

Harrietsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 29th June 2022 at 7.30pm in
St John the Baptist church

Cllr Powell welcomed all present to the meeting.

Public discussion

A resident thanked everyone who had been involved in the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, adding that villagers were very grateful for their efforts.

1 Present

Cllr E Powell, Cllr G Dean, Cllr F Stanley, Cllr C Roots, Cllr T Griffiths, Cllr S Luck, Cllr S Brown, RFO/Amenity Manager Mr M Cuerden and the Clerk Mrs A Broadhurst
1 Members of Public

2 Apologies for absence

Cllr R Days, Cllr J Sams, Cllr T Sams, Community Warden Martin Sherwood

3 Minutes of the last meeting

Parish Council Meeting 25th May 2022 - The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Luck, seconded by Cllr Dean; with all in favour.

4 Disclosures and confidential items

Changes to the Register of Interests

There were no changes.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations.

Requests for Dispensation

No requests were submitted.

5 Planning

5.1 The outstanding planning applications were noted.

5.2 The approved applications were noted.

5.3 The refused applications were noted.

5.4 Other Planning Matters

There were no other matters to be discussed.

6. Environmental

6.1 Other Environmental Matters

- Saxon Place Open Space: The Clerk gave an update on the current situation relating to the s106 agreement for the Saxon Place development. Barratts have confirmed that the Deed of Variation, which had been agreed in December 2021, had still not been progressed, even though they were aware that the deadline for expenditure is in August 2022. Both the Clerk and MBC have been chasing Barratts since February (the Clerk on a daily basis over the past month). This resulted in the Clerk asking for a copy of the Company's Complaints Policy to submit a formal complain to try to resolve the issue, before £108k of s106 money is lost. This seems to have got things moving again and the contact at Barratts is currently drawing up the variation document. However, there now appears to be some queries raised by the original landowner, which need to be resolved. The Clerk reported that she had met with Maria Cook, before the meeting to discuss the project, as one quote has been received, but the Clerk has asked her to hold off progressing further, until the s106 issues are resolved. During the meeting with the Maria a contract document had been discussed along with how the project can be split up, if the s106 money is returned to the landowner.

7. Finances

7.1 Income and Expenditure spreadsheets: The finance sheets were proposed as accurate by Cllr Roots, seconded by Cllr Griffiths; with all in favour.

7.2 Other Financial Matters

- Grant Request: The RFO reported that the Harrietsham Gardening Society has requested a grant of £250 towards the cost of the Show to be held in September (total cost in the region of £600). It was proposed by Cllr Griffiths to grant the request of £250. This was seconded by Cllr Luck, with all in favour.
- Vandalised bench on Teers Meadow: The RFO reported that he has contacted 3 contractors to request quotes for repairing the bench. One has been received back so far and Cllr Stanley queried whether this would also cover remedial work to the picnic bench's surface, as nails had been knocked through, completely ruining the top. The RFO confirmed he would discuss this with the contractors, as they may

not have realised the extent of the damage, with the bench currently being upside down. After brief discussion it was agreed that the RFO be given delegated powers to arrange the repair up to £250 (+vat).
ACTION: RFO/Amenity Manager

There was then brief discussion regarding the amount of vandalism and anti-social behaviour around the village in recent months. The items to date include damage to the new play equipment on the Glebe Field, damage to the tennis court fencing and storage containers and the Platinum Jubilee flower beds on the village green being vandalised. Cllr Powell stated that it was very disappointing to see this kind of behaviour around the village, which ruins the area for everyone else.

8. Highways

The Chairman reminded all present that a report had been circulated before the meeting. The Clerk gave a brief overview of the two main items which involved various additional signage in both Fairbourne Lane and Forstal Lane. It was noted that, whilst these items can be added to the HIP now, there is a reshuffle underway at KHS and the new team will not be in place until July/August time.
ACTION: Clerk

9. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr Dean reported that, despite the concerns about the weather, both events had gone ahead. She offered thanks to Paul Hicks, Audrey Joy, Paul Chandler and the residents who had marshalled on the evening of the jazz concert and beacon lighting. The Big Lunch had also been a success and Cllr Dean thanked Cllr Griffiths for being the 'Master of Ceremonies'. The cake stall, raffle and Speedwatch group had raised £383.20, which had been donated to the Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme. The Dogs Trust, who had supplied some items for the Marvellous Mutts competition had left a donation tin and Cllr Dean has arranged to drop this back to them in Canterbury shortly. Cllr Powell thanked Cllr Dean for overseeing the arrangements for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Cllr Roots commented on Helen Whately MP assisting with the raffle and taking part in the Tug of War. Helen had commented that the Big Lunch was extremely well organised.

10. Use of the Glebe Field for Parking - North Downs Walk (Sunday 11th June 2023)

It was proposed by Cllr Dean to allow use of the Glebe Field for parking, with the usual caveats. This was seconded by Cllr Griffiths, with all in favour.

11. Twinning

Cllr Powell stated that this item would be deferred as Cllr J Sams had given apologies.

12. Location of Defibrillator

Cllr Griffiths reported that he has received a quote from an electrician to install the defibrillator at the office for £380 (+vat). The location of the defibrillator was discussed and there were mixed views of whether it should be mounted on a post (which Cllr Griffiths felt was the best option to allow unrestricted access) or whether it should be mounted on the office wall, with a sign being put up asking for drivers to not block access when using the parking bays. As the final location for the defibrillator was still undecided, Cllr Powell asked for this matter to be discussed again at the July meeting. Cllr Griffiths asked all Councillors to view the area to ensure that a final decision can be made at the next meeting, as a further quote may then be required.

13. Harrietsham Organisation's Christmas Event

Cllr Griffiths informed all present that he would like to organise an event for the people in the village who volunteer through the various groups. He has provisionally booked Friday 9th December for this and wanted to see what the Parish Council's view is before progressing with the idea further. All Councillors thought that this would be a lovely idea.

14. Future Events

Ploughmans in the Church - 9th July (midday - 2pm)
Coffee Morning - every Friday in the Booth Hall (10am - midday)
Invicta Concert Band - 24th September (in the Church)

15. Items for Future Consideration

KALC Climate Change Carbon Footprint Calculator - Cllr J Sams (July agenda)
Christmas Lights - Cllr Roots (July agenda)
Santa's Grotto - Cllr Griffiths (September agenda)

16. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 27th July 2022 at 7.30pm in St John the Baptist Church

With no further matters to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.14pm.