

**Minutes of Mersham Parish Council**  
**Meeting held on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 in the Church room at St John the Baptist Church**

<b>Present</b>	Gavin Murphy (Chair)	Peter Hawkins
	Gill McBarnet	Donna Pearson
	Stewart Ross	Melanie Wells

In attendance: Cllr Bartlett and Tracey Block (Clerk)

*To be actioned by:*

<b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b>	
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Stewart.	
<b>To receive declarations of interest (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests). The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared.</b>	
Cllr Wells noted a personal interest in the Inland Border facility as a family member works on the site and a personal interest in the Village Hall.	
<b>To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023</b>	
Minutes of the Meeting of Mersham Parish Council on 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 were approved as a true record and were signed accordingly.	
<b>To discuss matters arising from previous minutes not covered by the agenda.</b>	
There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.	
<b>To receive report from Borough Councillor</b>	
<b>A detailed report had been circulated; a copy can be found on the website:</b> <a href="http://www.mershampc.org.uk/community/mersham-parish-council-18392/borough-cllr-reports/">http://www.mershampc.org.uk/community/mersham-parish-council-18392/borough-cllr-reports/</a>	
Cllr Bartlett reported that:	
- He had been included in a series of emails regarding the Frith Road, Priory Road and Coopers Lane crossroads. It is hoped that a meeting will be arranged between all parties.	
- He noted that the telephone box at Aldington Frith looked to be in a sad state of repair.	
- Ashford Borough Council have agreed to put a waste bin on the High Field footpath at the Bridge Cottage end in the hope that this goes some way to removing the excessive amount of dog poo that is on the path.	
- He attended the Community Liaison Panel for the Stonestreet Solar Project. The applicant has mitigated the impact of the view from The Forstal and construction work will not use Bank Road.	
- The planting on High Field in May had not begun. It is hoped that the planting when done will be as good as the previous planting. There is also some tree planting due to take place in Kingsford Street to stop any unauthorised incursions.	
- The Planning Inspectorate will be hearing the appeal regarding Colliers Hill on 12 <sup>th</sup> July.	
- the funeral of Mick Smithers will be on Friday at Charing at 10.30.	
<b>Public Session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item</b>	
There were no public in attendance.	
<b>To receive any update regarding the creation of a green buffer zone in High Field/IBF</b>	
There was nothing further to report.	
<b>To receive an update on Highways Issues (Including the Highways Improvement Plan)</b>	

The Clerk had provided an updated HIP that was circulated to all.

Councillors suggested that speeding is still an issue and felt that rumble strips/change of surface would be useful along Bower Road and The Street.

Councillors also requested a 20mph speed limit by the school.

#### **To consider a 4 year plan for this administration**

The Councillors suggested the following:

- Look at renting on a long-term rent the car park area near the shop.
- Look into using the cut and cover
- Update the JPF (paint swings, try for a lease agreement, chain off the entrance)
- Create an environmental policy
- Take the HIP forward

#### **To receive an update on the Village Hall**

Cllr Wells provided an update on the Village Hall.

#### **Planning matters: to authorise a response to any application(s) and to note any recent planning decisions by Ashford Borough Council or any correspondence on planning matters.**

##### **a) The following applications required comments:**

PA/203/1085

South Stour Apiary, Cheesemans Green Lane, TN25 7HX

Removal of condition 4 (occupation of dwellings) of planning permission WE/6/61/210

**No objections raised**

The Planning Appeal for the application at Colliers Hill is to be heard on 12<sup>th</sup> July. No representative from the PC will attend.

#### **Financial matters:**

##### **a) To approve the following financial documents:**

##### **1. To note the Parish Council's financial position.**

The Parish Council has £33,745.94 in the bank.

##### **2. To authorise any payments**

Cheque No:	Payee	Amount
502261	HMRC	£ 37.60
OLT	I King (June salary)	£ 136.50
502262	T Block (June Salary)	£ 404.23

A copy of the budget v expenditure was distributed to all Councillors.

#### **Any Other Business**

Cllr Pearson will attend the KALC Meeting.

Cllr McBarnet confirmed that she will attend the planning training.

The Clerk is to order the defibrillator, cabinet and signs for the telephone box.

The Clerk is to ask the Village Caretaker to trim round the footpath sign in Old Rectory Close and the

<p>Millennium Green path.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to check with PRow as to whether they are able to put the kissing gates in at Quarry View footpath.</p>	
<p><b>Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council.</b></p> <p>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023  Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023  Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024  Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024</p> <p>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023  Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023  Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024  Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024</p>	