

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

### Sheet 2336

**Those Present:** Cllr. P. Hutt (Chairman); Cllr. H. Samuelson (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. J. Russell; Cllr. A. Jeffers; Cllr. G. King and Clerk Mrs D. Horswell.

**Also present:** Ward Cllr. D. Smith and Ken Waddington, the village handyman.

**1. Apologies for absence;** Cllr. M. Akers – Work Commitments: Cllr. A. Ricketts – unwell; Ward Cllr. S. Jupe; County Cllr. R. Thomas.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Changes to DPI's & Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:** No changes in DPI's. Declaration of Interest declared by Cllr. King in all matters to do with the Village Hall.

**3. To Approve: Minutes of the last Meeting: of 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023.**

**Proposed by Cllr. Samuelson, Seconded by Cllr. King.**

**The Minutes were approved and AGREED by all Members present and signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

#### **4. Finance:**

##### **4.1 Invoice Payments (Banking Report circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting.)**

DD	Lili Waste Services	Waste Collection November	£102.38 (Vat £17.06)
Bacs	Mr K Waddington	Handyman Wages October	£222.27
Bacs	Mrs D Horswell	Clerk Salary October	£809.26
Bacs	Mrs D Horswell	Reimbursement for supplies	£208.65
Bacs	HMRC	PAYE & NIC October	£229.05
DD	XLN	Telephone & Broadband November	£81.13 (Vat £13.52)
Bacs	BVHMC	Hall Hire November	£24.00
Bacs	Cutters	Hedge Cutting/Tree maintenance	£1,380.00
Bacs	Meadow Grange	Supplies for Handyman	£57.94 (Vat £9.67)
DD	HugoFox	Monthly Website Charge	£11.99

**Total Paid Out: £3,126.67**

##### **Paid in:**

BVHMC – Waste Collection September & October	£100.06
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## Sheet 2337

CCC – CIL Payment £2,091.16

**Bank Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 - Current Account £50,427.00**

*(This does not include all the outgoing transactions in this banking report).*

Proposed by Cllr. Samuelson, Seconded by Cllr. King, All Members present **APPROVED** and **AGREED** the payments.

### **4.2 To present and approve: Budget for 2024/2025.**

The budget had been circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting and following discussion was **Proposed** by Cllr. Jeffers, **Seconded** by Cllr. Samuelson, All Members present **APPROVED** and **AGREED**.

### **4.3 To discuss and approve Precept for 2024/2025**

Following the approval of the budget for 2024/2025 it was proposed to set the precept for 2024/2025 at £25,000 which is an increase of 5% (approx. £2.00 increase per year for a Band D property).

**Proposed** by Cllr. King, **Seconded** by Cllr. Jeffers, All Members present **APPROVED** and **AGREED**.

### **4.4 To discuss: CIL money expenditure.**

The clerk has checked with CCC and there is no time limit for spending the CIL money as long as a report is provided each year which states whether we have retained or spent the funds.

There was a suggestion of using the money to provide a new artificial turf surface for the kicking wall.

**5. Planning:** (Planning Report for discussion circulated to Cllrs. prior to meeting)

### **PLANNING REPORT November 2023**

#### **Planning Applications:**

**23/01887** - Detached single-storey garage and new boundary wall - **3-5 Tile Kiln Hill – No objection** by BPC.

**Decision Notices by CCC: None.**

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## Sheet 2338

**Note: The broken pavement outside 47 Blean Common has been repaired by KCC.** This occurred as a result of a creation of a new vehicle crossover which has, of yet, not been granted planning permission.

### 6. Reports from County Cllr. and Ward Cllrs:

#### **6.1 Ward Cllr. Smith reported on:**

There are a number of consultations on the CCC website.

There is a £30 Christmas allowance from Ward Councillors if Cllrs. know of any person in the ward who is in need.

#### **6.2 County Cllr. Thomas had sent the following:**

##### **Community Transport Grant 2023-24**

The parish seems well served by the triangle bus service but please let me know if there is a scheme you'd like support for.

Secondly, there is an update about family support as per this news article <https://news.kent.gov.uk/articles/help-for-parents-to-buy-healthy-food,-milk,-andvitamins.>

### 7. Reports and Updates:

#### **7.1 Village Hall Report: - Cllr. King**

A number of new hirers have been booked for the new year and several private parties and receptions also.

Overall, there has been a small increase in bookings, balanced against a couple of groups which have ceased due to low numbers of members.

At the recent AGM I was voted in as vice-chair of the BVHMC.

#### **7.2 N.H.W:**

All relevant reports are circulated to Cllrs.

