

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th DECEMBER 2022

Present: Cllr E James (Chairman), Cllr G Elliott (Vice Chairman), Cllr B Keane, Cllr J Mann, Cllr J Hodgson, Cllr K McAllister, Cllr R Robson, Cllr P Boulton & Cllr J Morrison.

In attendance: Heather Bourner-Clerk

HCC David Drew

TVBC Cllr A Johnston

2 Members of public

Apologies for Absence

1) Apologies had been received from Cllr J Dumper.

Public Participation

2) The members of public present wished to discuss the planning application at The Pightle, Rookery Lane.

They also posed a question about Parish Council process having consulted the 2019 Guide to being a Councillor. This states any items upon which decisions are made should be highlighted on an agenda which must be available for the public to view, the item should then be discussed in a meeting open to the public. They highlighted a planning application where comments had been submitted to TVBC without being discussed at a meeting. The Clerk pointed out that a Parish Council is a statutory consultee to planning applications and while they make comments, decisions on whether an application is approved or otherwise are made by the planning authority, in this case, Test Valley Borough Council. She said when the deadline date for decisions fell between meetings Parish Councillors reached a view by email. This did not preclude further comments being made after the next meeting if additional relevant information arose.

Finally, they asked why the proposed community benefit for an extension to the solar farm was £15000.00 when the sum received for the original build was vastly higher. Cllr James pointed out the developer was under no obligation to make any payment and given the current economic climate the Parish Council were happy to receive an offer when they had believed that a donation was unlikely.

Declarations of Interest

3) There were no declarations of interest. All Cllrs present confirmed no amendments were required to register of interest documents.

Planning

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

22/02673/TREES-reduce crown and growth yew tree-Dowse Cottage, High Street- no objection

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

22/02862/FULLS-single story flat roof extension, The Wicket, Paynes Lane- no objection

22/02848/FULLS-conversion and extension to garage to living accommodation and erection of replacement garage-The Pightle, Rookery Lane- objection made between meetings.

Applicant present said the intention was to build an annex for a carer, simply ancillary accommodation, he said there was no question of turning the buildings into separate properties. He had no further detail to add to the plans. The Parish Councillors present discussed the response made and agreed they did not wish to change anything from the original submission or submit any further comments.

22/03038/TREES fell 1 Beech, The Old Rectory- no objection

5) County and Borough Councilors' Report

HCC David Drew was present and had circulated a full report which can be seen at appendix 1.

Cllr James confirmed he had received a letter from HCC confirming the works to Rookery Lane would not happen on the planned date. Apparently, HCC expected residents of the lane to drive vehicles along the ford and postponed work when it was clear this could not happen. Cllr James had arranged for residents to park cars elsewhere during the works and said it was very disappointing that HCC had not contacted him to discuss this before a date was set. Cllr Drew agreed to speak to highways regarding this matter and try to establish a new date for the planned works.

TVBC Cllr Johnston commented that money was still available for cost-of-living grants for such things as help with warm hubs, she commented on the change to planning rules, and funds available to tackle thermal issues with homes. Finally, she said TVBC has applied to the shared prosperity fund for funds to support rural businesses.

Minutes

6) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 1st November were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Mann, seconded Cllr McAllister. All agreed.

CCTV Village Hall

7) Cllr Keane reported work was continuing on a project to install additional CCTV at the Village Hall. He has discussed the proposal with a contractor and is awaiting a quote. He asked if any Parish Council funds would be available and the Clerk was able to confirm a full refund of rates wrongly paid for the cemetery had now been received so some of this could be made available. Cllr Keane will report details of the quote to the Parish Council once he has them.

Play Area Repairs

8) Cllr Dumper was not present but had confirmed by email that he now had all the replacement parts required for repairs at the play area and is awaiting confirmation from a contractor regarding fitting. Cllr Mann confirmed the fence and woodwork repairs and replacement had now been carried out. The Clerk confirmed she had made a claim for S106 funds to cover this expenditure.

Sports Field Update

9) Cllr Keane confirmed the Sports Field Committee are still working on reducing build costs and increasing fund raising. Good progress has been made and the group are hopeful they have found a builder who is able to offer what is needed at an achievable price. A renewed CIL application will be made once a decision is made, TVBC Ali Johnston agreed to give as much support as she is able.

The Clerk reported she had written to the Sports Field Committee regarding concerns raised about the group's financial status. The Chairman of the group had responded confirming the group would now appoint a treasurer and open a bank account however he believed there was a difference between what the group should do before and after the pavilion build. Details were provided by the Clerk and were fully discussed. It was agreed the Sports Committee need to understand precisely what the Parish Council expects and that once again the message needs to be delivered. Cllr Keane, Elliott, Hodgson & Mann agreed to arrange a meeting with all those involved to repeat the position of the Parish Council-IE, that large sums of public funds would not be released for this project unless there was a fully formed committee working in line with the agreed constitution and project managing the new pavilion build.

