

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1st APRIL 2025

Present: Cllr J Hodgson (Chairman) Cllr M Mossman (Vice Chairman), Cllr J Mann, Cllr J Morrison, Cllr Mrs. K McAllister, Cllr A Taylor, Cllr C Brookes, Cllr S Dunn & Cllr Y Ezra.

In attendance: Heather Bourner-Clerk

HCC David Drew

0 Members of public

Apologies for Absence

1. Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC A Johnston & Cllr J Dumper.

Co-Option of New Councillor

2) Yinnon Ezra had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and gave details to those present of his knowledge, skills and experience. After a short discussion Cllr Hodgson proposed he was co-opted. This was seconded by Cllr Mann. All agreed. Yinnon accepted the appointment and the Clerk provided the necessary paperwork to be signed.

Public Participation

3) None

Declarations of Interest

4) Cllr Dunn expressed an interest in the planning application 25/00381/FULLS and took no part in discussions. There were no other declarations of interest, All Cllrs present confirmed no amendments were required to register of interest documents.

Minutes

5) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Mann, seconded Cllr Brooks. All agreed.

Planning

6) **The following decisions by TVBC were noted:**

24/0181/FULLS-amendment to plans for Drove House, Rookery Lane-refuse

25/00107/VARS-removal of condition-Land Raer of The Cottage, Rookery Lane-withdrawn

25/00100/TREES- fell 5 trees, 30 North End- no objections

Reviewed between meetings

25/00537/TREES Fell 1 Acer- Warren Cottage- no objections

25/00536/TREES tree works, Meadowsweet, Paynes Lane- no objections

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed:

25/00580/FULLS- demolish garage and erect extensions, Sun Rannoch, Salisbury Road-no objections

25/00570/FULLS- single story rear extension, Dowse Cottage, High Street- no objections provided renovations are sympathetic to the listed building.

25/00381/FULLS installation of door and removal and replacement of window, Foords Farm, High Street-no objections

25/00704/TREES-Fell 1 conifer tree at Linden House- no objections

7) County and Borough Councilors' Report

HCC David Drew had sent a report which can be seen at appendix 1.

TVBC Cllr Mrs A Johnston had sent her apologies.

Clerk's Laptop

8) The Clerk reported she was currently carrying out work on a desktop machine purchased some years ago from a NALC grant. This was running on Windows 10 and would soon not be supported by Microsoft.

In order to ensure full access to all Parish Council documents she suggested the Parish Council purchase an up-to-date laptop and software for Broughton Parish Council matters.

She obtained three quotes which were discussed and it was agreed to purchase an HP laptop with a 512 GB hard drive costing £519.00 The Clerk will action.

Sports Field Pavilion Update

9) Cllr Mann reported the build process is progressing well and a proposed finish date of July has been suggested. He provided a line-item breakdown of the current status of the works together with the associated costs. He fully explained how payments had been made so far and that these were all supported by invoices. The figures highlight a possible reduction in overall costs and while there is a probable shortfall in funds this has been underwritten.

The subject of a change in the contract to provide a committee room was discussed. It transpires the work has already been carried out with the contractor doing this at no additional cost, however a fire door will be required at an approximate cost of £600.00. It was agreed a letter should be sent to Haygarth Ross saying only changes agreed by the Parish Council should be made and that the Sports Committee will have to fund this additional charge.

Cllr Hodgson will draft a letter to be sent to the contractor confirming no further changes should be made to the contract without the express consent of the Parish Council.

The latest minutes of the Sports Committee suggested updates on the build will be posted to a community Face Book group although the Parish Council felt the Village email group would be a very useful tool to spread this information, in doing so additional contributions toward the shortfall may be forthcoming.

Finally, Cllr Hodgson proposed that Cllr Steve Dunn become a Parish Council representative on the sports committee. This was seconded by Cllr Mann, all agreed.

Unitary Councils

10) Cllr Hodgson highlighted the ongoing process of Hampshire becoming a unitary authority and how current Borough Councils may be merged. He expressed concerns that Parish Councils would be lost in the process and the voice of local communities would not be heard. In particular it is essential that any S106 funds held by the Borough Council are passed to Parish Councils and not subsumed and that support from Councillors at higher levels is still available to Parish Councils.

Cllr Ezra suggested that the creation of unitary councils will see Town & Parish Councils being asked to do more, and potentially attract more funding. He believes that area committees could engage with Parish Councils and that the Parish Council could then build strong relationships with the Unitary Council. He feels that the Parish Council needs to be aware now and ready to engage with consultations as soon as they are published. Cllr Ezra will follow progress on matters closely and report as necessary to the Parish Council.

