

BRAMDEAN & HINTON AMPNER PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 19th January 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Wood Lane, Bramdean

Present: Mr M Morton (Chairman), Mr G Budd, Mrs M Bulloch, Mrs K Hawkings, Mr A Harding, Mrs B Holyome (Vice-Chairman), Mr C McCrystal, Mr R Huxstep (County Cllr), Mr H Verney (City Cllr), PC P McShea, PCSO M Wilkinson, Mrs R Greenwood (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

None.

2. Disclosure of interests on agenda items

Mrs Hawkings declared an interest in a planning application under Item 8. Mr Harding declared an interest in business to be transacted under Item 15. There were no other declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests or personal/prejudicial interests in respect of items on the agenda.

3. Public session

PCSO Wilkinson presented the Crime Statistics 20/10/14 to present: incidents of damage to fields in Hinton Ampner in pursuit of game and one burglary to a property in Bramdean. PC McShea recommended vigilance following the recent theft of two trailers from Kilmeston. Due to further staff reductions, there would only be two PCs at Alresford Police Station; five PCSOs would be retained. Early morning use the hand held gun to catch speeding motorcyclists had been marred by fog but some major operations were planned on the A32 and A272 in 2015, including Sunday mornings. The new owners of Loomies cafe were keen to work with the Police. There had been fewer incidents with travellers on Bramdean Common and less antisocial behaviour possibly due to keeping the grass longer. The Clerk would provide PC McShea and Cllr Verney with a copy of Susan Croker's recent letter to residents regarding the use of unauthorised access tracks.

Cllr Huxstep understood that options were being explored to provide superfast broadband to isolated rural areas by fibre optic cable or satellite. Parish Councillors noted that a large green telecommunications control box had recently been installed at the bottom of Wood Lane. This issue and others were contained in a report from Cllr Huxstep (to be circulated).

Cllr Verney had no further information regarding the proposed visit by Elizabeth Truss (Secretary of State for Environment) to the parish en route to/from Hambledon.

4. Approval of minutes of Parish Council meeting – 20th October 2014

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters reviewed from minutes of Parish Council meeting – 20th October 2014

On 13th November, Cllr Verney advised that his enquiry into the rise in heating bills for WCC tenants in Woodlane Close following installation of heat source pumps had been passed to the Building Services Manager responsible for replacing solid fuel and storage systems with renewable technology. On 9th January 2015, Steve White advised that the indicative running cost data forming the backbone of the WCC heating strategy document was under discussion.

On 14th November, WCC confirmed that the project to create additional parking spaces (up to six) in Woodlane Close was likely to be tendered by January 2015. It was understood that the consultation with residents had been positive. There was no news about providing residents' parking spaces opposite the Jubilee Recreation Ground.

Mr Budd believed the bottom of the Hinton Hill junction to be clear of gravel.

In November, parish representatives had again met Senior Police personnel to discuss the nuisance of speeding motorcyclists, both approaching noise and through the villages. One measure under consideration was standardisation of speed limits to 50 mph and 30 mph through villages.

6. Recreation Committee

In response to comments about The Twist in the annual playground inspection report by Dunlop Playground Services Ltd, on 24th October Playdale Playgrounds agreed to replace gratis the four upright timber posts (covered by 15 year guarantee which expired in 2015) and install the posts at a cost of £195 + VAT (confirmed 4th November, timing of works awaited). The 2015 inspection would be carried before the end of March (cost £37.80 + VAT). Clearway would be requested to eradicate the moss on the hard court (last treated November 2011). Anne Newson would investigate whether the plaque on the top fence to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee celebrations could be placed in a more prominent position. The Recreation Committee was pleased to hear that the 2014 tennis coaching had been so successful and wished The Friends of Bramdean Children well for the future.

7. Finance

7.1 Accounts

The Lloyds Bank account was £7999.32 in credit to 31st December 2014 (£7137.36 to date).

