



Minutes of the Meeting of Lenham Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 7:30pm at Lenham Community Centre

PRESENT Cllr. J Britt, Chairman presiding.

Cllrs. P Culver, D Earl, D Garland, K Hammond, M Michaelas, N Osborne, D Turner & A Walmsley

J Bate RFO, L Westcott Clerk

3 Members of the public.

Public participation

MBC Cllrs. T & J Sams reported the following:

- a. The Gables planning application was refused by MBC, they are in communication with the applicant.
- b. There is a new form that parish councils are required to complete in response to MBC planning consultations, although the process of using it has not been made known to parish councils.
- c. They continue to work on a response to the main modifications to the Maidstone Borough LPR.
- d. The appeal for Little Gaynes is on 7/11/23, they are hoping to attend.
- e. They are disappointed that the sorting services are no longer available from Lenham Post Office and with how Royal Mail handled the change (no prior notification).

ACTION Cllr. N Osborne will talk to PO owner to arrange a meeting to get an update on the situation.

1 member of the public who is helping organise the Christmas Lights, provided an update on project and the plans for the switch on event. The chair thanks the member of the public for the efforts to re-instate the Christmas lights.

The chair opened the meeting at 20:00.

23/83 Apologies for absence received.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. S Heeley & A Ratcliffe.

The chair has received a resignation from Cllr. T Goodliffe.

23/84 To receive declarations.

Declarations of interest on Agenda items.

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

Requests for dispensations. No new requests received.

23/85 To request notification of intention to film, photograph or record any items.

There were none.

23/86 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 5th October 2023.

Cllr. D Garland proposed, Cllr. D Turner seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday 5th October 2023** are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

23/87 Progress of resolutions from 5th October meeting (for information purposes only)

None reported that are not on agenda.

23/88 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meetings on 23rd October

Cllr. N Osborne proposed, Cllr. K Hammond seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP committee meeting held on Monday 23rd October 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chair.

- a. To authorise payments and note income (Details of payments included in F&GP minutes).
Cllr. K Hammond proposed, Cllr. D Turner seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to make the payments tabled in the F&GP minutes. Cllrs. N Osborne and D Garland to authorise the payments on-line.



- b. Cllr. D Earl proposed, Cllr. D Garland seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the policy “Investment and Treasury Management Strategy”.
- c. Cllr. M Michaelas proposed and Cllr. D Garland seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the proposed modifications to the entrance to the picnic site for £1800. 25% deposit will be included in the payment run.
- d. Cllr. A Walmsley proposed and Cllr. D Turner seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the recommended quote for winter plants of £260 from Coolings Potted Garden Nursery.
ACTION L Westcott to order plants.
- e. Cllr. K Hammond proposed and Cllr. D Turner seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote of £142 for flooring for the new washroom in 1A.
- f. Cllr. D Garland proposed and Cllr. N Osborne seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote for cutting the churchyard grass in the wild area for £380.
ACTION L Westcott to instruct Down to Earth.
- g. Cllr. A Walmsley proposed and Cllr. D Turner seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote of £2700 from Invicta Arboriculturists to complete a tree survey.
ACTION L Westcott to instruct Invicta Arboriculturists.

23/89 Finance:

- a. Responsible Financial Officer Report - full report discussed at F&GP.
A meeting has been held to discuss the budget with the assigned group. The draft budget will be circulated to review at November's F&GP.
- b. To authorise payments and note income (Details of payments included in F&GP minutes).
Covered under item 23/88 a.

23/90 To sign as a correct record, the minutes of the Planning and Implementation Committee meeting on 18th

October plus reports for October

- a. Cllr. J Britt proposed, Cllr. N Osborne seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the P&I Committee meeting held on Wednesday 18th October 2023 are a true record and were approved, adopted and signed by the Chair.
- b. The following responses were agreed to Planning Applications:
23/504134/FULL Warren Lands Caravan Site, Lenham Heath Road, Sandway, ME17 2PD – Given the complex nature of this site, a quote to write a response has been requested from Paul McCreery.
23/504594/FULL The Haven, 25 Headcorn Road, Platts Heath, ME17 2NH – No comments.
23/504558/FULL Part Norham Farm, Lenham Heath, Maidstone, ME17 2BT – No comment subject to approval of Natural England.

23/91 Maidstone Borough Local Plan Review main modifications consultation.

Cllr. J Britt lead discussions on the draft response, all agreed with the proposed objections being made.

23/92 Defibrillators

Cllr. D Earl has held discussions with a local paramedic. The village appears to be adequately covered with access to defibrillators, the rural areas are not. Local businesses (BP and Elite pubs) have been approached to see if they can be sited at their premises and potentially run by them. It will be useful to have a budget available to support installation.

23/93 To consider the draft Memorandum of Understanding between LPC and Lenham Wanderers FC

Cllr. A Walmsley circulated a draft MoU. It has been agreed that LPC should fund 9 cuts of the WPF per year. All agreed to ask LWFC to split the invoice direct from the contractor so LPC can reclaim the VAT for the 9 cuts.

23/94 Update from Meetings attended/planned

- a. Cllr. K Hammond reported on the Maidstone KALC meeting.



- b. Cllr. A Walmsley reported on the meeting with LWFC.
- c. Cllr. A Walmsley reported on a meeting with the residents of the Russells to discuss the fence on the footpath.
- d. Cllr. J Britt reported that he will be meeting with Helen Whately MP on 10th November to discuss the A20 and again on 8th December with Cllr. N Osborne and other parish councils.
- e. Cllr. J Britt reported that he will attend the Remembrance services on 11th and 12th November.
- f. Cllr. M Michaelas reported on the meeting with the Christmas Lights team.

23/95 Project Updates

- a. Cllr. D Garland reported on the quotes received for pollarding the lime trees, this will be discussed at F&GP.

23/96 To report Correspondence received.

- a. L Westcott reported that an email has been received requesting use of the WPF. L Westcott will contact LWFC.
- b. Cllr. D Turner reported on information received from Golding Homes regarding tree cutting in Cherry Close Estate.
- c. L Westcott reported that the code for the padlock on the Pilgrim's Way has been changed.
- d. L Westcott has received a request for burial of a baby in Lenham Cemetery, this is not normally charged for, L Westcott will check procedure.
- e. Cllr. J Britt reported on an email received from the Kent Community Rail Partnership.

The meeting closed at 22:10

Signed as a true record on this day 6th December 2023.....

Chairman of Lenham Parish Council