

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Finance & Resources Committee held at the Herne Centre, on Thursday 23rd March 2023 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Collins, Cllr Davis, Cllr Saunders, and Cllr Wilson.

01/23 Apologies for absence.

Cllr Harvey. Apologies and reasons for absence were 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 27th October 2022.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

04/23 Matters arising.

None.

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

None present.

05/23 To examine expenditure against budget to 28th February 2023.

The clerk provided a copy of the expenditure against budget. She explained that there was more income to be received for the Herne Centre but confirmed that this would be under budget.

Cllr Davis raised that the costs for printing the newsletter were over budget. The clerk said that the number of copies printed had increased due to the additional housing. More advertisers were needed to help cover some of the costs.

The clerk said that the electricity account for the lights on Herne Windmill is currently in credit, as one of the meter readings had been misread.

06/23 To go through earmarked reserves.

The clerk provided a copy of the reserves and explained that they are healthy. There are funds available for the works that need to be done at Broomfield Community Park/BMX Track, Wildlife Area, and Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).

07/23 To look at the effectiveness of the Internal Auditor and agree to appoint them for 2023/24.

The clerk provided a copy of the requirements for the Internal Auditor. She said that the current Internal Auditor, Lionel Robbins, is qualified, had been effective, and was approachable and happy to answer any questions. Members agreed to continue with his appointment for the coming year.

08/23 To agree the direct debits for the year.

The clerk went through the list of direct debits.

The clerk said that the electricity contracts for the lights at the MUGA and windmill are due for review soon, and the contract for the office photocopier will be due for review next year.

The clerk was asked to look for a better contract for the telephone lines and internet.

Cllr Davis suggested that West Faversham Community Association could pay the water bill.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.