

BRAMDEAN & HINTON AMPNER PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 21st July 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Wood Lane, Bramdean

Present: Mr M Morton (Chairman), Mr G Budd, Mrs M Bulloch, Mr A Harding, Mrs K Hawkings, Mrs B Holyome (Vice-Chairman), Mr R Huxstep (County Cllr for Item 3), Mr C McCrystal, Mrs R Greenwood (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

PC McShea and PCSO Wilkinson (rest day)

2. Disclosure of interests on agenda items

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests or personal/prejudicial interests in respect of items on the agenda.

3. Public session

Cllr Huxstep reported on the meeting at Manchester House on 11th July attended by George Hollingbery MP. The meeting would have been more valuable if Environment Agency personnel had been present. A statement of actual works to be carried out, which would inevitably cause traffic disruption, was expected by early August. Cllr Huxstep agreed to follow up if the report had not been received by 5th August. In answer to a query from Mr Morton, Cllr Huxstep acknowledged that HCC was responsible for co-ordinating flood remedial works between the Environment Agency and its parishes. Cllr Huxstep would press HCC to ensure that the Environment Agency was positively engaged. Cllr Huxstep would also press the Environmental Agency to ensure that riparian owners carried out necessary remedial works.

4. Approval of minutes of Parish Council meeting – 9th June 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 – 9th June 2014

Mr Harding had made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Parish Councillor.

Parish Councillors' Completed Disclosures of Pecuniary Interests had been lodged with WCC.

Cllr Verney would be reminded to take up the rise in heating bills for WCC tenants in Woodlane Close, following installation of heat source pumps, with the Cabinet Member for Housing.

Cllr Verney would be reminded to ask the Cheriton Flood Warden whether the sluice gate by Riverside Cottages was operational. Mr Budd advised that there was no trace of a sluice gate at

Hinton Marsh. The bridge below Primrose Cottages should be restored: the water needed to be held back to avoid flooding Cheriton.

Cllr Verney would also be reminded to press for camper-caravan traffic from London for the A32/A272 for the Boomtown Fair at Cheesefoot Head on 7th-10th August to arrive via the A31 and to depart via the A272/A32.

Mr Laker was presented with rose bushes at the Annual Parish Meeting on 30th June. An appreciation of his work as Parish Councillor since October 1994 and Chairman of the Recreation Committee since 2001 appeared in the July issue of "Church & Village".

Mrs Flindt had been confirmed as the Parish Council's nominee to: Blake's Educational Charity.

Cllr Verney would be asked to confirm whether WCC had allocated funding in 2014/15 to remove the wide section of verge outside 15-16 Woodlane Close to create additional parking spaces; also some residents' parking spaces opposite the Jubilee Recreation Ground.

Mrs Holyome had nothing further to report on options which might be available to the parish following the selection of Rogate (West Sussex) for the road safety pilot scheme.

A letter of thanks for hosting an Open Evening on 6th June had been sent to Peter and Mandy Boxall, the new licensees of The Fox public house.

6. Approval of minutes of Annual Parish Meeting – 30th June 2014

It was noted that some minor typographical errors had been corrected for the copy pasted into minute book (revised version to be included with papers for next Annual Parish Meeting). The minutes of the meeting were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. Matters reviewed from minutes of Annual Parish Meeting – 30th June 2014

It was noted from the HCC Flood Alleviation Strategy for the Itchen Valley that Bramdean and Hinton Ampner would be included in bids for flood alleviation projects, there would be a strategy to complement the existing Flood Risk Management Strategy, small scale flood alleviation measures and on-going maintenance. The full text had been attached to the minutes.

Cllr Verney understood that the Environment Agency planned some additional clearance from The Old Rectory to move the water onwards. There might be some EU funding for this work.

David Templeman requested that a strategic and tactical report be obtained from the Environment Agency and attached to the minutes. Cllr Huxstep had undertaken to take this request forward.

Ms Pippa Deakin described the extensive flood damage to her home (Manchester House). The camber of the road fell directly into the old and porous boundary wall. It was requested that curb drains be provided from The Old Cottage to Manchester House.

Mrs Lisa McCrystal (The Old Cottage) said that existing drainage was clearly insufficient and asked why dredging had not been prioritised after agreement in the 2002 Environment Agency/Halcrow report that it was required annually. Assurances were sought that in future ditches would be dredged annually in September-October.

The Environment Agency should be pressed to enforce clearance of ditches in riparian ownership.

The Parish Council had agreed to publicise the Community Speed Watch initiative in a future issue of “Church & Village”, although there was reason to believe that the scheme might not be suitable for a major route like the A272.

Gordon Gardner (NT Property Manger) had requested assistance from local residents to guide visitors back to official paths rather than walking across farmland and damaging crops. Mr Gardner was invited to publicise the matter in a future issue of “Church & Village”.

