

DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 24 May 2023
Jubilee Hall, Waller Park, Wood Lane, Darenth, Kent DA2 7LR

Councillors Present: I Armitt, T Hicks, S Oke, T Prentice and D Risely

In Attendance: E Mote, Parish Clerk

Visitors: Two representatives from 1st Darenth Brownies and one member of the public.

01/05/23: TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR 2023-24

Councillor Hicks proposed Councillor N Weavis for the position of Chairman and this was seconded by Councillor D Risely. With no further nominations, Councillor N Weavis was duly elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

02/05/23: TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Having submitted apologies for the meeting, the Clerk confirmed that Councillor N Weavis would confirm his Acceptance of Office before the next Council Meeting.

03/05/23: TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR 2023-24

Two nominations for the position of Vice Chairman were received. One for Councillor Armitt and one for Councillor Oke. Councillor I Armitt was elected and accepted the position with a 3:2 majority vote.

04/05/23: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I Gutteridge, K Holmes, S Holmes, N Weavis and Borough Councillor P Denman.

05/05/23: TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

None received.

At this juncture the Vice-Chairman welcomed representatives from 1st Darenth Brownies who run weekly activities for 7-10-year-olds from Darenth Hall.

Members had the opportunity to ask questions and hear how much the group enjoy the use of Parish hall facilities.

The Vice-Chairman thanked 1st Darenth Brownies for their report and confirmed that the Parish Council would support the group and encourage membership via its website and Facebook Page.

06/05/23: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 MAY 2022

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18 May 2022 were approved as proposed by Councillor Hicks and seconded by Councillor Prentice.

07/05/23: TO CONFIRM PORTFOLIO MEMBERS FOR:

- (a) Finance & Human Resources
RESOLVED: That, in her absence, Councillor S Holmes represent the Council as portfolio member for Finance & Human Resources.
- (b) Planning
RESOLVED: That Councillor I Armitt represent the Council as portfolio member for Planning.
- (c) Public Realm & Facilities
RESOLVED: That Councillor T Hicks represent the Council as portfolio member for Public Realm & Facilities.

08/05/23: TO AGREE REPRESENTATION TO OUTSIDE BODIES FOR 2023-24

- (a) Dartford Borough Council - Borough & Parish/Town Council Forum
RESOLVED: That Councillor S Oke and The Clerk represent the Council.
- (b) Dartford Borough Council - Elders Forum
RESOLVED: That Councillor t Hicks represents the Council.
- (c) Friends of Darenth Country Park
RESOLVED: That Councillor Prentice and the Clerk represent the Council.
- (d) Darent River Preservation Society (DRiPS)
RESOLVED: That Councillor T Hicks represents the Council.

09/05/23: TO APPOINT BANKERS

Members confirmed NatWest Bank plc and Cambridge & Counties Bank as Bankers for the Parish Council and to mandate them to administer:

- (a) Business Current Account
- (b) Business Reserve Account
- (c) 60 Day Business Notice Account

RESOLVED: To reappoint Bankers for the ensuing year.

10/05/23: RE-APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

RESOLVED: To re-appoint Lionel Robbins as the Council's Internal Auditor for the ensuing year.

11/05/23: TO REVIEW COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Having previously reviewed Council Policies and Procedures, Members resolved to agree as presented with a proviso to update individual policies and procedures as and when required.

12/05/23: TO APPROVE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2023-24

2023

June 21st
July 19th
August – Recess
September 20th
October 18th
November 15th
December 13th

2024

January 17th
February 21st
March 20th
April 17th

RESOLVED: To approve Calendar of Meetings for 2023-24 in respect of Full Council Meetings as presented.

There being no further business, the Vice-Chairman closed the meeting at 19:36.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

(Chairman)