

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Herne Centre, St Martin's View, Herne CT6 7AP

Minutes of the meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held at the Herne Centre on Thursday 13th April 2023 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present:

Cllr Davis, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Checksfield, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Hill, Cllr Strong, and Cllr Wilson.

Not present:

Cllr Collins, Cllr Davison, Cllr Sargent, Cllr Saunders, and Cllr White.

60/23 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.

Cllr Davison, Cllr Saunders, and Cllr White. Apologies and reasons for absence were accepted.

61/23 To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and requests for dispensations.

None.

62/23 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2023.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

63/23 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.

None.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Draw for 100 Club.

1st: 27, 2nd: 31.

Cllr Davis introduced Malcolm Harlin, who will become a newly elected councillor following an uncontested parish council election on 4th May 2023. He spoke regarding a dog fouling sign in Hillbrow Avenue that was not replaced when a new lamp post was installed.

64/23 Chairman's Announcements.

Cllr Davis reported that the election for parish councillors has been recorded as uncontested, so all the people that stood will be elected members from 4th May 2023. Cllr Harvey and Cllr Sargent did not stand again, and Cllr Davis thanked them both for their long service and everything they have done for the parish council.

65/23 Police Matters/Crime report.

No report was received.

66/23 Warden's Report.

Lisa Harrison – Community Warden Herne and Broomfield.

The clerk reported that Lisa had nothing more to add to the report that she gave at the Annual Parish Meeting.

67/23 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Cllr Howes (there will be no report from City Cllr Dekker whilst Lord Mayor).

City Cllr Dekker.

City Cllr Dekker said that she had not been to many Canterbury City Council (CCC) meetings as she has been busy attending civic events.

She has been dealing with residents in the social housing on the Redrow development who were having issues with getting access to their post boxes.

The number of PCSOs in the Canterbury district has been reduced to 3.

She said that she had spoken with Martin Hall (CCC Environment Team Leader), who supports the need for an onsite meeting regarding the general management of Broomfield Pond.

City Cllr Howes.

Regarding the tree works at Broomfield Pond, City Cllr Howes said that it cannot be done in the bird nesting season. He said that Martin Hall will be meeting a representative from Kent County Council (KCC) to discuss. Also, Stevie Andrews (CCC Planning) has been in contact with him.

CCC have opened applications for their strategic grants. There are two available; projects up to £10,000 that promote social cohesion, and core or project support up to £4000.00 that supports social cohesion or the cost of living crisis. The deadline for applications is in May, with new groups given priority.

Cllr Blatherwick asked whether there was any update on the issues regarding the mobile home sited in Busheyfield Road. City Cllr Howes replied that KCC Highways has said that it is not a road hazard, despite where it is, and the presence of gas bottles close to the road. CCC are still looking for possible enforcement powers.

Cllr Wilson raised concerns regarding a garage and store that now seems to be an annexe, with its own letterbox. City Cllr Howes will ask planning enforcement to check the plans.

County Cllr Marsh.

County Cllr Marsh said that KCC have £455,000.00 in awards to help families with the cost of living crisis.

KCC have a budget shortfall of £53m, with Adult Social Care being the biggest spend. There will be changes to the number of KCC Community Wardens, and a reduction in the amount available for the KCC Members Grants.

County Cllr Marsh said that the Bullockstone Road Improvement Scheme work should be completed in July, if it continues to keep to schedule.

Cllr Blatherwick raised concerns that the roads on new developments are not being put forward for adoption by KCC Highways. This could impact the long-term maintenance of the roads and add a financial cost to the residents of the developments. County Cllr Marsh replied that developers use S278 of the Highways Act 1980.

68/23 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.

The issues with the centre heating are ongoing, however there is hot water. Liz managed to get two engineers on site together and the cause of the problems has been narrowed down, but not resolved. We are waiting for the report from the Delta engineer to work out the next steps. This is not a quick fix and could be quite expensive, but it needs to be done.

The Community Groups Day on 11th March went very well. It was well attended, with 21 groups, and everyone appeared to enjoy themselves. The refreshments raised £61.00. Thank you to everyone that helped in any way.

The Annual Parish Meeting on 30th March had around 20 people attending. Two people received an Outstanding Contribution to the Community Award. One was Brandon, the young man who regularly litter picks around Herne and Broomfield. The other was Kay Heyward for all her voluntary work. Thank you to those who helped to serve drinks to those attending.

