

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

HERNE BAY AREA MEMBER PANEL

**Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday, 9th March, 2010
at 7.00 pm in the Salvation Army Hall, 33 Richmond Street, Herne Bay**

Present: Councillor Reuby (Chairman)
Mrs Law
Mr Hirst
Councillor Bissett
Councillor Bright *
Councillor Davis
Councillor M Flaherty
Councillor Lee
Councillor Sonnex
Councillor A Taylor
Councillor Vickery-Jones

Officers: Anne Charman - Community Liaison Manager
Velia Coffey - Director of Community Services
Lyn McDaid - Senior Democratic Services Officer (Overview
and Scrutiny)
Cathy McNab * - Planning Officer (Development Briefs)
Chris West - Coastal Towns Manager

(*present for part of the meeting)

162 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ron Flaherty and Matthews and for lateness from Councillors Bright and McMahan. Councillor McMahan had not arrived by the time the meeting had closed.

163 **DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

Councillor Sonnex declared a prejudicial interest in any discussions on the Stagecoach Bus Depot site under the item on Herne Bay Area Action Plan. She also stated that she was a member of the Development Control Committee that could be relevant when the item on the Reculver Conservation Area Appraisal was discussed.

There were no other declarations of interests made at this point in the meeting.

164 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman reported that two members of the public had given notice that they wished to speak on three items on the agenda for the meeting. The Chairman indicated that the public speakers would be heard immediately before the consideration of the relevant item.

165 **MINUTES - 12 JANUARY 2010**

The minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 12 January 2010 were agreed as a true record subject to an amendment in the first line of iv) in Minute No 154 to delete "improved" and insert "reduced".

166 **ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING NOT DEALT WITH BY SEPARATE REPORTS**

Prior to consideration of this item, Mr Eburne, a local resident, spoke to it in so far as it related to Minute No 157 and the budget discussion on the museum service.

A member asked if there had been any progress made on Minute No 154 Green Shelter and was informed it had been removed.

There were no other matters arising from the minutes that required further discussion at the meeting.

167 **FORTHCOMING DECISION LIST - 1 MARCH TO 30 JUNE 2010**

The Panel noted the Forthcoming Decision List, which had been published by the city council for the period 1 March to 30 June 2010.

168 **KCC FORWARD PLAN**

The Panel noted that at the present time there were no relevant decisions on Kent County Council's Forward Plan that would affect the Herne Bay area.

169 **HERNE BAY AREA ACTION PLAN**

Prior to consideration of this item, Mr D Eburne and Mr A Newell, local residents, spoke to it

The Senior Planning Officer (Development Briefs) addressed the issues that had been raised by the public related to flooding and the contaminated car park land within the area.

The Panel discussed the report. They made points including the following:

- I) The involvement of the public in the development of the Plan was appreciated
- II) Residents needed to be encouraged to spend their money in the town
- III) Enhanced retail was required to complement what was already available
- IV) Individual flood assessments would be necessary
- V) The Plan would help to regenerate Herne Bay
- VI) It was hoped that the aspirations in the Plan would in time become reality
- VII) The Gateway in Margate library was very impressive

It was AGREED that the officers should be thanked for all their hard work in the preparation of this Plan, which, as now submitted, was supported by this Panel, and the **Executive** be informed accordingly.

170 **RECVLVER CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL**

Prior to consideration of this item, Mr Eburne, a local resident, spoke to it. During consideration of the item, the Chairman also allowed Christine Pye, a local resident, to speak.

The Panel discussed the draft Reculver Conservation Area Appraisal. They made points including the following:

- i) The report was fascinating reading and the officers should be congratulated on it
- ii) If the Blue Dolphin and the Reculver caravan sites should be included in the Conservation area
- iii) What was the history of the burnt remains that were locally listed?

The Panel then took a vote on if a recommendation should be made to the Development Control Committee that the Blue Dolphin and Reculver Caravan Parks should be excluded from the Conservation Area. There was an equality of votes on this recommendation so it fell.

The Panel then noted the report.

(Councillors Margaret Flaherty and Sonnex abstained from voting as they were members of the Development Control Committee and the Chairman abstained, as she was a substitute member on that Committee.)

171 **PROGRESS REPORT OF THE COASTAL TOWNS MANAGER**

The Coastal Towns Manager advised that he was hopeful that the Herne Bay Chamber of Commerce would fund the first three months costs of the "We will pay for your parking" scheme. He reminded the Panel about the Regeneration and Business event to be held at the Kings Hall on 24 March from 3pm-7pm and stated that all were welcome. There had already been an excellent response to it. The Panel were informed that the Green Fair on 9 and 10 July involved Shepway District Council and Boulogne. It would be a green road show and include educational displays and be held in the Memorial Park. The Coastal Towns Manager then advised that two new Information Boards, funded by the Wind Farm, would be provided in Central Parade and Reculver Interpretation Centre.

The Panel made points including the following:

- i) What was the cost of a stall at the Regeneration and Business event? – It was free and applications should be made to the Coastal Towns Manager
- ii) The two County Councillors were working closely with Town Partners and were funding improvements to the street environment
- iii) The pancake race should be held next year
- iv) The number of empty shops in the town compared to the number in Whitstable – there were approximately 12 in Herne Bay town centre which was less than in Whitstable. There was positive interest in the empty units in the new Bank Street development
- v) When would the Christmas tree stump be removed? – Tomorrow

It was AGREED that the Panels congratulations should be extended to the Coastal Towns Manager for the award he had recently received from the Federation of Small Businesses for the Bay card.

172 **DATES TIMES AND VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Panel discussed the dates, time and venue for its future meetings.

It was AGREED that meetings of the Panel would take place on the following dates;

8 June 2010

27 July 2010

21 September 2010

16 November 2010

4 January 2011

15 March 2011

all at 6.30pm at the Salvation Army Hall, 33 Richmond Street, Herne Bay.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm