

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 8th June 2023 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present:

Cllr Davis, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Checksfield, Cllr Collins, Cllr Davison, Cllr Harlin, Cllr Hill, Cllr Saunders, Cllr Strong, Cllr White, and Cllr Wilson.

104/23 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.

None.

County Cllr Marsh, and City Cllr Jones.

105/23 To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and requests for dispensations.

None.

106/23 To confirm the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 11th May 2023.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

Cllr Blatherwick arrived at this point.

107/23 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.

The clerk reported that Canterbury City Council have yet to respond regarding the sign that was removed from one of the gates leading into Herne Bay Cemetery.

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

Draw for 100 Club.

1st: 32, 2nd: 41.

108/23 Chairman's Announcements.

Cllr Davis asked members to check their profiles on the parish council website and to contact her if they need amending.

109/23 Police Matters/Crime report.

No report was received.

110/23 Warden's Report.

Lisa Harrison – Kent County Council Community Warden Herne and Broomfield.

Having been on leave for almost three weeks, coupled with the bank holidays, it does not leave a lot of time to feed back on for May, so I have not supplied a full report. However, there are a couple of things I need to feedback on:

A litter picking morning is planned for Tuesday 22nd August 2023. We will all meet at Herne Centre at 9.30am and the event will end at 12.30pm. It would be great if someone from the Parish Council would be able to support on the morning, as I want to split the group.

Also, there have been several reports of a rogue trader operating in the Herne and Broomfield area. The rogue trader is offering to do roofing work. All appropriate agencies have been informed and all the KCC Community Wardens in the Canterbury and Thanet District are aware.

Cllr Davison arrived at this point.

111/23 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh, City Cllr Howes and City Cllr Jones.

City Cllr Howes.

The new Lord Mayor of Canterbury is City Cllr Jean Butcher.

Regarding the trees in the middle of Broomfield Pond, the Planning Officer will be making a site visit. Rebecca Booth (CCC Senior Environment Officer) is arranging a meeting to look at the pond Management sometime in June or July.

There had been a fire in Curtis Wood Park, and he will be showing Rebecca Booth the damage. Regarding the issues of heavy vehicles using Lower Herne Road, CCC officers are looking into it. Waste disposal at the farm is being checked for any planning or environmental breaches. If there are any areas of city council grass that have not been cut, please could City Cllrs Howe and Jones be informed.

If there are any issues with wheelie bins not being put back after they have been emptied by Canenco, then please contact City Cllrs Howes and Jones. Cllr Howes asked that if the problem escalates could the parish council write a letter to Canenco.

City Cllrs Howes and Jones attended the Herne & Broomfield Local History Group anniversary celebration at Herne Windmill on 6th June 2023.

112/23 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.

The final arrangements are getting in place for the Garden Safari on 11th June 2023. 14 gardens/venues will be open.

Thank you to the admin assistant for managing to get the newsletters out to all the volunteers. Hopefully the newsletters have been delivered by now.

Regarding the ongoing court proceedings, a telephone conversation with the solicitor has taken place. Two applications are to be discussed.

Cllr Saunders has repaired one of the taps in the Herne Centre disabled toilets. The other one will be repaired soon.

The Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) has had its PCB replaced and is working much better, but has given another error code. The diverter valve and actuator have also been replaced and need to be connected to the Building Management System (BMS). The engineer said that it would need three engineers on site together to finish the work, one for the BMS, one for the ASHP, and one from Samsung. A report will be sent to us regarding this.

113/23 Finance.

To ratify payments made since last meeting: £78.00 to Tim Marsh for repair of leaking pipework.

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied: Payments were approved.

To report on income received: £135.00 Coronation Barn Dance tickets, £1180.97 VAT refund, £10.00 Car Show forms, total £1325.97.

114/23 To agree and approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, the Annual Statement of Accounts, and Statement of Internal Control.

The clerk explained that due to unforeseen circumstances it had not been possible to finalise the end of year accounts.

Members agreed to defer this agenda item and to hold an extraordinary meeting.

115/23 To receive the draft minutes of the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting held on 18th May 2023.

The minutes were received.

116/23 To receive the draft minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on 1st June 2023 and discuss any matters arising, and other planning and highways issues.

The minutes were received.

Cllr Blatherwick reported that there was just one planning application that raised concerns. This was regarding Ford Road. Members had raised concerns regarding access and facilities.

Cllr Davis said that the pothole in Braggs Lane is getting bigger.

Cllr Blatherwick and Cllr Davis had been contacted by two different residents in Lower Herne Road regarding heavy vehicles using the road.

117/23 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.

Cllr Checksfield has planted up the flower boxes. A resident has volunteered to water the Herne

one. Ian Sargent will replant and water the flower bed in the centre of Herne village. Members agreed to set a budget of up to £400.00.

Cllr Davis reported that the issue regarding trees overhanging PROW (Public Right of Way) CH42 in Streetfield is soon to be resolved. Kent County Council (KCC) have arranged for a tree surgeon to do the necessary work. KCC will then recoup the costs of doing this work from the landowner.

118/23 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations.

None.

119/23 Update on the arrangements for the Community Fun Day on 16th July 2023.

The clerk reported that all the paperwork had been submitted to CCC. An application for concessions on fees is still to be made.

Sarah Bingham has received plenty of stall bookings and the Car Show applications are now coming into the parish office.

Arrangements for the dog show are in place.

The admin assistant will begin contacting volunteers after the Garden Safari has taken place.

120/23 Update on the Herne Centre contract (Closed session) This item will be preceded by a resolution Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude the public and press due to the confidential nature of the business being discussed.

The clerk reported that she had contacted two solicitors, which had been suggested by the Kent Association of Local Councils, one of which is dealing with the ongoing court case. The quotes received for the initial advice were £700.00 and £660.00. Members agreed to instruct the solicitors that were already being used for the initial cost of £700.00.

A resolution was made that the current Herne Centre contract is not renewed.

The resolution was accepted and put to the vote. Members agreed unanimously not to renew the contract.

Cllr Blatherwick asked the clerk to send a letter to West Faversham Community Association notifying them of the parish council's decision. A copy of the letter will be sent to all members.

Cllr Davis proposed that a dedicated extraordinary meeting is held next Thursday to discuss this matter further.

121/23 Members Reports.

Cllr Davison reported that she and Cllr Strong had attended the Herne & Broomfield Local History Group anniversary celebration. It was well attended and very enjoyable. There was even a journalist from Herne in Germany there.

Cllr Harlin asked about the councillor training he had been sent. The clerk replied that he could choose which one he wanted to attend.

Cllr White reported that she had attended the online Dynamic Councillor training. She said it was very good and informative.

Cllr Strong said that he thought the site in Ford Road was smaller than it appeared in the planning Application. Cllr Blatherwick replied that the application included a neighbouring plot of land.

Cllr Checksfield said that a resident had volunteered to water some of the plant boxes. She will forward their details to the clerk. The clerk will provide the volunteer with a risk assessment.

Cllr Hill reported that she had attended the meeting regarding the proposal to set up a Whitstable Town Council. 2000 signatures will be needed initially before the proposal can be taken forward.

122/23 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 13th July 2023.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.