

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

### Sheet 2444

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

**Also present:** County and Ward Cllr. A. Ricketts; Ward Cllr. D. Smith; Ward Cllr. S. Jupe and two members of the public.

#### **1. To Elect a Chairman and receive Declaration of Acceptance.**

Cllr. Hutt was nominated to continue as Chairman:

**Proposed by Cllr. Samuelson, Seconded by Cllr. King and all Cllrs. present AGREED.**

#### **2. To elect a Vice-Chairman and receive Declaration of Acceptance.**

Cllr. Samuelson was nominated to continue as Vice-Chairman:

**Proposed by Cllr. Hutt, Seconded by Cllr. King and all Cllrs. present AGREED.**

#### **3. Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence.**

There were no apologies received and the Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **4. Changes to DPI's & Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:**

Cllr. King declared that he is no longer on the Blean Village Hall Committee. No other changes were declared.

#### **5. To Approve: Minutes of the last Meeting: of 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

The Minutes were **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Jeffers, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Hutt and **APPROVED** by all **Members present. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

Cllr. Jeffers mentioned that there has been no further communication regarding whether the fete will go ahead.

#### **6. Appointment of Cllrs for: Highways: Speedwatch: Footpaths: Village Hall Representative.**

**The following appointments were agreed:**

Highways – Cllr. Jeffers

Speedwatch – Cllr. Akers and Cllr. Russell.

Footpaths – Cllr. Samuelson.

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2445

Village Hall Representative – Cllr. Russell.

Due to County and Ward Cllr. Ricketts having to leave to attend another meeting at 8pm, the order of agenda was agreed to be changed to allow him to give his report.

Cllr. Hutt and everyone present congratulated Cllr. Ricketts on his appointment onto Kent County Council as County Councillor representing Canterbury North.

Cllr. Ricketts reported that he had been at County Hall today and met with lots of officers. He spoke with the Officer who deals with Nature Strategy Pathways regarding reaching out to Parish Councils. He said that most of KCC service delivery is statutory. Cllr. Samuelson spoke as Chair of Blean School Governors and said that KCC had messed up completely regarding SEN schools.

Cllr. Akers raised the matter of the KCC/CCC/Utility Companies utter chaos regarding roadworks in the area.

It was noted that St.Dunstans level crossing will be shut on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

## **7. Adoption of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (previously circulated to all Cllrs).**

These had both been recently updated.

**Proposed by Cllr. Samuelson, Seconded by Cllr. Jeffers and all Cllrs. present AGREED.**

## **8. Finance:**

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

DD	Lili Waste Services	Waste Collection May	£120.91 (Vat £20.15)
Bacs	Mr K Waddington	Handyman Wages April	£211.75
Bacs	Mrs D Horswell	Clerk Salary April	£885.13
Bacs	HMRC	PAYE & NIC April	£341.98 See Note
DD	XLN	Telephone & Broadband May	£243.71 (Vat £40.62)
			See Note
DD	HugoFox	Monthly Website Charge	£11.99
	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly Service Charge	£6.00
Bacs	BVHMC	Hall Hire May	£24.00
Bacs	Lionel Robbins	Internal Audit & Report 2024/2025	£105.00
Bacs	Meadow Grange	Plants/Compost/Gloves	£37.97 (Vat £6.33)
Bacs	Lushland Ltd	Annual Tree Survey	£550.00

**Total Paid Out: £2,538.44**

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2446

### **Received In:**

Bacs BVHMC	Waste Collection March & April	£112.60
HMRC	Vat Claim 2024/2025	£2,784.55
CCC	Concurrent Function Funding 2025/2026	£5,630.00
CCC	Precept 2025/2026	£25,000.00

### **Bank Statement as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025 - Current Account £36,556.71\***

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

**\*Includes remainder of S106 money of £2,350.68 to be spent on play equipment maintenance.**

**Note: Additional Employers NIC - £64.96**

**Note: XLN payment includes £112.79 for a new digital telephone system and new router as the office one is now at the end of its life. We will receive a discount of £37 per month for 3 months and the new monthly charge thereafter will be £75 per month which is slightly cheaper than the present monthly cost.**

**PROPOSED by Cllr. Jeffers, SECONDED by Cllr. Akers and all Cllrs. present APPROVED the bank payments.**

### **8.1 AGAR**

The report from the Internal Audit held on 2nd May had been circulated and accepted by Cllrs.

**Following a review of effectiveness of the system of internal control - To accept and approve Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2024/2025**

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

Accepted and Approved by all Cllrs. present and signed by the Chairman and clerk.