Cheques raised since last meeting

367	NATT donation to minibus 14/15	70.00
368	HMRC re R Greenwood 1 Oct – 31 Dec	141.00
369	R Greenwood pay/expenses 1 Oct – 31	606.96
370	WCC DBS check R Greenwood	44.00
371	CPRE sub 15/16	36.00

7.3 Budget 2015/16- and Precept

For 2014/15, it was assumed that there would be no expenditure on bus shelters, notice boards or audit/legal up to 31st March (surplus funds available if needed). For 2015/16, the sum of £100 had been allocated in case WCC levied a fee for the General Election. The budget for 2015/16 was agreed accordingly.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Precept should remain at £7000.00. As the Council Tax Support Grant for 2015/16 was £353.66, the total due from WCC was £6646.34.

8. Planning

8.1 Decisions received (circulated)

SDNP/13/02460/HOUS -Tanners Farm, Bramdean. Alterations to permitted permission SDNP/12/01651/HOUS. Single storey rear extension after removal of existing greenhouse, internal alterations and fenestration changes to east facing elevation. **Resubmission.**

PC – Support SDNP – Approved

SDNP/14/0324/HOUS - White Oaks, Bramdean. Single storey and 2 storey rear extension and associated internal alterations.

PC – Comment SDNP – Approved

SDNP/14/04572/LIS – Hinton Ampner House. Renewal of copper flat roof to main house; installation of safe access system and alteration to existing roof access, additional lightning protection tapes, internal roof insulation and lining to attic spaces.

PC – Support SDNP – Approved

SDNP/14/05897/LIS. Porch Cottage, Bramdean. Ground floor internal alterations and alterations to 2 external door openings.

PC – Support SDNP – Approved

8.2 Decisions awaited

SDNP/14/04124/HOUS & 04126/LIS - Hinton Woodlands Farm. Repair, erect and renovate collapsed barn to provide ancillary accommodation to the main dwelling.

PC – Support SDNP - Awaited

SDNP/14/05208/HOUS – Bramdean Farmhouse. Oak framed orangery extension.

PC – Support SDNP - Awaited

SDNP/14/06525/HOUS-26/LIS – Hinton Woodlands Farm. Replacement of extant planning permission with revised proposal to extend read of property.

PC – Awaited SDNP – Awaited

8.3 Other matters

On 21st November, Alex Shattock (Business Support Manager) confirmed by email that WCC would continue to send out paper copies of planning applications that required parish consultation.

Mrs Holyome advised that the outcome of a meeting on Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) to identify sites which had potential for housing in the SDNP would be in the public domain on 23rd January.

9. Flooding Update

Mr Harding reported that despite recent dry weather groundwater levels were similar to that recorded at the West Meon bore hole in January 2014. Regarding the possibility of additional drainage pipes under the A272 from properties west of Bramdean Garage, Highways did not favour the flow of water from private properties through public drainage pipes.

Mr Harding would report the following matters for attention:

The run-off drain from Tanners Lane had been cleared but as it still had to be cleared it every two days, the sides either should be concreted or a grill installed.

A drain was required by Maple Cottage to prevent the A272 from flooding.

Spoil needed to be cleared from the highway verge following the ditch clearance in Bramdean to prevent slippage and further congestion.

The drainage pipe under the A272 at the Hinton crossroads was blocked although the ditch which flows into it from Primrose Cottages had been cleared.

Mr Morton had posted a public acknowledgement to the riparian owners in the December issue of "Church & Village".

Mr Harding would advise the Parish Council if a high-visibility jacket for the new Deputy Flood Warden could not be provided from existing stock.

10. Highway Report

The following outstanding matters had been brought to the attention of the new Assistant Highway Engineer, Lisa Davis:

Dig deeper grips either side of bus shelter at Brockwood Dean to carry water away from road.

Treat highway footpath, Church Lane to Maple Cottage, with weed killer; cut back off-side edge.

Replace missing reflector posts by Maple Cottage, Bramdean, and on bend below Bramdean Common.

Cut back the verge at the bottom of Hinton Hill (right hand side) further to improve sightlines for vehicles turning onto the A272 and clear a quantity of gravel from the bottom of the junction.

Action removal of the yellow sign for the Hampshire Smokery and Gun Room (top of common) probably supplied during the closure of the A272.

Repair numerous pot holes along Brockwood Bottom.

HCC had been advised that the white lines in Wood Lane needed reinstatement following the last resurfacing works (21136888). The middle section of FP 503/504 from the Jubilee Recreation Ground to the A272 was very muddy (111004461295). This was a safer pedestrian route to the A272 than Wood Lane and it was hoped the gravel surface could be replaced in the spring.

