

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Finance & Resources Committee held at the Herne Centre, on Thursday 26th October 2023 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present:

Cllr Checksfield
Cllr Collins
Cllr Davis
Cllr Saunders
Cllr Wilson.

09/23 To elect a chairman and vice-chairman.

Cllr Collins was elected as chairman and Cllr Checksfield was elected as vice-chairman.

10/23 Apologies for absence.

No apologies were received, and all councillors were present.

11/23 To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

None.

12/23 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2023.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

13/23 Matters arising.

None.

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

None present.

14/23 To examine expenditure against budget to 30th September 2023.

The clerk provided a copy of the expenditure against budget.

She explained that the amount for bank interest would be over budget, as the interest rates are still high.

The clerk reported that there were still invoices outstanding and more invoices to be raised regarding the Herne Centre income. **Action: clerk.**

15/23 To consider the External Auditor's report for the financial year 2022/23.

The clerk said that although the External Auditor's report had been considered at the council meeting on 12th October 2023, it should also be recorded in the committee minutes.

Members considered the report.

16/23 To consider the earmarked reserves.

The clerk provided a copy of the earmarked reserves.

She reported that the earmarked reserves are looking healthy.

17/23 To discuss the Herne Centre finances and any implications for the 2024/25 budget.

The clerk reported that booking deposit income of £1,356.75 had been received for October 2023, to date.

Cllr Davis reported that a lot of equipment was missing and would need to be replaced.

The clerk to send a letter to West Faversham Community Association regarding the missing and damaged equipment. **Action: clerk.**

The clerk explained that it might be necessary to use some of the parish council's reserves, to cover the additional Herne Centre costs; staffing, insurance, equipment, bins, etc. Consideration would need to be made in the budget for 2024/25 to replace any reserves used. **Action: clerk.**

Cllr Davis said that purchasing additional glasses might not be necessary, as the current quantity at the Herne Centre might be enough for forthcoming events.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.