

Hersden Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hersden Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th June 26 at 7.00 pm. At Hersden Neighbourhood Centre

Present: Councillors, D Almond, E Berceanu, P Glover, P Hatton, R Llewellyn, A Todd, KCC Cllr Mark Mulvihill, CCC Cllr Harry McKenzie, Community Warden Roger Lithgow, HPC's Clerk Lisamarie Foster, Caretaker David Hards, Westbere Parish Council Clerk/member of the public Amanda Sparkes.

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair Cllr Paul Glover took the chair for the meeting.

80/26 **Apologies for absence and reason for absence** Cllr Warman has an appointment, Cllr J Brabham, Cllr A Brabham is unwell, CCC Cllr Keji Moses.

81/26 **Declarations of Councillor's interests regarding items on the Agenda and any changes to the DPI Register held at CCC.**

Cllr Glover and Cllr Almond declare interests in any decision making for item 92/26 Community Governance Review.

82/26 **To approve the minutes of the following meeting**
12th May 2026

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.

83/26 **Matter arising not agenda items** Resident reported the rubbish in St Albans, this has been reported by our caretaker and another resident reported overgrown hedges in the village, caretaker to provide addresses for the Clerk to send letters.
A late planning application to be discussed under planning.

84/26 **Public discussion on items on the agenda**
Agenda item 92/26 Community Governance Review is brought forward and discussed now with budget information provided by Amanda Sparkes (Westbere Clerk) and Lisamarie (Hersden Clerk). Unanimously voted to defer item 92/26 Community Governance Review.

85/26 **KCC & CCC Cllr Reports; Police & Community Warden Reports**

KCC Cllr Mark Mulvihill – Cllr Mulvihill reads his report, circulated to Cllrs. A Councillor put a request in for better communication from the recycling centre when certain items cannot be discarded. The hedge along the A28 by The Spires Academy has been cut but not on the pedestrian pathway side. Clerk to contact Spires and report the hedge.

CCC Councillor report – Cllr McKenzie reads out his report, previously received and circulated to Cllrs.

Community Warden – report read out, circulated to Cllrs.

86/26 **Chair, Cllrs, Clerk and Caretakers reports**

Chair – Cllr Glover – Attended the LGR at the Guildhall.

Cllr Llewellyn – The Annual Miners Festival is at Betteshanger county park until Sunday 23rd August 2026.

Signed



Date

14/7/26

Hersden Parish Council

Cllr Almond – Attended the KALC meeting on the 22nd May 26 and attended the Local Governance Review at the Guildhall.

Cllr Hatton – Attended the LGR at the Guildhall and went to the mining museum at Betteshanger and thoroughly enjoyed it and recommends it.

Cllr Warman – Clerk reports on behalf - Attended the LGR at the Guildhall.

Clerks report – attended the LGR at the Guildhall

Caretaker – Park is doing ok, caught a mole, sent Cllr McKenzie some photographic evidence of fly tipping in St Albans, more and more waste is being dumped by the residents. Cllr McKenzie will look at getting some signage as it is a problem area. Children on a motorbike through the village, Caretaker instructed to report to 101 and our local police officer will attend if she is on duty. A resident was impersonating a police officer and recording people, Caretaker advised to report.

87/26

Correspondence received:

Road closures in Kent.

KALC/NALC training schedules and newsletters circulated to Councillors.

Dog fouling signs – CCC enforcement Team, clerk has sent 'what three words' locations for dog fouling signage.

Virtual Road Safety & Active Travel Group Seminar – Clerk to circulate to Cllrs

Manston Airspace Consultation update - circulated to Cllrs

South East water updates

Email from resident regarding the emptying of the food waste bin in Blackthorn Road – Cllr McKenzie has escalated this.

Communication with Chislet Parish Council regarding the Joint Parish Meetings – Cllr J Brabham

Email invite from Kent Ramblers regarding a meeting for footpath volunteers

88/26

Poo bags – the price has increased as the company were running a promotion. Cost is now £254.75 plus VAT. The price increase is agreed. Clerk to place order.

89/26

Tulip Bulbs – Agreed to purchase Tulip mix variety x250 for £57.50 from J.Parkers - All agreed.

90/26

Bench on the Redrow estate Cllr Almond was approached by a resident on the Redrow estate regarding a memorial bench, Redrow have been contacted and agreed to purchase a wooden bench and put it in, this will be the responsibility of the manage company.

91/26

Fencing for BMX Track We have 1 quote, waiting for further quotes.

92/26

Community Governance Review – Previously discussed under item 84/26 Unanimously voted to defer this item to be discussed when both our Chair and Vice chair are available, perhaps at an extraordinary meeting.

93/26

Information Commissioners Office Registration as a requirement the clerk has registered the Parish Council with the Information Commissioners Office.

94/26

Policies and Procedures – IT Policy deferred to the July meeting.

95/26

Planning and Enforcement Matters

Signed



Date

14/7/26

Hersden Parish Council

CA/26/00831 Erection of two-storey detached block, refurbishment of the existing Sports Hall, installation of Multi-Use Games Area, extension of existing car park and associated infrastructure including hard and soft landscaping following demolition of existing block.

Water Meadows Primary School, Shaftesbury Road, Hersden, Kent CT3 4HS

CA/26/00929 TPO No 1 2008 T1 Field Maple tree located to the side of the property – 2.5 metre reduction away from property. T3 located to the side of the property – 4 metre reduction away from property. B1 located to the side of the road – 5 metre crown lift to clear from overhead cables and road.

Councillors agree to comment on both applications, Clerk to submit comments.

96/26

Financial Matters

External Auditors report 24/25

Clerk reads out the comment made by Mazars on the 24/25 certificate regarding the explanation of significant variances between the 2023/24 and 2024/25 figures.

AGAR Sign off

Internal Auditor attended 22/05/26 and completed the annual Audit report 25/26.

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 approved by council and signed by the chair and Clerk

Section 2 Accounting Statement approved and signed by the Chair

The AGAR forms will be sent to the External Auditor Mazars, the account will be available for public viewing, The Date of announcement for the 30 days' notice period for the exercise of public rights will begin 12/06/26 and finish on 23/07/26.

Accounts of payments (Appendix 1)

Cllr questioned the Clerks overtime, any overtime needs to be declared in the month it was accrued, clerk to request changes to the pay slip to reflect this.

x2 Councillors checked the list of payments against the invoices/pay slips/statements and signed the papers as they correspond with the Appendix. Payments Proposed by Cllr Berceanu, seconded by Cllr Hatton, All agreed.

Banking Sign-off (monthly rotation) Cllr Hatton and Cllr Almond.

97/26

Working Group updates

Staffing:

Playground: Clerk to look at booking the play park inspection (July)

Youth:

BMX Track:

Finance:

Events:

Beautification: Tulips previously discussed

Community Safety:

Training:

98/26

Any Other business: Cllr Todd spoke to CCC Cllr Mulvihill regarding the parking on the verge opposite garage/car wash. This is being looked into.

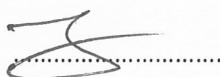
Community Warden has been advised by Kent police to make people aware if they are withdrawing large quantities of money that they have received reports of organised crime groups following and stealing the money.

99/26

Date of next meeting: 14th July 2026

There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 8.40pm.

Signed



Date

14/7/26