Mrs Judith Willis drew attention to a discrepancy in fare prices on the 67 bus. Stagecoach was more expensive than Xelabus: Stagecoach tickets were accepted on Xelabus but not vice versa. The Parish Council would ensure that the matter was raised with the appropriate authority.

Afterwards, Nigel Lee looked back on “Growing up in Bramdean in the 50s and 60s”. With photographs past and present, especially of much loved buildings no longer standing, there was plenty to interest those who had lived in Bramdean at the time and those who arrived later.

8. Recreation Committee

Mrs Hawkings became Chairman and Mr Budd joined the Committee. The annual playground inspection report by Dunlop Playground Services Ltd was generally satisfactory. Arrangements were in hand to carry out repairs suggested in the report. The possibility of fitting a key-less combination padlock, providing it was suitably heavy duty, to the maintenance gate in the top fence would be considered. Some of the shrubs were in need of cutting back and any dead wood should be dug up. The Friends of Bramdean Children had advertised the tennis coaching for 18th-22nd August. Regarding the adoption of a child protection policy, all members of the Committee agreed to undertake a DBS check in due course.

9. Finance

9.1 Accounts

The Lloyds Bank account was £7357.49 in credit to 30th June (£6316.06 to date) including £89.57 (VAT reclaim).

Cheques raised since last meeting:

353	The Rowans Hospice in lieu of APM speaker's fee 30 June	50.00
354	R Greenwood pay/expenses 1 Apr – 30 June	644.49
355	HMRC re R Greenwood 1 Apr – 30 June	141.00

356	A Taylor groundsman's honorarium	200.00
357	A Harding wine for APM 30 June	35.94
358	HALC Governance & Accountability for Local Councils 2014	20.00

Cheque signed at the meeting

359	Wizbit Internet Services Ltd parish website	1194.00
-----	---	---------

The budget had been revised to show the final figures for 2013/14. For 2014/15, it was agreed to decrease the allocation for Rec Improvements from £1000 to £500 and to allocate £1000 for Flooding, possibly as match funding for remedial works if no other support was forthcoming. The revised budget for 2014/15 and draft budget for 2015/16 would be reviewed at the next meeting.

HALC had awarded £25 from the Came & Co Bursary Fund for New Councillor training.

On 10th June, Zurich Insurance plc offered a quote of £506 (required by 23rd May) for the Parish Council to compare with the enhanced policy accepted from Hiscox of £427.94 with LTA to 2017.

9.2 Audit 2013/14

BDO LLP, Southampton, commenced external audit on 30th June.

10. Planning

10.1 Decisions received (circulated) to follow

SDNP/13/02485/HOUS – 3 Woodcote Cottages, Bramdean. Two storey side and rear extension.

Appeal to Secretary of State. Permission granted 23rd April 2014.

SDNP/14/01238/LIS - Bramdean Cottage. Open previously blocked doorway between kitchen and breakfast room.

PC – Support

SDNP – Approved

SDNP/14/0265//LIS - The Old Rectory, Bramdean. Internal alterations ... ensuite for master bedroom; existing bedroom into bedroom and bathroom; additional bathroom to western end; 2 small bathrooms into larger bathroom; enclosure of open timber porch on eastern elevation.

PC – Support

SDNP - Approved

10.2 Decisions awaited

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 – Awaited

SDNP/14/02065/HOUS - The Gomms, Bramdean. Single storey first floor and rear extension, internal alterations including removal of kitchen and cloak room walls, block doorway between bedrooms 1 and 2, addition of window to first floor and bay window to east elevation, replace porch with window.

PC – Support

SDNP – Awaited

10.3 Other matters

Following a public enquiry (SDNP/13/00071/REF), on 11th June permission was granted for two Arts & Crafts dwellings with garages at Wolfhanger Farm, Bramdean (SDNP/12/01248/FUL), subject to clearing the site of asbestos (available details circulated).

The Clerk was asked to make enquiries regarding a possible re-application for housing at Old Park Wood Industrial Estate, Bishop's Sutton, in place of the waste transfer site.

On 27th June 2014, The Clerk participated in a BMG telephone survey for the SDNPA, in particular regarding plans to phase out paper copies of planning applications from October 2014. Mrs Holyome had received assurances to the contrary and would make further enquiries.

11. Flooding Update

The current survey to identify constrictions and breakages in the drainage system begun on 13th June was completed on 9th July. The CCTV images would identify the repairs and arrangements made to carry them out. The highway ditches would be re-dug.

Following the site visit by Richard Sykes (HCC Highways Manager) and Tom Waldron (HCC Assistant Highway Engineer) on 10th July, it was understood that HCC would provide curb drains from The Old Cottage to Manchester House as a goodwill gesture: the drains would take ground water rather than highway water.

Mr Morton and Mr Harding attended the meeting with George Hollingbery MP, Owen Millward, Cllr Huxstep, Cllr Verney and residents at Manchester House on 11th July.

