



## Minutes of the Meeting of Lenham Parish Council Held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 at 7:30pm at Lenham Community Centre

**PRESENT** Cllr. J Britt, Chairman presiding.

Cllrs. M Ballard, M Cockett, P Culver, D Garland, K Hammond, S Heeley, M Michaelas, Mic Lowe, M Lowe, N Osborne & A Walmsley

L Westcott (Clerk), J Bate (RFO), 2 Members of the public.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

MBC Cllr. J Sams thanked LPC for all the work being completed in response to MBC's Local Plan Review. She has written to Alison Broom at MBC to ask why so much information is required in the response proforma.

Cllr. Sams has been asked again whether a bench could be placed halfway up the High Street near the fire station, **ACTION** L Westcott to look into this.

Cllr. M Lowe gave a presentation regarding proposed plans for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. Cllr. Sams said the Lenham Festival Committee are hoping to hold a one-day event on the Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June, but didn't want to duplicate anything. **ACTION** Cllr. M Lowe and Cllr. Sams to liaise once the Festival Committee have met to discuss plans.

The Chairman thanked the members of public for attending and opened the meeting at 8pm.

### **21/87 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr. A Ratcliffe and Community Warden Martin Sherwood.

### **21/88 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS**

Declarations of Interest on Agenda items. No declarations received.

Declarations to changes to the Register of Interests. No declarations received.

Requests for dispensations. No requests received.

**ACTION** L Westcott to add a copy of a register of interests to website.

### **21/89 TO REQUEST NOTIFICATION**

The Chairman requested notification of intention to film, photograph or record any items.

No notification received.

### **21/90 TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

Cllr. D Garland proposed, Cllr. N Osborne seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021** are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

### **21/91 PROGRESS OF RESOLUTIONS (for information purposes)**

Cllr. N Osborne is in discussion with a floodlight company for lights in the Churchyard.

The swimming pool survey should be added to website. **ACTION** L Westcott to add specific tab.

### **21/92 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FOR THE NORTH WARD**

The declaration of acceptance was signed by Mic Lowe and witnessed by the clerk. The chairman welcomed Cllr. Mic Lowe to join the council as a representative of the North Ward.

### **21/93 FINANCE**

- a. Responsible Financial Officer Report (J Bate) - J Bate reported the income and outgoings for the month.
- b. Discussions were held regarding the purchase of a laptop specifically for RFO work. J Bate stated it would be easier for him to not have a separate laptop, he will be purchasing a new one for his own use which he will also use for LPC work. Cllr. Cockett suggested LPC could make a donation towards a new laptop. Use of MS Cloud storage may be useful going forwards. **ACTION** L Westcott to find out more about cloud storage.

c. To authorise payments:

Name	Date	Amount £
Amiga Fire and Security Ltd (CCTV)	01/11/2021	54.00
Clarity Interpretation (Information Board for The Cross)	25/10/2021	552.00
Cybereye Security (CCTV installation at office)	12/10/2021	1848.00
Down to Earth Garden Maintenance	31/10/2021	240.00
EDF Energy	07/10/2021	168.58
RFO Expenses	01/09/2021	85.00
Lotus Design and Printing (for Information Day)	15/10/2021	318.80
Nathan Beale (Litter Collection)	31/10/2021	945.00
Nigel Turner (Cemetery maintenance)	27/10/2021	60.00
Orchids Catering (Volunteers Event)	26/10/2021	346.00
Parish Clerk Office Expenses	31/10/2021	352.61
Paul Waring (Grounds maintenance)	26/10/2021	4613.88
Streetlights (repairs)	19/10/2021	384.00

Cllr. M Lowe proposed, Cllr. S Heeley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to make these payments.

Cllrs. N Osborne and D Garland to authorise the payments on-line.

- d. Emergency Expenditure at Skate Ramp - £561 was spent to remove vandalism at the skate ramp (WPF). Cllr. P Culver proposed, Cllr. A Walmsley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to authorise these emergency payments.

#### **21/94 PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION (P&I) COMMITTEE REPORT**

All agreed this was an accurate record of planning comments from October. Cllr. A Walmsley reported that the White Horse has been bought by Elite Pubs, work has started on site in line with an outline planning permission granted to previous owners. The owner has offered LPC to have on site meetings if required.