Allotments Update

11) The Clerk confirmed she had contacted all those she believed to be allotment holders by email to request rents. Several had replied paying rents and this has enabled an up-to-date plan and list of tenants to be created. There are still gaps and it appears some plots are now available to rent.

Cllr Mossman has agreed to take responsibility for the allotments and he will work with the Clerk to contact any tenants who have not responded and to establish what plots are vacant and advertise them to the Parish. It is possible that plots will be made available to tenants from other nearby villages if they are not fully utilized by Broughton parishioners.

School Lane Transfer

12) The Clerk reported matters regarding the transfer had moved at some pace. The legal documents signed by Lindens had been sent to Shenton's. The Clerk had collected the documents and had these signed by Parish Councillors before passing them to the TVBC legal Department. Despite this the transaction is not complete as TVBC require a commitment to pay costs from Lindens. The Clerk will continue to press all parties to complete. In the meantime, Cllrs Mossman and Dunn will start to look at what products are available and what the community want for the MUGA.

Neighbourhood Plan

13) Cllr Mann reported data analysis of the returned surveys is progressing and said some very useful graphs have been created for publishing at a public meeting. He confirmed the group has contacted TVBC with details of the findings and is awaiting their response as to how to proceed.

Clerks Report

14) The Clerk reported a request from the school to use the land near the skate park for parking for the school fete. The necessary form had been submitted and it was agreed the land could be used. The Clerk will relay the permission.

She noted that NIL invoices for business rates for both the cemetery and the sports pavilion had been received.

She reported TSB bank had asked for some information to confirm the business details of the Parish Council, using a very difficult online identity tool. She had established although she is a signatory on the Parish Council accounts, she is not an owner. It is possible those registered as owners will be contacted for information.

A date for the annual meeting was discussed and it was agreed either Tuesday 20th or 27th May would be suitable. The Clerk will establish if the Village Hall is available before confirmation.

Finally, she confirmed she will be on leave from 27th April to 8th May. Cllr Hodgson will ensure the agenda is circulated to meet the legal timelines

Footpaths.

15) Cllr Morrison reported footpath 16 is due to open in mid-April but a confirmed date is not yet known.

Following purchase of new equipment from the HCC grant, volunteer footpath workers have had brush cutter training, first aid training is to follow.

Finally, he said storage for the new machinery is required and he is making some enquiries to identify secure storage that volunteers can access.

Outdoor Adult Gym Equipment.

16) Cllr Taylor confirmed he has accepted the quote from Sunshine Gym and is awaiting a proforma invoice with 2-year maintenance cover. Possible dates for installation will be discussed with the contractor and sports committee however this is not likely to occur until after the Sports Pavilion Build is complete.

Flooding & Southern Water

17) Cllr Mossman confirmed the road closure required due to tankers pumping excess water has been removed but he has contacted Southern Water to establish if they are likely to return. He said he has been able to speak to a Southern Water surveyor and see the films taken in some sewers which show water ingress. A report will be produced to highlight how damage can be repaired.

In respect of The Brook he said groundwater levels are still high and weed growth is now becoming rapid. Some riparian owners will do a partial weed cut before the closed season starts on 26th April which should alleviate and flooding.

Community Bus

18) Cllr Morrison reported the new bus timetable started at the beginning of April, and that work continues to establish what sort of new bus should be purchased. Details will be provided once the committee have reached a decision.

Finance

19 To note the bank balances at 25/03/2025

TSB Charity account £234767.87

TSB Business Instant £74271.81

United Trust £32525.26

ii) To approve the following payments and authorise on line transactions: -

H Bournier sal £727.26

H Bournier exp £68.10

HMRC £11.60

Ace Liftaway £312.00

Andover Garden Mach £1817.17

Hampshire Training £1032.00

TVBC Dog waste bins	£851.94
Hugo Fox website	£23.99

20) Items to carry forward

Container/storage at Village Hall-Cllr McAllister will speak to the Village Hall Committee
Well House roof repair-Cllr Mann will obtain a quote

21) Correspondence

The Clerk highlighted an email regarding a request to site a memorial bench at the cemetery. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

An email asking if any members of Broughton Parish Council would like to take part in a documentary regarding hare coursing. The answer was a resounding no.

22) New items for next meeting

A review of Parish Council assets and insurance

Community news

23) Cllr Hodgson confirmed the Community Energy group are awaiting news regarding funding but it is hoped further details will be available at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting

24) **7.30 pm on Tuesday May 13th 2025**

Appendix 1

County Council Chief Executive sets out retirement plans

Hampshire County Council's Chief Executive will step down later this year, having today announced plans to retire in July 2025, after more than 40 years of service in the public sector

Carolyn Williamson joined the County Council in 2010 and has held the post of Chief Executive for the last four years – as the Authority's first female Chief Executive. Her previous roles have included Deputy Chief Executive; Chief Financial Officer and Director of Corporate Resources.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250321ChiefExecutive>

County Council Cabinet gives green light to first steps towards Local Government Reorganisation

Interim proposals towards major changes in the way local government is structured and operates in future have been agreed by Hampshire County Council

At a meeting of the Full County Council on Thursday 20 March, followed by the Authority's Cabinet held today (Friday 21 March), outline plans for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) have been approved and will be jointly submitted to central Government today on behalf of all 15 councils in the Hampshire and Solent area: Hampshire County Council, 11 district and borough councils and three unitary councils covering Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight.

This initial plan towards LGR forms part of wider Government ambitions to replace the current two-tier structure of local government that operates nationally, with a smaller number of unitary (all-purpose) councils. For Hampshire and the Solent region, this means unitary councils will deliver all services currently provided by the 15 councils in the area.

The County Council has worked in partnership with council Leaders and Chief Executives from across the Hampshire and Solent area to develop the interim plan, based on Government-set criteria, as well as principles to which all 15 Hampshire and Solent councils agree. Alongside these, the County Council is also working to a set of guiding principles which reflect its own key duties as the largest local authority in the area, responsible for the delivery of the vast proportion of local government services and budgets in the region. With the considerable economies of scale that County Council services also benefit from in Hampshire, data shows that the greater the number of smaller councils created under LGR, the more expensive it would be to taxpayers, whereas larger scale councils deliver immediate and ongoing efficiencies for the public purse and make local government more sustainable.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250321LGRInterimplanapproved>

Over £12.5 million in further cost of living support announced for Hampshire households

Hampshire households facing financial difficulties will continue to receive significant support for the next 12 months as the County Council has secured a new allocation of £12,556,062.75 to sustain its Household Support Fund (HSF) programme

The HSF is a national programme, created during the cost-of-living crisis to provide relief to those struggling to afford essential items such as food and warm bedding, as well as recurring household bills. Previous rounds of funding have enabled Hampshire County Council to work with local organisations such as charities, education providers and community groups as well as district and borough councils to provide much-needed relief to families and individuals.

Proposals are due to be considered by Councillor Chadd at her [Decision Day in June](#).

The Household Support Fund and the Department for Education-funded [Holiday Activities and Food](#) programme in Hampshire are both administered through Hampshire County Council. Our dedicated [connect4communities](#) web pages provide information for households seeking help and for organisations looking to deliver support.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250319HSFupdate>

Residents' views sought on proposals for future services in Hampshire

Hampshire County Council has launched a public consultation today (12 March 2025) inviting people to provide their views on proposals for savings in four service areas, as part of steps by the Authority to help meet a remaining budget shortfall of at least £97.6 million for 2025/26

The Future Services Consultation – Spring 2025 runs from 12 March to 7 May 2025 and signals the next stage in County Council plans to ensure it continues to support the people who are most in need in Hampshire, while meeting its legal obligations to deliver a balanced budget.

The consultation follows the previous Future Services Consultation which ran from January to March 2024, seeking views on proposals for savings in 13 service areas.

In the absence of any fundamental change to how central Government funds social care pressures, we continue to seek greater savings ourselves, so we can keep delivering core services (those which we are required to provide by law) to those in Hampshire who need our help the most.

Therefore, a number of further savings options are on the table and we are inviting residents to provide their views on these proposed service changes, their potential impacts, as well as whether there are any other ways in which the savings might be made."

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250312FSCSpring2025>

Hampshire County Council's HAF Programme confirmed for an additional 12 months

Children eligible for benefits-linked free school meals (FSM) across Hampshire will continue to enjoy free holiday clubs for another year, thanks to a renewed grant of £3.6 million from the Government

Hampshire County Council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme supports around 8,000 children during Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays. As well as children who receive benefits-linked free school meals, 15 per cent of funded places on the programme are also available for other vulnerable children and young people.

First piloted in 2018 and rolled out nationally in 2021, the HAF programme aims to alleviate the pressures faced by low-income families during school holidays. It provides around 150 schemes across the county, all ensuring that children have access to healthy food and engaging experiences outside of the school term.

In addition to holiday clubs, the funding will also support the delivery of holiday activities by Hampshire's Library Service and the Short Breaks programme, which enables children and young people with disabilities or additional needs to join in with safe and fun activities, giving parents and carers a short break from their caring responsibilities.

Parents can register now for HAF places at [Family Information and Services Hub](#) and applications for the Easter provision will open during the week commencing 10 March.

For more information about the Holiday Activities and Food Programme and other cost of living support available, visit the County Council's [connect4communities](#) web

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250307HAF2025>

[David Drew](#)

[Test Valley Central Division, HCC](#)