Susan Coker nee´ Bragg (WCC Head of Landscape & Open Spaces) would be reminded to verify that the grass bank bounding 19 Woodlane Close had been added to WCC map for cutting under the Highways contract; whether bank-verge cutting issues had been resolved with The Landscape Group; whether Highways would reconsider selling the bank to the owners of 19 Woodlane Close. Comments on the draft text of the Winchester Cycle Route had been forwarded to Elaina Whittaker-Slark. It was a matter of great disappointment that the brown loop signs still had not been removed (reminder to be sent).

11. Bramdean Common

On 7th January 2015, Susan Coker wrote to all residents to remind them of the legal situation regarding unauthorised access across Bramdean Common and of their responsibilities to repair and maintain access tracks. Mrs Coker also wrote to the owners of 1-4 Wood Farm Cottages to remind them of their legal responsibility to maintain the access track to the properties. The Clerk had drawn up a Note on Ownership regarding properties not listed with the Land Registry. If the unauthorised tracks continued to be used, WCC would take legal action. The Parish Council would pass any local information on unauthorised use to Mrs Croker.

Mrs Coker had also been asked to source funds to display the new rates of fines for breaking the existing byelaws, to arrange removal of the illegal arrow sign by Elm Cottage for the smokery and to confirm whether cut grass would be removed from the common.

The Parish Council discussed correspondence from Nigel Webb dated 13th and 18th November concerning the damage caused by the use of unauthorised tracks. It was agreed to advise Mr Webb of recent action taken by the landowner, WCC, to address this matter.

12. Annual Parish Meeting - Monday 27th April 2015

The Clerk would contact the first choice of speaker and advise Parish Councillors of the outcome.

13. Child Protection Policy

The Clerk and the Voluntary Groundsman had satisfactorily completed DBS checks. The Clerk would arrange to attend a training course for Child Protection Liaison Officers organised by the HCC Workforce Development Team.

14. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

The first draft of the revised Standing Orders would be circulated for comment with advice from HALC and NALC together with the HCC standing order which replaced the former order on public rights to film, photograph or record meetings. David Blakemore (WCC Democratic Services Manager) had advised that the City Council was still considering its revised protocol but it was likely to be similar to the HCC model. The revised Financial Regulations would be circulated for further comment when revisions had been made to the first draft of the new Standing Orders.

15. Vodafone Rural Open Sure Signal Programme

On 10th December, The Clerk escorted Adam Harley and Sean Hawkings (Vodafone) and Dan Mayer (Net) around Bramdean. If the village met the programme criteria, Net would conduct a full survey; the installation would be carried out by Vodafone. The Parish Council considered the Initial Rural Village Survey Report. Of the five sites surveyed, Vodafone favoured the Village Hall. It was understood that the matter would be raised at the AGM of the Village Hall Committee on 29th January. The Parish Council would await developments with interest.

16. Correspondence

The Parish Council had been invited to comment on the Rights of Way Vegetation Priority Cutting Lists for 2015 (deadline 1st February).

Andrew Giles had been appointed WCC Tree Officer (area included the Upper Itchen parishes).

17. Reports from Parish Councillors and Clerk

Mr McCrystal attended the WCC Parish Training on the Code of Conduct on 21st October.

Eric Simpson attended the Winchester Passenger Transport Forum on 12th November.

Chris Ashcroft (WCC Electoral Services) had advised that WCC kept most records for six years. As information on the election of councillors was officially minuted, it was agreed that Declarations of Acceptance of Office could be shredded after the duration of a councillor's term of office.

The Parish website would be a standard item on the agenda for future Parish Council meetings.

It was agreed that in future material should be circulated in waterproof envelopes or folders.

18. Items to be considered for the next meeting

Affordable Housing
Financial Regulations
Parish Website
Standing Orders

19. Date of next meeting and calendar for 2015

Monday 18th May 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Bramdean.

The Parish Council would also meet at 7.30 pm on Mondays 20th July and 19th October.

The Annual Parish Meeting would be held at 8 pm on Monday 27th April.

The meeting closed at 9.28 pm.

MM/RG