

Hersden Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hersden Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7.00 pm. At Hersden Neighbourhood Centre

Present: Councillors E Berceanu, A Brabham, J Brabham, P Hatton, R Llewellyn, C Warman, KCC Councillor Alan Marsh,
HPC's Clerk Lisamarie Foster
HPC's Caretaker David Hards
Warden Linda Hayes

3 x Members of the Public

28/24 Apologies for Absence and reason for absence

CCC Cllr Keji Moses
CCC Councillor Harry McKenzie
PC Simon Proctor not on duty

29/24 Declarations of Councillor's interests regarding items on the Agenda

None

30/24 To approve the minutes of the following Meeting

13th February 2024

Cllr J Brabham proposed and Cllr Berceanu seconded and all councillors agreed they were a true record of the meeting, and the Chairman duly signed them.

31/24 Matters arising not agenda items

Cllr Warman mentions pot holes near the Chislet Colliery Club, Clerk informs her anyone can report them on the Canterbury City Council website. Also that parking around the club is causing problems, parallel parking and parking right on the bend near the Colliery Club when an event is taking place. Long term we could request yellow lining on one side and short term we can write to the club and see if they can address the issue. David Hards mentions the lack of parking for the pavilion and yellow lining will have a knock on effect. The pavement/verge parking ban will add to the issue. The road markings have always been incorrect where The Avenue continues and The Sycamores. Jack suggest Claire marks her concerns on a map and then we can contact the Club and ask for feedback.

32/24 Public discussion on items on the agenda

None

33/24 To receive written application for the office of Parish Councillors an to co-opt candidates to fill existing vacancies

Clerk has previously circulated co- option applications

Mr David Almond – All in favour of co-opting Mr David Almond.

Mr Michael Cooper – All in favour of co-opting Mr Michael Cooper.

Mr Paul Glover – All in favour of co-opting Mr David Glover, Cllr Claire asks Paul Glover why he didn't mention his involvement in Westbere Parish Council on his application form, Paul responds and states, yes he could have mentioned it on his application however he was really only concentrating on his request to join Hersden Parish Council and the reasons, he didn't see that it was relevant.

The co-opted candidates are invited to join the meeting as Councillors. Clerk to issue the necessary paperwork to the new councillors for completion and Electoral Services will be informed and sent the DPs once completed.

Signed

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34/24

KCC & CCC Cllr Reports; PCSO & Community Warden Reports

Linda Hayes, Community Warden Not a lot has been going on, the enforcement team have been in attendance at the Primary School, they are coming out again. Cllr Jack Brabham mentions that illegal parking can be reported on the council's website, images of the cars can be uploaded.

Consultation period finished for the Community Warden review, so we should find out if we have a warden and the areas being covered. Cllr Jack Brabham comments that Linda has been a key part of the community.

KCC Cllr Alan Marsh I have spoken earlier in the year regarding the difficulty the council have been having coming up with a legitimate and viable budget for the year, it has been very tight and hard work, we did pass the budget 8/9 days ago, the biggest challenge we have had in financial terms is Adult Social Care, Children's Education and disabilities across the county, we have 1.3 billion, approximately 700 million is being used to look after all of the people that we need to look after, we have made sure everybody is protected, maybe not to the full extent they would wish but certainly that they would be protected, as a result of this you are the second parish to know that the hard work was worth it, we have ended up with 8.5 Million pounds allocated to Kent County Council for nothing except pot holes. If you have pot holes to be reported, get onto the portal and report them. Hersden is important in some areas because of Council Tax, residences are in bands up to G, the criteria used to get an average is band D, Hersden has more Band D properties, what this means is as far as council tax from KCCs concern the increase for Band D will be £1.47 per week which I think is brilliant, to put it into perspective the Canterbury City Council budget has been formulated (nothing to do with me, I'm not Canterbury City Council) Parking increases for car parks in the Canterbury City Centre. Personal opinion, CCC have decided that if you have a green bin you must pay separately and provide your bank details directly to them, please be careful, their systems were hacked, I would recommend that cheques are used for the full payment. The green bin costs should have been added to the Council tax for those with bins.

