

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – BRAMDEAN & HINTON AMPNER

Meeting held on Monday 24th April 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Wood Lane, Bramdean

Present: Matthew Morton (Chairman, Parish Council), Roger Huxstep (County Cllr), PS Bethan Wood, 6 Parish Councillors, Parish Clerk, 15 residents and visitors

1. Apologies had been received from James Bulloch, Yasmin Curry, Sue Gerrard, Chris McCrystal, Cllr Laurence Ruffell, Cllr Amber Thacker, David Templeman, Jenny Templeman, George Upex, Judith Willis.
2. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 were received.
9. Report of Mr Roger Huxstep, County Councillor

The free magazine, “Hampshire Now”, had been replaced by an on-line newsletter, “Your Hampshire”. A permanent exhibition site had been found for the bi-annual Farnborough Air Show. The five Country Parks continued to achieve high standards. GCSE and A-level examination results in Hampshire schools continued to improve and exceed national average attainment. Council Tax had risen by 4.99% overall. Household waste charges at Recycling Centres had been confirmed but recent indications suggested Central Government might not approve their implementation and in the absence of county wide agreement, devolution was unlikely to be an option in Hampshire for the foreseeable future.

3. Annual Report of the Parish Council given by Matthew Morton

First of all, I would like to thank my fellow Parish Councillors for 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 and to Chris McCrystal for maintaining the parish website.

We are all most grateful to Flood Warden, Tony Harding, for his continued work to ensure that the autumn remedial works agreed with HCC were carried out, to Justin Berryman (Deputy Flood Warden) and to residents and riparian owners for their continued co-operation. Thanks also 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.

The past year saw the passing of two men who served this community well: former Parish Council Vice-Chairman, Ron Gerrard, and the last “Village Bobby” and Church-in-the Woods stalwart, Jim Lovelock.

The Annual Parish Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 was attended by five Parish Councillors, our County and City Councillors, a representative from the Police, the Clerk and 5 residents. The meeting was followed by “Help”, a talk by Rachel Aron on the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau. Four Parish Council meetings were held in the past year. The Parish Council was represented at The Mayor’s Sunday Service and at meetings organised by Winchester City Council, the Hampshire Association of Local Councils and the Winchester District Association of Local Councils.

During the past year we considered 22 planning applications (16 in 2015/16). The Parish Council participated in meetings on topics ranging from rural housing and crime to the future of local government in Hampshire, safeguarding adults and children and Southern Water’s Water Efficiency Project. The Parish Council pressed for the retention of the Alresford Recycling Centre for the

convenience of local people and to deter fly-tipping. The refuse bin outside Hinton Ampner cemetery has been emptied on a regular basis and the brown cycle loop signs were finally removed in August.

It is a matter of regret that HCC declined to carry out a formal review of the six speed limits currently in force along the A272. The Parish Council will continue to press for sensible speed limits over a reasonable distance and a rationalisation of signage. Potholes still constitute a considerable hazard on the local road network especially at the road edge on narrower roads where vehicles have little scope to avoid serious damage. There is concern that these repairs appear to have low priority. Since Wood Lane does not meet the criteria for checks by the speed camera van, "Slow" markings will be painted on the tarmac at either end of the 30 mph limit.

The Precept for 2065/17 was £7250.00 including Council Tax Support (CTS) of £361.01 and we carry forward a balance of £7340.98.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank County Councillor Roger Huxstep for his work on our behalf over the past four years: a parting of the ways as we will be in the Bishop's Waltham Division at the forthcoming elections.

#### 4. Parish Council Accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 subject to audit

Receipts	16/17	15/16	Payments	16/17	15/16
Balance b/fwd	7376.52	5997.33	Admin/Sundries	883.86	912.53
Donations	-	-	Capital Spending	-	-
Grant Aid	-	424.05	Clerk's Pay	3694.68	3147.82
Refunds, etc	-	-	Donations	981.00	791.00
			Insurance/Legal	436.89	440.78
Precept/CTS*	7250.00	7000.00	Subscriptions	294.00	294.00
<i>Recreation Ground</i>			<i>Recreation Ground</i>		
Donations	-	-	Capital Spending	-	-
Grant Aid	495.00	700.00	Sundries/Maintenance	1187.60	1199.97
Refunds, etc	-	-			
VAT reclaim	-	331.65	VAT	302.51	290.41
	15121.52	14453.03		7780.54	7076.51
			Total c/fwd	7340.98	7376.52

#### Receipts

Precept\*: 7250.00 (Council Tax Support 361.01)

