

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Herne Centre, St Martin's View, Herne CT6 7AP

Minutes of the Herne & Broomfield Annual Parish Council meeting held at the Herne Centre on Thursday 12th May 2022 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Davis, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Checksfield, Cllr Collins, Cllr Davison, Cllr Hill, Cllr Saunders, Cllr Strong and Cllr Wilson.

Not Present: Cllr Blatherwick and Cllr Sargent.

091/22 Election of Chairman, signing of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr Davis was elected as Chairman. The Acceptance of Office was signed.

092/22 Election of Vice Chairman.

Cllr Harvey was elected as Vice Chairman.

093/22 To appoint Committees (As per amended sheet circulated):

Finance & Resources Committee
Environment & Leisure Committee
Planning & Highways Committee
Community Centre Committee
Staffing Committee

The committees were appointed as per the circulated sheet.

094/22 To appoint representatives to:

KALC (Kent Association of Local Councils) Canterbury Area Committee
Friends of Broomfield & Herne Ponds
Allotment Society

To Appoint:

Tree Warden & Pond Wardens
Newsletter Editor
Press Officer
Web site manager

The representatives were elected as per the circulated sheet.

095/22 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.

Cllr Blatherwick is away, Cllr Sargent is working. Apologies and reasons for absence were accepted.

County Cllr Marsh, and City Cllr Dekker.

096/22 To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and requests for dispensations.

None.

097/22 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2022.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

098/22 To report on matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda, for information only.

None.

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

Draw for 100 Club.

1st: 14, 2nd:17.

099/22 Chairman's Announcements.

Cllr Davis reported that St. Martin's Church are organising a Platinum Picnic on 5th June 2022 and have asked whether the parish council would like to make it a joint event. It was proposed that this is discussed at the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting, which members agreed.

100/22 Police Matters/Crime report.
Crimes of note:

- 04/04/2022 – Herne Street – Dangerous Driving – Vehicle Swerving in road.
- 29/04/2022 – Lower Herne Road – Criminal Damage – Metal detecting on private land without permission.

Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:

- 22/04/2022 – Ridgeway Road – Dangerous Dog – German Shepherd attacked another dog.
- 29/04/2022 – Lower Herne Road – Nuisance Youths – Intoxicated males shout in the road.

Items of good work:

Visible Patrolling – Foot, Vehicle and Bike.

Reassurance visits.

Updates of previous reported issues:

Lower Vehicle crime.

101/22 Warden's Report.

I have been off on annual leave for the last few weeks, hence the short report.

I continue with welfare visits which were requested by various agencies including Social Services within the Herne and Herne Bay Area. Also dealing with a variety of resident enquiries and concerns including neighbour disputes.

The Pop Up Café was held on Tuesday 26th April and was a great success with over twenty residents attending, there were lots of questions asked and residents were supported and signposted to relevant organisations. The next one will be held on Tuesday 24th May 10.30 till 12.30 at the GP Surgery and every month thereafter.

I am continuing to increase visible presence in Cherry Orchard Park as there continues to be low level ASB.

At present I have agreed to support all day at Strode Park on Saturday 4th June for Jubilee celebration and look forward seeing you there!

Lisa Harrison.

102/22 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Cllrs Dekker and Howes.
City Cllr Howes.

He thanked the parish council for their well put together response to the call for Green Sites. It is hoped that the proposals for the new Local Plan will be put out for public consultation in the summer.

He reported that the Council Tax rebate of £150.00 is rolling out to eligible residents, with those who pay by Direct Debit being paid first and others to follow.

Also, that Canterbury City Council (CCC) had had their Annual General Meeting and agreed the restructuring of the city council. There will be six members on the cabinet and six working groups. A Head of Paid Services replaces the position of Chief Executive.

He also reported that MP Roger Gale has been successful in a bid for some funding from the Levelling Up Fund. CCC can apply for some of this for the Herne Bay area, with a focus on work with young people and music venues. Other funding sources are available, which would have a focus on deprivation in the area.

He mentioned that he is leading CCC's Ukraine support, along with a team of council officers. They are working with the Ukrainians for Canterbury Group. There are 13 host families in the Herne Bay area and once the relevant checks are in place families will move in.

Cllr Harvey asked whether there would be any public consultation on CCC's Forward Plan. Cllr Howes explained that there will be no consultation yet, however information will be publicised at a later date.

103/22 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.

The clerk thanked everyone for their support whilst she was off sick, particularly as she had to leave the Planning & Highways Committee meeting so abruptly. Thank you to Cllr Hill for taking the minutes and to Cllr Blatherwick for locking up. Also, thank you to the Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) for covering for the clerk and for keeping everything up to date, and to the Admin Assistant for her support in the office. The clerk is pleased to say that she is feeling a great deal better now.

