

Hersden Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hersden Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th October 2023 at 7.00 pm. At Hersden Neighbourhood Centre

Present: Councillors E Berceanu, A Brabham, J Brabham, P Hatton, R Llewellyn, C Warman and KCC Councillor Alan Marsh.

In attendance: Caretaker David Hards, Community Warden Linda Hayes and HPC's Clerk Lisamarie Foster.

118/23 Apologies for Absence and reason for absence
CCC Cllr H McKenzie and CCC Cllr K Moses both attending another meeting.

119/23 Declarations of Councillor's interests regarding items on the Agenda
None

120/23 To approve the minutes of the following Meeting

12th September 2023
Proposed: Cllr A Brabham
Seconded: Cllr Berceanu
All Agreed

121/23 Matters arising not agenda items
None

122/23 Public discussion on items on the agenda
No members of the public present

123/23 KCC & CCC Cllrs reports; PCSO & Community Warden reports

Cllr Jack Brabham reads out the Local Councillors report, Cllr Brabham is concerned that we do not see a great deal of our Ward Councillors here in Hersden compared to Sturry.

KCC Cllr Marsh report

Cllr Marsh says he monitors the share prices of Persimmons so would like us to keep him informed of any communication we have with them.

He was in Manchester last week trying to make sense of where the world is going, he has contact with Michael Gove.

KCC had a leadership challenge, it's the second in 3 months. The leader won the leadership challenge again.

One example of where Kent County Council are going, in June central government decided that anyone that has domestic rubbish is entitled to take it to the tip and not pay anything. I have said for 5/6 years that this should be the case. Cllr Jack Brabham asks if there is any proposal to take away the booking system at the tip, Cllr Marsh as put it through so we will see what happens. Cllr Marsh now only has £3600 a year to spend and help the 7 parish councils, he is expecting in the next 6 months for the grant to be reduced to nothing. Lastly he has 50 seats for each Saturday, Hersden Neighbourhood centre and Hersden Parish Council for the Sleeping Beauty Pantomime at the Sarah Thorne Theatre at Broadstairs. Details will be sent through from the Theatre.

Signed

Date

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124/23

Chair, Cllrs, Clerk and Caretakers reports

Chair – Attended the CCC Charter online meeting, involved how the City Council works and the review of the boundaries. Nothing of any importance that we need to be aware of.

Cllr Llewellyn – Nothing

Cllr Warman – Nothing

Cllr A Brabham - Nothing

Cllr Hatton - Nothing

Cllr Berceanu - Mentions he has discussed the play park with a neighbour and the need for disability/inclusive equipment.

Clerk – Nothing

Caretaker – Busy week last week, took the payback group round St Albans and cut the hedgerow back and now able to get better access to the litter. Lots of glass again been sorted. Issue up the Recreation ground sorted. Issue with the wind the previous week on bin day so this doubled the work. Chislet Gardens look like they are doing their own litter picking and leaving the bags near the Sycamores.

125/23

Correspondence received:

General emails regarding road closures in Kent

Email: All 3 Playground quotes have come back, to be discussed under agenda Item 128/23

Email: Received from Pegasus group regarding the development of 370 homes on the former Chislet Colliery site, A meeting has been arranged, this took place earlier today. Met to discuss the land, the development is going ahead and they hope to complete in 5-8 years. We hope to have ownership of the allotment space. Clerk to keep Cllr Marsh informed of any communication.

Email: Forwarded from Hersden Community Centre from Silvertime Legal regarding 2 free talks, Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney and the Care Conundrum including Care, Care Fees and Care Homes. It was suggested this could be used for our 'Local Joint Parish Council Get together/Meet and Greet' to be arranged in approximately 6 months time (after Hoath have hosted). It is agreed that this would be a good thing to include in the meeting.

Cllr Marsh asks what we gained from the Joint Parish Meeting, we said it was an informal meeting, local plans were discussed and agreed that they are not the most beneficial thing to have in place.

Cllr Alan Marsh leaves the meeting.

Communication with Unity Bank regarding the application for a Bank Card, To be discussed and signed under agenda item 129/23

126/23

Planning & Enforcement Matters – None

Signed

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127/23

Website

Hugofox are no longer offering a free service for hosting our website. (our webhost) they now want £9.99 a month, we have looked at other hosting companies. We have paid for the domain name through Reg 123. We need to decide which hosting site to use and agree on a price we are happy to pay. 3 quotes with monthly charges ranging from £1.99 a month to £3.99 and VAT. Information of each package shared with the Councillors,
Cllr Jack Brabham Proposed that we use 123 Reg for the service and pays upfront to be reimbursed at the next meeting then a direct debit mandate be completed. Seconded by Cllr Berceanu, All agreed.

128/23

To discuss he quotes for the play park

Quotes have come back from 3 companies, after much discussion the final amendments/plans/requirements for the play area are as follows:

Triple bay swing set with x2 flat bases, 1 basket, 1 cradle and a me to you/tango swing if not x2 cradles. 3 way children's see saw/springer for a younger child, this is to placed where the old springer item was. x3 exercise equipment items, Rower, bike and cross trainer/skier. New soft pour where needed and the repair of existing soft pour and equipment. Litter bins will be sourced from elsewhere as we can get better prices. Clerk to send this information to the 3 companies (Redlynch, Wicksteed and Caloo)
Proposed by Cllr J Brabham
Seconded Cllr Warman
All agreed

The gate on the play park is an urgent issue, I'm waiting for Wicksteed to reply with a price for repair if possible if not a replacement will be needed. Cllrs will be emailed for approval/comment once a price comes in.

129/23

Finance Matters

Grant Application

We have received a Grant application from Linda Hayes (Community Warden) for £4139.00, This is for the purchase of a shed to enable a 'Men's shed group' as a place for the residents of Hersden to socialise and take up a hobby that they may otherwise not be able to do, this is to be located in the Garden of the Community Centre. After discussion this is agreed.

Proposed Cllr Warman
Seconded Cllr Llewellyn
All Agreed

Agree the purchase of a wreath for the Remembrance Service

This is priced at £20.00
Proposed Cllr Berceanu
Seconded Cllr Hatton
All Agreed.

To Discuss and agree the purchase of security cameras and memory card for the safety event

In November we are holding a safety event, this will include a scam talk by Trading Standards. Cllr Hatton is concerned that some cameras were previously provided and those are not being used, would we be wasting our money on purchasing more. It is agreed that we hold the event and speak to residents about any safety concerns they may have and decide if we can provide any help.

Signed

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Bank Card Application

It was previously agreed that a bank card application should be processed. The paperwork has now been completed and needs signing by at least 3 signatories.

Proposed Cllr J Brabham

Seconded Cllr Berceanu

All Agreed.

AGAR The External audit has been concluded. The external Audit report and Certificate have been published on our website along with sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR to meet the regulations. Clerk read out the report from Mazaars.

Accounts for Payment

Banking sign - off (Monthly rotation) Cllr A Brabham and Cllr Llewellyn

Payments – October 2023		
John Caddick	Grounds Maintenance (September)	£316.99
David Hards	October salary paid by s/o	£225.77
	Mobile Phone Credit	£10.00
Lisamarie Foster	October salary paid by s/o	£523.25
TOTAL for October Payments		£1076.01
Bank Balance as of September 2023		£86095.78

Payments this month - All agreed

130/23

Working Group Updates

Staffing:

Playground: Previously covered.

Youth: Bus is still in attendance.

BMX Track: Used a lot at the weekend, which is good to know.

Finance:

Events: Christmas Event needs to be discussed. Next month's meeting we will need to discuss the purchase of a Christmas Tree and how we will support the Christmas event. Cllr Brabham has had a lot of requests from residents for us to provide a Cinema on the field as previously done. This would be something for the summertime but would need looking into soon as it requires a lot of organisation. The mistake made previously was that the event was free, tickets were ordered but people didn't attend and others were not able to get tickets. Possibly charge a minimal fee for tickets to encourage people to attend. We can only have a capped £500 people on the field. This would come out of next year's budget.

Beautification: John Caddick was asked to grass seed the green on the front by the Sycamores but he has been weed killing and will seed this when the weather is right.

Community Safety Group: Event organised for the 23rd November 2023 at 6pm.

Signed

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Training: Clerk is still waiting for a Dynamic Councillor course locally for the newest Councillors to attend.

131/23

Any other business:

None

132/23

Date of the next meeting

14th November 2023

There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 20.30.

Signed

Date