We are now getting adverts paid by the government to advise people of the increased levels of fraud.

£300,000 is being invested into the Park and Ride, Use the highways portal to report things, copy me in where necessary.

A man killed at the Sturry level crossing a few weeks ago, there are some groups of people who think that he was killed because the vehicle was speeding, when there is a fatality on the roads, it comes down to us from the police, the police have not issued a report but at the Sturry speed camera application briefing last week, a policeman was adamant that the mans death was an accident and it wasn't due to the speed of the vehicle. Those people who think that 20mph or 10mph speeds limits are the answer to everything that is not the case, it can be a contributing factor but in this case it wasn't. Cllr Jack Brabham asks about our request for 20mph speed through the village, Cllr Marsh suggests we request this again with a fresh application. Lastly, Canterbury is overwhelmingly a University town/city and when the University want land or want to build accommodation for students they get all sorts of freebies and I was disgusted to hear a couple of days back that they were shutting down one of their blocks of accommodation and replacing it with a new one again and they are putting in their own planning application for up to 2000 houses, which means they've got the money twice.

KCC Councillor Marsh leaves the meeting

Ward Councillors report: This was circulated to Councillors, Cllr Jack Brabham reads the report out.

35/24

Chair, Cllrs, Clerk and Caretakers reports

Chair – Most of my report has been covered, Pavement parking ban is in place, Clerk to contact Richard Jenkins with regards to the pavement/verge parking ban, no signage on the A28.

The Council are doing the pickle ball markings, Canterbury City Council are funding this, the courts have been swept ready, section 106 money is being used to make improvements on the sports area.

Cllr Llewellyn – A pop up exhibition for the Mining museum at Dover retail park has been organised for the end of August, I am a 'one-man band' when it comes to Chislet heritage, so I am looking for some help to set up and manage the exhibition, I have some print outs (circulated) Could the councillors help and can the Parish Council support the event. Unsure of what equipment is needed at this point.

Cllr Almond – The governance review need to be aware of the meetings taking place.

Cllr Glover – The Westbere preservation society have geared up in a big way with regards to the History element of the reasoning behind the boundary change. The field itself is still on the new plan as a strategic site for

Signed

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building on. Two separate consultations, one being the planning application to build, Cllr A Brabham asks if anyone knows the owner of the land, Cllr J Brabham is aware that the landowner has agreed to the possibility of planning. Every household has received a flyer giving them information regarding the consultation dates for the boundary review, this information was also put on our facebook page and another facebook page covering a wider field. Cllr J Brabham for minuting purposes, states that we will make comment about the strategic site to Canterbury City Council and a copy to Westbere Parish Council for them to notify The Westbere preservation society and we will share the boundary review consultation information again on Facebook asking residents to comment or contact us with feedback.

- Cllr Warman** – Nothing
- Cllr A Brabham** – Nothing
- Cllr Hatton** - Nothing
- Cllr Berceanu** – Nothing
- Cllr Cooper** - Nothing

Clerk – Nothing

Caretaker – The bench is getting a lot of use by the planter and they can see that the area for the newly purchased bench has been cleared ready for that to be installed, we are waiting for the probationers to have time to help. Westbere edge has a lot of litter at the moment.

The bench will be stained/oiled before its installed. Linseed oil and fixings need to be purchased.

36/24

Correspondence received:

Lots of road closure across Kent, the local/relevant ones have been posted on our facebook page. Pavilion meeting took place on 27th February 2pm (virtually) an update was posted on facebook.

Lots of communication regarding the roof on the brick built bus shelter along the A28 by the care home, it doesn't belong to KCC as they only have the metal shelters, the care home were contacted and it doesn't belong to them, on KCC Cllr Alan Marsh's advice the Clerk contacted Ruth Goudie, Transportation team leader at CCC to see if she has any information on this is, so we are awaiting her response. Cllr J Brabham says wait until we get some information from Ruth Goudie, we could put the proposal forward to take on the work and repair it and adopt the shelter.

