meeting and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to MBC about a deed of variation that would permit the spending of funds on various Open Spaces projects. The Clerk is waiting on a response.

Promotional Signage for Hoggs Bridge Green – copy signs were circulated but did not meet with approval. Clerk to work on some further designs and circulate the same.

Spires Ash ditches – the ditches were cleaned and tidied as agreed at the last meeting

Junction of Ulcombe Road/Lenham Road - The wooden signpost needs refurbishing. The Clerk is following up with Kent Highways concerning the responsibility for the sign.

Lenham Road - The lack of a footpath after Hop Pocket way was discussed. This matter is being pursued at Full Council and updates will be given as they arise.



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5. **To receive a Budget Analysis report**

The budget for the year 2018/19 was discussed, spend is in line with budget and no action is required.

6. **To consider permanent siting for Millennium Beacon and agree actions required**

The committee discussed possible sites for the beacon and it was agreed that it should be sited on Days Green (on North Street) between the existing trees. The Clerk will ask the lengthsmen to consider what size timber post would be appropriate for the beacon. Quotations would be obtained and updates will be given as they arise.

It was further agreed that the post would be fitted with a commemorative plaque noting the names of the lengthsmen.

KCC must be approached to ensure that it would not be in breach of any Highways regulations, although it is hoped that it will be set back far enough on the Green so as not to affect traffic site lines.

7. **To discuss Christmas Lights for 2019 and agree actions required**

The Open Spaces Committee reviewed this matter when on the walk on the day before the meeting to identify possible areas for additional lights, the following areas were highlighted:-

- Lighting of tree at southern end of High Street. The tree identified is on private land and the Clerk was asked to contact the owner to get their views on the matter.
- Reinstate lights outside Family Funeral Services, Bake My Day and the hairdressers.
- Tree on Foremans Walk needs additional lights. The Clerk will ascertain whether any tree work is planned for this tree before additional lights are added.
- Lighting of the two small silver birch trees either side of the bus stop
- Lighting of tree in the Church burial ground
- Lighting of additional tree on Days Green
- Additional lights in the "coloured" tree, adjacent to the toilets on Days Green, are needed

The Clerk will ask PDW (contractors) whether it was possible to light these trees with battery packs or must they have mains connection.

Quotations should be ready for the next meeting.



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8. To create a “wish list” for future projects in the village

The committee discussed potential projects and these include the following:-

- Correction of the Millennium map at Foremans Walk
- Reinstate the stocks that once existed in the village
- Additional seats on Hoggs Bridge Green
- Consideration for a “Poo Generator” on Parsonage Meadow
- Charging points for electric vehicles
 - This should include a charge point for Motability scooters

Village Inspection Walk report

Issues arising and any actions to be taken

Burial Ground at Methodist Church

- The area for scattering ashes has been identified and will be marked with a small plaque. It was also agreed that the area should be planted with bulbs.

Methodist Church

- The trees at the front of the Church is being overwhelmed by Ivy. The Clerk will ask the tree warden for his views on the best course of action.

Traders Car Park

- Future of area to be reconsidered when building complete

North Street

- Lights on the empty shop remain over hanging the street. The matter has been reported to the agent. No further action required.

Junction of Ulcombe Road/Lenham Road

- The wooden signpost needs refurbishing

Lenham Road

- The lack of a footpath after Hop Pocket way was discussed. This matter is being pursued at Full Council.



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- The PROW that links Lenham Road and Grigg Lane was discussed at some length, the Clerk will press Crest Nicholson for a meeting to discuss the issues, this will include:-
 - The dumping of soil and breeze blocks
 - Signage for ecology area
 - Bollards at the end of the footpath onto Lenham Road
 - It was agreed we need signs at either end of the path reminding people to pick up after their dogs (HPC could supply these)

Date of next walk

Sunday March 17 2019

9. **To receive correspondence and action as necessary.**

There was no correspondence to discuss.

10. **Matters for information, urgent matters at the discretion of the Chairman for noting only or any items for further discussion at the next meeting.**

There were no matters for information.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting closed at 8:20pm

Approved:

Date: