

**Minutes** of the Annual Council Meeting of Lower Halstow Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

Present: Cllrs: K Howard-Challis (Chair); M Szabo (Vice-chair); T Portman; A Smith; A Groves and Mrs A I Smith (Clerk)

In attendance: 3 members of the public

1. Election of Chair. Keith Howard-Challis was nominated by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Szabo. Cllr Howard-Challis was duly elected unanimously.
2. Election of Vice-Chair. Martin Szabo was nominated by Cllr Howard-Smith and seconded by Cllr Smith. Cllr Szabo was duly elected unanimously.
3. Councillors responsibilities were agreed as follows:
  - a) Parks & Leisure and Planning – Cllr Szabo
  - b) Footpaths, Hedgerows maintenance – Cllr Portman
  - c) Burial Ground – Cllr Portman
  - d) Allotments – Cllr Groves
  - e) Parish Highways Plan – Cllrs Smith and Howard-Challis
  - f) Brickfields – Cllr Portman
  - g) Dock – Cllr Szabo
4. Dates of meetings for the next year. It was resolved that the meetings for the next year would be held on the first Tuesday of the month.
5. The following was compiled by Cllrs Groves and Portman:

## **An Overview of Lower Halstow Parish Council Achievements for the year 2022/23**

- The 20mph limit throughout the village has been agreed and we are waiting for installation of signage.
- Sea Wall repairs have been carried out and new signage added.
- Boat contracts reviewed and in place, dock repairs and electronics extended, new buoys and signage. A further vessel is now docked there (as well as the Edith May).
- A handrail and path have been added at the recreation ground, new football and basketball nets installed, all playground equipment serviced and roundabout repaired. Games table donated, logs laid around Gibbs amenity area to prevent unauthorised access of vehicles.
- Regular liaison between Lower Halstow Parish Council and Friends of the Brickfields and a new kissing gate installed.
- The bench at memorial wood repaired.
- Jubilee Festival held with support of the Jubilee Group, an oak tree has been planted at Britannia Green and a memorial plaque installed.
- All the village Allotments at three sites around the village and the residents' car park (Westfield car park) maintained and run.
- The village defibrillator repaired and serviced (located at Three Tuns).
- Noticeboards by the old post office are being replaced and "Lower Halstow" sign is in the process of being revamped.

- Our dedicated litter picker employed to keep the village tidy. Grass cutting of Gibbs, the burial ground, recreation field, Village Green and Britannia Green arranged. Dog bags supplied at dog bin locations.
- Anti-slip pads on Gibbs bridge.
- Church Path resurfaced.
- Dedicated hedges and signage maintained.
- Bridle Path prohibition notices installed at Church Path and Heron Close.
- Planning Applications discussed monthly.
- The Parish Council are currently in the process of trying to purchase the” Ransom Strip” by the Brickfields as well as Gibbs Field, so they can be used more effectively by the village.
- Maintenance of lighting in village overseen by Lower Halstow Parish Council.
- Dog Show arranged on the village recreation ground.

The meeting closed at 19.04

**Date:**

**Signed:**

**Cllr. K Howard-Challis  
Chair**