

Hersden Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hersden Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th June 2024 at 7.00 pm. At Hersden Neighbourhood Centre

Present: Councillors D Almond, E Berceanu, J Brabham, M Cooper, P Glover, P Hatton, R Llewellyn, KCC Councillor Alan Marsh.

HPC's Clerk Lisamarie Foster
HPC's Caretaker David Hards
Roger Lithgow – Kent Community Warden

1 member of the public

77/24 Apologies for Absence and reason for absence

CCC Cllr Keji Moses
Cllr Claire Warman
Cllr Andrea Brabham

78/24 Declarations of Councillor's interests regarding items on the Agenda

None

79/24 To approve the minutes of the following Meeting

14th May 2024

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

Chairman Cllr Jack Brabham notifies the Council of some changes to the order of the Agenda as he needs to leave the meeting early. 86/24 and 87/24 will be addressed first then the remaining agenda will be discussed with the vote of a temporary Chairperson being elected. Cllr Almond proposes Cllr Paul Glover as temporary Chair for the remaining Agenda items, all agreed.

80/24 Matters arising not agenda items

None

81/24 Public discussion on items on the agenda

None

82/24 KCC & CCC Cllr Reports; PCSO & Community Warden Reports

Community Warden Report – Roger Lithgow reads out his report, also circulated to Councillors.

KCC Cllr Alan Marsh – Clerk to speak to Cllr J Brabham with regards to the Panto tickets.

If we want some feedback with regards to the management of the pitches, speak to Chestfield Clerk Amanda Sparkes.

After 3 months of the Chestfield Tunnel being closed for the changing of the lights and we managed to get it reopened early, however the environment agency has said the industrial extractor fans have shut down as they are too damaged from the dust etc when the lights were being installed. We have managed to get Highways at KCC to open the tunnel one way in each direction rather than them being completely closed. The manufacturers are saying it can take 2-3 months for the fans to be made. We are looking for an alternative supplier.

I have been given the all clear with regards to my health.

EHCP, it is important that we all know, Education Health Care Plan, this is the biggest problem Kent County Council have with regards to funding. If a child can get a EHCP it gives them a better chance of getting a suitable School. Figures, population of the country 58 million, we have 576000 children and young people with an EHCP. In the last 12 months, 84000 new children have been put under this. Something has got to change.

Can I please be kept up to date with the Bread and Cheese field.

Signed

Date

Hersden Parish Council

KCC Councillor Marsh leaves the meeting

CCC Cllr Report – Circulated to Councillors

83/24

Chair, Cllrs, Clerk and Caretakers reports -

Cllr Ross Llewellyn – Has attended the progress meeting for the pop up miner’s exhibition.

Cllr David Almond – mentions he suggested the miners pop up

Caretaker – Graffiti isn’t too bad this month, broken bottles. The bus shelter hasn’t been repaired. Clerk to chase again.

Clerk – NALC have produced a new ‘Good Councillors Guide’. This has been circulated.

The concurrent funding contract has been signed and supporting documentation has been sent to Canterbury City Council.

The comments were put forward for Pyes wood, the possible development of the Bread and Cheese field and the Sturry Railway platform.

Westbere parish Council have sent an invite for the Village Green party 7th July 2024.

Joint Parish Council meeting is taking place on Monday 24th June at 7pm.

84/24

Correspondence received:

Lots of road closures in Kent

Communication with a resident regarding flooding by the Poplars

Email from Stevie Andrews, Planning Manager, CCC regarding the Land North of Hersden

Email from resident regarding the Scouting Group for Hersden

Scam Email to Councillors

Email from Wicksteed regarding some changes/discrepancies to the playground installation plan

85/24

Planning & Enforcement Matters:

Circulated to Councillors – CA/24/00727 13 South View Island Road, Two-storey rear extension and single storey outbuilding in the rear garden following demolition of conservatory and garage together with porch to front.

No objections.

Agenda Items 86/24 and 87/24 were discussed with Cllr Jack Brabham as Chairperson

86/24

Finance Matters:

AGAR Sign off (papers distributed)

86/24 (a)

Internal Auditor attended 13th June 2024 and completed the Annual Internal Audit report for 23/24

86/24 (b)

Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 23/24 approved, completed and signed by Chair and Clerk

86/24 (c)

Section 2 Accounting Statements 23/24 approved, completed and signed by Chair

The AGAR forms will be sent to the External Auditor Mazars, the accounts will be available for public viewing, the 30-day window will commence 24th June – 2nd August 2024.

Accounts for Payment

Payments – June 2024		
John Caddick	Grounds Maintenance (May) £316.99	£316.99
David Hards	June salary paid by s/o	£*****
	Mobile phone credit (May)	£10.00
	Flowers for the planter on The Sycamores	£27.00
Lisamarie Foster	June salary – (Including 4 hours overtime)	£*****

Signed Date

Hersden Parish Council

Community Centre	Office Hire (January, February, March)	£780.00
Receipts - None		
Bank card purchases – Amazon order – Ring binders, dividers and Graffiti wipes		£46.23
Monthly fee		£3.00
Bank Balance as of 30 th May 2024		£108,968.94

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

Payments this month – Proposed Cllr Cooper, Seconded Cllr Berceanu, All agreed

87/24

To discuss ownership of the football pitches Cllr J Brabham gives the councillors an update with regards to the Pavilion rebuild and the section 106 money/The masterplan and the improvements to the BMX track and playground etc. Our meeting with was cancelled but will be rescheduled. We have had interest from a football team with the hope that they will use the area as their home ground. We have been speaking to the regeneration team and they are aware that we would potentially like to manage the land. We now need to discuss if it would be achievable for us to manage and maintain the pitches. Cllr Llewellyn mentions it would be a lot for us to take on. Cllr J Brabham suggests we speak with other local Parish Councils regarding any maintenance they might have with pitches/recreational grounds. Grants for the first few years might be available through the FA. It is agreed that we want to explore the possibility of taking over the management of the pitches. Cllr J Brabham proposes, seconded by Cllr Hatton, All Agreed.

88/24

Donation to the Pop up miner’s exhibition A £600 Donation/Payment is agreed to purchase the Banners which will be donated back to the village. Proposed by Cllr Glover, seconded by Cllr Hatton, All agreed.

89/24

Working Group updates

Staffing: Pension, Cllr Glover has found out that we can add additional employees to the scheme at no extra cost.

Playground: Meeting with Wicksteed regarding the installation of the new Play equipment, a communication breakdown with the layout of the swing set so an additional cost has been mentioned, this is being discussed with Wicksteed to try and resolve the issue.

Youth: Scouts group for Hersden, email received from a resident regarding Kent Scouts asking if we can have a scout troop in the village. Contacts will be given to the Clerk and she will arrange a meeting with the organiser to discuss the possibility.

BMX Track: Nothing

Finance: Nothing

Events: Cllrs attended the D-Day event at the Colliery Club, it was a successful event. 50/60 burgers and sausages also

Beautification: Caretaker has put new plants in the planter on The sycamores.

Community Safety Group: Nothing

Training: Clerk will circulate training courses

90/24

Any other business

91/24

Date of the next meeting: 9th July 2024

There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 8.10pm.

Signed

Date