

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council held at the Herne Centre on Thursday 10th February 2022 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present:

Cllr Davis, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Checksfield, Cllr Davison, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Saunders, and Cllr Strong.

Not present:

Cllr Cheeseman, Cllr Collins, Cllr Hill, Cllr Sargent, Cllr White, and Cllr Wilson.

023/22 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.

Cllrs Cheeseman, Hill, Sargent and Wilson who are working, Cllr Collins who has another engagement, and Cllr White who is still unwell. Reasons accepted.

Apologies from both City Cllr Dekker and County Cllr Marsh.

024/22 To receive declarations of interest on items on the Agenda and requests for dispensations.

None.

025/22 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2022.

Were agreed as a correct record.

026/22 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

Two residents of Streetfield spoke regarding the recommendations in Canterbury City Council's Annual Parking Review. Concerns were raised that the proposal to remove the existing yellow lines near the junction with School Lane would create a hazard for traffic entering and leaving Streetfield.

Draw for 100 Club.

1st 20, 2nd 30.

027/22 Chairman's Announcements.

The chairman had nothing to report.

028/22 Police Matters/Crime report.

Crimes of note:

- Stolen Vehicle recovered – Canterbury Road – 12/01/2022
- Dangerous Driving – Bramblefields Close – 16/01/2022
- Dangerous Driving – Canterbury Road – 28/01/2022

Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:

- Nuisance Youths – Throwing things off bridge – A2990 – 18/01
- Nuisance Youths – Loud music and Intoxication – Herne St – 31/01

Items of good work:

Continuous high visibility patrolling using car, bike and on foot.

Updates of previous reported issues:

No further calls this month regarding ASB in Cherry orchards playing field.

Increase in vehicle crime.

029/22 Warden's Report.

Lisa Harrison, the new Community Warden, attended and gave her report.

Role Remit covering Herne and Broomfield and a presence in Herne Bay. re. Welfare and issues.

- Supporting the Elderly and vulnerable in the community.
- Strengthening community resilience to ensure 'stronger, safer communities.'
- Assisting residents to navigate public services.
- Fostering community cohesion and wellbeing.

So far:

Attended several clubs, both in Herne and Broomfield and also surrounding areas, to ascertain what we currently have on offer in area. Met with and have contacted various organisations to introduce myself, i.e., Medical Centre, Age UK, Schools, Churches, Beach Creative, shops, Library, Strode Park, CSU, Police, and others so far.

Currently have some possible future projects on the horizon.

New road safety signs for outside the school – early stages trying to contact most appropriate person at school.

Beach Creative – Age UK – Men's SHED project – Using Young People with local artist to decorate Men's Shed – Men's shed supplying some of the planters – After School Arts Club Herne Bay Juniors.

Pop up Café – continue throughout winter within area.

Reintroduce come and sit table at Sainsbury's.

030/22 To receive reports from County Cllr Marsh & City Councillors.

City Cllr Howes

The application for TPO/04/2021 has been granted.

53 bookings have been logged with Canterbury City Council (CCC) for Platinum Jubilee events. Road closure requests have been linked to CCC from Kent County Council (KCC) Highways.

Complaints have been received regarding the stickers that have been put on recycling bins. These were issued because KCC had notified CCC that they were missing their recycling targets, with the inserts increasing contamination in the blue bins. The issuing of stickers is due to stop and is being investigated. Will keep the parish council updated.

The Household Support Fund is available for residents in the Canterbury district who need help paying for example food, energy bills. It is open to people who are over 16, in receipt of a means-tested benefit or on a low income and have less than £500 in the bank. Full details are on CCC website.

Update on the Local Plan call for sites. A call for sites has been launched for sites to help CCC meet its climate change and ecological goals, for example open spaces, tree planting, sites for solar panels. It is hoped that an update on the Local Plan will be issued in early June, once all the sites have been assessed.

City Cllr Dekker

City Cllr Howes had a message from City Cllr Dekker reporting that the yellow lines in Ridgeway Road have been completed. CCC Enforcement will be monitoring the area.

County Cllr Marsh

Had spoken to the clerk to say that KCC were setting their budget.

031/22 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.

The clerk thanked members for their patience as she settles into her new role, and the Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) for all her support with the transition.

The clerk reported that a letter had been received from Canterbury City Council Environmental Protection regarding noise from the air source heat pump. A response has been sent.

