



## **Minutes of the Meeting of Lenham Parish Council**

### **Held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7:30pm at Lenham Community Centre**

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

Cllrs. M Ballard, M Cockett, P Culver, D Garland, M Lowe, N Osborne & A Ratcliffe.

L Westcott (Clerk), J Bate (RFO), 8 Members of the public.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Community Warden has been dealing with a dispute over disabled parking bays and malicious communications. There has been a noise nuisance complaint associated with customers visiting the Chinese Restaurant. The Community Warden confirmed that food parcel deliveries continue to take place when required.

1 member of the public reported a streetlight (no 0015) is obscured by vegetation. A quote is already being sought for hedge cutting and tree works to take place in this area.

1 member of the public gave a statement on LPC's response to a planning application (ref 21/504445). The member of the public felt the LPC response blighted his neighbouring property and requested that the comments were withdrawn. Cllrs. described the reasons in detail for the comments made. There is also an issue with MBC's planning system that logs LPC's response as "neighbour comments", MBC have advised LPC that this issue is being looked in to.

1 member of the public expressed an interest in the reasons why road names were chosen for new developments. Cllrs. explained the process and the clerk will begin a record to log these decisions. **ACTION** L Westcott to set up road name record and liaise with Lenham Heritage.

1 member of the public asked for LPC financial support for Lenham Wanderers Football Club to purchase training tops with associated logo. Cllrs. informed them the process of the grants, the member of the public handed a completed grant request form to the clerk.

1 member of the public asked about tourism for the village and should a group be formed, Cllr. J Britt said this would be included as an agenda item for the P&I Committee. As part of this it was felt the Welcome Pack produced could be moved forward. The member of the public also reported that an "Eco Launch" event was being held in the Tithe Barn on 31<sup>st</sup> October in partnership with St Mary's Church. Cllr. J Britt stated that the plan for the Northern part of the Cemetery with Lenham Meadows Trust will be discussed at F&GP. The member of the public also wanted to state that they felt the manager of the market is not a good communicator, Cllr. J Britt stated that this is run independently and LPC has no influence over the market.

The Chairman thanked the members of public for attending and opened the meeting at 8:15pm.

#### **21/68 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs. K Hammond, S Heeley, Mic Lowe, M Michaelas & A Walmsley.

Apologies also accepted from PCSO John Boyd.

#### **21/69 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.



#### **21/70 TO REQUEST NOTIFICATION**

The Chairman requested notification of intention to film, photograph or record any items.  
No notification received.

#### **21/71 TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

Cllr. D Garland proposed, Cllr. N Osborne seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021** are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

#### **21/72 PROGRESS OF RESOLUTIONS (for information purposes)**

Included in agenda.

#### **21/73 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FOR THE NORTH WARD**

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

#### **21/74 FINANCE**

- a. Responsible Financial Officer Report (J Bate) - J Bate presented a table showing the budget remaining for this year. Going forward the budget and all direct debits will be subject to a quarterly review at F&GP.
- b. To authorise payments and note income:

Description	Date	Balance
Amiga Fire and Security Limited	01/09/2021	54.00
Down To Earth Garden Maintenance	31/08/2021	410.00
Down To Earth Garden Maintenance	30/09/2021	770.00
Lenham Community Centre (Room Hire)	30/09/2021	172.00
Lenham Square Photo and Design	21/09/2021	90.00
Reimbursements for Cllr. M Ballard (land registry searches)	30/09/2021	33.00
Nathan Beale (Litter picking and bin emptying)	31/08/2021	660.00
Nathan Beale (Litter picking and bin emptying)	30/09/2021	690.00
Reimbursements for Cllr. N Osborne (office equipment)	30/09/2021	148.64
PKF Littlejohn (Audit)	23/09/2021	768.00
PMC Planning	23/09/2021	8,940.00
SLCC	03/09/2021	168.00
Streetlights (Car Park streetlight repair)	30/09/2021	99.00

Cllr. M Cockett proposed, Cllr. A Ratcliffe seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to make these payments. Cllrs. N Osborne and D Garland to authorise the payments on-line.

- c. Renewal of insurance Documents – Cllr. N Osborne and L Westcott reviewed the insurance documents for renewal this year. Everything appears to be included, particularly 1A High Street and 7 Church Square freehold. This had to be approved by 1<sup>st</sup> October to prevent being uninsured.