#### **21/95 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION MEETING 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

Cllr. N Osborne proposed, Cllr. K Hammond seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the reports and minutes of the P&I meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the P&I Committee.

#### **21/96 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES MEETING 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

Cllr. D Garland proposed, Cllr. A Walmsley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes and reports of the F&GP meeting held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the F&GP Committee.

#### **21/97 MAIDSTONE LOCAL PLAN – LPC RESPONSE**

Cllr. J Britt reported there was a good response to LPC's Information Day and the Protest Event organised by SOHL. The consultation information for the Local Plan is on the LPC website. Cllr. S Heeley reported that responses will specifically need to include information on why the plan is not sound. Bredhurst PC have requested an extension to the consultation period.

**ACTION** Cllr. J Britt to write to MBC to request an extension to the consultation period.

**ACTION** Cllr. J Britt to liaise with neighbouring parishes regarding a co-signed letter and individual responses.



### **21/98 HEDGE CUTTING ON GROOM WAY FOOTPATH**

Following a report from a resident of overhanging branches, Down to Earth have quoted £170 to cut back trees, hedges and vegetation along the Groom Way footpath. Cllr. A Walmsley proposed, Cllr. M Cockett seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to spend £170 on hedge, tree and vegetation works to ensure the path is safe.

**ACTION** L Westcott to instruct Down to Earth.

### **21/99 LENHAM WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB (LWFC) GRANT APPLICATION**

A grant application for £1000 towards training tops has been received from Lenham Wanderers Football Club. The application generated a lot of discussion. The main points raised by Cllrs. in support of the application were:

- This will help those who may not be able to afford their own kit.
- It is good to support young people in the village in an activity they enjoy.
- It will make the children feel inclusive within the village and club.

The main points raised by Cllrs. against the application were:

- LPC already supports LWFC more than most other clubs/groups in the village.
- The grant application is for nearly 100% of the total cost of project, most applications ask for a %
- £1000 is a lot of money for one group.

Outcome of vote: 6 Cllrs. against and 4 Cllrs. for - the application was turned down.

**ACTION** L Westcott to confirm decision to applicant.

### **21/100 VILLAGE PLANTERS – TO CONSIDER QUOTES OF £336.66 FOR PLANTS AND £595 TO REFURBISH PLANTER**

Cllr. P Culver proposed, Cllr. A Walmsley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to pay £336.66 on plants for planters and £595 to refurbish the Ashford Road planter.

**ACTION** Cllr. D Garland to instruct nursery and carpenter.

### **21/101 PROJECT UPDATES**

- a. The Cross – Cllr. A Walmsley has questioned the durability of the Interpretation Board following queries from Cllrs. The supplier has stated that the material used is robust and commonly used for outdoor signage and it is extremely resistant to weather and damage. They recommend that a Perspex sheet is not used to cover it. S Waring has proposed 8 steps be constructed up to the garden area using recycled sleepers.

**ACTION** L Westcott to confirm details with S Waring.

The farmers have confirmed their preferred gate option, but would like to see the proposed position on an aerial photo. **ACTION** L Westcott to send an aerial photo to farmer with approximate position of gate.

- b. Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – a budget line will be included in 22/23 budget for events including the Jubilee celebrations. Cllr. M Lowe reported that he hoped to source a beacon.

**ACTION** Cllr. N Osborne to book piper.

### **21/102 TO REPORT CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- a. Platts Heath Sign – A resident has reported that a village sign is missing. **ACTION** L Westcott report to KCC.
- b. Lenham Heritage have suggested they do some research for new road names for new developments.
- c. Ham Lane Allotments Association – the chairman has invited a member of LPC to attend the next meeting, Cllr. N Osborne agrees this will be beneficial but only once planning permission is granted.
- d. Railway Bridge – There have been reports of vehicles mounting the kerb where the road narrows.
- ACTION** Cllr. A Walmsley to contact KCC.
- e. Cllr. J Britt reported that he had received an email asking what had happened to the archaeological artefacts found during the recent investigations at Old Ashford Road.

**ACTION** L Westcott to contact Kent Archives to find out.

The meeting closed at 22:00



Signed as a true record on this day 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021.....

Chairman of Lenham Parish Council