

Brook Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 19th September 2024 at 5.15pm at the Village Hall

Present: Cllr S Betty (Chairman) Cllr A Betty
Cllr Wood

The Clerk

To be actioned by

1.	To receive any Apologies for absence	
	The Clerk had not received any apologies for absence.	
2.	To receive declarations of interest (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests). The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared	
	No declarations of interest were made.	
3.	To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2024	
	Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 18th July 2024 be approved and confirmed as a true record. The minutes were duly signed.	
4.	To discuss any Matters Arising	
	The local plan meeting was well attended and the response was submitted following circulation to all Councillors. The Village Hall Committee agreed to discuss the booking of the recreation ground at their meeting, news on this is anticipated soon. The defibrillator has been checked and replacement signs installed.	
5.	To receive the Borough Councillor's Report	
	Cllr S Betty had provided a report that had been circulated. The new MP has an office in Park Street. The planning appeal report was discussed. The Parish Council can apply for up to £500 Ward Member Grant funding. Other local groups can request some funding too.	
6.	Public session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item.	
	There were no members of the public in attendance.	
7.	To discuss a Litterpick	
	The litterpick was agreed for 16 th November at 10.30am.	
8.	To receive a KALC report	
	The KALC report was circulated.	
9.	Financial Matters	
	To note the Financial Position of the Parish Council There is currently £9,508.78 in the bank. To agree payments in accordance with the Budget Payments were agreed against the budget over expenditure and the payment schedule. The payments schedule was initialled by 2 Councillors.	
10.	To consider any changes to the Risk Assessment	
	There were no changes to be made.	
11.	To receive the Planning Report	
	No Planning report was received. It was noted that the Oast View planning application had created an issue for the Planning committee	

	as 2 Councillors had to declare an interest. Cllr Betty had stepped in but this would mean he is unable to represent Brook at the Planning Committee.	
12.	To receive an update regarding the Recreation Ground	
	<p>a) An update on the Play Area including grant applications This has not moved on, Cllr Wood reported that she has discussed the plan with Mr Hanton and it is hoped that there will be a plan for the Parish Council to view at the November meeting and it is hoped that the Christmas morning at the Village Hall would be an ideal opportunity to present the plan to the village. Grants have not yet been applied for and Cllr Betty agreed to introduce Cllr Wood to Makala Thomas at Ashford Borough Council regarding grant applications.</p> <p>b) To receive an update in discussions about the use of the Recreation ground An issue arose around the hiring of the recreation ground and the "Summer Bash." This event was run by a parent of Brook Primary School. This caused some anxiety due to the lack of communication regarding the license and insurances.</p>	
13.	To receive any updates on Highways/Environment	
	There was no update to be received.	
14.	To receive a Caretaker report	
	<p>The Caretaker Committee will be meeting on 20th September to discuss the contingency plans should something happen to the Caretaker. Cllr Wood asked whether the Caretaker should be maintaining the Churchyard. The Chairman explained that this is not an asset of ABC, KCC or Brook Parish Council so is not the responsibility of the Caretaker. The Museum and Smeeth School are both part of the Caretaker additional workloads that are invoiced for separately. Cllr Wood asked about the cost-effectiveness of the scheme and Cllr Betty explained that the Caretaker Scheme is more cost effective in the long run. Cllr Wood asked whether the Caretaker would be able to maintain planting on the recreation ground. This is not likely to be within his time allowance.</p>	
15.	Any Other Business	
	Cllr Betty encouraged Councillors to attend the Parish Forum on 15 th October.	
16.	Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council	
	<p>21st November 2024 16th January 2025 20th March 2025 15th May 2025</p>	