At the November meeting it was agreed an invoice to pay the secretary for work carried out attending meetings and taking minutes in relation to the rebuild could be paid from the Sports Field Charity Account on this one occasion. A further invoice had been raised, after further discussion all councillors agreed this would be paid by the Parish Council however no further invoices of this nature would be paid as the Sports Field Committee need to be meeting these expenses themselves. The PC representatives on this committee were asked to relay this

decision at the next meeting of the group.

Cllr Elliott reported on damage which had occurred to goal posts following grass cutting. He confirmed he has discussed concerns with the grass cutting contractor. A quote to repair the damage is being sought by the Football Club and the grass contractor has indicated a wish to resolve the matter.

Electric car charging point at the Village Hall

10) Cllr Keane reported on the progress with this project. The company wishing to install the point had circulated terms and conditions and a lease which they suggested needed to be signed by the landlord. As the hall and land is owned by the Parish Council the company suggest any lease should be signed by them and not the Village Hall Management committee.

As the management committee run the hall the Parish Council believe it would be better for a representative from the hall committee signed the document. After some discussion it was agreed Cllr Keane who is also Chairman of the Village Hall Management Group is best placed to sign the lease. This can only happen when all full details of the plans have been agreed.

Neighborhood Plan

11) Cllr Mann reported that a steering group of four has been formed to work on a Neighborhood Plan. While waiting for the Housing Needs Survey results, they have put together a plan including interviewing consultants to carry out specialist work and obtaining funding to meet costs. Further meetings will take place and reports will be given to each Parish Council meeting. Cllr James said as a community led project it was important to persuade other members of the community to engage with the process and join the steering group.

Housing Needs Survey

12) The report from TVBC on the result of the survey carried out had been circulated and was discussed. All Councillors agreed the content and format of the report and the clerk was asked to convey this message to TVBC in order that it can be published.

School Lane Completion work

13) Cllr Boulton referred to a communication from the solicitors which suggested a figure for the revised contribution for the MUGA build from Linden Homes. It was not clear if this was to cover the build costs of the MUGA and Solicitors fees. A breakdown of the figure has been requested. The land transfer documents can only be signed once the financial situation is concluded.

Poaching problems

14) Cllr James reported on an issue where poachers had gained access to agricultural land by using footpaths to gain vehicular access. No evidence of poaching was found however, the landowners affected were suggesting barriers be erected to prevent this happening again, the location is halfway up the Drove at the left turn onto the Clarendon Way. Hampshire Countryside Access have been consulted and have suggested three methods of installing barriers however the Parish Council raised some concerns Cllr Elliott agreed to contact the Countryside Access Team.

Dowse Trust Representative

15) Cllr Boulton confirmed his term as Parish Council representative on the Dowse Trust would end soon. Cllr James proposed he continue; this was seconded by Cllr Hodgson. all agreed.

Clerks Report

16) The Clerk reported as follows: -

A claim for S106 funds for the new fence to meet health and safety guidelines has been made. See item 8.

Letter to Sports Field Committee- see item 9.

Ace Liftaway have asked the Parish Council to set up a direct debit to pay the monthly invoices for the disabled port aloo. As this expenditure is not envisaged as long term the Clerk

will continue to pay these invoices by bank transfer.

Footpaths.

17) Cllr Elliott had nothing to report.

Firework Event Update

Cllr Keane reported on a very successful event which was enjoyed by many. He said the Chairman's role of the fireworks committee has now been passed to Tim Lane.

Finance

18) Balances in the bank accounts were noted as: -

At 30/11/22

TSB Charity account £194,049.64

TSB Business Instant £72,144.10

United Trust £30,285.00

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

H Bourner sal £554.67

H Bourner exp £18.68

HMRC £138.66

Grass & Grounds £572.40

HCC Street lights £414.64

Aceliftaway £312.00

Jamie Bowditch £3657.50

Items to carry forward

18) None

19) Correspondence

The Clerk confirmed she had received: -

An email from Broughton Firework Group thanking the Parish Council for their continued support for this event

An email about a local initiative regarding crime in the area. The Clerk will share details with the Chairman which he will circulate to the village in the hope that a volunteer to join this group will step forward.

New items for next meeting

20)

Community news

21)

Date of next meeting

22) **7.30 pm on Tuesday January 3rd 2023**

Appendix 1

Hampshire Highways boost for greener highways maintenance

Hampshire Highways' ability to increase its recycling capacity, for highway maintenance operations, has been boosted with the addition of a specialist vehicle to its fleet

A new mobile Volumetric Concrete Mixer enables concrete to be made completely from the gravel and tarmac taken from previous road repairs and for it to be delivered to work sites right across Hampshire. The mixer's green credentials are further enhanced in that it is fuelled by low carbon hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel.

Hampshire Highways is an established collaboration between Hampshire County Council, Milestone Infrastructure and OCL regeneration. This is the partnership behind the cutting-edge Roads Materials Recycling Facility in Micheldever – a first for Hampshire. Here, network waste, including concrete and other aggregates removed during highway repairs, are re-processed cleanly and quietly ready for re-use as road repair materials.

It is from this facility that the 100 per cent recycled raw material for the Volumetric Concrete Mixer will be supplied. Specific concrete mix designs have been created and rigorously tested to

ensure they meet the quality standard and specification requirements for use across the highway network.

