

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2025

Present: Cllr M Mossman (Vice Chairman), Cllr J Mann, Cllr J Morrison, Cllr J Dumper, Cllr B Keane & Cllr Mrs. K McAllister.

In attendance: Heather Bourner-Clerk

TVBC S MacDonald

6 Members of public

Apologies for Absence

1. Apologies for absence had been received from HCC David Drew, TVBC A Johnston, Cllr A Taylor, Cllr C Brookes & Cllr J Hodgson.

Public Participation

2) Three members of public present wished to discuss the current situation regarding the possible re opening of the Tally Ho. While the subject was an agenda item the Parish Council has not been requested to oversee the project which is being run by a group of independent villagers.

The members of the public all raised concerns regarding the process and the interaction with the community and questioned the validity of calling it a Community Pub before full village consultation. Cllr Mossman said the Parish Council has not been approached to discuss the venture and therefore it is a private project, although it is clear there is an appetite for a public meeting. The Clerk explained that a Parish Council has limited duties and powers and would not be in a position to become involved in this project unless requested by the working group.

Cllrs Keane, Mann and McAllister expressed an interest in this matter and while not in a position to discuss any detail confirmed the working group intended to hold a public meeting with the community to discuss the project when they are ready. No date has been set for the meeting however Cllr Keane agreed to take all the questions posed by the public present and share them with the working group.

Declarations of Interest

3) Cllrs Mann, Keane & McAllister all declared an interest in item 7 on the agenda, All Cllrs present confirmed no amendments were required to register of interest documents.

Minutes

4) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Vice Chairman. Proposed Cllr Mann, seconded Cllr Keane. All agreed.

Planning

5) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

24/02676/VARS- variation to condition-Hyde Farm-withdrawn
24/02734/FULLS-air source heat pump, King Cottage- withdrawn
24/02625/TREES- tree works-Old Church Farm-no objections
24/02749/TREES- tree work Linden House- no objection
24/02808/TREES tree work, land opposite Ruths Cottage-no objection

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

25/00056/FULLS- porch, laundry & boot room extension-Lake House, Romsey Road-no objections
25/00100/TREES-fell 5 trees, 30 North End-no objections
25/00107/VARS removal of condition, Land rear of The Cottage, Rookery Lane- no comment

6) County and Borough Councilors' Report

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

TVBC Cllr S MacDonald, Councillor for the Mid Test area said he had little to report, there

was no update on the devolution process at present.

He said discussions regarding housing targets and planning changes continue to take place. He said a real problem was that even if TVBC accepted all the possible building sites from the latest SHELAA report there would not be enough sites to meet the top-down target for housing set by central government. A recent email from TVBC said

The change in our housing land supply position has significant implications for decision making throughout the Borough. It will mean that the NPPF 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' is triggered and will now apply to the determination of all planning applications that propose a net increase in homes unless the presence of protected areas or assets (for landscape, heritage, nature conservation or local green space) provides a strong reason for refusal; or adverse impacts would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits assessed against the NPPF having particular regard to sustainable locations, making effective use of land, securing well-designed place and providing affordable homes.

He said that work to re write the local plan to 2040 is underway and that any community building a neighbourhood plan should continue in the hope that these will still shape planning decisions.

Finally, he confirmed TVBC will be starting food waste collection from all households in October 2025 with weekly collections of waste.

The Tally Ho

7) See public participation

Sports Field Pavilion Update

8) Cllr Mann reported the build process is progressing well and on track for the target finish date. Cllr Morrison asked to see a schedule of proposed costs against the budget and spend so far. Cllr Mann has details and will provide these to the Clerk.

Cllr Keane was unable to attend the meeting of the sports committee on 27th Jan to discuss the funding gap but Cllr Dumper in attendance said work on this matter was underway

Cllr Taylor was absent but had sent a report regarding proposals for the installation of adult gym equipment. He had obtained three quotes but is planning to visit a site to see some equipment installed before he makes his final recommendation. There are sufficient S106 funds available for this project.

Broughton Community Energy

9) Cllr Morrison had circulated a report about the progress on this initiative and a request from the group for the Parish Council to fund a Grid Connection Feasibility Study. The cost was approximately £2000 but can be refunded to the Parish Council once the main grant agreed in principle is received. After a short discussion it was agreed this project is worth support and the Parish Council were prepared to make this payment in accordance with S137 LGA 1972.

Play Area Report

10) Cllr Dumper had nothing to report.

