

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17th April 2024

In attendance were Cllrs Miss Grundy, Taylor, Beaumont, Mrs Fox, the Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th March 2024 and Matters Arising.

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

4. Finance Matters

(i) To consider request from KSS Air Ambulance for a grant

It was agreed to donate £50.00

(ii) Members approved the following payments

HMRC	£ 93.60	PAYE (March 2024)
Mike Harris	£ 456.00	2 Years Payment of Web Management
KALC	£ 326.71	Annual Subscription
Kikk	£ 350.00	Part Payment of web set up
Parish Clerk	£ 30.01	Expenses & Stationery

(iii) Update on website.

As time was short, Members agreed to meet on 30th April to discuss the content of the new website.

(iv) Painting and repair to Bus Shelters. Deferred to the next meeting.

(v) Members approved the Draft Level of Reserves and Payment Sheet as being the final figures for the end of the financial year 2023-2024.

(vi) As payments and receipts are below the threshold of £25,000.00, it was proposed and seconded and the motion carried that the Chairman and Clerk sign the Certificate of Exemption from an External Audit.

(vii) The Clerk informed the meeting that since publication of the agenda our precept of £13000.00 has been banked. She has also been notified that the Concurrent Funding for 2024-25 will be the same as 2023-24 with no inflation increase, in the sum of £1946.00.

5. Planning Matters

(i) Notice of Appeal ref: 3334065

CA/23/01172 Land at Merton Lane Canterbury CT4 7BA

Erection of commercial units with associated access.

Having re-read our observations made when the application was considered by the Council, it was agreed to send a copy of our letter with one or two alterations to the Inspectorate.

(ii) Consultation on Local Plan up to 2040

As we know that the CCC Cllrs report to the APM requests that we not only respond to the Local Plan but to also respond to the following which are important to the integrity of the whole Local Plan 40.

- Draft Canterbury Transportation Strategy
- Draft Open Spaces Strategy
- Draft Air Quality Acton Plan
- Sustainable Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document.

- (iii) To consider communication from Mr Rooke at Finns.
At the request of Mr Rooke, agent to the landowner of a plot of land off Hardres Court Road, asked the Parish Council to enquire why the Local Plan Policy Team had refused acceptance in the Plan of this plot. Mr Rooke is now requesting a copy of our correspondence and the City Council's response. Members had no objection to this despite the City's response being precisely two lines.
- (iv) CA/24/00259 Harmansole Cottage, Street End, Lower Hardres
Single-storey side extension. No objection

6. Planning Decisions of Canterbury City Council

We have not been notified of any planning decisions for sometime now. Obviously CA/23/01172 must have been refused as it has gone to appeal.

7. Highway Issues and PROW

- To consider KCC Highways response to our letter re request for 30mph speed limit. Following Highways disappointing response to our request for a reduced speed limit on the B2068, we wrote again with a number of questions as to why they considered the road would not be suitable as a 30mph and whether their refusal was a legal or financial decision. They responded that the decision is not financially driven but is due to the evidence that is being shown which does not support a speed reduction – ie the environment, the current average speeds, the crash data.
We also asked for a face to face meeting and the reply was that Officers tend not to attend face to face meetings with Parish Councils as these are not conducive to officer time. However she states that she is happy to meet via Teams for a discussion regarding how the current setting can be enhanced. Following scrutiny of this response – Cllr Taylor has put together an analysis of their reasons, based on national guidelines which he will forward to members for consideration.
- PROW: A member referred to the number of walkers straying off the appropriate footpaths and crossing fields that have already been planted.

8. Parish Council Vacancy

The Chairman refers to the vacancy in her report to the APM and Cllr Beaumont has placed notices on two of the notice boards.

9. Correspondence, Publications and other matters of an urgent nature

To consider any correspondence that needs attention

10. To Confirm Date of the Annual Parish Council meeting as 1st May 2024 5pm