**8.2 To accept and approve Section 2 Accounting Statements 2024/2025 - signed by the clerk prior to the meeting.**

**Proposed by Cllr. Akers, Seconded by Cllr. Russell.**

Accepted and Approved by all Cllrs. present and signed by the Chairman.

(AGAR papers and relevant documents circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting).

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2447

The AGAR and relevant documents will now be sent to the External Auditors Mazars Ltd for examination and posted on BPC website.

**9. Planning:** (Planning Report for Discussion circulated to Cllrs. Prior to the meeting)

### Planning Applications:

**25/00586** - Single-storey front, side and rear extensions together with raising the height of the roof following demolition of existing conservatory and front extension to garage - **60 Blean Common.**

**Blean Parish Council object to this application due to concerns that the level of upwards extension will increase the height of the building by approx. 1.3m which will dominate the neighbouring properties and detract from the street scene. Apart from setting a precedent it will detract from the character of the street and dominate the surrounding area.**

**25/00584** - Single-storey side extension with dormers to front elevation following the demolition of existing garage - **Hollydene, Pean Hill**

**Blean Parish Council has no objection to this application.**

**25/00574** - T.P.O. no 26 1990- T1- Oak tree located in rear garden- 2m reduction - **127 Blean Common.**

**Blean Parish Council comment that it is stated there is no issue with disease, there is no risk of it falling, there is no damage to property and there is no commentary that gives a reason for this work so, therefore, cannot understand why this work needs to be carried out on a native Oak.**

**Decisions by CCC:** None.

### Appeals

**Appeal Ref: APP/J2210/W/23/3332825**

**24 School Lane**

**Retrospective application for single-storey detached agricultural storage.**

**Awaiting Decision.**

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## **Sheet 2448**

### **Blean Common Development.**

Blean resident, Mr Bentley, had copied the Parish Council into an email he had sent to Fernham Homes (Blean Common Development) regarding them not communicating with residents following a lot of work happening on the site and various colours being painted on the road. Fernham Homes have replied that the work being carried out at the present time is archeological work.

Cllr. Jeffers said he hoped that CCC would make sure that when all the work starts the Conditions will have all been discharged. Ward Cllr. Jupe said she has asked for Conditions but has had no response. Cllr. Jeffers said that we need the work plan and the pre-conditions plan. The Parish Council will write to Fernham Homes and CCC copied to KCC.

Cllr. Hutt spoke of the discussions that had been had with CCC regarding the road names of the site which will have a historical link.

Ward Cllr. Ricketts left the meeting at 8pm.

### **10. Reports from Ward Cllrs:**

#### **10.1 Ward Cllr. Jupe:**

Reported on the elections and the fact that she has been put forward to be Sheriff of Canterbury which she was very excited about and everyone at the meeting wished her well.

#### **10.2 Ward Cllr. Smith:**

Reported on the Boundary Commission changes which have been passed.

### **11. Reports and Updates:**

**11.1 Village Hall Report:** - No report.

#### **11.2 N.H.W:**

All relevant reports are circulated to Cllrs. weekly.

#### **11.3 Footpath Report: Cllr. Samuelson.**

Still overgrown.

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

Large volume of traffic.

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2449

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

Cllr. Akers has arranged the next Speedwatch session.

### **11.6 Clerks Report.**

Nothing further to report that is not already included in the agenda.

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

David Gammon asked what was happening at St. Peters Place.

Cllr. Jupe said that it was going to be an area where pedestrians have the right of way over traffic.

### **13. Matters to be discussed and updates on pending projects:** (Any relevant papers circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting)

**13.1 Update: Change of Status of the green lane C & W Way** – there has been no further update.

### **13.2 Update: Donation of Bench by a resident for the Nature Reserve (Keirs Meadow).**

It will be sited in the Nature Reserve by Meadow Grange shortly.

### **14. Councillors' Reports:**

**14.1 Cllr. Samuelson** asked for the Parish Council to write to 'Save the Blean' group to ask for a fund-raising report.

**14.2 Cllr. King** mentioned that residents have asked about planning permission to put up mirrors to help when exiting Chapel Lane and Tyler Hill Road but it was established that no planning permission is required.

Cllr. King also reported that the café is to open next week.

**14.3 Cllr. Akers** asked what is happening about the .gov.uk email addresses. Cllr. Hutt said he has set up them up and the .gov.uk website address.

**14.4 Cllr. Hutt** spoke about the need for a Chairman and Treasurer for the village hall committee. Cllr. Russell will find out what is happening.

### **15. Any Other Business for discussion at the next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> June.**

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2450

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.36.

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

9<sup>th</sup> June

14<sup>th</sup> July

8<sup>th</sup> September

13<sup>th</sup> October

10<sup>th</sup> November

8<sup>th</sup> December.

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_