School Lane Transfer

11) The Clerk reported that she had contacted both Shentons solicitors and Gateley legal representing Linden Homes several times since the last meeting. A revised figure to settle the matter was proposed and accepted provided the matter is resolved by 5th February. The Clerk confirmed she had contacted Shenton's on 4th February and awaits a call back.

While Linden Homes agreed to meet the Parish Council legal fees this was up to a limit of £7000.00 including VAT. The Clerk will discuss the matter with Shentons as it is not clear if the current fee figure they have quoted is net or gross of VAT.

Neighbourhood Plan

12) Cllr Mann reported 208 surveys were returned and the data is now being analysed. Once a full set of data is held TVBC will be consulted and a public consultation meeting will follow.

Clerks Report

13) The Clerk reported she had received the necessary permission from TVBC to fill the current Parish Council vacancy by Co-option. Interested parties should be encouraged to express an interest to the Chairman in writing outlining skills and knowledge they can bring to the council. If there is more than one expression of interest current Councillors will vote for

their preferred candidate.

She shared the grass cutting quotation she had received from Grass & Grounds for the 2025 season. The price had been increased by 3.3% in view of inflation. After a short discussion it was agreed the quote should be accepted.

Finally, the Clerk highlighted a request she had received for an additional tablet or wedge on an existing grave. The current regulations say *Only tablet or open book headstones are allowed and may not exceed 3ft high x 24 inches wide, including any plinth. All such headstones, bases, plinths and fixings must be contained within the grave plot. The number of the plot must be engraved on the rear of the headstone.*

The colour of headstones must be natural stone or black, no synthetic materials are permitted.

By prior agreement with The Clerk it may be possible to install a small vase or urn, not exceeding 6 inches high, placed at the end of the grave where a headstone would normally sit. The name of the deceased must be engraved on the vase or urn.

No statues, crosses or wooden memorials of any kind can be erected in the cemetery.

After a short discussion it was agreed an additional tablet not exceeding 300mm x 300mm, flush to ground at the base of the current headstone would be allowed. The Clerk will arrange for the regulations to be updated to reflect this.

Footpaths.

14) Cllr Morrison reported the hedge which runs alongside the allotments and footpath 4 needs to be trimmed. The hedge is very high, but was planted to protect the allotments from frost.

Issues had arisen in previous years when this hedge was cut back and it was agreed these should be avoided if possible. Cllr Mossman agreed to discuss a way forward with the Chairman.

Well House Repairs

15) Cllr Mann reported the roof on the southern elevation of the Well House needs to be assessed for repair and he will approach a contractor for a quote.

Container at Village Hall

16) This matter will be adjourned to the March meeting.

Flooding

17) Cllr Mossman reported he and Cllr Taylor had met with Southern Water regarding pumping of waste water and use of tankers in the village. Southern Water believe groundwater is entering the sewers and as a result overspill could enter the brook if no pumping takes place. Southern Water have commissioned a report to gather proposals for resolving the problem which will be shared with the Parish Council in due course. Currently tankers are parking on the road as land next to the water pumping station is not sufficiently stable to take the weight of a full tanker. A solution to this matter will also be considered in the report.

Community Bus

18) Cllr Morrison had no update to share on the replacement bus at present but confirmed the revised timetable is hoped to be in place at the beginning of April 2025.

Grant Application

19) Cllr Mossman reported on an initiative to create a Community/Business/Leisure Hub at the village hall to support all local groups currently using the hall and provide space for business meetings and locals who require business space who work from home. It is hoped those using the hub will make bookings for meeting rooms as well as using the community café and shop. The Village Hall committee have secured a large proportion of the funding required but there is a shortfall. Fundraising continues but the committee have made a grant request of the Parish Council for £3000.00. The Clerk confirmed a payment of £4760.45 CIL funds recently made available to the Parish Council was intended to mitigate the impacts of development in the area. After a discussion Cllr Mann proposed a grant of £3000 be made from the CIL funds received. This was seconded by Cllr Dumper. All agreed

Finance

20) To note the bank balances at 27/01/2025
TSB Charity account £243570.79
TSB Business Instant £77093.27
United Trust £32525.26

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

H Bournier sal	£727.26
H Bournier exp	£26.00
HMRC	£11.60
Hugo Fox	£23.99
J Boyce (well house repair)	£400.00
Ace Liftaway	£390.00

21) Items to carry forward

Container/storage at Village Hall
Well House roof repair
Adult fitness equipment

22) Correspondence

The Clerk highlighted a letter from TVBC outlining the charges for emptying dog waste bins in the period April 2024 to March 2025.

