

HALLING PARISH COUNCIL

The Community Centre, High Street, Lower Halling, Rochester, Kent. ME2 1BS



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

Saturday 26th May 2018

The Community Centre ~ 12.00 pm

Attendees: Cllr P. Crispe (Chairman) Cllr R. Thorne (Vice Chair)
Cllr A. Butterfield Cllr C. Herbert
Mrs J. Allen ~ Clerk

Members of the public: 12

1. Apologies for Absences

APM001:18 Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr T. Reynolds, Cllr M. Fearn & Cllr K. Talbot who all had prior commitments.

2. To receive minutes of the last annual Parish Meeting

APM002:18 The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Saturday 22nd April 2017 were submitted by the 'New' Clerk. It was proposed by the Vice-Chair Cllr R. Thorne and seconded by Cllr C. Herbert that they be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. The motion was RESOLVED unanimously.

3. Chairmans Report

APM003:18 The Chairman, Cllr P. Crispe opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He then passed the floor over to Cllr C. Herbert (who had recently stepped down following the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 8th of May 2018 from his previous role as Chairman for the past two years).

Cllr C. Herbert stood up and advised the Parishioners that after an unsettled few months he was pleased to finally report that the sale of the old 'Fire Station' had very recently been completed. He spoke to confirm that that inline with this completion that the money from this sale would be used to carry out the refurbishment work to both the play equipment and the access into the Upper Recreation Ground, as previously promised. He also spoke to advise the Parishioners that the Parish Council would look into the possibility of updating the walkways at the Marsh, however suggestions for more improvement works to the village following receipt of these funds would be very gratefully received.

4. Precept 2018/2019

APM004:18 Cllr C. Herbert continued his report and advised that for the 3rd year running the Parish Council had decided to keep the precept at the same level following a finance meeting held in January. He advised that this level was unanimously agreed despite several effects on inflation, the increase in the number of houses to St Andrew's Park and a 7% reduction on the Parish Council's reserves.

He spoke further to confirm that the Parish Council had unfortunately not been without hiccups this past year with the recent office problems, the instruction of a 'New' Clerk and recent resignations of a couple of long-standing members of the Parish Council.

The Chairman, Cllr P. Crispe, spoke and confirmed that the Parish Council had sadly lost 2 long standing members over the past two weeks. He thanked both Cllr A. Simpson and Cllr L. Hitchcock in turn for their continued support and assistance over their many years' service as Councillors.

Cllr P. Crispe also reported that due to dwindling numbers the Parish Council would be looking to co-opt new members and as such they would be promoting these vacancies in due course.

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Cllr A. Butterfield spoke and advised that she could see there was lots of good work going on in the village and lots of new ideas. She reported that the Parish Council were due to have a meeting with St Andrew's Leisure over the next couple of weeks to discuss the potential new plans for the proposed 'Blue Lake development' and that the Parish Council would report back on these shortly.

Vice-Chair Cllr R. Thorne spoke and reminded both the members and the Parishioners that due to the commemorative plans to mark the centenary of the end of WW1 there would be no 'Fun Day' in 2018. He did advise however that the Parish Council were planning on arranging for Fireworks later in the evening for that event, details of which would be published later in the year. He ended his report in thanking Cllr C. Herbert for his all his hard work as Chairman the past two years.