As a next step, Hampshire Highways will be conducting an assessment of clinker free cement for inclusion in the concrete mix. This emits only 180 kgCO₂e in its manufacture compared to 900 kgCO₂e emitted by the manufacture of traditional Portland cement. This will be another effective innovative solution to combatting the impacts of climate change.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20221128HantsHighwaysVolumetricMixer>

Free activities and food for Hampshire's most vulnerable children this Christmas

An exciting programme of free activity schemes is set to lighten the additional pressures that Christmas brings for low-income and vulnerable families

Hampshire County Council is funding more than 100 fun and engaging schemes for eligible children over the Christmas school holidays, as part of its Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.

Using the funding provided by the Department for Education, the County Council - with the support of local providers - has secured a programme of activities and healthy meals during the school holidays for children who receive income-based free school meals during term time.

In total, the County Council has awarded more than £600,000 to 49 providers. Schools, childcare providers, community groups, and sports activity providers are among those delivering 127 schemes across the whole of Hampshire this Christmas. Over 22,000 free places have been made available for children who receive income-based free school meals, and for children of other vulnerable families.

Parents and carers wishing to find out what is on offer in their area should search the Family Information and Services Hub and contact their local providers directly to sign up to schemes.

<https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/advice.page?id=XRITDNF8hhM>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20221125HAFChristmas>

Millions more to be spent on help for vulnerable households this winter

Hampshire's most vulnerable residents will not be left out in the cold this winter, thanks to a range of measures to help people with the costs of food, fuel and other essentials

Using its latest round of Household Support Funding from the Department for Work and Pensions, Hampshire County Council will be investing more than £7 million in a wide variety of schemes and initiatives targeting households facing hardship, between now and March 2023.

The initiatives will expand on what was offered in the previous funding round to include support for foster carers registered with the County Council, unpaid carers, care leavers, and people with disabilities. It will also widen the support available to reach out to those who may not be eligible for other assistance but are nevertheless in need.

The schemes will be delivered across Hampshire via the County Council's 'connect4communities' programme and will include:-

- discretionary grants to schools, colleges and early years settings – these may be used to help families with costs relating to food, energy, water, school uniform and other wider essentials, and do not need to be limited to children whose families receive certain benefits;
- food vouchers – these will be made available to eligible Hampshire residents including foster carers registered with the County Council, individuals known to the Care Leavers team, families open to the Disabled Children's Team, residents who receive council tax support, and residents who receive Housing Benefit but are ineligible for other forms of support;
- support for unpaid carers – funding will be made available to organisations working with unpaid carers, to be directed to those in greatest need;
- grants for community and voluntary organisations to help meet needs within their local communities;
- funding for Citizens Advice to provide help with fuel and utility bills.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20221123HSFWinter>

Nearly 100,000 of Hampshire's historic records now available on Ancestry® - and free to access in Hampshire's libraries and record office

Probate records are now available to search online at Ancestry®, spanning 500 years of Hampshire and Isle of Wight history

Hampshire County Council is collaborating with Ancestry, the global leader in family history, to make nearly 500 years of Hampshire Wills and Probates available online for the first time.

The probate records include wills, inventories, and administrations from the church courts of Winchester diocese dating from the 14th Century to 1858. Local people can now access the records on Ancestry free of charge from any Hampshire library or record office.

Ancestry and the County Council have worked together to make these historic documents accessible on Ancestry.co.uk. This is the first time the entire collection of Hampshire Wills and Probates records have been digitised and put online. What's more, if you live locally in Hampshire, you can access Ancestry free of charge at Hampshire public libraries and record office.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20221122ancestrywillsprobates>

Local Government's looming financial crisis: County Leaders rally to press for urgent Government action

The Leaders of two of the largest upper tier councils in the country, Hampshire County Council and Kent County Council, are calling on the Prime Minister and Government to take urgent action to address the looming financial crisis facing upper tier local government over the next few years

In a letter sent to the Prime Minister, Chancellor and Secretary of State, Hampshire County Council Leader, Councillor Rob Humby, and Kent County Council Leader, Councillor Roger Gough outline the drastic budget implications facing the two authorities, and the need for Government's immediate help and a clear plan for long-term financial sustainability, if the two County Councils are to avoid filing bankruptcy notices within the next year or two.

Councillor Humby explained: "Both Hampshire and Kent are high-performing, financially well-run and long respected County Councils. However, we face budget deficits over the next few years of a scale that has never been seen before – but not of our own doing.

"We have experienced more than 12 years of national austerity and cuts to our core budgets. Inflation continues to grow, along with demand for services such as social care for vulnerable adults and children. We are also constrained by outdated laws created in the 1940s and 1960s and have no autonomy to be able to introduce initiatives for some local services to help generate our own revenue. As a result, our budgets are now at breaking point. We have gone as far as we can to close the budget gaps we have faced to date, and there is nowhere left to go in future without severely impacting some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/14112022LGFinancialcrisis>

Cllr_David Drew

Test Valley Central Division, HCC