As part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee West Faversham Community Association have two events arranged for 4th June 2022 at the Herne Centre. There will be an Afternoon Tea from 11am to 4pm, and Barn Dance and Hog Roast from 7pm to 11pm.

Plans are in place for the Garden Safari to take place on 12th June 2022. There are eight gardens confirmed as opening, plus Herne Mill, Herne & Broomfield allotments, St. Martin's Church, and Broomfield Pond.

The clerk reported that the parish council had received a copy of a letter sent by a resident to Canterbury City Council. It was in respect of the banning of dogs in Herne Bay cemetery. Members asked that it be on the agenda for discussion at the next Environment & Leisure Committee meeting.

104/22 Finance.

To ratify payments made since last meeting. None.

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. Payments were approved.

To report on income received. The clerk had nothing to report as the RFO is on holiday.

105/22 To agree and approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

This was agreed, approved, and signed.

106/22 To agree and approve the Annual Statement of Accounts.

This was agreed, approved, and signed.

107/22 To receive the draft minutes of the Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on 28th April 2022.

The draft minutes were received.

108/22 To receive the draft minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on 5th May 2022.

The draft minutes were received. Cllr Wilson reported that Cllr Davison had spoken about the 20's Plenty for Us campaign. Cllr Davison explained that parish and town councils are asked to pass a motion to support the campaign for 20mph. Cllr Harvey read out the motion and members agreed to support it, but that the views of residents would be needed. Cllr Davis will put an article in the newsletter, and it will be put on the agenda of the next parish council meeting.

109/22 To discuss the planting in the Herne village flower bed.

The clerk reported that a quote of £100 had been given to do the work on the flower bed for the planting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There was a short discussion and members agreed this, and to the planting of a Union Flag. If red, white, and blue flowers are not available, then to have a purple and platinum scheme.

There was a discussion on the general maintenance of the flower bed, and it was suggested that neighbouring parish councils are asked about how they have their gardening work done.

110/22 To discuss the work needed at the BMX Track/Community Park and quotes if received.

RFO will be meeting final contractor in a couple of weeks, so quotes will need to be discussed at next meeting.

111/22 To discuss replacing the lights at the Multi Use Games Area for LED ones.

The clerk outlined the two proposals that had been received. The first was to replace the existing light fittings with LED ones. The second was to just replace the existing bulbs with LED bulbs. There was some discussion and members asked that more quotes are obtained. They also asked for more information regarding the wattage of the existing bulbs, for comparison with LED equivalent ones.

112/22 To discuss adding Broomfield United Reformed Church Hall and the Butcher's Arms to the list of Community Assets.

Members agreed that Canterbury City Council are asked to add these to the list. Cllr Harvey will deal with this.

113/22 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations.

Cllr Davison reported that she had attended a meeting regarding the Wilder Blean Project. Kent Wildlife Trust (KWT) and Wildwood will be organising an all-day community event to welcome the bison. Details are yet to be confirmed, but it will hopefully take place in July. Cllr Davison explained that a lot of monitoring is taking place in the woods, and that if the parish council have any questions KWT are prepared to attend a council meeting.

114/22 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.

Cllr Checksfield reported that there had been a meeting of the Friends of Broomfield Pond. One of the items that had been discussed was Ponder's Patch. This is owned by the Friends and should have four trustees to oversee its management, but currently there are only two. Members agreed to put this on the agenda for discussion at the next parish council meeting.

Cllr Davis thanked Cllr Wilson for taking photographs of the Brown-tail moth caterpillar nests at Curtis Wood. Warnings have been shared on social media as the hairs from the caterpillars can cause rashes and eye irritations. Cllr Davison

mentioned that she is involved in the monitoring of Oak processionary moth infestations.

Cllr Davis reported that she had been contacted by a resident from Streetfield regarding overgrown trees along a Public Right of Way. She will be meeting the person concerned.

115/22 To discuss the staffing in the office (Closed session) This item will be preceded by a resolution Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude the public and press due to the confidential nature of the business being discussed.

The Clerk reported that as members were aware the Administrative Assistant has resigned and explained the reasons, her final day being 20th May 2022. The Staffing committee have a meeting on 17th May 2022 and advertising for a replacement is on the agenda.

Cllr Davis asked members to help the Clerk as much as they can.

116/22 Members Reports.

Cllr Checksfield reported that the sunflower signs for the Garden Safari have been repainted and that some could do with being replaced. Cllr Harvey said that he will put them out.

Cllr Strong reported that the allotments will be open all day for the Garden Safari, along with the car park and toilet.

Cllr Davison reported that she had sent an email to Aidan Potts and Rebecca Booth at Canterbury City Council regarding the management of Curtis Wood Park and Goldspots Pond. This included requesting some tree planting as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Cllr Wilson reported that he had completed the Kent Association of Local Councils' Introduction to Planning training. Also, that he is doing the weekly checks on the Multi Use Games Area.

117/22 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 9th June 2022.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.