Grant Aid: -

*Recreation Ground.*

Donations: -

Grant Aid: - 495.00 (new main entrance gate to Rec)

VAT: -

#### Payments

Admin/Sundries: 883.86 (room hire, copying, postage, stationery, broadband/telephone, website, course fee, etc)

Capital Expenditure: -

Clerk's Pay: 3694.68 (increased from 255 to 297 hours pa)

Donations: 981.00 (churchyards including War Memorial, NATT minibus, CAB, Parkinsons UK re R Gerrard)

Insurance/Legal: 436.89 (no Legal costs)

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

*Recreation Ground.*

Capital Spending: -

Sundries/Maintenance: 1187.60 (safety inspection, petrol for mower, repairs/replacements to play equipment, etc)

VAT: 302.51

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. Adrian not only mows and strims the grass but also cuts the hedges, empties bins, clears up after others who leave their litter behind and maintains the equipment to a very high standard. He is the eyes and ears of the Rec Ground so we have a great deal to thank him for.

We had a good annual safety inspection this year with only a couple of wooden posts needing replacement on the adventure trail. We also replaced the gate at the entrance to the car park and received a grant of £500 from Cllr Huxstep's Devolved Budget to help pay for this, for which we are very grateful.

I thought I would also mention that the Rec is from time to time being used by a group of young adults from outside the village. We do welcome visitors and indeed the Rec Ground is advertised on the parish website but there have been a couple of incidents when litter has been left by this group of lads and alcohol has been consumed. They have been spoken to by the Police but this is something we as a village need to keep an eye on. The Rec is for the primary use of our village children.

6. The accounts (subject to audit) of Blake's Educational Charity, Reg No 307197, were laid before the meeting. Those present were invited to direct any queries to the Treasurer, James Bulloch.

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, Yasmin Curry.

8. The accounts of The Friends of Bramdean Children were not available. Those present were invited to direct any queries to the Treasurer, Sarah Densham.

10. Report of Mrs Amber Thacker, City Councillor

Matthew Morton advised that a report from Cllr Thacker would be available shortly.

11. Report of PS Bethan Wood, Winchester Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team

PS Wood reported that the annual crime statistics showed an increase in most categories over the past year. The reasons for increased criminal activity were seldom straightforward but one factor might have been the lack of local leadership following the departure of PS Fisher last August. Investigations following commercial burglaries targeting plant and garden machinery were ongoing with Surrey Police. Residents were urged to be vigilant over home security especially in the summer months.

Answering a question from Victoria Wakefield about speeding on the A272, PS Wood said that the speed camera van patrolled the area regularly but the problem was difficult to combat. One option might be Speed Watch: local people logged vehicle speed with a hand held device which triggered a warning letter or Police visit to offenders. The purpose was to educate rather than to prosecute. Mandy Bulloch said Speed Watch was in operation at Curdridge but a team of eight volunteers was needed to make the scheme viable. Barbara Holyome reported that George Hollingbury MP hoped to arrange the trial installation of an average speed camera on the A32 at Droxford. The equipment was very expensive but if proven effective it was hoped the measure might in time be extended to the A272. However, PS Wood cautioned that as an average speed camera was static over a period of time it might not check speed so effectively as a speed camera van which could be deployed flexibly and was less predictable to road users.

Antoinette Denham-Harding reported that the “Horse & Rider” sign in Wood Lane currently pointed towards the field. The Parish Council would refer the matter to Highways.

12. Defibrillator: options for a public access machine

Barbara Holyome said that the Parish Council was considering providing a public access defibrillator. Prices for a basic stand-alone machine ranged from £800 to £1000 (excluding cabinet). A team of volunteers would be needed to operate and maintain a basic model. More expensive models talked users through the emergency procedure step-by-step and often included annual maintenance. A central location with power supply was required. As no firm preference was expressed for or against, the Parish Council would explore funding options and discuss the matter further at a future Parish Council meeting. The outcome would be reported in the minutes posted on-line and also appear in Church & Village.

13. Any other business

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.35 pm.

Next came refreshments and a chance to identify the locations in “How well do you know Bramdean and Hinton Ampner?” before flying back to World War II for “Silk Stockings and Spitfires” with John Smith. The women pilots recruited into the Air Transport Auxiliary had to overcome opposition and prejudice to do so, and then served with distinction throughout the war. At first experienced pilots formed the nucleus, but as time passed young women were being trained to fly a surprising range of aircraft from scratch, some before they'd learned to drive a car!

MM/RG