Reports from the RFO:

Report on meeting with a contractor regarding the Community Park paths

After having a walk around, they advised that road planings would compact down and make a good surface, however it would depend on availability, so will look into what might be available. They will quote for the work per metre and have advised that the paths could be marked as to which areas are high priority to make sure the worst areas are done. The road after the second gate is also in need of work. There are funds available in the Concurrent Funding budget and also in the earmarked reserve for the Community Park. The paths are starting to get dangerous and are in need of repair.

One quote has been received and a third contractor is coming to look and give a quote.

Enquiries have been made with KCC to ask about getting road planings, however, they do not have any work planned in the immediate future. Also, the company KCC suggested trying have said they re-use/repurpose any they have.

Meeting regarding the new bench at the Community Park

The resident requesting the bench would like it to be sited between the two existing benches on the far side of the wildflower meadow, overlooking the Blean.

Members discussed the possibility of future requests for benches at the Community Park, including a limit on numbers and whether the benches have plaques.

It was suggested that the RFO have their own email address set up via the website, rather than using the clerk's.

032/22 Finance.

To ratify payments made since last meeting. Westgate Security £114.00. This was approved.

To approve payments presented at this meeting; schedule and bank reconciliation supplied. The payments were approved, and the clerk went through the reserves.

To report on income received. VAT refund £1404.54, payment from Herne & Broomfield Allotment Society for allotment water bill £16.38, advert £86.40, centre income £577.00, total £2084.32.

033/22 To receive the draft minutes of the Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on 27th January 2022.

The draft minutes were received.

034/22 To receive the draft minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on 3rd February 2022.

The draft minutes were received.

Cllr Blatherwick reported that members had raised objections to five of the planning applications. She raised concerns regarding the reserved matters application for Strode Farm. The highway adoption plan only shows the spine road as being included, and 10 parking spaces for the allotments is not enough. Will the orchard trees be on dwarf root stock? The clerk to raise these issues with the planning officer.

035/22 To receive the draft minutes of the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting held on 25th January 2022.

The draft minutes were received.

Members raised concerns that there had not been any discussion about the changes to arrangements for the Community Fun Day. It was suggested that a representative from the Environment & Leisure Committee attend the Fun Day planning meetings. The clerk explained that sometimes meetings had to be arranged at short notice and decisions made quickly.

036/22 Reports from council representatives on outside bodies and other organisations.

Cllr Blatherwick gave a report on the monthly Herne Centre meetings with West Faversham Community Association. Bookings are picking up, and the heating/cooling system seems to be working better.

037/22 Environmental Issues including Tree & Pond Warden's Report.

Cllr Checksfield reported that the Friends of the Ponds have had their AGM. They will be going into the next phase of work on Broomfield Pond. There is a new task day list, with the first date being 27th February 2022.

038/22 To approve the costs for the storage of the Santa Float and to adapt it.

Members agreed to the storage of the Santa Float at Hoath Airfield in one of the buildings. There will be no cost as it is for the parish council and community. Cllr Sargent has been asked to arrange with them to get the float on site. Adapting the float was not discussed.

039/22 To discuss setting dates for committee meetings.

Several members asked whether it would be possible to arrange committee meetings in advance. The clerk explained that this could be possible for some of the meetings, but not for all of them. The clerk will put a calendar of dates together.

040/22 To discuss the issue of dog fouling in the area.

A resident had raised the issue of people walking their dogs in the cemetery, despite this not being allowed, and the increase in dog fouling generally in the area. Reminders will be shared via the newsletter, Facebook, and website. The clerk will contact CCC Enforcement to see if they can visit the area.

041/22 To discuss the options for obtaining a mobile phone for the clerk.

The clerk presented various options of phones, contracts, and levels of data. Members agreed to buy a phone outright and have a SIM only contract, with 5GB of data. The clerk will get more detailed quotes.

042/22 To discuss quotes for the maintenance of the flower bed in the village.

No quotes have been received yet.

043/22 To discuss the quote for tree planting in Mill Lane.

Members agreed to the planting of eight trees in Mill Lane. It was agreed to use the grant funding from KCC for Platinum Jubilee events towards this. This will be publicised via the newsletter, Facebook, and website.

044/22 Update on legal issues (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.

As there were no public present this was not necessary.

A procedural hearing is scheduled for 22nd August 2022, which will be via telephone. Following this a judge will decide how, or if, things will be moved forward. The claimant will be required to produce a witness statement to prove that they have the funds to cover the costs, if awarded against them. The advice is to wait.

045/22 Members Reports.

Cllr Checksfield reported that she had done a litter pick at the Community Park/BMX Track. She suggested that another bin be put at the other side of the track and a reminder sent to the BMX Club to keep the area clean.

046/22 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 10th March 2022.