



Minutes of the Meeting of Lenham Parish Council

Held on Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 7:30pm at Lenham Community Centre

PRESENT Cllr. J Britt, Chairman presiding.

Cllrs. P Culver, D Earl, T Goodliffe, K Hammond, S Heeley, N Osborne, A Ratcliffe, D Turner & A Walmsley

J Bate RFO, L Westcott Clerk

5 Members of the public.

Public participation

1 member of the public reported/asked, that the weeds outside the WCs are removed, L Westcott advised this was on the job list for the handyman. There is a lack of information on the change to the bus services, LPC agreed to write to express disappointment. Will there be a ceremony for REME's freedom of the parish? Cllr. A Ratcliffe hoped this would be included at the D Day anniversary event in 2024.

1 member of the public attended as a representative of Len Valley Football Club who had applied to LPC for a grant of £500 towards a portable defibrillator. He answered questions from Cllrs. and confirmed it would remain the responsibility of the football club and would be available for other village events.

1 member of the public from Rayner Hills and representing the Ham Lane Allotments Association thanked LPC for their support against the proposed pizza van at Rayners Hill. There has been an issues with one allotment holder who has now left following an eviction notice, 8 remain on the waiting list. An update on the nursery was requested, Cllr. A Ratcliffe reported that there had been no progress since the last report.

The community Warden summarised the current consultation on KCC Community Wardens. Cllr. J Britt urged everyone to respond.

23/51 Apologies for absence received.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. M Michaelas.

23/52 To receive declarations.

Declarations of interest on Agenda items. Cllr. N Osborne declared a conflict of interest with item 23/63.

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

Requests for dispensations. No new requests received.

23/53 To request notification of intention to film, photograph or record any items.

There were none.

23/54 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 5th July 2023.

Cllr. D Earl proposed, Cllr. A Walmsley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 5th July 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

23/55 Progress of resolutions from 5th July meeting (for information purposes only)

None reported that are not on agenda.

23/56 To consider nominations received to fill the vacancies in North Ward by co option

Cllr. K Hammond proposed and Cllr. N Osborne seconded and it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to co-opt Mr David Garland as a member for the North Ward. The declaration of acceptance was signed by David Garland and witnessed by the clerk. The chairman welcomed Cllr. D Garland to join the council as a representative of the North Ward.



23/57 To sign as a correct record, the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 24th July 2023 and 21st August 2023

Cllr. N Osborne proposed and Cllr. S Heeley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP meeting held on Monday 24th July 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the F&GP Committee.

Cllr. K Hammond proposed and Cllr. N Osborne seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP meeting held on Monday 21st August 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the F&GP Committee.

- a. Cllr. A Walmsley proposed and Cllr. D Earl seconded and it was agreed to authorise the payment of £1715 of emergency repairs at Ham Lane Play Park.
- b. Cllr. D Earl proposed and Cllr. A Walmsley seconded and it was agreed to continue with the current website set up with Hugofox for £19.99 a month.
- c. Digital filing covered in RFO report.

23/58 To consider the grant application of £500 towards a defibrillator for Lan Valley football club

All Cllrs. unanimously agreed to the granting of £500 towards a portable defibrillator on the understanding that the football club will be responsible for storage and maintenance and it will be available for other parish events.

23/59 To consider the grant application of £1000 towards the Christmas Lights Team

Following discussion, all Cllrs. agreed to the granting of £500 towards the Christmas Lights Team.

23/60 Finance:

- a. RFO Report - Bank balance is at £334,984.59, no income throughout August.
Payment card – the latest form has been signed and will be sent ASAP.
Utilities – Business Stream have been contacted to change meter reading.
External Audit – Information requested in an alternative format.
- b. J Bate reported that the payment list has been reviewed at F&GP and recommended for approval.
Cllr. A Ratcliffe proposed, Cllr. A Walmsley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to make the payments tabled in the September F&GP minutes. Cllrs. N Osborne and J Britt to authorise the payments on-line.

23/61 To sign as a correct record, the minutes of the Planning and Implementation Committee meeting on 19th July and 16th August 2023 plus reports for July and August

Cllr. J Britt proposed and Cllr. S Heeley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the P&I committee meeting held on Wednesday 19th July 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the P&I Committee.

Cllr. J Britt proposed and Cllr. K Hammond seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the P&I committee meeting held on Wednesday 16th August 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the P&I Committee.

- a. Cllr. P Culver proposed and Cllr. K Hammond seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to agree to the quote of £1800 for Paul McCreery to represent LPC at the Warren Lands appeal.
- b. Planning applications were decided as follows:
23/503502/FULL Dean Cottage – No comments
23/503829/TPOA 10 the Paddocks – No objection subject to agreement of MBC tree officer.
23/503640/FULL – 17 Hay Meadow – Objection due to over development.
23/503627/FULL – 10 Maidstone Road – No objection subject to external fabric of the building being in keeping with the conservation area.
ACTION Cllr. A Walmsley to draft responses.



23/62 To consider insurance renewal documents for £2852.70 + £50 admin fee

All agreed to pay insurance renewal quote.

23/63 To consider paying £1068 to KCC for the design of the High Street pavement using s106 funds

All agreed to apply for s106 funds and pay the £1068 to KCC.

23/64 To review Community Warden Consultation

ACTION Cllr. J Britt to draft the LPC response.

23/65 To consider hiring a handyman for 8 hours a week at £20 an hour

The Cllrs. discussed the proposal for a handyman. Cllr. D Earl proposed and Cllr. D Turner seconded and it was

RESOLVED to agree to hiring a handyman subject to contract agreement.

23/66 To consider application for Community Ownership fund for WCs project

All agreed to apply for COF. Cllr. A Ratcliffe has begun to complete the application form and is seeking quotes from builders.

23/67 To consider proposed road names for “Runham Mews”

Cllr. N Osborne reported that “Mews” usually refers to stables and there has never been a stable at Runham Farm. As the Lady Monckton of Brenchley lived at Runham Farm, the name “Brenchley Fields” was suggested.

ACTION Cllr. J Britt will contact the family of the late Lady Monckton to ask their opinion.

23/68 Project Updates

- a. Cllr. N Osborne reported on the meeting Lenham Wanderers Football Club, this will be an agenda item at a later meeting.

23/68 To report Correspondence received.

- a. Cllr. A Ratcliffe reported on the social media comments of parking in Groom Way.
- b. Cllr. D Turner has been contacted by a member of the public regarding overgrown trees and hedges in Cherry Close, this has been reported to Golding Homes who are going to carry out some work in the area.
- c. L Westcott reported that plants have been stolen from a planter near the A20.
- d. Cllr. J Britt reported that he has received an email about 20mph signs for wheelie bins.

The meeting closed at 22:15

Signed as a true record on this day 4th October 2023.....

Chairman of Lenham Parish Council