



**Minutes of the Meeting of Lenham Parish Council**  
**Held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 7:30pm at Lenham Community Centre**

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

Cllrs. P Culver, D Earl, K Hammond, N Osborne, A Ratcliffe & A Walmsley

J Bate RFO, L Westcott Clerk

3 Members of the public.

**Public participation**

1 member of the public reported on the Ham Lane Allotment Association AGM and the changes to the committee. Brian and Jo Llong have retired and there is now a new chair – an email will be sent to L Westcott outlining the changes. They thanked LPC for hosting the card and collection for Brian and Jo. There were questions regarding the nursery that were answered and there is a waiting list of ten people – could LPC consider further provision? This will be reviewed at P&I.

1 member of the public introduced himself as the chair of Teston Parish Council and also KALC Maidstone Vice chair and a member of the co-ordinating group – 2 of the members of this are from KALC Maidstone. He explained the role of the co-ordinating group that was set up in 2015, has no interest in site specific issues and the responses remain impartial.

The chair opened the meeting at 20:10.

**22/153 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECIEVED**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. M Ballard and S Heeley.

**22/154 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 new requests received. Cllr. K Hammond has an existing dispensation in relation to the MBC Local Plan.

**22/155 NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH OR RECORD ITEMS**

There were none.

**22/156 TO SIGN AS CORRECT THE MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUCIL MEETING ON 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

Cllr. N Osborne proposed, Cllr. K Hammond seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023** are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

**22/157 PROGRESS OF RESOLUTIONS**

None to report not included on agenda.

**22/157 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FOR THE NORTH WARD**

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

**22/158 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

L Westcott outlined the timetable for the elections. Nominations should be handed to L Westcott by 3pm on 29<sup>th</sup> March for hand delivery to MBC, otherwise Cllrs. can deliver them themselves to MBC by 4pm on 4<sup>th</sup> April.

**22/159 FINANCE**

- a. Responsible Financial Officer Report – current bank balance at £132,250.87, income for January = £1540 (from cemetery fees and MBC for warm space). EDF have sent bills and letters from Themis Recoveries demanding payment for electricity at the WCs. The bills are vastly overestimated and J Bate has a clear audit trail of the



numerous communications he has sent EDF to get them to address this. All agreed not to pay and wait for EDF to sort this out their end.

J Bate has been working on budget codes and will go through these in detail at F&GP in March.

Questions were raised over the s106 agreement for Abbey Homes. **ACTION** L Westcott to find and review this.

b. To authorise payments for December – tabled below:

Name	Frequency	Description	Date	Amount	Notes
Arrow Valves	One off	Replacement part for broken cemetery tap	28/02/2023	121.56	
BT Group	Monthly	Telephone and Wifi for office	19/02/2023	71.54	
Nathan Beale	Monthly	Emptying bins and litter picking	28/02/2023	695.00	
Down to Earth	Monthly	Creation of new cremation plots at cemetery	28/02/2023	2475.00	CIL monies
TreePro	One off	Tree works along Ham lane to Maidstone Road footpath	24/02/2023	2754.00	S106 monies
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>6117.10</b>	

Cllr. A Ratcliffe proposed, Cllr. A Walmsley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to make the payments tabled.

Cllrs. N Osborne and J Britt to authorise the payments on-line.

#### **22/160 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

Cllr. A Walmsley proposed, Cllr. K Hammond seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the F&GP Committee.

- Cllr. P Culver proposed, Cllr. A Ratcliffe seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to instruct Playspaces to complete bi monthly play park inspections at £49 per inspection per site for the next year.  
**ACTION** L Westcott to instruct and liaise with Playspaces.
- Cllr. N Osborne proposed, Cllr. A Ratcliffe seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to instruct P Waring (Steven Waring) to complete grounds maintenance for 23/24 as per quote provided.  
**ACTION** L Westcott to instruct P Waring.
- The annual parish assembly has been booked for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, all agreed with similar format to last year.

#### **22/161 TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS AND MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION MEETING 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

Cllr. P Culver proposed, Cllr. A Ratcliffe seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the reports and minutes of the P&I meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the P&I Committee meeting. Cllr. A Walmsley reported that the planning application for Little Gaynes has been refused and the planning application for Wyndrush, Platts Heath has been appealed.

- Cllr. A Walmsley reviewed the draft response to 62 Maidstone Road, all agreed to submit this.
- Cllr. J Britt presented the draft response to the Stage 2 Hearings, all agreed to submit this. Cllr. N Osborne asked if everyone was happy with the information provided during the public section of the meeting.

*CHAIR SUSPENDED RELEVANT STANDING ORDER for THIS ITEM TO ALLOW MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK*

A discussion was held regarding the terms for the co-ordinating group, all agreed that the draft Maidstone KALC minutes for the meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January were not representative of the discussions held.

#### **22/162 KING CHARLES III CORONATION TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR VILLAGE EVENT**

Cllr. N Osborne reported that the community centre is booked and the coronation can be shown on the big screen.



L Westcott reported the quotes received from Kent Loves for various catering options. No one is aware of the church organising an event but Cllr. N Osborne will check. **ACTION** Cllr. N Osborne to contact the church.  
Cllr. N Osborne reported that Lenham Meadows Trust are organising a voluntary event at Glebe Pond on the 8<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **22/163 PROJECT UPDATES**

- a. Cllr. A Ratcliffe reported that he is attending a meeting with the nursery on 16<sup>th</sup> March with Cllr. N Osborne.
- b. Cllr. N Osborne reported an issue with the drains at the new Alms Houses at 23 High Street.
- c. Cllr. A Walmsley reported that trees and branches have been removed as planned along the Ham Lane footpath.
- d. Cllr. J Britt reported that he attended a zoom meeting held by SE Water who are increasing capacity within their network by taking on the former Aylesford paper mills boreholes and permit.

#### **22/164 CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. L Westcott reported that the Alms Houses have requested assistance from LPC regarding the proposal to install double yellow lines outside 23 High Street and also to make improvements to the pavement by the Chinese. This will be included on the agenda for P&I.
- b. L Westcott has received an email from the LWFC chair to request use of the WPF for their annual fun day.
- c. Cllr. A Walmsley has seen the CIL application for the Abbey Homes site and questioned what has happened with the S106 agreement.

**ACTION** L Westcott will review S106.

**The meeting closed at 21:55**

Signed as a true record on this day 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023.....  
Chairman of Lenham Parish Council