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ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – BRAMDEAN & HINTON AMPNER

Meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall, Wood Lane, Bramdean

Present: Matthew Morton (Chairman, Parish Council), Roger Huxstep (County Cllr), Amber Thacker (City Cllr), PCSO Siobhan Adnams, 5 Parish Councillors, Parish Clerk, 5 residents

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1. Apologies had been received from Mandy Bulloch, Seamus and Annabelle McLaughlin, Adrian Taylor, Hady and Victoria Wakefield

Matthew Morton proposed bringing forward Item 11 and this was agreed.

11. Report of Winchester Rural Neighbourhood Police

PCSO Adnams said that overall crime had decreased in the past 12 months as shown in the Crime Statistics for 2015/16: Anti Social Behaviour 4 (7); Burglary 1 (2); Criminal Damage 4 (11). Crime remained low due to the vigilance of local people. Current initiatives included Operation Falcon to urge the public not to leave valuables in unattended vehicles and Operation Liberal to curb rogue traders who targeted the elderly and vulnerable.

Answering a question from Jennifer Templeman, PCSO Adnams said the police should be informed of any concerns about selling on behalf of charities at the front door. David Templeman asked if the Road Traffic Camera van could be positioned at the top of Harnham Hill to deter speeding at the New Cheriton cross roads. PCSO Adnams said there were strict guidelines on positioning RTCs but she would enquire whether the proposed location was suitable. Mr Templeman also requested an update on noise from speeding motorcycles on the A272 and what further action could be taken. PCSO Adnams said noise was a matter for WCC Environmental Health: it was a difficult issue for Traffic Police because they could check exhausts of stationary motorcycles but the offenders tended not to frequent Loomies. Judith Willis reported excessive speeding around the blind bend by George Cann's. The RTC van visited Bramdean more often than other villages but PCSO Adnams would enquire whether the frequency could be increased. Cllr Huxstep stated that he had never received a reply from the Police & Crime Commissioner as to whether a gang of motor cyclists speeding through a village constituted anti-social behaviour. The Parish Council would take the matter up.

2. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were received.
3. Annual Report of the Parish Council given by Matthew Morton

I would like to begin by thanking my fellow Parish Councillors for all their help and support during the past year. Special thanks to Vice-Chairman, Barbara Holyome, who also represents this area on the South Downs National Park Authority. We are also grateful to Chris McCrystal for kindly agreeing to continue the good work begun by Mandy Bulloch in maintaining a wide range of information on the parish website (recently renamed [www.bhpc.org.uk](http://www.bhpc.org.uk)) over a four year cycle according to the Transparency Code.

Thanks are also due to our nominee on Blake's Educational Charity, Hazel Flindt, to our Internal Auditor, Seamus McLaughlin, and to Chris Day, Neighbourhood Watch Village Co-ordinator.

We are all most grateful to Flood Warden, Tony Harding, for his continued work to ensure that the outstanding remedial works agreed with HCC were carried out including those resulting from the flash floods last August. Thanks also to Justin Berryman, Deputy Flood Warden, and to residents and riparian owners for their continued co-operation.

We were delighted to nominate Val Wombell for a Mayor of Winchester's Community Award for her work as a Trustee for The Church in the Woods and for the village WI.

The Annual Parish Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015 was attended by four Parish Councillors, our County and City Councillors, a representative from the Police, The Clerk and 16 residents. Afterwards, Boniface Mpario talked about “The Masai Tribe of Kenya and Tanzania” and his life as a Senior Elder of the tribe.

Four Parish Council meetings were held in the past year. The Parish Council was represented at meetings organised by Winchester City Council, the Hampshire Association of Local Councils, the Winchester District Association of Local Councils, and at The Mayor’s Sunday Service. We adopted a Protocol for Public and Press Reporting Council Meetings, revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. The Parish Council also enrolled with the Pension Regulator.

During the past year we considered 16 planning applications (14 in 2014/15), now mainly viewed on-line. Parish Councillors have dealt with a range of topics from the aftermath of the flash floods to the nuisance of speeding motorcycles, the condition of the four parish bus shelters and objections to the possible closure of Alresford Library. The additional parking spaces constructed last summer appear to have significantly reduced congestion in Woodlane Close. Residents of Bramdean Common were advised by WCC that the repair of the official access tracks was their responsibility and that it was not permitted to create additional tracks. The information leaflets for the new cycle route have finally been published and it is understood that the brown cycle loop signs will be removed shortly.

The Parish Council met with representatives from the National Trust regarding access to All Saints, Hinton Ampner following the decision to close the Hinton Hill gates. The Rector referred the matter of free access to a place of worship to the Diocesan Solicitor. The gates will be open daily 7.00 am – 7.00pm until the matter has been resolved.

The Parish Council registered its concern about the proposal to replace a regular police presence with fixed cameras on the A272 and A32 Police checks at different times of the day confirmed that speeding was a significant problem in Wood Lane. It is understood that checks will be made at regular intervals. A larger “Unsuitable for HGVs” sign was installed at the bottom of Wood Lane to deter large vehicles.

The Precept for 2015/16 was £7000.00 including Council Tax Support (CTS) of £353.66 and we carry forward a balance of £7376.52.