#### **21/75 PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION (P&I) COMMITTEE REPORT**

All agreed this was an accurate record of planning comments from September.

#### **21/76 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION MEETING 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

Cllr. N Osborne proposed, Cllr. M Lowe seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the reports and minutes of the P&I meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the P&I Committee.

#### **21/77 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES MEETING 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

Cllr. D Garland proposed, Cllr. N Osborne seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes and reports of the P&I meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the F&GP Committee.

#### **21/78 MAIDSTONE LOCAL PLAN – INFORMATION DAY**

Cllr. J Britt reported that posters are being printed by Lotus. It will be advertised on social media over the next week. Cllr. N Osborne stated that we need to be clear about any proposed increase in the precept.

**ACTION** All to let L Westcott know if they will be attending.

**ACTION** Cllr. J Britt to produce a crib sheet for councillors to use on the day.

#### **21/79 FINAL VERSION OF LENHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PRINTING**

Cllr. A Ratcliffe proposed, Cllr. M Lowe seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to spend £258 on printing 50 copies of the final version of the Neighbourhood Plan.

**ACTION** L Westcott to instruct printers.

#### **21/80 CEMETERY – MAINTENANCE WORK**

Cllr. M Lowe proposed, Cllr. A Ratcliffe seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to pay for three hours work a week at £10 an hour on maintenance at the Cemetery.

**ACTION** L Westcott to write letter of confirmation.

#### **21/81 REMEMBRANCE DAY WREATH AND POPPIES**

Cllr. A Ratcliffe proposed, Cllr. M Ballard seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to pay up to £150 for a wreath and lamppost poppies for Remembrance Day.

Cllr. A Ratcliffe reported that the Royal British Legion (RBL) normally coordinated events in Lenham for Remembrance Day, but the RBL no longer exists in Lenham.

**ACTION** Cllr. A Ratcliffe to discuss with J Bate and report to F&GP.

#### **21/82 ROAD NAMES FOR DEVELOPMENT ON LAND WEST OF LODER CLOSE**

Cllr. N Osborne presented the background to his idea on calling the road “Bryant Way”. This is in remembrance of Charles Bryant who lived in Lenham and was serving on HMS Formidable as Chief Cook when it was torpedoed by a German U Boat U-24. Charles Bryant was among the 547 lives that were lost.

**ACTION** L Westcott to write to MBC with the suggestion of Bryant Way.

#### **21/83 FLOODLIGHTS FOR THE CHURCH**

Cllr. A Ratcliffe proposed, Cllr. M Cockett seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to pay up to £500 for replacement lights in the churchyard.

#### **21/84 FREE TREES FOR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES**

Cllr. M Ballard reported that there are 400 trees that will be available for planting.

**ACTION** Everyone to let M Ballard know of potential locations.



#### **21/85 PROJECT UPDATES**

- a. The Cross - Cllr. A Ratcliffe prepared a paper which was circulated prior to the meeting, outlining a proposal for a Lenham Cross Society. Cllr. N Osborne reported that there was a lot of support from residents. **ACTION** A Ratcliffe to prepare an article for the Lenham Focus.
- b. Lenham Swimming Pool – Cllr. D Garland has prepared a survey and L Westcott has used this to create a google survey form. **ACTION** L Westcott to send Google survey to all councillors.  
**ACTION** A Ratcliffe to speak to the Board of Trustees at Valley Invicta Academies Trust.
- c. Alms Houses – Cllr. M Ballard reported that a new trustee from LPC was required following a resignation, this will be discussed at F&GP.

#### **21/86 TO REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Report of broken streetlight in Platts Heath - quote of £350.50 +VAT for replacement lantern to be included in 22/23 budget.
- b. Sponsorship request from Lenham Wanderers – covered in public participation, grant application form received for discussion at F&GP.
- c. Proposed Hedgehog highways along Ham Lane footpath – Report received from resident of hedgehogs trapped on footpath. **ACTION** Cllr. P Culver to speak to school about adjusting fence.
- d. Queens Platinum Jubilee events – to be discussed at F&GP

The meeting closed at 22:15