37/24

Planning & Enforcement Matters:

None

38/24

Finance Matters:

Accounts for Payment

Banking sign - off (Monthly rotation) Cllr E Berceanu and Cllr R Llewellyn

Payments – March 2024		
John Caddick	Grounds Maintenance (February) £316.99	£316.99
David Hards	March salary paid by s/o Mobile phone credit (February)	£***** £10.00
Lisamarie Foster	March salary –	£*****
HMRC	Overdue payment (Aug 2020-March 2021) of £286.39 as of today (plus any interest between now and the payment being set up and authorised)	£286.75
Receipts – February 2024		

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Sturry Parish Council	Final Payment from Sturry Parish Council	£4653.18
Bank card purchases -		
Amazon Purchases (Files, paper x5 reams, pens, post it notes, Extension lead and Trickle chargers)		£138.53
Monthly fee		£3.00
Bank Balance as of 29 th February 2024		£78,577.24

Payments this month – Proposed Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Almond, All agreed

39/24

To discuss the play area quotations: Quotations from Wicksteed, Redlynch and Caloo have been discussed and it was decided that Wicksteed were the best for price and were able to meet our requirements, we need to request a final quotation from Wicksteed with a few small amendments. When the final quotation is received it will be circulated by email for discussion and approval. Proposed Cllr E Berceanu Seconded Cllr C Warman, All agreed.

The fencing will be sorted separately, we have 2 quotations already, a further 2 to be sourced locally. This will be along the right hand side and the rear of the park. Proposed Cllr J Brabham, Seconded Cllr C Warman, All agreed.

40/24

Working Group Updates

Staffing: Paul to look at the KCC Pension scheme.

Playground: The gate is being installed on Thursday. A sign has been located in the office. Quotes to be sourced for a larger sign to be put on 2 wooden posts at a high level. David is granted up to 4 hours overtime and he will need to source materials (x 2 8ft posts and max 4 bags of postcrete cement) sunk in the ground at 5ft. Cllr J Brabham Proposed, Seconded Cllr Hatton, All Agreed.

Youth: Pavilion meeting took place, discussed the relocation of the building to allow for parking and better visibility for security purposes. It is currently Canterbury City Councils Land, they manage it. Next meeting will be onsite. Cllr Warman would like to attend.

BMX Track: Nothing

Finance: Nothing

Events: D-Day event, talking with Louise Murphy, a band/singer might be organised by the Welfare club, an entertainer and bouncy castle. If the Parish Council pay for food, a nominal charge would be put on this to discourage people just taking food because it is free and then throwing it away. It is agreed in principle that we allocate up to £200 for entertainment and £100 for food. We will be invoiced and the amounts will be discussed.

Beautification:

Community Safety Group: Nothing

Training: Only online dynamic councilor course is available. Cllrs encouraged to look and inform Lisamarie if they are interested.

41/24

20mph Limit and Primary School Parking issues, covered earlier in the meeting, Cllr J Brabham will speak with PC Proctor and ask for more visual presence.

42/24

Any other business: Cllr Hatton wishes to complain regarding the quality of the verges, could John Caddick lower his blade and blower the grass cuttings. Lisamarie (Clerk) to action.

Cllr J Brabham requests that the new councilors need to set up email addresses using the correct format first name last name hpc@gmail.com.

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Cllr Cooper requests the planning portal is improved/back up and running as it was before the cyber-attack, it is really difficult to use and see any new applications, we do get planning emails to the Parish Clerk so things shouldn't get missed. Lisamarie to raise with CCC Cllr McKenzie.

Cllr Glover states that from a GDPR point of view, all emails relating to the Parish Council should be through the Parish email addresses.

David Hards mentions that it is great having new Cllrs for meeting discussions.

43/24

Date of the next meeting

9th April 2024

There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 9.11pm.

Signed

Date