

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Finance & Resources Committee held at Herne Centre, St Martin's View, Herne on **Tuesday 5th October** 2021 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Harvey, Cllr Collins, Cllr Wilson, and Cllr Saunders

21/21	Apologies for absence , received from Cllr Davis who is attending another meeting, reason approved.
22/21	Declarations of Interest and dispensations requested. None.
23/21	The minutes of the meeting held on 5th August 2021 , were agreed as a correct record.
24/21	Matters Arising. The clerk reported that the external auditor had signed off the accounts, just one comment, on the fact that they had to be amended. The internal auditors report had been circulated.

Public adjournment

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

None present

25/21	To discuss expenditure against budget to 30th September 2021. (Circulated). The clerk went through the figures and apart from Centre expenditure the headings were on target. The increase on Centre expenditure was due to the repayment of part of the Covid grant to West Faversham. As WF had now taken over the business rates for the building, the parish council received business rate relief on the office and therefore no payment had to be made.
26/21	To go through earmarked reserves and discuss the claim for damages by an allotment holder. Earmarked reserves were discussed. The fund for professional advice stands at just over £5,000 this will be reducing due to the payment of the solicitor dealing with the court proceedings, brought by the allotment holder who was given notice to quit.
27/21	To discuss the annual budget for 2022-23. An initial draft budget had been produced, much of which was approved. There are some things which are unknown at present, such as the court proceedings, the Jubilee events and any other commitments the council wish to make for the 2022-2023 year. There is likely to be increased expenditure for the Community Park as the contract is due for renewal and Ian Sargent is not going to continue. This will need to go out to tender. The clerk suggested that if the council could wait to finalise the budget/precept until the tax base had been received from CCC, that would be helpful. As yet there is no indication of how the tax base will compare for 2022 with 2021.

Meeting closed 8.45pm