

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 November 2023 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present:

Cllr Collins (Chairman)
Cllr Davis
Cllr Saunders
Cllr Wilson.

18/23 Apologies for absence.

Cllr Checksfield. Apologies and reasons for absence were accepted.

19/23 To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

None.

20/23 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 26th October 2023.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

21/23 Matters arising.

None.

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

None present.

22/23 To examine expenditure against budget to 31st October 2023.

The clerk reported that the expenditure against budget had changed very little since the last council meeting.

23/23 To go through the earmarked reserves.

The clerk reported that the earmarked reserves had not changed since the last council meeting.

24/23 To discuss the annual budget for 2024-25.

The clerk said that there had not been any update from Canterbury City Council regarding the Concurrent Function payment for next year. They were intending to change how this is paid, but have not proposed any alternatives yet.

The clerk said that as the court case had been settled the budgeted figure for professional fees could be reduced.

The clerk explained that it had been difficult to forecast the income and expenditure for the Herne Centre. Income from bookings is looking good and there are new regular hirers, but there will be increased staffing costs. She said that she had used the existing bookings to try and work out an average for the year, with a small allowance for an increase in bookings. The expenditure depends largely on the type of bookings, regarding staffing and supplies. Members thought that the projected income was high but agreed not to reduce it.

Members agreed the budget in principle subject to the tax base for 2024/25. **Action: clerk.**

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.