

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Herne Centre, St Martin's View, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7AP
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Minutes of the meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Herne Centre Committee held remotely via Zoom on 4th March 2021 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Davis, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr White, Linda White.

01/21	Apologies for absence received from Joanne McCann.
02/21	Declarations of interests and requests for dispensations. None
03/21	The minutes of the last meeting 1st October 2020 , were agreed as a correct record.
04/21	Matters Arising. Cllrs Harvey & Davis have both tried to sort out the renewables payments, to date with out success. The assistant clerk reported that West Faversham were also going to look into this. The clerk confirmed that there wasn't a contractors list yet and the gazebo was being repaired. Cllr Davis mentioned the possibility of having a battery wall at some point in the future.

Public adjournment

No public in attendance

05/21	Update on monthly meetings held with James Browning. (Cllr Blatherwick & Michele) Assistant clerk had circulated a short report. Meetings are attended by James Browning (CEO WFCA), Louise Asekokhai (SLT Community WFCA), Cllr. Ann Blatherwick (Chair HBPC) and Michele Nicholson (Assistant Clerk HBPC). The points of note from the meetings are: <u>Contract</u> • New contract commenced at the beginning of November 2020. Working together to ensure obligations are being fulfilled. • WFCA are now paying the electric bill. They have contacted Canterbury City Council (CCC) to inform them that they will now be the rate payer and are waiting for a reply. • There have been issues with a couple of the invoices, but these have been dealt with. Working to ensure payments are made on time. <u>Herne Centre Update</u> • Limited bookings off and on throughout Covid, however childcare has continued. Waiting for guidance from the government before planning reopening. Some Covid restrictions may still apply. 27 members of staff are still furloughed. • WFCA applied for CCC's RISE grant for the community activities but was unsuccessful. City councillors to be contacted to see if they can help with it. • WFCA expecting a loss of around £150,000. £90,000 will be covered by a loan and the rest from reserves. Should leave reserves of around £30,000. There have been lots of enquiries for bookings so income should be good once things resume.
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	- As the business rate payer HBPC may be able to claim on WFCA's behalf for some of the Covid grants available via CCC. Looking into this. <u>Testing Centre</u> - Will finish at the end of March 2021. There will be a week of decommissioning. - The contract between WFCA and Kent County Council (KCC) stipulates that the centre will be returned to the state it was before. The costs of any damage will need to be claimed back from KCC.
06/21	To discuss plans for the coming year. The clerk had spoken with James Centre Manger, he reported that normal usage will not start before 21st June. They are hoping that lunch clubs may start on 17th May, along with some fitness classes. They are planning to start some social based activities in April but these will be very limited. Currently there are weddings booked, one the first weekend of re-opening and then 4 during the summer, as well as some parties. They are working with hirers who have had to move dates to try and fit everyone back in now there is a date for opening. They do expect the Centre to be very busy once it opens normally. It is being used as a test centre until the end of March. Cllr Davis said it was a shame if the centre was not open and usable for the parish council meeting in May as it would be 25th anniversary.
07/21	Update on Income and Expenditure for the Centre. The clerk reported that the income to date is £27,964.22, this does include grants and there is £900 from Canterbury City Council which has just been paid into parish council account but there hasn't been any notification as to what the payment is for. The expenditure is £16,547.06, which gives a profit to date of £11,417.16.
08/21	To discuss any maintenance issues. The clerk reported that there was a problem opening the trap door for the hoist, the catch had broken but that has now been replaced. A problem with the urinals which WF were sorting and the spot lights in the kitchen have had to be replaced as they have burnt out.
09/21	To discuss a new shed. The clerk had got a quote for a bespoke shed with vertical timbers on the outside and a slate roof which would match in with the roundel. She was asked to get other quotes. A metal shed without a base etc would be in the region of £1,100.
10/21	To discuss closing the pedestrian gate annually and parking bollards. Cllr Davis said the pedestrian gate at the rear of the site needs to be closed for 24 hours once a year, as it is not a public right of way, perhaps over Christmas would be a good time. The clerk reported that the second bollard would be installed at the car park entrance when the centre is no longer being used as a testing centre.
11/21	To discuss the planting of Joseph Rock tree and plans for the garden. It was agreed that the tree would be planted at the rear of the centre near the gazebo, in the autumn. It was also agreed that instead of fencing on the St Martin's View side a hedge would be planted. The funds from the 100 club could go towards purchasing the hedging and Cllr White said she would happily plant. Cllr Sargent will be asked to clear the area for the hedge to be planted.

12/21	To discuss whether to appoint a replacement for Carol Gray. It was agreed to postpone any decision until the next meeting.
13/21	Members reports. Members were pleased that the Centre was being used for Covid testing they felt this was an excellent use of a Community building and it was also a good way of advertising the building.

Meeting closed 8.30pm