The Parish Council understood that Ms Pippa Deakin had suggested residents formed a Bramdean Action Flood Plan Committee. Ms Deakin had been given a note on the Bramdean Flood Action Group formed in 2001. In the discussion that followed, it was agreed to suggest residents formed an independent Flood Action Group, with the flexibility to concentrate on representing interested parties, if they wished. As the remit of the Parish Council was to act in the interests of, and to promote the views of the whole parish, the group should be separate from the Parish Council. The Parish Council was unable to issue a mandate or allocate funds outside its remit. Mr Harding (Flood Warden) would be willing to attend meetings as an observer, in a non-voting capacity, and to inform the Parish Council of progress. The Parish Council would welcome a copy of the minutes of any official meetings of the group. Mr Morton and The Clerk would draft a response accordingly, for circulation to all Parish Councillors for comment, prior to despatch to Ms Deakin.

Cllr Verney had been requested to update the Parish Council regarding the proposed visit by Elizabeth Truss (Secretary of State for Environment) to the parish en route to/from Hambledon.

12. Highway Report

There had been no response from Tom Waldron (HCC Assistant Highway Engineer) regarding the request on 8th July to action the following matters:

Dig deeper grips either side of bus shelter at Brockwood Dean to carry water away from road.
Remove redundant metal posts belonging to chevron formerly at bottom of Wood Lane. Treat highway footpath from Church Lane to Maple Cottage with weed killer and 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.

After discussion, Mr Budd agreed to clear the gravel from the bottom of the Hinton Hill junction and also to request the occupier of the property nearest to the junction (right hand side) to cut back the hedge bounding the A272.

In due course, a site meeting would be arranged with Susan Bragg (WCC Head of Landscape & Open Spaces) to discuss issues: eg whether 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 Hampshire Highways would reconsider selling the land to the owners of 19 Woodlane Close.

Mrs Holyome had obtained the draft text of the Winchester Cycle Route (to be circulated for comment). The brown cycle signs could not be removed until the leaflet was available.

WCC had noted that the Parish Council would prefer to sow the WW1 poppy seed to mark the centenary of the end of hostilities in 2018.

On 11th July, the removal of the yellow sign for the Hampshire Smokery and Gun Room (top of common) was referred to Tom Waldron (it was probably linked to the closure of the A272).

13. Bramdean Common

Susan Bragg would be asked to take up Damian Offer's letter of 6th January regarding maintenance of various access tracks to properties adjoining Bramdean Common and whether there had been any problems collecting refuse. Mrs Bragg would also be 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 smoker and to confirm whether cut grass would be removed from the common.

14. Affordable Housing

The full text of the recent progress report from Mags Wylie (Rural Housing Enabler) had been circulated for information.

15. Parish Website

The quote from Wizbit Internet Services Ltd (Corhampton) dated 16th May (£995 + VAT, usually £1395 +VAT) was formally accepted on 30th June (invoice authorised for payment). The website would be "live" once Mrs Bulloch had approved the final amendments. Instructions on the Content

Management System to update the website, etc, were awaited. The Clerk would apply for a grant from the County Councillor's Devolved Budget. It might be possible to include some of the old photographs featured in Nigel Lee's the talk after the Annual Parish Meeting.

16. Child Protection Policy

A final decision was awaited from HCC as to whether the Parish Council's Child Protection Officer should undertake training and which personnel should be DBS checked. It was agreed to query why an age limit of up to 25 years applied to persons with learning difficulties. The revised text would be circulated for further comment and would be an agenda item at the next meeting.

17. Vision Statement, Strategic Plan and Key Priorities 2014/15 onwards

Proposed amendments from Mrs Holyome would be circulated for comment and addition. A revised draft would be considered at the next meeting

18. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

On 23rd June, Mrs Holyome reported that the SDNPA was inviting Parish Councils to suggest projects which could be funded by the CIL. Flood alleviation work was outside the remit. Mrs Holyome would circulate details of projects submitted by other SDNP parishes.

19. Correspondence

It was understood that Chris Day would become Neighbourhood Watch Village Coordinator.

Parish Councillors had received a copy of the HALC booklet, "Serving Local Councils in Supporting Hampshire's Communities".

The latest version of the NALC Financial Regulations and the latest guidance on Risk Management would be circulated for comment.

20. Reports from Parish Councillors and Clerk

Mr McCrystal would attend the HALC Training Course for New Councillors in Winchester on 17th September and WCC Parish Training on the Code of Conduct at Bishop's Waltham on 21st October.

PC McShea would be asked to report the outcome of using the hand held gun to catch speeding motorcyclists early in the morning.

21. Items to be considered for the next meeting

Affordable Housing

Motorcycle Nuisance on the A272

NALC Financial Regulations

Parish Website

Risk Management

Vision Statement, Strategic Plan and Key Priorities 2014/15 onwards

31. Date of next meeting

Monday 20th October at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Bramdean.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

MM/RG