#### **7.3 Footpath Report: Cllr. Samuelson and Cllr. Russell.**

The footpaths are not in a bad condition although muddy at this time of year. Cllr. Jeffers reported there is overgrown vegetation on CB20. This will be reported on P.R.O.W. website.

#### **7.4 Highways Report: Cllr Jeffers.**

Cllr. Jeffers said there has still been no action on the potholes he reported by the Royal Oak.

It was noted that Bourne Lodge Close will be closed on 15<sup>th</sup> November for repairs.

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## Sheet 2339

### **7.5 Speedwatch Report: Cllr. Akers and Cllr. Russell.**

The following report has been received from the Community Speedwatch Engagement/Enforcement Officer:

I have conducted speed checks in your village on 27<sup>th</sup> Oct.

I can inform you that several vehicles were stopped about their speed including a few who were issued speeding tickets and one vehicle was dealt with for being un-roadworthy.

My preferred location is outside the pub at the bottom of Blean Hill catching both directions. The landlord is very pro-Speedwatch, he even gave us a coffee! so I use his car park to stop and issue either stern words or tickets to vehicles we stop.

I keep an eye on the rota sheet but haven't seen you out in a while, I will keep checking as it's likely your sessions dates possibly fell on my rest days.

### **7.6 Clerks Report:**

Nothing further to report that is not on the agenda.

### **7.7 Newsletter: Cllr. Akers.**

The final draft newsletter has been circulated to Cllrs. for their comments. This was discussed and any revisions to be sent to Cllr. Akers.

The cost of £270 for printing 900 copies was approved by all Cllrs. present.

There are a group of volunteers to deliver the newsletters, also all Councillors offered to help.

## **8. Matters raised by the Public:**

No members of the public present and no other matters raised.

## **9. Matters to be discussed: (Any relevant papers circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting).**

### **9.1 Crab & Winkle/Tyler Hill Road Crossover.**

Waiting for Highway Improvement Plan update online meeting with Annaliese Mortlock from KCC.

An addition to be discussed on Blean's H.I.P. is some sort of speed reduction at the bottom of Blean Hill/Tile Kiln Hill.

### **9.2 Update: Repair of the fort.**

The caps for the top of the posts have been delivered and will be fitted.

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## Sheet 2340

**9.3 Update: Village Sign** – Waiting for the sign to be put back up in position.

**9.4 Update: Purchase of Basketball Hoop** – This has been delivered and is awaiting fitting although it was discussed that it really needs a new post, re-positioning and a concrete hardstanding at the base. The overhead tree branch over the original post has been cut back by Meadow Grange.

**9.5 Update: Purchase of new Picnic Table** – this has been fitted together and is in position.

**9.6 Dog owners not clearing up after their dogs in the recreation ground and nature reserve.** This has been reported to the clerk on several occasions, so a notice has been put up on the board at the Nature Reserve entrance asking dog walkers to clear up after their dogs and dispose of in the litter bins and dog bins provided. This notice is in addition to the CCC notice at the car park gate.

**9.7 BPC to take on the cost of the upkeep of the planters at the Memorial Gates and to purchase two new planters (one at each bus stop).**

The background information had been circulated to the Cllrs. for discussion and it was agreed to get information and costings from Meadow Grange.

## **10. Councillors' Reports:**

**10.1 Cllr. Russell** spoke of the Plastic Free Initiative campaign in Canterbury which is to last for four weeks with lots of people involved.

CCC have a new guide for recycling and are offering bins at a reduced cost. There is a scheme for bringing batteries into schools for recycling. Cllr. Samuelson will speak to Blean school about it. People can post pictures of items they are not sure whether they can recycle e.g. furniture, vapes.

**10.2 Cllr. Samuelson** spoke of the outline planning permission that Gladmans have been granted and the reserve matters application and Section 106 money.

**10.3 Cllr. Jeffers** asked whether Cllr. Ricketts can provide an update on the Local Plan.

**10.4 Cllr. King** reported that the broken panel in the bus shelter at the Blean Common/ Tyler Hill Road junction has still not been replaced after two years. The clerk will contact Stagecoach.

**10.5 Cllr. Hutt** spoke of the planning permission that was granted for 2 Honey Hill which contrary to the plans has now become a new dwelling.

# **BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL**



## **Sheet 2341**

**11. Any Other Business for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.52pm.

**Dates of forthcoming Parish Council meetings in the coming year unless for any reason they have to be changed.**

**11<sup>th</sup> December, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 (Annual Assembly) and Annual Parish Council meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

**These Minutes remain as draft minutes until approved by the Parish Council at the next meeting.**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_