

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Environment & Leisure Committee held at the Herne Centre, on Thursday 23rd April 2026 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present:

Cllr Maslin (Chairman)

Cllr Binstead

Cllr Davis

Cllr Wilson

Corrina Collins (Footpath Warden)

Joanne McCann (Assistant Parish Clerk)

014/26 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.

Apologies received from Cllr Davison and they were accepted.

015/26 To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

None

016/26 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2026.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

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

To allow members of the public to speak about items on the agenda.

No members of the public were present.

017/26 To receive a report from the Assistant Clerk, including any correspondence.

Report was circulated prior to the meeting.

It was agreed that there would be a break from lunch club in August due to people being away and it being more difficult to staff with volunteers during that time. Cllr Davis suggested reviewing the pricing come September to ensure that we are covering costs. It was agreed the Assistant Clerk would keep a list of the money we make during each lunch club so we can review later in the year.

The Assistant Clerk also reported that the National Lottery had awarded the Council £11,000 for the Broomfield Community Park improvements. We have two years to complete the works. Cllr Davis stated we would need a plan to reinstate the wildflower meadow. The Assistant Clerk will contact our maintenance contractor to find out his plan going forward. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

018/26 To discuss upcoming events:

10th May – 30-year celebrations

The Assistant Clerk reported that we had sold 30 tickets. The quiz night had been very successful making nearly £1200 profit, so the Assistant Clerk suggested using some of this money to subsidise the celebrations making it a free event to fill the hall. The bar would be open selling drinks, and tea and coffee, but everything else will be free. The Committee agreed to making it free and reimbursing those who had paid upfront. The Assistant Clerk advised that we would readvertise it as a free event. Corrina Collins offered to help at the event. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

16th May – Craft Fair

The Assistant Clerk advised that we have 20 tables booked already, with 8 more to fill. The Parish Council have done a few of these now and they run very smoothly. Cllr Davis suggested a toy stall if we do not fill the other tables.

Date TBC – Proposed event at Curtis Wood Park with Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership

The proposed date Sunday 7th June to replace the Garden Safari. The Assistant Clerk advised that the Kentish Stour Countryside Project wished to carry out a BioBlitz event at the same time aimed at older teenagers and adults recording the flora and fauna in Curtis Wood. The Parish Council would then offer a wildlife picnic aimed at younger children and families to run alongside

it. This would include a story time event, making stickman, plant a sunflower and a nature treasure hunt. This event will be free. The Committee agreed to this and agreed that this would be weather dependent with all parties bringing their own picnic and something to sit on. Cllr Davis suggested running the event slightly later as it is a lunch time. The Assistant Clerk would now advertise the event as Risk Assessment is completed. **Action: Assistant Clerk.**

12th June – Pantaloons

38 tickets have been sold so far, the Assistant Clerk advised that Pantaloons were confident they would sell all 80 tickets.

Date TBC – Barn Dance

Cllr Davis stated that several dates in September and October have been put forward by the Herne Centre, and she was now awaiting confirmation from the band which of these dates they were available. The band have offered to do the event for the community for £300 which is half price. The Committee agreed to holding the barn dance and to charge £10 a ticket. These have been well attended in the past.

019/26 To discuss Citizen Science Training

This is part of the Curtis Wood Wildlife Picnic event, but this would be run by Kentish Stour Countryside Project, who provide the training and then would run the BioBlitz on 7th June and another one in the autumn to record the fungi. The Committee agreed to support the event, and the training that will be offered at the Herne Centre free of charge, with tea and coffee available to participants. The Assistant Clerk will advertise the training and will contact those that attended the bat talk to see if they are interested in taking part. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

020/26 To discuss the improvements at Broomfield Community Park:

- **To further update on works to repair the fencing and steps.**

The Assistant Clerk reported that the fencing at the south side of the site had been repaired and that the BMX Club fencing should be repaired by the end of the week.

- **to approve layout of the A0 board and wording.**

It was agreed that the background colour of the sign wasn't right, and to remove the date from the wildflower meadow information as well as one of the logos. The Assistant Clerk also advised that the logos we have on file are not of a high enough resolution to be used on the board, and that to have it redrawn would cost around £150. The Committee agreed to see if we could contact the original designer for another copy in first instance, if not look to get it reproduced for no more than £150. The Sarah Jayne sign would also need the new logo and to be made into a graphic design document, this is at an additional cost of £50, the Assistant Clerk advised a new sign by a competitor was over £1000. The Committee decided to pay the £50 to get the original design completed. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

021/26 To discuss the wildlife area, and possible uses.

The Assistant Clerk advised that the Scouts had asked to use the wildlife area going forward but there are extensive tree works that need to be undertaken first. The lock for the back gate appears to have been changed and we cannot locate anyone with the new key. Cllr Davis advised that there should be a key for the metal gate which we can use to gain access.

Regarding the uses of the site, Cllr Wilson suggested re-opening the area as it would be unfair for one group just to have access plus the associated administration of the site. If the area is reopened and thinned out it would prevent any anti-social behaviour and it would be open for everyone to use. Cllr Binstead cited the pond being in the wildlife area and whether we would need signage, it was pointed out that there is none at Broomfield Pond and the pond in the wildlife area is dry a lot of the time. The Assistant Clerk will obtain quotes to get the works done to the trees. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

022/26 Propose a date for Santa Float repairs.

Cllr Maslin stated that he was keen to get a date in the diary for the repairs to be undertaken. It was agreed that he would speak to Tim Blatherwick and Raj to co-ordinate a working party to go there and complete works. **Action: Cllr Maslin**

023/26 To discuss any environmental issues.

Corrina Collins reported that there were still many aerosol cans at the underpass, and it is extremely dark due to the lights being painted over. She has reported this to local Police who will pay attention to the area, she had also been to the building site to advise them that polystyrene and packaging is in the tunnel. These cans have been reported previously to CCC, the Assistant Clerk will also report the lights being painted out to KCC. Another volunteer and Corrina Collins had undertaken a litter pick of the park and had found lots of full dog poo bags discarded as well as litter. She has also seen an increase in dog fouling in the alleyways around the park. Adding signage was discussed but it was agreed it would be unlikely to make a difference. Corrina Collins also reported due to the trees at Canterbury Road the path was very dark. The Assistant Clerk will report this to CCC. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

024/26 Members reports.

No reports received.

025/26 The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be on 16th July.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm