

# Hersden Parish Council

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hersden Parish Council held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7.00 pm. At Hersden Neighbourhood Centre

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

HPC's Clerk Lisamarie Foster  
HPC's Caretaker David Hards

**120/24 Apologies for Absence and reason for absence**

Cllr M Cooper on holiday  
Cllr E Berceanu will be arriving late to the meeting  
Cllr P Glover will be arriving late to the meeting  
CCC Cllr Keji Moses, no reason given  
CCC Cllr Harry McKenzie, on annual leave

**121/24 Declarations of Councillor's interests regarding items on the Agenda**

Clerk mentions a DPI change of Job title for Cllr Berceanu, New DPI form completed and will be sent to CCC.

**122/24 To approve the minutes of the following Meeting**

10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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

**123/24 Matters arising not agenda items**

Cllr A Brabham mentions the possible need to instruct a solicitor for the land ownership of the Recreational ground, we have documentation that a Solicitor needs to look over, we are in a sticky situation, we would benefit from funding but we can't apply for funding as we are not in control of the land/pavilion. It is decided that The coal board should be contacted initially and ask them for the records and advice. We can look through archives and paperwork and we would then have more information to put to the solicitor. David Hards mentions that the Bowls club have had a meeting with Canterbury City Council and their requests/requirements haven't been listened to.

**124/24 Public discussion on items on the agenda**

David Hards speaks as a member of the public – Bowls club lease expires in the next 5 years, they have been in discussions with Canterbury City Council. The members of the bowls club are disgusted with the way it is being handled. By rights the council should not have been able to lease the land.

**125/24 KCC & CCC Cllr Reports; Police & Community Warden Reports**

**Community Warden Report** – Roger Lithgow provided a report, this was circulated to Councillors.

**KCC Cllr Alan Marsh** – Had a conversation with Canterbury City Council, they have said there is no question that Canterbury City Council own the land, Alan responded with 'based on what' on the email communication, 24 days have passed with no response, Whatever the Parish Council do regarding this, please keep me in the loop on all correspondence, I was also going to mention contacting the coal board but this has been thought of and discussed already.

There is another defibrillator system for £600 through the hearts council. If we would like another one and if we can afford it.

Budget, next year 25 is really tough, we are 85 million still down the drain hole for next year, I was hoping that the 2 Canterbury City Councillors would be here because I was going to ask them to work with the independent MP for Canterbury in the hope they could get Central Government to honour commitments they made before the election.

We are pushing hard to get roads done before the weather breaks, if people are moaning about roadworks, we are doing our best, please don't drive through puddles as you may damage your vehicle if there is a pot hole.

Signed .....

Date .....

# Hersden Parish Council

I am very concerned as the temperature is dropping and the residents of Hersden are a worry, if you know of any residents in need of help let me know.

Pantomime is Aladdin, it's my last one, I would like you all there.

I am constrained but in 10 days' time I will know more, all systems are changing due to the 85 million deficit, the Community warden service is expecting changes.

The KCC building next to Hersden School is up for sale, it's been offered for the right reasons to Water Meadows School, I have the details if you should wish to know more.

If you are offered Vaccinations, please take them, you can have the Flu and the Covid vaccination separately.

Cllr J Brabham asks about the Thanet Way contraflow, Alan states that they will attempt to use 4 of the 8 fans as it was way over spec then the tunnels can be reopened, they are working right now as we speak.

Remember the utility companies do not need permission to close roads and do emergency works, all we can do as a body is to agree a final date for completion if the work exceeds this date then we fine them approx. £1000 a day.

## **KCC Councillor Alan Marsh leaves the meeting.**

126/24

### **Chair, Cllrs, Clerk and Caretakers reports -**

**Chair, Cllr Jack Brabham** – I have heard back from planning and Stevie Andrews has stated that Tree protection orders have been placed on Pyes wood.

I have spoken to the resident on the corner of the Sycamores, they have agreed for us to power our Christmas tree lights from their property, also discussed the small Library location.

There was an incident at the BMX track, a resident's son was injured quite badly whilst riding a friend's BMX bike without protective equipment, he has brought some concerns to us so we can discuss this later under working groups.

**Cllr D Almond** – is anyone aware of the old MOT Centre being up for sale, it was mentioned to me by another dog walker and I just wondered if anyone else had heard anything? No other councillors know any more about this.

**Clerk** – Resident reported brambles overhanging on the footpath, a letter has been sent to the resident Resident reported farm vehicles driving at speed, not netted trailers and this will cause drains to be blocked when we have heavy rainfall.

Sent the forms to Unity bank for x2 Cllrs to be added to banking authorisation, however more information is required.

Broken glass was reported in the park, Caretaker dealt with immediately.

Telegraph pole outside number 30 The Avenue, had some hanging cables, reported to BT.

Persimmons contacted regarding some charity funding being available.

Cllr M Cooper kindly supplied some information regarding the siting of litter bins at the bus stops and the need for more, waiting for information from Cllr Glover regarding the correct bins to purchase.

I will be ordering a wall planner and some new Defibrillator pads over the next few weeks. Pads expire at the end of the month and we need some spares.

Unity Bank have changed the way they charge us, we will get monthly statements rather than quarterly so we will be charged monthly not quarterly.

**Caretaker** – Broken glass cleared up and the man that reported it was very grateful, still a nightmare when the bin men come round and don't pick up the rubbish that blows or is dropped when the wheelie bins are emptied. (Clerk to report to CCC Councillors)

127/24

### **Correspondence received:**

Lots of road closures in Kent

KALC/NALC training schedules and newsletters

CCC Parish Capital grant application information – could this be applied for? Deadline 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Could we use the funding for the Bin purchases?

Signed .....

Date .....

# Hersden Parish Council

128/24

**Planning & Enforcement Matters:**

CA/24/01531 Land to the rear of 6B-6F Thomas Way, Lakesview International Business Park, Westbere CT3 4JJ – Erection and siting of fibre exchange comprising two fibre optic cabins, external metre cabinet, two backup generators and 10 air con units. No objections.

129/24

**Financial Matters (Appendix 1)**

**Schedule of Payments appendix 1** Payments approved, Cllr C Warman and Cllr R Llewellyn signed the Invoices that corresponded with the schedule of payments on the Finance appendix.

**AGAR External Audit report** – The External Audit has been concluded, No minor issues were identified, to note – We need to consider moving over to Gov.uk email addresses and Gov.uk website. The External audit report and Certificate has been published on our website along with sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR to meet regulations.

**Grant Application** received from Hersden Under 5's preschool group, requested £525.00 for a new Intercom system. The grant application was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Warman Seconded by Cllr Almond, All agreed.

**To discuss and agree the purchase of Christmas Trees – x 2 trees plus delivery** Young's nursery £630, Kingswood and Meadow grange £650 were contacted for quotes. Agreed that we proceed with Meadow grange but ask if they can price match the £630 quote if not purchase anyway as we know the quality of the trees and the service provided in previous years. Proposed Cllr J Brabham, Seconded Cllr Glover, All agreed.

**To discuss and agree the purchase of Christmas tree lights** – Discussed and agreed to purchase the Multicoloured lights that can be connected to our current light sets. 6 sets needed £31.40 each total £188.40 without VAT. Proposed Cllr J Brabham, Seconded Cllr P Hatton, All Agreed.

We will require an electrical meter and a secure waterproof box and some cable, plug and a socket. Prices/Quotes are shown to Councillors. Agreed to purchase the items required with a maximum spend of £150.00 for the provision of power. Proposed Cllr E Berceanu, Seconded Cllr D Almond, All Agreed.

**To discuss and agree the purchase of a Christmas Banner** – The banner will go in front of the Christmas Tree, a template is shown to the Councillors, a suggestion is to remove the website and make the lettering more rounded. 8ft x 3ft Venture banners quote £40.70. Other quotes are pending. Agreed a maximum price of £41.00. Proposed Cllr P Hatton, Seconded Cllr R Llewellyn, All agreed.

**To discuss and agree the purchase of a Remembrance Day Wreath** – £20 Donation is proposed Cllr J Brabham, Seconded by Cllr C Warman, All Agreed.

**Banking sign-off (monthly rotation)** Cllr A Brabham and Cllr Hatton.

130/24

**Working Group updates**

**Staffing:**

**Playground:** Caretaker has the tools for the new play equipment.

**Youth:**

**BMX Track:** Prices still need to be obtained for the fencing. Councillors are informed of an accident that happened at the BMX track. The resident would like us to put signage in and lock the track. It is not viable to lock the track but we can put a lock on the gate between the play area and the track. We need some advisory signage stating, ride at your own risk, wear protective clothing etc, children should be supervised by an adult. Quotes will be obtained for 3 signs A3 size, these quotes will be sent out to Cllrs via email and costings agreed by email.

**Finance:**

**Events:** Christmas tree light switch on, not very well attended last year due to the timing. It is decided that we do not have a special event for this and if we make sure the lights are turned on by the 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**Christmas Cards** – It is agreed that we ask the Under 5s group to produce the design/designs for the Christmas cards. The probationers will be happy to deliver the Christmas Cards. The envelopes will need stuffing and a sticker placing on the envelope, suggested Cllrs do this.

**Beautification:** The daffodil bulbs were planted.

**Community Safety Group:**

Signed .....

Date .....

# Hersden Parish Council

## Training:

**131/24**

**Any other business:** Email received from The Island Road Management company regarding us not litter picking in Chislet Gardens, it is decided that we respond as we have previously, asking them to send a representative to one of our Parish Council meetings and we would be willing to discuss it. Clerk will respond and ask for the original paperwork from Wimpy showing the management company contracts/handover. Legally we are not obliged to litter pick in the village, we are only responsible for our areas like the play park.

Cllr Paul Glover mentions a further boundary move for the Bread and Cheese field. Clerk circulated correspondence today regarding this. There are 3 options up for discussion at the Canterbury City Council meeting taking place this evening. Another consultation period will be set so we can discuss this further at another meeting.

**132/24**

**Date of the next meeting:** 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 8.41pm

Signed .....

Date .....