

Harrietsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 29th March 2023 at 7.30pm
in the Booth Hall

Cllr Powell welcomed all present to the meeting.

Public discussion

The Parish Council was asked whether they would be submitting a comment regarding a telecom mast application which has been submitted. The Planning Committee will discuss this at their next meeting.

A member of the village Charities group gave an update on both the Colepepper and Stede charities, adding that a representative from Harrietsham Primary School had also joined.

1 Present

Cllr E Powell, Cllr G Dean, Cllr T Sams, Cllr J Sams, Cllr R Dayes, Cllr T Griffiths, Cllr F Stanley, Cllr C Roots, Cllr S Luck, Cllr S Brown and the Clerk Mrs A Broadhurst

3 Members of Public

2 Apologies for absence

RFO/Amenity Manager Mr M Cuerden, Community Warden Martin Sherwood

3 Minutes of the last meeting

Parish Council Meeting 22nd February 2023 - The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Luck, seconded by Cllr Roots; with 6 in favour and 4 abstentions.

4 Disclosures and confidential items

Changes to the Register of Interests

There were no changes.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Roots: Agenda Item 9 (King's Coronation) - as his wife is leading the Graft Group making the Maypoles for the Village.

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5.4 The withdrawn application was noted.

5.5 Other Planning Matters

- The Clerk confirmed that the next meeting of the Planning Committee would need to be Friday 14th April, as the 7th is a Bank Holiday.

6. Environmental

6.1 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th March 2023: The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Dean, seconded by Cllr Dayes; with 4 in favour (those present at the meeting).

6.2 Recommendations from the Environmental Committee:

- To allow a contract variation which has been requested (to the current contract only and not the new one recently awarded: It was proposed by Cllr T Sams to allow a 5% increase to costs (due to the current rate of inflation) instead of the 3% detailed in the verge contract (only). This was seconded by Cllr Dean, with all in favour.
- To accept a quote from Medway Valley Countryside Partnership's (MVCP's) proposal to complete a new Stream Management Plan at a cost of £1,946: It was proposed by Cllr J Sams to accept the quote received from MVCP to complete a new survey at a cost of £1,946. This was seconded by Cllr Luck, with all in favour.

6.3 Other Environmental Matters

- New Burial Ground: The Clerk gave a brief update on the current situation with the new burial ground. The Tier 2 Ground Water Assessment has now been completed, which shows that, if 12 burials are carried out annual, there shouldn't be any environmental issues. CDS has now been

instructed to proceed with getting a quote from the Environmental Agency for pre-application advice. This will highlight if any further work is required or whether they are happy, in principle, to approve the land being used as a burial ground.

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.

8. Highways

It was noted that a report had been circulated to all present, with potholes still being a huge issue around the village.

The Clerk reported that KCC are hoping that the A20 average speed camera project will commence next month.

9. King's Coronation (incorporating the Big Lunch)

The request from the craft group for maypoles was discussed. For the Parish Council to take ownership, during the event, a number of points needed to be clarified. The subsequent discussion confirmed that there would either be one or two maypoles on the green, which would be for decoration purposes only and would be securely fixed. The picket fencing and lighting used for the poppy display would be used again and a risk assessment written. It was noted that, unfortunately, neither the West Street (school end) or Co-op area were suitable locations. It was agreed that Cllrs T Sams and Roots would plan out the size of the maypoles to see whether two can be fitted on the green. This would be confirmed either way over email. Cllr Dean proposed that the maypole(s) be adopted for the duration of the Coronation celebrations. This was seconded by Cllr T Sams, with 9 in favour and 1 abstention.

10. Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk reminded all present that the Annual Parish Meeting will commence at 8pm on the 26th April. Cllrs T & J Sams have confirmed that they will be able to arrange the refreshments.

11. Parish Council's FOI Publication Scheme Document

It was proposed by Cllr Roots to readopt the reviewed Publication Scheme document. This was seconded by Cllr T Sams, with all in favour.

12. Parish Council's Climate Change Plan

Cllr T Sams spoken briefly regarding the Climate Change Plan, adding that it was for the new Council elected in May to take forward. It would be helpful for this item to be added to each Committee's agenda to action where appropriate. It was agreed to remove this from the agenda until the June meeting.

13. Future Events

Friends of St John's AGM - Friday 31st March (7pm in the Church)
Annual Village Litter Pick - 1st April
HIB Quiz - 24th April (7pm - Village Hall)
Annual Parish Meeting - 26th April (8pm - Booth Hall)
Heart of Kent's Hospice's Bluebell Walk - 30th April (start at the Village Hall)
King's Coronation Big Lunch - Sunday 7th May (Glebe Field)
Coffee Morning - every Friday in the Booth Hall (10am - midday)

14. Items for Future Consideration

Santa's Grotto - Cllr Griffiths (April Agenda)
Parish Council's Climate Change Plan - Cllr T Sams (June Agenda)

15. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 7.00pm (shorter meeting) in the Booth Hall,
followed by the **Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm**

With no further matters to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.09pm.