

HALLING PARISH COUNCIL

The Community Centre, High Street, Lower Halling, Rochester, Kent. ME2 1BS



Clerk Mr C Fribbins

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Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Monday July 10th 2023 at –
The Community Centre, Lower Halling, commencing at 7.30pm

(There had been an error in the Agenda item numbering which has been amended for the Minutes)

055/23 Chairman's welcome and recording of those present.

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Mrs L Ali (Vice-Chairman) took the chair.

Present Cllr Mrs L Ali (Vice-Chairman) (Acting Chairman).
Cllr Mrs C Saltmarsh.
Cllr Mrs N Brown.
Cllr G Wenham.
Cllr L Hitchcock.

In Attendance Clerk Mr C Fribbins. Assistant Clerk Mr N Fursdon.
7 members of the public.

056/23 Apologies for absence.

Received from Cllr R Thorne (Chairman) (at the Houses of Parliament)
Cllr B Ali (Important business matter)

The matter of absences was debated by Cllrs present, the apologies were agreed as valid.

057/23 Declaration of any Pecuniary and / or Prejudicial Interests – None were declared.

The Clerk explained that there was 1 Cllr (not present) has not yet signed the relevant documents.

Cllr G Wenham proposed that Agenda item 062 (now 064) be moved to 064 (now 066) due to some confidential elements. This was agreed.

058/23 Adjourn for Public Questions (up to 15 minutes for the public). Adjourned at 7.35pm (19.35)

- Person 1 **Speeding traffic Vicarage Road** – person 1 mentioned the problem of speeding traffic in Vicarage Road, and the noise from seemingly very noisy exhaust systems.
The Clerk said that the matter will be reported to the relevant authorities, residents should also send in complaints.
- Person 2 (1) **Parish Council member numbers** – person 2 asked why the PC Councillor number has gone up from 11 to 13.
Cllr G Wenham and the Clerk explained the matter.
- Person 2 (2) **Last meeting** – person 2 mentioned that the last meeting at the Committee Centre was way back in January.
The Clerk explained the May meeting was due to be at the Committee Centre, but the hall was already booked, so the May meeting had to be held in Jubilee Hall.
- Person 2(3) **Public EV Charging** – Asked if there had been any mention from Medway Council about having public EV Charging in Halling.
The Clerk said there had been no correspondence from Medway Council on this matter.

- Person 2(4) **20 MPH Speed limit** – Said he felt that as the High Street is more or less a single file road, there should be a 20 MPH speed limit. He knew a person who could do a Risk Assessment on the road.
The Clerk said that the Parish Council does not have the power to make a 20MPH speed limit or enforce it. Best to refer the matter to Medway Council.
- Person 3(1) **Halling view** – mentioned that there was a need for the re-introduction of the Halling View paper, was delivered to every house in the Village.
Could be a subscribed news.
The Clerk explained what has been debated with the Halling View matter.
- Person 3(2) **Problems in Marsh Road**
 - Marsh Road belongs to Halling Parish Council, there is a clump of ivy clad trees which are causing a problem with the road. He was not actually known if the trees are on Halling Parish Council ground.
The Clerk said that he had investigated and the clump of trees are on Medway Council ground, but overhanging the road. He will contact them on the matter.
 - There are still some problems with parking, some blocking of drives etc.
- Person 4(1) **Dirt Bikes** – Could the Rural Police be informed about the amount of Illegal Dirt Bikes which are being ridden around Halling, especially Upper Halling.
- Person 4(2) **Planning process** – asked if the Parish Council is being active in the Planning Process, as there never seems to be any Planning at the meetings.
The Clerk said that all Cllrs are sent the notification of any Planning applications. He also pointed out that there is Planning tracker on the Parish Council website which shows all the planning applications in the Parish and how far they have gone in the process. He then went through the various current Planning applications.
Person 4 mentioned that the Parish Council should go back to meeting monthly, also put the planning applications in the Parish Council notice boards.
- Person 4(3) **Attendance concern** – raised a concern that the Chairman had not attended the meeting.

Meeting re-convened at 8.18pm (20.18)

059/23 To Approve Minutes of meetings held on May 9th 2023.

03a Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting May 9th 2023

03b Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting May 9th 2023

Cllr G Wenham proposed that both sets of Minutes be approved as accurate records of both the meetings held on May 9th 2023

Cllr L Hitchcock seconded the motion. Both sets of Minutes were unanimously agreed. The Acting Chairperson signed and dated the documents.

060/23 Clerk's report. To receive any reports from Councillors

Marsh Road issues are being looked into.

There had been problems with contacting the AONB, the Clerk explained the matters.

The Annual Audit Internal Auditor report has been received

The report was good, except for 1 minor issue, the right of inspection was issued on the same day as it started, should have been the day before.- Agreed to Note

The various documents have been published on the Parish Council website and the Parish Council Notice Boards.

All email correspondence had been circulated to all the Cllrs, except one from the Halling Community Centre Management Committee where they state that they did not accept the new Parish Council representative on the Committee, being investigated.

There was a minor altercation between 2 parish councillors (added 11/9/23 Minute 070/23 refers)

061/23 Finance: Note Payments made under delegated powers of the Chair/Clerk and to seek approval of any additional payments as necessary. Financial Reports as circulated (as at 31/3/2023)

The Clerk went through the various financial documents with the Cllrs.

The Bank reconciliation were gone through, and the Acting Chairperson signed and dated the document.

The Clerk took the Cllrs through the various budget headings, which shows that all expenditure is within all the budget settings.

The May and June Income and Expenditure sheet is attached to these Minutes appendix 1 page 5.

062/23 Halling in Bloom – The Parish Chairman had requested this item.

