

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Herne Centre, St Martins View, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7AP

Tel: 01227 7427

Minutes of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Environment & Leisure Committee held at the Herne Centre, on Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Davis, Cllr Davison, Cllr Harvey, and Cllr Saunders.

01/23 Apologies for absence.

Cllr Wilson and Cllr Sargent. Apologies and reasons accepted.

02/23 To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

None.

03/23 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 20th October 2022.

Were agreed as a correct record.

04/23 Matters arising.

The clerk reminded members about the Community Groups Day on 11th March 2023. The times for the event were confirmed as 11.00am to 2.00pm. Volunteers will be needed to provide the refreshments and to run a parish council table.

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

None present.

05/23 To report on the Children's Christmas Party on 3rd December 2022.

Report had been circulated.

The party was less well attended than on previous years, with 44 children booked to attend, but only 37 coming.

Unfortunately, the children's entertainer that was booked tested positive for Covid that morning. Thankfully, the admin assistant managed to get Reg-E-Mental instead, who did a great job. There was a break for food and some music put on whilst the children lined up to see Santa and receive their present.

Following the food, the helpers cleared the tables. Once the children had left, the tables were set up for the Christmas Fun Day the following day.

All went well and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

Thank you to City Cllr Joe Howes for being the person in red.

It was agreed that the date for this year's event would be Saturday 9th December 2023.

06/23 To report on the Christmas Fun Day on 4th December 2022.

Report had been circulated.

Although there had been a change of day, with the event being held on a Sunday, there appeared to be a steady flow of people.

There were slightly less stalls than previous years due to a lack of volunteers, however, a total of £622.75 was raised. Although only providing cakes, mince pies and sausage rolls, the refreshments did well.

Thank you to Mandy Quay-Verlander for supervising the children's activities, which were well attended, and Roger Sinicola for being the person in red.

It was agreed that the date for this year's event would be Saturday 2nd December 2023, and refreshments would be provided again.

07/23 To report on the Santa Float and discuss the routes for December 2023.

Report had been circulated.

Despite the usual last-minute panic, the float was ready on time, and the new speaker system set up.

The weather for the weekend was not great, meaning less people came out, particularly at Herne Place and Strode Park. Also, at one point on the Sunday the float ran ahead of time and so some children missed it. Overall, the float was well received, and the children enjoyed seeing Santa. A total of £418.99 was received in donations.

Thank you to all those who got the float ready, Cllr Sargent for towing it around, and to our Community Wardens for being the person in red, Roger Lithgow on Friday and Saturday, and Lisa Harrison on Sunday. Thank you also to the elves and escorts.

It was agreed to alter the routes and have the float run over two nights instead of three. The dates would be Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th December 2023.

Cllr Harvey suggested spending more time in the Norton Avenue area and less time from The Meadows onwards, and to take Streetfield off the route.

08/23 To discuss setting a date for having an annual get together with other nearby parishes.

The clerk reported that it had previously been agreed to hold the event in late summer or early autumn.

After a short discussion it was agreed that it would be a bring and share social event, with the possibility of a speaker.

Suggested dates were Friday 8th, Friday 22nd or Friday 29th September 2023 at 7.00pm. Some of the parishes to be invited are Hoath, Chislet, Sturry, Hackington, and Chestfield.

09/23 To discuss some ideas for King Charles III's Coronation on 6th May 2023.

The clerk mentioned some of the national events being held over the Coronation weekend. These include the Eden Project Coronation Big Lunch on 7th May 2023, and The Big Help Out volunteering day on 8th May 2023.

Cllr Davis reported that funding is available for holding Coronation events from the National Lottery Awards for All England scheme. Members agreed to apply for funding. Cllr Davis will work with the clerk to complete the application.

Members agreed to live stream the ceremony, hold an indoor picnic lunch, and have barn dance in the evening.

If funding is obtained these would be free events. Funding could also cover the costs of providing local children with a commemorative mug.

10/23 To discuss the Community Fun Day.

The clerk reported that she and the admin assistant had had a meeting with Sarah Bingham to discuss some initial arrangements.

St. Martin's Church are happy to hold a joint event again.

The provisional date of 30th July 2023 clashes with the Herne Bay Baytastic event. Members agreed to change the date to 16th July 2023 and agreed the times of 11.00am to 4.00pm.

The clerk reported that it had previously been suggested to have a working group to help organise the event. She recommended that two people are nominated from each of the parish council and the church, in addition to Sarah Bingham, the clerk and the admin assistant. The clerk said that the working group will have to report back to full council. Requests for the two parish council representatives will be made at the next full council meeting.

11/23 To discuss the toilets in Cherry Orchard, as part of Canterbury City Council's review of public conveniences.

Report circulated.

The clerk gave a brief report on the meeting that she and Cllr Davis had had with Canterbury City Council (CCC) regarding the toilets in Cherry Orchard as part of their Public Convenience Review. No decisions had been made and it was an information sharing meeting.

The clerk had contacted the clerks at Sturry Parish Council and Chartham Parish Council for some information regarding the toilets that they manage. From this information and the figures that CCC had provided, the costs to manage the Cherry Orchard toilets would be approximately £10,000.00 per year, not including any repairs for vandalism.

Cllr Harvey proposed applying to have the toilets registered as an Asset of Community Value. Members agreed to him doing this.

Cllr Davis proposed consulting residents and putting an article in the next newsletter.

Members agreed.

12/23 To discuss the use of Broomfield Community Park by professional dog walkers.

The clerk reported that this issue had been raised by Cllr Strong, as it had been discussed at the Allotment training that he had attended. The advice had been to have a policy in place and signage to discourage it.

There was some discussion as to whether this would be necessary and how it could be monitored. The clerk explained that the parish council needs to show that it has recognised a potential risk and put things in place to mitigate that risk.

Cllr Saunders explained that professional dog walkers should have a Dog Activity Licence from CCC and that CCC will enforce this.

Members agreed to put improved signage up at the Community Park.

13/23 Update from the Climate Working Group and any environmental issues.

Cllr Davis reported that the trees need to be planted. The clerk said that a site visit is needed before Kent County Council will award the grant.

14/23 Member's reports.

Cllr Davis reported that a date is yet to be set for the Volunteers Thank You Tea. After a short discussion it was agreed to hold the event in October 2023.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.