#### 4. Parish Council Accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 subject to audit

| Receipts                 | 14/15    | 15/16    | Payments             | 14/15   | 15/16   |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Balance b/fwd            | 5170.66  | 5997.33  | Admin/Sundries       | 663.27  | 912.53  |
| Donations                | -        | -        | Capital Spending     | 995.00  | -       |
| Grant Aid                | 495.00   | 424.05   | Clerk’s Pay          | 2935.66 | 3147.82 |
| Refunds, etc             | -        | -        | Donations            | 698.00  | 791.00  |
|                          |          |          | Insurance/Legal      | 427.94  | 440.78  |
| Precept/CTS*             | 7000.00  | 7000.00  | Subscriptions        | 290.00  | 294.00  |
| <i>Recreation Ground</i> |          |          |                      |         |         |
| Donations                | -        | -        | Capital Spending     | -       | -       |
| Grant Aid                | -        | 700.00   | Sundries/Maintenance | 670.96  | 1199.97 |
| Refunds, etc             | -        |          |                      |         |         |
| VAT recovered            | 353.34   | 331.65   | VAT                  | 340.84  | 290.41  |
|                          | 13019.00 | 14453.03 |                      | 7021.67 | 7076.51 |
|                          |          |          | Total c/fwd          | 5997.33 | 7376.52 |

## Receipts

Precept\*: 7000.00 (Council Tax Support 353.66)

Grant Aid: 424.05 (NALC re improvements to website)

*Recreation Ground.*

Donations: -

Grant Aid: - 700.00 (Repairs to playground equipment, HPFA 500.00, FOBC 200.00)

VAT: 353.34

## Payments

Admin/Sundries: 912.53 (room hire, copying, postage, stationery, broadband/telephone, website, election fees, etc)

Capital Expenditure: -

Clerk's Pay: 3147.82 (hours increased from 234 to 255 pa)

Donations: 791.00 (churchyards including War Memorial, NATT minibus, CAB)

Insurance/Legal: 440.78.04 (no Legal costs)

Subscriptions: 294.00 (CPRE, HALC/NALC, HPFA)

*Recreation Ground.*

Capital Spending: -

Sundries/Maintenance: 1199.97 (safety inspection, petrol for mower, repairs/replacements to play equipment, etc)

VAT: 290.41

#### 5. Report of the Recreation Committee given by Kashy Hawkings

I would like to thank my fellow committee members Tony Harding, Graham Budd, Anne Newson, Adrian Taylor and Rachael Greenwood for their continued support this year and in particular to Adrian who manages and maintains the Rec so beautifully throughout the year. We have in the past year had to replace four rotten wooden upright posts on the Twist which luckily fell under the guarantee and Playdale, the installers, have also under guarantee replaced one of the cradle swing seats which was cracking. Not under guarantee were the cargo and scrambling nets on the Twist which have had to be replaced and we were fortunate enough to obtain donations from Hampshire Playing Fields Association, Friends of Bramdean Children and the Parish Council. The hard court required annual moss treatment but it is still in very good condition and does get a lot of use from our local children. The other pieces of equipment around the ground require pressure washing and a repaint from time to time to keep them looking as good as they do. All thanks go to Adrian for his hard work in doing this.

6. James Bulloch presented the accounts (subject to audit) of Blake's Educational Charity, Reg No 307197. Two new Trustees had been appointed in the past year: Nigel Lee in place of Jim Lovelock and Roger Huxstep in place of Susan Glasspool. Income had increased slightly to £18,957.18 (£18489.56). The Trust remained healthy: 50 grants had been awarded during the past year including for swimming lessons and tennis coaching. Answering a question from David Templeman, Mr Bulloch said feedback from grantees tended to be letters of thanks which were unsuitable for publication in Church & Village as the identity of recipients must remain anonymous.
7. The accounts of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner Village Hall, Reg No 301764, were laid before the meeting. Those present were invited to direct any queries to the Treasurer, Gordon Cooper.
8. As the accounts of The Friends of Bramdean Children were not available, those present were invited to direct any queries to the Treasurer, Sarah Densham.
9. Report of Mr Roger Huxstep, County Councillor

Cllr Huxstep reported that HCC had held talks with South East Trains with a view to achieving a faster smoother service from the South Coast to Waterloo. Hampshire Children's Services were ranked within the top five of the south east region and education standards at KS2 had improved year on year for the past four years. The percentage of pupils achieving five GCSEs at grade C had also continued to increase. The HCC element of the Council Tax had been increased by 3.99% (80p per week for Band D). Bramdean and Hinton Ampner had been transferred from the Cheriton & Bishops Sutton to the Bishops Waltham Division

Following the recent consultation on the future of the library service, the Mobile Library Service would be disbanded in June being no longer economic for such a small number of users. The future of Household Waste Recycling Centres was also under review. It was vital for residents to respond to the consultation, ideally by completing a paper copy of the questionnaire. Residents were also urged to make the case to retain

the Alresford site to the MPs for Alresford and the Meon Valley; also to the HCC Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport.

In the discussion that followed, David Templeman queried the geographical coverage of the mobile telephone service. Cllr Huxstep said this was a nationwide problem. HCC hoped to take up the issue but there was unlikely to be any improvement in the foreseeable future.

10. Report of Mrs Amber Thacker, City Councillor

Mrs Thacker also stressed that it was important for residents to press for the retention of the Alresford Recycling Centre to prevent an increase in fly-tipping and carbon emissions. The WCC element of the Council Tax had been increased by 3.99% (9p per week for Band D).

In the discussion that followed Chris McCrystal enquired whether WCC could expand household recycling to include the collection of glass if the Alresford site was closed.

12. Any other business

Barbara Holyome announced that each household in the parish would receive a leaflet publicising The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration at the Jubilee Recreation Ground on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

Matthew Morton said the WI Village Scrapbook compiled in 1951 would be on view during the interval.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

The meeting was followed by "Help": An introduction to the Citizens Advice Service by Rachel Aron (Vice-Chair, Citizens Advice Winchester District. The CAB was set up at the outbreak of war in 1939 to help citizens cope with what might lie ahead and nearly 80 years later, thanks to the amazing work of volunteer advisers, help was still available with problems ranging from debt, relationships and unemployment to identifying the cremated remains of a pet hamster!

MM/RG