

Hersden Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hersden Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th January 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, CCC Councillor Keji Moses

HPC's Clerk Lisamarie Foster

3 x Members of the Public

1/24 **Apologies for Absence and reason for absence**

CCC Cllr McKenzie attending a planning meeting

David Hards

Linda Hayes

PC Simon Proctor, roster pattern doesn't suit

2/24 **Declarations of Councillor's interests regarding items on the Agenda**

Cllr Claire Warman mentions that her name has changed on the register.

3/24 **To approve the minutes of the following Meeting**

12th December 2023

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

4/24 **Matters arising not agenda items**

Email received from Richard Jenkins, Senior Transportation officer regarding the Annual Parking review, this was circulated to Councillors, it shows proposals in the parish for pavement and verge parking bans. Keji will find out more about how we can enforce it. KCC Cllr Alan Marsh informs us to take a photo of the illegal parking and report to Richard Jenkins, copy Alan into the email.

5/24 **Public discussion on items on the agenda**

Nothing

6/24 **KCC & CCC Cllr Reports; PCSO & Community Warden Reports**

PC Simon Proctor has provided some information regarding E-Scooters, this was discussed at the Safety meeting.

CCC Cllr Keji Moses and CCC Cllr Harry McKenzie's report was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting,

KCC Cllr Marsh report – Kent County Council, the Council tax hasn't been sorted yet but the amount of money will increase by 5% as there isn't enough money for all of the services. Out of 47 County Councils there are 14 either already declared bankrupt or in special measures. Pot holes – we asked for an estimate to repair all roads all year, the cost came back at 700 million pounds, our budget for 5500 miles of road is 155 million, it is totally unaffordable. The Autumn statement was supposed to give us some extra money, but that didn't happen. Families with children unable to travel to ordinary schools with other children is being looked at as this is a huge cost. Cllr Jack Brabham asks Cllr Marsh why has the plaza in Herne bay gone ahead when the Council do not have the money to spend. Cllr Marsh responds stating that the plans were in place previously and it can often cost more to cancel these contracts. More information should follow at the next meeting. Temperatures are dropping, we have 5 months worth of gritting material in our depots.

A study has been passed to me regarding the purchasing of new homes, the demand has dropped considerably due to the quality and standard of workmanship, people are looking at buying older homes as these were built better, we need to keep an eye on Persimmons once the building work starts.

Cllr Andrea Brabham asks why KCC are struggling financially, we used to receive an amount of money and we are doing more and more work but getting less money, why do KCC not have any money. Cllr Alan Marsh states that previously he had access to up to £50,000 to allocate to his 7 parish Councils, now has only £3000. Adult

Signed

Date

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social care, including people living alone etc. we support this and it is costing a lot of money. The London Boroughs get twice as much money per head compared to us.

7/24

Chair, Cllrs, Clerk and Caretakers reports

Caretaker – Strong winds causing extra work with litter picking and the Christmas wrapping paper etc., no more drug canisters which is good. Overloaded bins also an issue.

Chair – The men’s shed have had some tools donated which is great.

Cllr Llewellyn – Nothing

Cllr Warman – Nothing

Cllr A Brabham – Nothing as a Councillor but as a member of the Community I can say the Christmas Sleigh was a success and received well by the community.

Cllr Hatton - Nothing

Cllr Berceanu – Nothing

Clerk – Nothing

8/24

Correspondence received:

Road Closures in Kent

Chislet Gardens management company have requested some yellow lining, Cllr Jack Brabham has put some additional lines that have been highlighted as parking issues. The Annual Parking review/Richard Jenkins can be replied to and this can be included. This email plus the maps showing the areas for concern to be circulated to the Councillors.

Cllr Llewellyn mentions the Council have put new junction lines in Sutton Road but not anywhere else.

Hoplands have parking restrictions which is managed by the management company, this is then creating a problem for the area by the roundabout opposite the care home.

9/24

Planning & Enforcement Matters:

10/24

Finance Matters

Standing order – The current standing order amounts to be changed to reflect the wage amounts below, Proposed Cllr J Brabham, Seconded Cllr C Warman All Agreed.

Accounts for Payment

Banking sign - off (Monthly rotation) Cllr P Hatton and Cllr E Berceanu

Payments – January 2023		
John Caddick	Grounds Maintenance (December) £316.99	£316.99
David Hards	January salary £281.67 paid by s/o Mobile phone credit £10.00 per month (December)	£***** £10.00
Lisamarie Foster	January salary – £758.49 paid by s/o Back payment – 1 st April to December	£***** £*****
Lisamarie Foster	Expenses – Delivery of Christmas Cards	£200.00
Mazars	External Audit Fee	£252.00

Signed

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TOTAL for January Payments	£3936.46
Bank Card purchases	
Amazon purchases (Extension lead and 2024 wall planner)	£16.38
Monthly fee	£3.00
Bank Balance as of 31 st December 2023	£77,003.37

Payments this month – Proposed Cllr E Berceanu, seconded by Cllr A Brabham, All agreed

11/24

Working Group Updates

Staffing:

Playground: Clerk has asked David Hards to double check the measurements for the gate, then the purchase will be made.

Youth: Nothing

BMX Track: Nothing

Finance: Nothing

Events: We are still looking at doing a large summer event, Cllrs are asked to think about some options before the next meeting.

Beautification: Trees are coming early January, still waiting for confirmation of delivery and decisions to be made regarding the placement.

Community Safety Group:

Training: Cllr J Brabham is waiting for some information regarding Snow training/village emergency planning.

12/24

Any other business:

Litter problem around the West Kent Housing flats and Gardening issues, sofa cushions have been dumped. Canterbury City Councils website is the place for this to be reported as a fly tip. Clerk to contact West Kent Housing to ask for an update on the litter and maintenance.

13/24

Date of the next meeting

13th February 2024

There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 8pm.

Signed

Date