Canterbury City Council has confirmed that the election for the parish council is uncontested. All eleven people that put forward a nomination have been elected. This means that there will still be two vacancies. Cllr Ian Sargent and Cllr Andy Harvey did not re-stand, so many thanks to both of them for all the work they have done over the years. Welcome to Linda White and Malcolm Harlin who are the new councillors.

A card has been received from Buckingham Palace thanking the parish council for its letter of condolence following the death of The Queen.

69/23 Finance.

To ratify payments made since last meeting: £50.00 to M Gunton for the deposit for the Barn Dance caller.

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied:

Payments were approved.

To report on income received: £345.60 newsletter advertising, £72.00 100 Club subscriptions, total £417.60..

70/23 To receive the draft minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on 6th April 2023.

The draft minutes were received.

Cllr Blatherwick said that the committee had been concerned that they could not comment fully on the application in Ridgeway Road due to a lack of information.

Members strongly objected to the proposed tree works at Broomfield Pond. They were very concerned that the decision was made before the expiry date, which meant that many residents and the parish council were unable to log their objections.

Members raised concerns regarding the application in Ash Close, objected to the application in Herne Street, and objected to the application in Strode Park Road.

71/23 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.

Cllr Davis said that some of the residents and members of the Friends of Herne & Broomfield Ponds, including herself, were upset that CCC Planning had approved the works on the trees at Broomfield Pond. Many people were unable to log their comments as the decision was made before the deadline. She said that she had discussed it with the City Councillors, who are working on it.

72/23 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations.

None.

73/23 To discuss the results of the 20's Plenty for Us consultation.

Cllr Davis reported that the public consultation regarding the 20's Plenty for Us scheme had recorded 90% of replies in support. She said that the next stage would be for the parish council to agree the following motion:

Motion

Herne & Broomfield Parish Council:

- Supports the 20's Plenty for Kent campaign;
- Calls on Kent County Council to implement 20mph in Herne & Broomfield; and
- Will write to Kent County Council to request 20mph speed limits on streets throughout Kent where people live, work, shop, play or learn, with 30mph as the exception on those roads, where full consideration of the needs of vulnerable road users allows a higher limit.

The motion was proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Blatherwick. Members agreed to the motion. The clerk will write to KCC.

74/23 To report on changes to the running of the Cherry Orchard football sessions.

Sports Connect Session Take Over – April 2023

The clerk reported that William Lee had contacted the parish council regarding the transfer of the Cherry Orchard football sessions to Sports Connect, of which he is a director. The sessions will continue to run in the same way but may be led by one of the other Sports Connect coaches, rather than always Will himself. Running the sessions under Sports Connect will give access to all their trained staff and create more opportunities to provide playing and coaching pathways into local organisations.

Members agreed to accept the change.

75/23 To discuss the results of the Cherry Orchard Playing Field Toilets consultation

The results of the consultation had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Davis proposed that the results are discussed in detail by the Environment & Leisure Committee and reported back to full council. Members agreed to the proposal.

76/23 To discuss the results of the Herne Community Centre consultation.

The results of the consultation had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Davis proposed that the results are discussed in detail by the Herne Centre Committee and an Extraordinary meeting held to begin making decisions regarding the Herne Centre contract. Members agreed to the proposal.

77/23 Update on the arrangements for the Coronation events on 6th May 2023.

Cllr Davis had circulated details prior to the meeting.

Cllr Davis said that she had been looking into whether the parish council would need to hire security and First Aiders for the Barn Dance. The information that she could find seemed to indicate that it was not compulsory. After some discussion members agreed that it would not be necessary to hire security and First Aiders.

78/23 Members Reports.

Cllr Davis said that 6 gardens have been confirmed for the Garden Safari.

Cllr Strong said that all the allotment plots were being used, with 2 people on the waiting list. The works on the pothole in the entrance road should be done soon.

Cllr Checksfield asked about whether any work should be done on the hedging planted at the Community Park. Cllr Davis replied that nothing needs to be done until the Autumn.

Cllr Wilson reported that he had attended the Kent Association of Local Councils Planning Conference which had been very good. There had been two presentations; one regarding Faversham's 20's Plenty campaign, and another about conserving heritage assets.

Cllr Harvey thanked members and said that it had been a pleasure working with everyone.

79/23 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 11th May 2023, which will be the Annual Parish Council meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.