The Acting Chairman said that the Parish Chairman proposed that Halling should take part in the Halling in Bloom with planting troughs at various point in the village and hanging baskets as well. He would be willing to raise the plants and maintain them.

Cllrs felt that there would be various problems to overcome first, getting permission for siting the various troughs and hanging baskets, watering could also be a problem.

It was generally felt that it was too late to do year, but maybe next year.

The Acting Chairman proposed that £1,000 be put aside for the project.

Cllr Mrs N Brown seconded the proposal. The proposal was unanimously agreed.

063/23 Events Committee – Septemberfest UPDATE

Cllr Mrs N Brown (Chair of the Events Committee) gave an Update. All going well.

The whole Events Committee are working together really well.

- There will be fun fair rides.
- Wrist bands will be on sale for £5 giving the person the right to use all the fun fair rides all day at no extra cost.
- Local Bar and food venders will be there.
- Other local groups will have stalls.
- Two Bands and a DJ have been booked.
- Boxing and Wrestling demonstrations have been arranged.

064/23 Halling Marsh (Land adjacent to PC Land) – UPDATE.

The Clerk said that the purchase of the land adjacent to Parish Council ground is still on – going but is advancing very slowly.

Confidential matters will debated in item 067/23

Other matters on the marsh

- Grass will be cut soon. Too wet at the moment.
- Extra post at the barrier still not installed yet, will chase up.
- Barrier lock only the Clerk has the number, only National Grid, Environment Agency and possibly the Coastguard would need to have access.
- Medway Footpaths have been and cleared the footpaths. They have made the culvert passable by putting steps down and up the ditch.

065/23 Receptions Grounds UPDATE.

The Clerk reported that person who is employed to check the play equipment during the week does repair some issues as they happen. Some he cannot resolve so contractors will have to be employed for these matters. Cllr L Hitchcock will meet with the employee to see these issues.

The Clerk said that it was all part of getting ready for the Annual Inspections.

It is also important to look into Inspection Training.

066/23 (PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING) ACT 1960 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC)

To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public are to be excluded from the Meeting.

A vote will be taken.

Cllr G Wenham proposed that Agenda item 066/23 be enacted.

The Acting Chairman seconded the proposal. The proposal was unanimously agreed.

Members of the public and press left the meeting before 9.30pm (21.30)

067/23 Personnel and confidential matters

A 064/23 Halling Marsh (Land adjacent to PC Land) – Confidential matters UPDATE.

Cllr G Wenham updated Cllrs on the confidential matter of this item.

B Cost of living payment to Clerks (Both Clerks left the meeting for this item).

The Cllrs present agreed to make the Cost of Living payments to both Clerks.

068/23 End of meeting. – Meeting ended at 9.45pm (21.45).

Appendix 1 - The May and June Income and Expenditure sheet

HALLING PARISH COUNCIL INCOME & EXPENDITURE – MAY 2023

May 1 st	Halling Community Centre (Office Rent)	£	328.90	SO
	MHS Homes (Garage rent)	£	46.83	DD
May 4 th	N Brown (Reimbursement Coronation items)	£	22.37	DPC
	N Brown (Reimbursement Coronation items Bookers)	£	128.77	DPC
	N Brown (Reimbursement Coronation items Bookers)	£	14.73	DPC
	Stag Cottage (Flowers re Coronation)	£	100.00	DPC
May 9 th	Cuxton Bakehouse (Coronation)	£	150.00	DPC
	Court Farm Butcher (Coronation)	£	277.50	DPC
May 15 th	N Brown (Reimbursement Coronation items (Laminates))	£	9.99	DPC
	N Brown (Reimbursement Coronation items (Food))	£	22.10	DPC
	Jo's Cakes (Coronation cakes)	£	132.00	DPC
May 25 th	Eventbrite (KALC Training – Dynamic Cllr)	£	120.00	DPC
	Eventbrite (KALC Training – Social Media Skills)	£	88.00	DPC
	L Ali (Mobile data pack)	£	10.00	DPC
	Staff Costs (3 employees)	£	1,062.48	DPC
May 31 st	Interest from Deposit Account	£	224.14	Paid In
	Total payments	£	2,512.67	
	Total paid in	£	224.14	Paid In

HALLING PARISH COUNCIL INCOME & EXPENDITURE – JUNE 2023

June 2 nd	Halling Community Centre (Office Rent)	£	328.90	SO
	MHS Homes (Garage rent)	£	46.83	DD
June 6 th	ICO (Information Commissioners Office)	£	35.00	DPC
June 12 th	HMRC (VAT reclaim for March)	£	599.00	Paid In
	G Ballard (Notice boards Clean 1)	£	50.00	DPC
	Natalie Brown (Marquee)	£	142.88	DPC
June 15 th	KCS Supplies (office supplies)	£	73.74	DPC
June 18 th	BT (Phone & Broadband)	£	250.20	DD
June 21 st	CPRE (Subscription)	£	60.00	DD
June 26 th	Natalie Brown (Wristbands for Septemberfest)	£	96.60	DPC
	Top Guns (Band for Septemberfest)	£	100.00	DPC
	Four Jays Group (toilets for Septemberfest)	£	474.00	DPC
	2023 Dog Show (from Halling Association Account)	£	500.00	DPC
	Natalie Brown (second Marquee)	£	112.77	DPC
June 29 th	Nationwide Amusements (Fairground rides)	£	4,740.00	DPC
	Staff Costs (3 employees)	£	1,032.10	DPC
June 30 th	Interest from Deposit Account	£	218.34	Paid In
	Total Paid	£	7,697.82	
	Total Paid in	£	817.34	