23) New items for next meeting

Allotment representative and rents now due

Community news

24) None

Date of next meeting

25) **7.30 pm on Tuesday March 4th 2025**

Appendix 1

County Council Cabinet to consider budget action to protect core services

Spending proposals for 2025/26, totalling £2.6bn, to ensure the County Council keeps delivering its fundamental pledge to serve Hampshire's 1.4 million residents will be considered by the County Council's Cabinet next week, as the Authority takes a step closer to deciding its annual budget from April.

Within annual budget proposals being put forward to Cabinet for consideration, and later to the Full County Council on 13 February for a final decision, recommendations will also be made for further savings proposals to move the Council closer towards the delivery of just its core services. Some of these proposals will then be subject to public consultation this spring.

Hampshire's council tax precept is currently one of the lowest amongst county councils nationally, and news is expected imminently from Government on whether the County Council can increase council tax by a total of up to 15% from 1 April - 10% above the national 5% referendum limit. Therefore, Cabinet will also consider whether to increase council tax by the full requested amount of 15%. A council tax increase of this amount would equate to an extra £4.42 per week for a Band D property. **STOP PRESS – this application has been rejected by Government.**

[County Council Cabinet to consider budget action to protect core services | Hampshire County Council](#)

Major investment in special needs education for next academic year

After statutory public consultations, Hampshire County Council has announced plans to transform specialist education at four primary schools, significantly boosting support for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Gosport, Eastleigh, and Basingstoke.

[Major investment in special needs education for next academic year | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council sets out proposals for new 'lane rental' scheme to minimise road works disruption

Hampshire County Council has set out proposals that could lead to the introduction of a new disruption charge scheme designed to reduce delays on the county's busiest roads, at the busiest times

The plan, which would complement the existing permitting scheme, would incentivise any companies or agencies needing to carry out work on busier parts of the public highway to improve their planning, work outside of peak times wherever possible, and reduce the duration of their work.

This would be achieved by charging a daily fee for the duration of the work, including any delays. Surplus revenues received over and above the basic scheme operation costs would be ring-fenced towards funding innovative projects that reduce the disruption of streetworks and roadworks and, subject to new national legislation that is expected later this year, a proportion of the income could be re-invested back into highway maintenance.

Disruption charging – or 'lane rental' – is already in operation in several parts of the UK and local schemes must comply with national legislation. Rental charges can only be applied on the most congested, strategically important local roads under the management of the highway authority. The County Council would be able to apply a 'rental' charge of up to £2,500 per day, the maximum that can be charged under the legislation.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20252101DisruptionChargingProposals>

Hampshire County Council agrees to progress bid for devolution fast-track

Hampshire County Council has given the green light to press ahead with a once-in-a-generation opportunity for Hampshire to join the Government's Priority Programme for devolution, as well as the reorganisation of the county's local government structures to deliver the best possible future for Hampshire's residents and businesses

At the meeting of the Full County Council on Thursday 9 January, followed by the Authority's Cabinet on Friday 10 January, approval was given to request that the County Council be included in Government fast-track plans to bring devolution to the area.

As part of devolution proposals, a Mayor would be elected in the spring of 2026 to head up a new Combined Authority across the wider region incorporating Isle of Wight Council, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council, in line with the Authorities' expression of interest submitted to the Deputy Prime Minister last summer.

The Mayor would also promote the interests of the wider region to central Government. With a combined population of over two million residents, home to 90,000 businesses and an economy that generates around £80 billion a year, the area is a powerhouse of economic activity and a significant asset for the wider UK economy.

Alongside devolution, the County Council has committed to progress with developing proposals for local government reorganisation in the area. It would completely change the landscape of Hampshire's local councils by replacing the current two-tier council system, which is in place across most of the region, with a number of new unitary (all-purpose) councils. Proposals for local government reorganisation need to be submitted to Government by Autumn 2025.

If Government agrees for Hampshire to be added to the fast-track devolution programme, County Council elections, due this May, would be postponed for 12 months. This postponement would be essential to enable local areas to focus on laying the groundwork for devolution and reorganisation and allow for a Mayor to be elected in 2026 so the benefits to local communities can be delivered as swiftly as possible. Reorganisation would then be expected to be in place by either April 2027 or April 2028.

I have requested that the Mayoralty be permitted to name themselves the *Shire Reeve* (Anglo Saxon name for the forerunner of the title Sherriiff) if they wished to.

[David Drew Test Valley Central Division, HCC](#)

